

open land preservation. Throughout this fundamental change, Lee has always attempted to maintain a balanced perspective between the county's master plan and the desires of the public seeking to live out their goals and dreams. Lee has a keen interest in ensuring that the common person is not overlooked in deliberations.

Mr. Speaker, as we wrestle with the issue of growth in Colorado, Lee Sperry has done an outstanding job shepherding that process for over sixteen years. He has truly helped to preserve the heritage of Colorado while allowing it to progress into the future judiciously. It is with great appreciation that I recognize Lee today and I extend my warmest regards to him upon his retirement and wish him many happy years to come.

HONORING THE CATHOLIC-JEWISH COMMISSION OF SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY ON SIGNING AN INTER-FAITH AGREEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION

HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues to recognize the Catholic-Jewish Commission of Southern New Jersey as among the first in the nation to create a formal Agreement of Understanding and Cooperation between their faith communities.

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Camden, Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey, the Jewish Community Relations Council, and the Tri-County Board of Rabbis have committed themselves to eliminating all forms of anti-Semitism, anti-Catholicism, racism and religious intolerance, and in promoting mutual understanding.

In the spirit of their respective traditions, this Agreement affirms the continuing commitment of these two communities to uphold and observe the right of every human being to freedom of religion and conscience.

We believe this Agreement is a shining example of a sound and lasting basis for continuing development of interfaith cooperation. We join the members of both the Catholic and Jewish communities worldwide in expressing appreciation to the efforts of the Catholic-Jewish Commission to build a bridge of faith and peace.

Mr. Speaker, please join us in congratulating the Catholic-Jewish Commission of Southern New Jersey on their historic achievements and the signing of their interfaith Agreement of Understanding and Cooperation.

IN MEMORY OF EDITH FINLAYSON

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, Wisconsin lost a true friend on Wednesday, with the passing of Edith Finlayson.

Edith was a self-made woman, an outstanding example for my daughters and for all young women. She was the daughter of a Baptist minister, and she drew on her faith for strength and guidance throughout her life. She earned a nursing degree and pursued advanced education in nursing administration.

Edith and her husband William moved to Milwaukee in 1958. She became the first African American nurse at Milwaukee's Veterans Administration hospital. Her talents and hard work won her the position of head nurse in the hospital's paraplegic unit.

When her own health failed, Edith left the VA hospital, but she did not retire. Instead, she began a long and illustrious second career as what our hometown newspaper aptly described as a "professional volunteer." Wisconsin's governor appointed Edith to the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents in 1980, and she represented the children of our community for decades with caring and distinction. Edith's dedicated leadership contributed immeasurably to the decision to bring doctoral programs to the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee. She was also an active steward of institutions including the Greater Milwaukee Committee, the Milwaukee Foundation, Milwaukee Area Technical College, the National Council of Christians and Jews, the Milwaukee Urban League, the NAACP and the Milwaukee Regional Medical Center.

Edith Finlayson exemplified our Nation's finest spirit. She was an American who defined her citizenship not by her place of birth, but by her commitment to the betterment of our community. Though Wisconsin is diminished by her loss, we remain inspired by her example.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK J. TORNETTA

HON. JOSEPH M. HOEFFEL

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. HOEFFEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Frank J. Tornetta School of Anesthesia at Montgomery Hospital in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania on their fifty years of academic and clinical training of nurse anesthetists.

Dr. Tornetta founded the school in 1951 to provide the community with highly educated and clinically competent nurse anesthetists. Over the past fifty years, the school has graduated over 300 students. The nurse anesthetists from the Frank J. Tornetta School of Anesthesia are respected in their various fields and hold many high level positions in academic and administration fields. The school is accredited by the Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia.

A strong academic partnership exists between the La Salle University School of Nurs-

ing and the Frank J. Tornetta School of Anesthesia. This partnership has also received a one million dollar grant through the Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration.

The Frank J. Tornetta School of Anesthesia has been a premier institution at Montgomery Hospital for fifty years. It has developed a long tradition of excellence and a highly regarded reputation. Our community is very fortunate to have such an outstanding educational presence in the health care field in our area. I am honored to celebrate this special day with the Frank J. Tornetta School of Anesthesia.

HONORING CHIEF MICHAEL E. RIO ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable civil servant and protector of the public. I would like to honor Chief Michael E. Rio on his retirement from the Chicago Ridge Police Department and to pay tribute to his many years of service to the officers and citizens of the village of Chicago Ridge. Chief Rio retired from service to the department on August 31, 2001.

Chief Rio is a 31-year veteran of the Chicago Ridge Police Department. Hired as a patrol officer in 1970, he had risen to the rank of Detective and then was appointed Chief in August of 1987. He was the first member of the Chicago Ridge Police Department to attend the prestigious FBI national academy. His dedication, excellence, and courage can be seen through the numerous awards and commendations he has received, including two Awards of Valor for his actions in life-threatening incidents. Also, during his many years of service, Chief Rio has been instrumental in reforming the Chicago Ridge Police Department, making it one of the most state-of-the-art facilities around.

Chief Rio is well regarded by his family and the community for his personal character, honesty, and integrity. He is a father of four children, Linda, Joseph, Michelle, and Michael Jr., as well as the proud grandfather of six.

Mr. Speaker, as Chief Rio leaves behind a long and rich history at the Chicago Ridge Police Department, I would ask that my colleagues join me in honoring this great man.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM E. LEONARD

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and honor the accomplishments of the Honorable William E. Leonard, the father of the Honorable Bill Leonard, member of the California Assembly, 63rd District.

Mr. Leonard earned a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from UC Berkeley in