

Tinian Island in the Marianas where the Enola Gay was launched to bomb Hiroshima ultimately leading to the end of the war. Yet, his service to his country did not end there.

For a time he attempted to exercise his adventurous acumen on a gold mine in Mexico and after, loosing a plane and risking his life protecting the claim, walked away in search of other ventures. He worked in Hollywood as a consultant for the military movie classic "Twelve O'clock High." Around that same time, General Hall was awarded a direct commission in the USAF in 1948 and distinguished himself as an expert in jumping out of perfectly good airplanes. He was the key developer of the parachuting program at the USAF Academy and has participated in over 1,200 jumps.

There is an Internet web site in his honor where Kevin Coyne, the publisher of the Ejection site writes: "In late 1965, Jim Hall a professional parachute safety instructor and Major in the Air Force Reserve volunteered to act as the human guinea pig for the 0-0 seat package." He is still the only human being ever to participate in such a test. His comment after being launched by a rocket 400 feet into the air into a small lake, "I've been kicked in the ass harder than that." Jim Hall is the epitome of the "right stuff."

Jim was a close friend of Steve Ritchie, the Air Force's first aerial Ace of Viet Nam and is an active proponent of continued use of Buckley field, General Hall was added, in 1985, to the Colorado Aviation Hall of Fame. He has been active in Colorado politics helping to create the Colorado Leadership Program. He worked to elect Jack Swigert to the 6th Congressional district in 1982 and ultimately worked with the Colorado State Legislature to place the very popular statue of Swigert, right here in our nation's Capitol.

General Jim Hall is the Arapahoe County District II Captain to the county Grand Old Party, he is the namesake of the Aurora Republican Forum's "General Jim Hall Award." He is the Military Advisor to Gov. Owens and the Governor's Community Relations Advisor for the Asian Community and I am honored to include him on my District Military Academy Selection Board and District Military Veterans' Committee.

It is my honor, and pleasure to recognize this outstanding constituent and distinguished American Service Man, here in the Nation's Capitol.

HONORING JD BUTLER

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2001

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, nearly half a century ago, after bravely serving his nation in the United States Navy, JD Butler became a carpenter and joined the Carpenters Union. Today, I rise to announce to my colleagues that JD has announced his retirement from the Carpenters Union, and to commend him for his outstanding services to his fellow carpenters and to our nation.

I have known JD for several years in his capacity as Executive Secretary Treasurer of the

Gold Coast District Council. In this capacity, JD was a passionate and effective spokesman, not only for the members of his union, but for working families across California and our country. Since coming to Congress, I have been guided by JD's wisdom and experience on a range of issues, from pension reform, to school construction, to workplace safety, to preserving the protections of Davis-Bacon. On these and other issues, JD is a tireless advocate for the rights of American workers.

JD's success as a carpenter and labor leader is impressive. But more significant to me is the man's character. JD is a warm and compassionate man, a loving husband, father, and grandfather, and someone who has given so much of himself to better his community.

Mr. Speaker, on May 5, people from across Central and Southern California, Nevada, and Arizona will gather in Palm Springs to pay tribute to JD's decades of service to the Carpenters Union. This is certain to be an extraordinary affair honoring an extraordinary man. I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating JD on his retirement and applauding him for a career of achievement and accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MASSACHUSETTS MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2001

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, May 15, 2001, the Massachusetts Life Insurance Company will celebrate its 150th anniversary—a milestone achieved by only twenty other Fortune 500 companies.

The Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company was founded by George Rice in Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1851. Today, the MassMutual Financial Group continues to have its headquarters in Springfield, and has grown into a global diversified financial services organization with more than \$213 billion in total assets under management.

The family of companies include Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company, plus its subsidiaries Oppenheimer Funds, David L. Babson, Cornerstone Real Estate Advisers, MML Investors Services, MassMutual International, MassMutual Asia, The MassMutual Trust Company, Antares Capital Corporation, Persumma Financial, MML Bay State Life Insurance Company and C.M. Life Insurance Company.

The Mass Mutual Financial Group serves more than 8 million clients and offers a broad portfolio of financial products and services with offices located across the United States, and international operations in Hong Kong, Argentina, Bermuda, Chile, and Luxembourg.

Celebrating a 150th anniversary is an extraordinary accomplishment so I ask my fellow Members of Congress to join me in recognizing the MassMutual Financial Group's anniversary and congratulating them for a successful 150 years and anticipating another 150 years of continued success.

HONORING MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 364 AND AUXILIARY POST 364

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2001

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor two outstanding groups in Northern Virginia, the American Legion Post 364 and Auxiliary Post 364. Recently, four of their most outstanding members were recognized, as well as the entire Auxiliary Unit.

Jerry Howard, a member of Post 364, received the National Award for Children and Youth Chairman of the Year for Region 2. Tirelessly devoted to youth education initiatives, Jerry is most often recognized for aiding children of veterans, even providing financial assistance to those who are in need.

Marie Rhyne, also a member of Post 364, was recently appointed as a member of the National Security Committee. This Committee not only lends support to foreign relations, it also endorses ROTC, blood donations, crime prevention, and junior law cadets.

Barbara Stevenson, a member of Auxiliary Unit 364 and Legislative Chairman of the Unit, received the National Award for Outstanding Unit Legislative Program, Southern Division. Members of the Legislative Division make appearances at Congressional hearings and attend meetings with Congressmen and women's groups to explain their interests.

Marcia Wheatley, also a member of Auxiliary Unit 364 and Junior Activities Chairman, Department of Virginia, received the National Award for Outstanding Department Junior Activities Program, Southern Division. Marcia recognizes that helping our youth is key to the success of the Unit and the community.

Finally, Auxiliary Unit 364 was recognized with the Dr. Kate Barrett trophy for the most outstanding Unit in the Department of Virginia. This prestigious award is well deserved and proves that this Unit gives a great deal back to its community.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I wish the very best to the above individuals and the entire American Legion Post 364 and Auxiliary Post 364. All of the above recognized people have certainly earned this recognition, and I call upon all of my colleagues to join me in applauding their remarkable achievements. Northern Virginia is better off because of their efforts.

A TRIBUTE TO WINI HURLBERT

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2001

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a pillar of the community, Mrs. Jean Winifred Hurlbert. Wini Hurlbert was an active member of many groups, organizations and movements in Pacific Grove and the Monterey Peninsula community in my district. Mrs. Hurlbert passed away recently, surrounded by friends and family, at the age of 94.

Mrs. Hurlbert and her husband, Elgin "Oxy" Hurlbert, a retired Navy captain, were lively members of the town of Pacific Grove for almost their entire lives. Wini began her life on the peninsula when she was 17, working at a summer retreat center, and quickly became a fixture to those who knew her. She moved to the area full time in the 1920's, and began a teaching career at Pacific Grove Grammar School, and it was there that she met her future husband. She was a dedicated teacher and educator who was instrumental in starting the preschool program in Pacific Grove, as well as being active in both the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts.

Along with her devotion to teaching, Wini was an inspiring conservationist. She was an active member of the Monterey Peninsula Audubon Society, the Sierra Club, the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History Association, and was also a member of The Nature Conservancy, American Birding Association, Hawk Mountain Society, the California Native Plant Society, and the Wilderness Society. Her community interests did not end there, as she was also active in the Friends of the Pacific Grove Library, the Order of the Eastern Star, the Battle of the Coral Sea Association, the Monterey Peninsula Community Concert Association and the Monterey Peninsula Choral Society.

Mrs. Hurlbert was a warm and gracious person who touched so many lives throughout the 20th Century. Her presence will not soon be forgotten, and she is missed by everyone who knew her, especially her son, Jerry Hurlbert of Weaverville, California; her daughter, Jean Jorgensen of Jackson, Wyoming; eight grandchildren; ten great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandson.

TRIBUTE TO SYBIL AND MANNON
KAPLAN

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2001

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my fellow Adat Ari El congregant's Sybil and Mannon Kaplan. On Sunday evening, June 3, 2001, Adat Ari El—the first Conservative synagogue in the San Fernando Valley—will celebrate the Kaplan's longstanding dedication and service to our temple and community.

The Kaplans have been members of Adat Ari El for more than 35 years and their contributions are legion. They have selflessly involved themselves in a variety of causes. Sybil is a devoted former L.A. Unified School District teacher and community activist. She has served on both the Temple and Sisterhood Board of Directors and is a founding member and past President of the Associates of the Jewish Home for the Aging. She also helped establish the San Fernando Valley Region of the Jewish National Fund and served as President and Chairman of the Board.

Manny, while acting as the managing partner for the last 24 years of the accounting firm of Miller, Kaplan, Arase & Co. LLP, has also found time to devote himself to community service. He currently serves as the Chairman

of the Adat Ari El Endowment Fund and he has previously served in many other capacities within Adat Ari El, including the Presidency. He is also the current Chairman of the San Fernando Valley Region of the Jewish National Fund and President of the Valley College Patron Association. He has held many other positions and has served on the Board of Directors of such important organizations as the United Jewish Fund and the University of Judaism. Manny also was the President of Camp Ramah.

I am honored to know the Kaplans personally. I have great respect and admiration for their accomplishments, their integrity, and their civic spirit. It is with great pleasure that I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Sybil and Mannon Kaplan for everything they've done and continue to do.

IN HONOR OF THE 20TH YEAR
CELEBRATION OF THE FIRST
HISPANIC COUNCIL MEMBER
ELECTED IN HUDSON COUNTY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2001

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 20th Year Celebration of the First Hispanic Council Member Elected in Hudson County, New Jersey. The Hispanic Pioneers Civic Association, Inc., will host the celebration on Friday, April 20, 2001.

The Hispanic Pioneers Civic Association, Inc., (HPCA) was formed to promote and honor Hispanic leaders and non-Hispanics who have made significant contributions to the progress of the Hispanic community during the past twenty years. Whether in the field of education, politics, or community development, HPCA acknowledges those who have made a real difference.

And during the past twenty years, in New Jersey and elsewhere, many Hispanics have won elective office. However, the number of Hispanics in elective office does not proportionally reflect the number of Hispanics in America. Nevertheless, we are making great progress, and Hispanic representation will soon reflect our community's growth and our years of hard work.

In my home district, Hispanics have achieved great success in many fields, and politics is certainly no exception. I am an example of that success; and I could not have done it without the support of the Hispanic community. There have been other success stories that demonstrate how far we have come as a community. The following individuals deserve credit for helping to lay the foundation for Hispanic political and civic involvement in America, which they accomplished through hard work and dedication: Benjamin Lopez; Nydia Dávila-Cólon; Efrain Rosario; George O. Aviles; Jaime Vazquez; Mariano Vega, Jr.; Fernando Colon, Jr.; Jose O. Arango; and Edwin Duroy.

The 20th Year Celebration presents a wonderful opportunity for the Hispanic community to reflect on the important contributions that Hispanics have made to American society.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 20th Year Celebration of the First Hispanic Council Member Elected In Hudson County.

IN HONOR OF SAINT ELIAS
MELKITE CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Saint Elias Melkite Catholic Church. This year, Saint Elias celebrates its centennial anniversary.

For the past one hundred years, Saint Elias has served as an important part of the Northeast Ohio community. A place where people of all faiths can come together to pray for peace in the Middle East, Saint Elias has effectively ministered to a diverse neighborhood. In 1997, the Catholic Church formally presented Saint Elias with the award for the Promotion of Catholic Unity and Inter-Religious Dialogue. The award recognized Saint Elias's years of dedication to ecumenicalism.

The good nature of Saint Elias has not been limited to the neighborhood which houses the parish. Starting last year, the parish has sponsored children in Lebanon by helping to provide needed medical supplies and clothing. The goodwill and love of the people of Saint Elias has been demonstrated by these acts of sharing and concern.

Saint Elias Church has always stayed true to its Melkite roots. Always stressing fellowship and service, Saint Elias has assumed important roles in its neighborhood. Most recently, Saint Elias created its first Mens Club, which has shown a deep dedication to the promotion of spiritual and material projects. They have organized countless benefits, and have raised funds for scholarships, provided relief to the poor and sponsored religious activities. The Men's Club has become a fixture in the neighborhood, bring people together to help one another.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring Saint Elias Melkite Catholic Church as they celebrate their one hundredth birthday.

THE HEART OF COLUMBINE DAY

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2001

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to give honor to efforts by Governor Bill Owens and the Jefferson County Board of Education in declaring April 20th "The Heart of Columbine Day," in support of the Heart of Columbine organization.

Last week, the Littleton community and everyone across our state of Colorado came together to quietly mark the second anniversary of the shootings at Columbine High School.

In January, in remembrance of this terrible tragedy, the Heart of Columbine organization was created by Gerda Weissman Klein and