

when it says, "We wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities and powers." We pray that we may heed the ancient summons, pray as if everything depended on God and act as if everything depended on you. Whether we worship in the shadow of the cross, under the Star of David or the crescent of Islam, it is in this spirit that we gather and in this spirit that we pray. We pray that God be above us to protect, beneath us to uphold, before us to guide and around us to comfort. We offer these prayers in the name of one God of all humanity. Let all of God's children say amen. (Applause.)

Representative LARGENT. Thank you, Harold. One of the real mysteries of the power of Jesus is that, Mr. President, as you said, I may not have voted with you in the four years that I have been in Congress, but I want you to know that I care for you and love you. That is part of the mystery of Jesus and the celebration that we have here this morning as we come to pray for our leaders and for our world.

At this time I would like to ask Senator Lieberman to come forward and lead us in our benediction. (Applause.)

Senator LIEBERMAN. Thank you. Let us pray.

I pray, Lord, that you will open my lips, that I may declare your praise. We love you, Lord, because we come before you with a perfect faith that you will hear our prayer. And we have that faith not because of our confidence in our righteousness but because of our trust in your mercy.

Lord, thank you for waking us up this morning, restoring our souls to our bodies, bringing us to this place, enabling us to have this extraordinary experience. We have come along many paths to this place, but the destination we seek is a unified one, Lord, and it is you. You are the source of our lives, of our principles, of our purpose. We thank you for all that you have done for us. And as the President said so beautifully and compellingly and truthfully, for reasons that only impress us without imperfection, so often our attempts to reach you have divided us.

But today, the spirit in this room is yours; in the Hebrew, Shekinah, the spirit of God, is here and it brings us together in a characteristically American way, in a way that the founders of this country understood, and they expressed in the very first paragraph by which they declared their independence that they held certain truths to be self-evident and that the first of these was that the rights they were granting us came from you; they were not the work of philosophers or lawyers or politicians, but were the endowment we received from you, our creator.

Lord, we thank you for the leaders who are here, the speakers who are here who have shared their faith with us. We ask your prayers, especially on the leaders of our country, the President and Vice President and their devoted and gifted wives. We pray particularly today for the President of the United States. We thank you for the gifts you have given him of intellect, of judgment, of compassion, of communication, that have enabled him to be such a successful leader of our country and have raised up so many people in this country to a better life and have brought him to a point where people around the world depend on him, put their hopes in him.

And Lord, may I say a special prayer at this time of difficulty for our President, that you hear his prayers, that you help him in the work he is doing with his family and his clergy, that you accept his atonement in the spirit in which David spoke to the prophet

and said, "I am distressed. Let me put my faith not in human hands but in the hands of God, who is full of abundant mercy."

So, Lord, we pray that you will not only restore his soul and lead him in the paths of righteousness for your name's sake, but help us join with him to heal the breach, begin the reconciliation and restore our national soul so that we may go forward together to make this great country even greater and better.

And I pray, Lord, too, for all the leaders from around the world who are here. And in the spirit the president himself invoked, I want to reach out particularly to Chairman Arafat and Abu Mazin and Leah Rabin and her children, and to do so in the spirit of unity that fills this room, but also in the recollection and remembrance of the truth, that Abraham, with whom you entered the covenant that gave birth to at least three of the great religions that are here today, that Abraham loved his son Ishmael as he did his son Isaac. And we pray that you will bring that truth to Chairman Arafat and the leaders of Israel and you will guide them in the paths of peace so that their children and grandchildren may truly one day not just live in peace but sit together, as Dr. King evoked in all of us, at the table of brotherhood and sisterhood.

So, Lord, as we leave this place, we pray that you will take us by the hand and lead us home, but let us not leave here the spirit of unity and purpose that has filled this room. Let us resolve, each of us in our own way, to work to honor your name, to bring us closer each day to the realization of the prophet's vision, "when the valleys will be exalted and the hills and mountains made low, when the rough spots will be made straight and the glory of the Lord will fill the earth, and all flesh will see it and experience it." On that day, Lord, your name will truly be one and your children will be one.

Amen. (Applause.)

Representative LARGENT. Thank you, Senator Lieberman.

Ladies and gentlemen, this concludes the 47th National Prayer Breakfast.

Thank you all for being with us here this morning. Let's leave today and live out the principles Jesus taught about loving one another, loving our God with all our heart, soul and mind. Thank you, and have a good morning.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING  
MARTINS FERRY CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2001*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues with great pride and satisfaction:

Whereas, The Martins Ferry Chamber of Commerce is this year celebrating their 100th Anniversary as they have been committed to servicing their community since its inception in 1901; and,

Whereas, with a deep and abiding concern for the well being of all members of the community, have given generously of their time, talents and energy to make Martins Ferry a better place to live; and,

I invite my colleagues to join with me and the citizens of Ohio in celebration and com-

memoration of Martins Ferry Chamber of Commerce's one hundred years of dedication to the people and businesses of their community.

IN HONOR OF RITA C. SEVERIS,  
AUTHOR OF TRAVELLING ART-  
ISTS IN CYPRUS 1700-1960

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2001*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Rita C. Severis, a distinguished art historian whose recently published book, *Travelling Artists in Cyprus 1700-1960*, offers a pioneer study of the island of Cyprus through the visions of more than 120 artists over three centuries.

Ms. Severis will be honored on the evening of April 24, 2001, by Cyprus's Consulate General to the United States, Mr. Vasilis Philippou, at a book signing presentation at the Consulate General's office in my district in New York.

A student of philosophy and journalism at University College, London and the London School of Journalism, Ms. Severis received her doctorate in the History of Art from Bristol University.

Ms. Severis is an accomplished author and journalist whose previous books include *Along the Most Beautiful Path of the World*, *Edmund Dutoit and Cyprus*, and the co-edited *In the Footsteps of Women Peregrinations in Cyprus*. Ms. Severis has contributed articles to various periodicals on Cypriot culture and is now working on a publication exploring an American missionary's diary in Cyprus (1834-39).

Ms. Severis carefully selected 350 compositions, from pencil and ink to pastel, lithographs, and watercolors and oil on paper, canvas, board, and wood, for *Travelling Artists in Cyprus 1700-1960*. The collection elegantly presents the beauty and majesty of Cyprus, with its diverse historic periods, august monuments, and magnificent natural landscapes.

Through this publication, Rita Severis has provided a work of great significance in the field of art history, while contributing to the cultural fabric of Cyprus.

Mr. Speaker, I salute Ms. Rita C. Severis for her admirable contribution to art history and to the people of Cyprus through her publication, *Travelling Artists in Cyprus 1700-1960*.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING  
THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE SALVATION ARMY CAM-  
BRIDGE, OHIO

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2001*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues with great pride and satisfaction:

Whereas, The Cambridge Salvation Army is celebrating their 100th year of dedicated service to the grateful people of Ohio; and,

Whereas, they have humbly and faithfully provided invaluable services to those less fortunate, embodying the true spirit of William Booth, the founder of the Salvation Army; and

Whereas, their success has been made possible only through the generosity of spirit that prods one to give generously to their neighbor; and,

I invite my colleagues to join with me and the citizens of Ohio in celebration and commemoration of the Cambridge Salvation Army's generous gift of one hundred years of service to the people of this city.

HONORING DR. DEANE AND SUSAN  
PENN

**HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2001*

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a couple who have been great friends to the Jewish community of Bergen County, New Jersey, as well as personal friends of mine for many years. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Deane and Susan Penn of Alpine, New Jersey, this year's winners of the Anti-Defamation League's Torch of Liberty Award.

Those who are fortunate enough to know Susan and Deane know the depth of their dedication to the community and helping others. I would like to discuss some of their many contributions to the community.

Susan Penn brings a combination of warmth, intelligence, and drive to every project she undertakes; and there are many. She is a Vice President of the UJA Federation of Bergen County & North Hudson, and holds a number of other positions within the Federation. Susan is also deeply committed to the JCC on the Palisades, and is a member of its Board of Trustees. She has also held leadership positions in secular and Jewish educational institutes as well as community groups, too numerous to mention.

Dr. Deane Penn is a highly respected physician who has served as the President of the medical staff at Holy Name Hospital in Teaneck, New Jersey. Yet his thriving medical career has never stopped him from devoting his considerable talents to working in our community. He is a Trustee of the Jewish Home in Rockleigh, New Jersey and is a member of the Physician's Cabinet of the UJA Federation.

The Penns are also both avid tennis players and competitors. And they are sharing their love of that sport, and the Jewish people, by co-chairing the National Masters Tennis Team for the 16th World Maccabiah Games in Israel.

People who give so much of themselves as Dr. Deane and Susan Penn do not do so for the recognition. However, they certainly deserve to receive it.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate Dr. Deane and Susan Penn as well as their children Jonathan and Stacey on the occasion of this well deserved tribute from the Anti-Defamation League, and wish them health and happiness in the years to come.

SMALL BUSINESS INTEREST  
CHECKING ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

**HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 3, 2001*

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that some language intended to be included in the report to accompany H.R. 974, the Small Business Interest Checking Act of 2001 (H. Rept. 107-38) was inadvertently omitted when the report was filed. The paragraph beginning on page 19 and ending on page 20 of that report, explaining section 7 of the legislation, should read as follows:

This section provides that nothing in the bill is to be construed as creating any presumption or implication that, in the case of an escrow account maintained at a depository institution in connection with a real estate transaction, the absorption of expenses incidental to a normal banking function, or the forbearance of any fee in connection with the same, or the receipt of any benefits thereof by the holder or the beneficiary of that escrow account, may be treated as the payment or receipt of interest for purposes of Public Law 93-100, the Federal Reserve Act, the Home Owner's Loan Act, or the Federal Deposit Insurance Act. The Committee intends that this provision clarify that the current treatment of such transactions under Federal law and regulation, particularly the regulations of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve DD and Q, is unaffected by this legislation. Current law does not treat the provision of the services and benefits described by this section as the payment or receipt of interest to or by the holder or beneficiary of an escrow account, and that presumption will remain the law upon the enactment of this bill.

This language clarifies the intent of the Committee with respect to this provision, and corrects the omission in the printed report.

REGARDING HUMAN RIGHTS IN  
CUBA

**HON. JOE SCARBOROUGH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2001*

Mr. SCARBOROUGH. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in condemning the repressive and totalitarian actions of the government of Cuba against the Cuban people. I fully support H. Res. 91 and join with the sense of the House of Representatives that the President should work toward a policy of directly assisting the Cuban people, strengthening the forces of change, and improving human rights within Cuba.

Since Fidel Castro led the Cuban Revolution in 1959, the Cuban government has severely repressed its citizens. Cuba barely survives as one of the last hard-line Communist states anywhere in the world, and unfortunately continues its abysmal human rights record to this day. Following the Soviet Union's collapse and the decline of its role as Soviet satellite, Cuba experienced severe economic deterioration

from 1989 to 1993. Despite limited reforms implemented in 1994, economic and social conditions there have not significantly improved. We must press for more.

The Castro regime violates all the Cuban people's fundamental civil and political rights, denying its citizens the freedoms we Americans hold most sacred. In Cuba, there is no such thing as freedom of assembly, freedom of press, freedom of speech, or freedom of religion. In law and in practice, the Castro regime suppresses all opposition and dissent, and controls and monitors religious institutions. In addition, Cuba's government regularly denies workers' rights and routinely prevents international human rights monitors from accessing the country.

The United States' objective for Cuba is to bring democracy and respect for human rights to our island neighbor. We must continue a policy that keeps maximum pressure on the Cuban government until reforms are enacted, but we must not forget the Cuban people who are unconscionably forced to live without the most basic freedoms. Nobody deserves to live and die at the hands of communism. Fortunately, through our persistence and steadfast knowledge that the United States is morally right, Mr. Speaker, I assure you ultimately freedom will prevail.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING  
DAVID M. BLAGG

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2001*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues:

Whereas, David Blagg is the recipient of the distinct honor of promotion in the United States Army; and,

Whereas, David Blagg's dedication to the United States Armed services is recognized in his advancement from Sergeant to Staff Sergeant; and

Whereas, David Blagg's distinguished career began three years ago as Private First Class of Fort Bragg, N.C. and now holds a position at the White House Communications Agency in Washington, DC; and,

Whereas, on Thursday, April 5, 2001, the Honorable David L. Hobson of the great state of Ohio will promote Sergeant Blagg to the rank of Staff Sergeant; and

Whereas, the citizens of the United States and the citizens of Ohio, with a real sense of pleasure, join me in congratulating Staff Sergeant David Blagg on this proud day of recognition.

IN HONOR OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY  
JUNIOR LEAGUE MOVEMENT

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2001*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Junior League