

the community. They are by name, Rev. Frederick H. Meyer, Rev. Carl F. Pohlmann, Rev. Hilbert J. Wuebbens, Rev. David Langseth, Rev. Jerrett L. Hansen, Rev. Kurt M. Friederich, Rev. Patrick W.F. Cabello Hansel, and most recently, Rev. Katrina D. Foster.

Today, Rev. Foster continues to lead the church and its vital role in our community. Currently, the church celebrates services in Spanish and English, has a Youth and Luther League program, and a Sunday school program for children.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the ministers, members, and friends of Fordham Evangelical Lutheran Church on their 80th anniversary in the South Bronx community.

FIRE CHIEF RICHARD TREMITIEDI HONORED FOR 35 YEARS OF DEDICATION AND SERVICE

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 1995

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Fire Chief Richard R. Tremitedi, a Hoboken firefighter for 35 years. A testimonial dinner will be held in his honor today in East Rutherford, NJ.

Chief Tremitedi joined the fire department in 1960. Through the years, he rose through the ranks by attaining the highest score on every promotional test that he took. In March 1990, he became Fire Chief of the city of Hoboken and he has served in that capacity with pride and dedication.

Chief Tremitedi's many achievements include writing the city's smoke detector ordinance as head of the Fire Prevention Bureau during the 1980's. The ordinance required property owners to place fire detectors in common areas as well as in each apartment. This made buildings safer places for everyone.

In the 35 years that Chief Tremitedi served as a firefighter, he has touched the lives of many people. The career of a firefighter is truly a noble one. There are not many people that are courageous enough to enter burning buildings on the verge of collapse to put out fires. However, people like Chief Tremitedi and other firefighters dedicate their lives to doing just that. Firefighters are genuine heroes who risk their lives to help others. Many people owe their safety and security to Mr. Tremitedi. He has created a better and safer environment for the residents of Hoboken.

In September, 1995, Chief Tremitedi officially resigned as Fire Chief. He leaves behind a tradition of valor and dedication. He is truly a remarkable man who has served the community with all his heart. He was always available to answer the call of duty. Chief Tremitedi will continue to serve as a member of the State Fire Master Planning and Research Advisory Council. He also plans to write a book about managing the costs of fire protection.

It is an honor to have such a brave and dedicated man serving my district. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Richard R. Tremitedi for his service and dedication to the community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF YITZHAK RABIN

SPEECH OF

HON. OWEN B. PICKETT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 8, 1995

Mr. PICKETT. Mr. Speaker, I have had the pleasure of visiting with Yitzhak Rabin both in the United States and in Israel. Although intense and superbly focused on his leadership responsibilities for Israel, he maintained a steady and even demeanor that endeared him to all. His vision for the future of Israel had been clearly formulated in his mind and his every word and every motion appeared to be in execution and fulfillment of this vision. Whether you agreed with him or not you could never doubt his own confidence in this vision nor in his conviction and determination to see it become a reality.

He articulated his plans with clarity and precision. Regardless of the circumstances he would not yield to the temptation to sacrifice accuracy in the interest of saving time.

He loved his country intensely and was determined that his role in its leadership would be remembered for the good he achieved.

Yitzhak Rabin was a man of courage, a man of vision, a man of action, a man devoted to his country, and a man of God.

Only God will ever know why he was taken from us at this time and in this way. We know that we have lost a wise and forceful leader. We have lost a friend and we have lost a true believer in the virtue and dignity of peace.

May God rest his soul.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF YITZHAK RABIN

SPEECH OF

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 8, 1995

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sorrow I rise to reflect a moment upon the loss of Israel's brilliant and devoted prime minister, Yitzhak Rabin.

The assassination of Prime Minister Rabin was an unspeakable tragedy of worldwide proportions. Prime Minister Rabin was a statesman of the world and the genius of the Middle East peace plan. He dedicated his life to peace and in the end gave his life for peace. His contributions will never be forgotten.

Prime Minister Rabin was a leader among leaders. He was a soldier, politician, statesman and peacemaker at various points throughout his career of public service. It was Yitzhak Rabin the general who captured Arab territories in 1967 and Yitzhak Rabin the peacemaker who in 1993 shook hands with PLO leader Yasser Arafat and agreed to return much of that land in exchange for peace. To excel at any one of his callings alone could have been grounds for greatness. Instead, Prime Minister Rabin was a master of all his roles.

Prime Minister Rabin's commitment to peace in the Middle East came from early experience with the absence of peace. Arabs began attacking Jewish settlements when he

was a boy of seven. He was 14 when he was trained in the use of arms during the Arab riots and general strike of 1936. In World War II, he served in the Allied forces. In 1945, he led a daring raid to free 200 Jews that is credited as the inspiration of the raid in the novel "Exodus." He was said to be the inspiration for the novel's hero, Ari Ben Canaan.

The world has lost Prime Minister Rabin, but the peace process in which he provided such exemplary leadership is still alive and is of critical importance to the entire world. We cannot permit his loss to destroy peace in the Middle East. Instead, the free world should do all it can for the Israelis and Palestinians to achieve that goal.

While peace must be our primary goal, we must also be certain that those responsible for the assassination of Prime Minister Rabin are brought to justice. His murder is an affront not just to the Rabin family, to Israel or to Jews, but rather to everyone who believes in the ideals for which he stood.

We cannot allow terrorists—terrorists of any religious or political persuasion—to rule the world. We must put our foot down and see that the peace process continues. We in the United States must offer moral leadership and do all we can to bring these parties together.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF YITZHAK RABIN

SPEECH OF

HON. FRED HEINEMAN

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 8, 1995

Mr. HEINEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and respect to a man whose mission was to bring about lasting peace in the Middle East. Yitzhak Rabin, Prime Minister of Israel, lost his life in pursuit of his dream, a dream worthy of us all, peace in the Middle East. Mr. Rabin, a key army general during the 1967 war, was one of Israel's great leaders. A true visionary who pushed hard for peace even in the face of fierce opposition.

I hope that Mr. Rabin's murder will only push Israel and the other parties involved to work that much harder to complete the peace process. Mr. Rabin's death makes a difficult task, much more difficult, but I know it can be done because it must be done. Israel has a history of overcoming all obstacles. This tragedy is another obstacle that I know Israel will overcome.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF YITZHAK RABIN

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 8, 1995

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express great sadness.

America, and the world is saddened by the tragic loss of a great leader, and a man of peace.

Let no enemy of the peace process take comfort in the act of a madman. Yitzhak Rabin's legacy will live on as others step in

and carry the banner to end what he recently, and so eloquently, referred to as bloodshed and tears in the heart of the land of milk and honey.

I recently had the opportunity to visit Israel for the first time, and to meet with Prime Minister Rabin. We have lost a unique and valiant man, and our prayers and heartfelt condolences go to the Rabin family and the people of Israel.

To the people of Israel, and all who dream of peace in the Middle East, let me just say that we in America will not forsake your cause. We cannot and must not let the sacrifice that Prime Minister Rabin, his family, and you have paid this week to be in vain. We must all rededicate ourselves to the long and arduous journey begun by leaders of great vision, courage, and wisdom.

We must continue to work together, in a bipartisan fashion, to bring Arabs, Israelis, Palestinians, Muslims, Jews, and Christians together in peace.

Prime Minister Rabin is indeed a martyr to peace. But his dream lives on. Please know that we will continue to support Israel and the peace process and one day, God willing, we will celebrate with you a secure, comprehensive and lasting peace in the Middle East.

IN HONOR OF MAJOR LINDA
SCHWARTZ

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 1995

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, on Veterans Day, Major Linda Schwartz will receive the Connecticut Department of Veterans Affairs Commendation Medal. Linda Schwartz truly embodies the spirit of this prestigious award, which is given "to those select few who have distinguished themselves through their service to Connecticut veterans and their families." I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this outstanding individual who has done so much to address the needs of our veterans not only in Connecticut but across the country.

Linda Schwartz' work on behalf of our veterans has earned her the respect and admiration of all who know her. A deeply caring and compassionate woman, she has devoted herself to meeting the needs of Connecticut's homeless veterans. She brought the "stand down" concept to Connecticut in 1992 and has been an integral part of the success of this yearly event which gives homeless veterans access to a wide range of programs and services. Linda also co-founded "project partnership" in which the Vietnam Veterans Assistance Program has renovated houses for homeless and disabled veterans in conjunction with rehabilitation services at the West Haven VA Medical Center.

A skilled nurse who served with distinction in the Air Force, Linda has applied her medical background to the many health issues facing our veterans, including the effects of agent orange and post traumatic stress syndrome. Indeed, she is known nationally for her leadership on issues related to veterans health care and women veterans, and has testified numerous times before both Houses of Congress. She has also been appointed to several Federal advisory committees, including, most re-

cently, the VA Advisory Committee on Women Veterans. Linda has also served as the president of the Vietnam Veterans Assistance Fund since its inception in 1989, and as acting director of government affairs for Vietnam Veterans of America.

It has been my great honor to work closely with Linda on a number of issues affecting veterans in my district. Linda's dynamic leadership and enthusiasm were instrumental in forging a partnership between veterans groups and Connecticut's labor unions to help Connecticut veterans enter the work force through an apprenticeship program. The West Haven VA Center, the Painters Union and the Carpenters Union have now joined together in a cooperative effort that I believe should serve as a model across the country.

Whether working with the local VA center or testifying before Congress, Linda Schwartz has been a tireless advocate for our veterans. I commend her for all that she has done for the veterans in my district, and congratulate her on this well-deserved honor.

TRIBUTE TO SEABURY DAY CARE
CENTER

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 1995

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Seabury Day Care Center, a community-based center, which today celebrates 25 years of service educating and taking care of the children in my South Bronx congressional district.

Twenty-five years ago a group of parents organized to make a difference in our community. They recognized that the problems facing inner-city neighborhoods were detrimental to the community, and decided to provide our young ones with a sound environment in which to live, grow and learn.

This group of parents worked diligently to provide education programs for children. In recognition of their accomplishments they won a special award and were able to open on November 9, 1970 the Seabury Day Care Center. The center would be able to serve 85 preschool children ages 2 to 5 and 40 after-school children ages 6 to 12 with a staff of 33.

Under the direction of Mrs. Genevieve Brooks, who served as president until 1990, the center was able to expand many of its educational programs. A special grant awarded by the Bronx Council on the Arts has made possible a cultural program for 40 children ages 9 to 13.

A separate grant also enabled many of the staff members to continue their training and enroll in classes at Columbia University, Lehman College and New York University. Even after the funding for this purpose was no longer available, many of the staff people continued their studies.

Mr. Speaker, I commend all of those who have been involved in making this center a role model for early childhood development and education.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the efforts of the many parents and members of our community who for 25 years have been able to provide our children with the quality education that they deserve at the Seabury Day Care Center.

STEPHEN R. GREGG, A GREAT
WAR VETERAN AND OUTSTAND-
ING CITIZEN

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 1995

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great man, Stephen R. Gregg, who distinguished himself in combat in World War II and was awarded a Congressional Medal of Honor. Today, Mr. Gregg will be honored at a Veterans Day Ceremony to be held at City Hall in Bayonne, NJ.

This week's ceremony caps a host of honors bestowed on him as a result of his brave deeds which include the naming of a Hudson County Park in his honor. On October 22, 1995 the Bayonne County Park was renamed the Stephen R. Gregg, Congressional Medal of Honor Recipient Park at a ceremony in his honor.

Mr. Gregg, a native of Bayonne, served in our Armed Forces as a young U.S. Army lieutenant. While engaged in the Italian campaign and on the battlefields of southern France, Mr. Gregg won the Nation's highest military honor.

On August 27, 1944, Sergeant Gregg risked his life to save his fellow countrymen. Near Montelinar, France, Sergeant Gregg and his platoon were advancing on the enemy positions when suddenly someone fired upon the leading scout. Sergeant Gregg rushed to the aid of his riflemen who were engaged in fire. The Germans threw hand grenades at close range wounding several soldiers. While dodging hand grenades, Sergeant Gregg with a machine gun as his only shield boldly led a group of medics up a hill to rescue the soldiers that had been wounded. Despite all the crossfire and hand grenades being thrown at him, Sergeant Gregg risked his life to help his fellow countrymen. Sergeant Gregg stood there firing into the enemy positions while the wounded were removed to safety. In January, 1945, Mr. Gregg received a battlefield commission as a second lieutenant. Shortly afterwards on March 14, 1945 General Alexander Patch presented Mr. Gregg with the Congressional Medal of Honor. Mr. Gregg is one of the few soldiers to have received this great honor while in the field. Among his military decorations are the Silver Star, Purple Heart with cluster, French Croix de Guerre with Silver Star, Bronze Star, Combat Infantry Badge, and many other campaign medals.

I am certain my colleagues will rise with me and pay tribute to this gallant man. As a dedicated citizen, a courageous soldier, and a true American hero, Mr. Gregg embodies the best of American patriotism. Mr. Gregg is a man who has risked his life and contributed his skills to helping maintain and fight for the freedom that America cherishes so much.

HONORING THE VIRGINIA BEACH
VOLUNTEER COUNCIL

HON. OWEN B. PICKETT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 9, 1995

Mr. PICKETT. Mr. Speaker, every year, millions of Americans give their time, talents, and