

TRIBUTE TO MS. M. MAUREEN PERKINS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2002

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call the attention of my colleagues to a constituent in the 6th District of New Jersey. It is with great pleasure that I introduce and honor Ms. M. Maureen Perkins as she retires from the Department of Defense, CECOM, Fort Monmouth, NJ.

Ms. Perkins retired on January 3, 2002, as a Department of Defense civilian. As a Logistics Management Specialist, she has retired from the Command and Control Systems and Avionics Branch, Force Modernization Division, Readiness Directorate, Logistics and Readiness Center, CECOM, Fort Monmouth.

While in this Branch, Mrs. Perkins has served as Action Officer, Team Leader, Section Chief and Branch Chief for civilians, military and contractor personnel. Her technical and managerial skills were recognized by receipt of numerous performance awards.

Mrs. Perkins' career started in Finance and Accounting at Fort Monmouth. She was promoted a year later to Health Services Command at Patterson Army Hospital, Fort Monmouth, NJ, in the Medical Supply Branch.

After 4 years in Medical Supply, Mrs. Perkins relinquished her career to support her husband's, retired Lieutenant Colonel Franchot Perkins, Army career. She not only provided support to her husband's career, and the raising of their two sons, but she actively participated in the Officer's Wives Club, in which she served a term as a board member. As a military wife, Mrs. Perkins supported the American Red Cross and became a Red Cross volunteer dental assistant at the Dental Clinic in Fort Huachuca, Arizona.

Mrs. Perkins resumed her career at ERADCOM, Fort Monmouth where she received several commendations and honorary awards. Years later, she accepted a promotion, as Chief, Equipment Management Branch, which returned her to Health Services Command at Patterson Army Hospital, Fort Monmouth, NJ.

Mr. Speaker, it is my sincere hope that my colleagues will join me in honoring and recognizing Mrs. M. Perkins' retirement and her significant accomplishments throughout her career in Command and Control Systems and Avionics Branch, Force Modernization Division, Readiness Directorate, Logistics and Readiness Center, CECOM and the United States Army.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING JASON DWAIN MITCHELL

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2002

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, Jason Dwain Mitchell has devoted himself to serving others through his membership in the Boy Scouts of America Troop 145; and

Whereas, Jason Mitchell has shared his time and talent with the community in which he resides; and

Whereas, Jason Mitchell has demonstrated a commitment to meet challenges with enthusiasm, confidence and outstanding service; and

Whereas, Jason Mitchell must be commended for the hard work and dedication he put forth in earning the Eagle Scout Award;

Therefore, I join with the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Jason Dwain Mitchell for his Eagle Scout Award.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HADASSAH ON ITS 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2002

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, one of my early memories is of my mother going off to Hadassah meetings. When I was 6 or 7—meaning that these meetings happened during the first half of Hadassah's existence—I was a little resentful. But when I came as an adult to learn of the extraordinarily important work that Hadassah does, I have retroactively given my enthusiastic support for my mother's participation.

I am very familiar with the work of Hadassah, which is the women's Zionist organization, both here in the U.S. and in Israel. In Israel, the medical care provided by the generosity and the diligence of Hadassah members is extremely important and has been particularly valuable during that young nation's history. Here in the U.S., Hadassah has an unequalled role as an advocate for important Jewish values, including support for the state of Israel, and also for a humane and open American society; it does significant community service work; and it is an important educational institution. One of the impressive things about Hadassah is the inter-generational nature of its work.

Mr. Speaker, I am very proud that my mother was a Hadassah member more than 50 years ago, and I am proud as well of my own record in cooperating with this very important organization during my own public career. I am delighted to extend a Mazel Tov to Hadassah as it celebrates its 90th birthday this month.

AUTHORIZE A NATIONAL TSUNAMI HAZARD MITIGATION PROGRAM

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2002

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation to authorize a national tsunami hazard mitigation program for all United States coastal States and insular areas.

Tsunamis are waves generated by vertical movement of a large mass of ocean water. The word "tsunami" is Japanese and means wave in a harbor. Generally, an earthquake will have to be stronger than a magnitude 7.0 to generate a tsunami, and not all large earthquakes generate tsunamis. Tsunamis can be caused by vertical movement of the ocean

floor, landslides into or under the water, volcanoes, and large meteorites.

Tsunamis can have a destructive impact near their point of origin, or far from their origin. In the open ocean, a tsunami will pass through a given point as a small to moderate wave, but as the water becomes more shallow the destructive force increases. It is in harbors and other low-lying coastal areas that tsunamis do the most devastation.

The Pacific region average about three destructive tsunamis per century. In recent history, there have been three Alaska earthquakes which generated destructive tsunamis. In 1946, a tsunami was over 100 feet high on Unimak Island; in 1958, a tsunami was over 1700 feet high in Lituya Bay; and in 1964, a tsunami was over 200 feet high in Shoup Bay. In Hawaii, significant tsunamis have occurred in 1868 and 1975.

In an effort to mitigate the hazards caused by tsunamis in the Pacific, in 1994 the Senate Committee on Appropriations directed the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) to establish a Pacific tsunami hazard mitigation program. Since then the program has developed to the extent that there are two tsunami warning centers, one in Alaska, and one in Hawaii. Based on information gathered at these two centers from data collected from around the region, tsunami warnings are broadcast throughout the Pacific.

The primary duties of the two tsunami warning centers are to provide tsunami warnings, help coastal communities prepare for future tsunamis through mapping of areas of potential inundation and community education, and to improve the timeliness and accuracy of the warnings through research and development.

The legislation I am introducing today will expand this program to include the coastal states on the Pacific, Atlantic and Gulf coasts, and all of the inhabited territories of the United States. I believe this is necessary assistance which should be provided to our coastal communities. Through effective planning and timely warnings, this program will pay for itself with a significant reduction in federal disaster assistance costs.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and ask that it be given prompt consideration by the committee of jurisdiction.

CONGRATULATING LAWRENCE BARTELSON ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2002

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lawrence Bartelson on the occasion of his retirement from American International Group (AIG) after thirty years of dedicated service. Born in Brooklyn on March 6, 1941, Larry graduated from Lafayette High School in 1958. After attending the Baruch School of Business and Public Administration at the City College of New York, Larry began his professional career in accounting at the Home Insurance Company. In 1971, Larry joined AIG where he worked as an accounting manager in the Investment Accounting Department. On December 3, 2001, the company honored Larry with a retirement luncheon attended by his fellow employees and friends of AIG.

For most of his life, Larry lived in Brooklyn, where his sister and other family members still reside. In 1993, Larry moved to Manhattan's West Village, where he joined a local block association to promote neighborhood well-being and community preservation. Among Larry's many notable community activities is his involvement in the New York Public Library, where he has been recognized as a member of the Bigelow Society. He is also an active member of the SAGE Forty Plus Group at the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center in Manhattan.

Larry is devoted to his close-knit family. Larry plans to spend his retirement years in New York City as well as his apartment in Hollywood, Florida, pursuing his various interests and enjoying the things he loves with family, friends and his partner, Bill Hevert. I am pleased to join with my friend, Lewis Goldstein, in congratulating Larry on this milestone. I wish him a productive and enjoyable retirement.

TRIBUTE TO REV. DR. A. EDWARD DAVIS, JR.

HON. ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2002

Mr. BLAGOJEVICH. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor for me to rise today to pay tribute to the Honorable Reverend Dr. A. Edward Davis, Jr., Pastor of St. John Missionary Baptist Church in Chicago, Illinois. Pastor Davis preached his first sermon in 1969 and was called to the pastorate of St. John Missionary Baptist Church in 1976. Since that time, God, through him, has made and continues to make a difference in many lives.

Under his leadership and vision, St. John's membership has grown to almost four thousand five hundred members. He preaches two Sunday services and is making preparations to build a new church building which will include an Educational Facility with a full-time Day Care Center. Over thirty-three years of untiring service, faithful dedication to the community and strong leadership have earned him the deserved respect and admiration of all whose lives he has touched.

Pastor Davis has been instrumental in shaping the future of the community, state and country. I applaud his leadership and commend him for toiling so long to provide the type of guidance which has empowered so many to make meaningful contributions to the community. His accomplishments are far too numerous to list but I applaud him for each and every one of them and for having the dream and desire to use his faith as a vehicle to effect social, political and economic change. He is a true testament to his faith and an asset to our country. I commend Pastor A. Edward Davis and wish him many more years of exemplary service to the Lord.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RICH PERLBERG, NEW PRESIDENT OF THE MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2002

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the accomplishments of Rich Perlberg of Brighton, Michigan, who was recently installed as 2002 president of the Michigan Press Association.

Rich Perlberg and his family have been dedicated for three generations to continuing America's tradition of a free press. The Perlberg family also works to keep the newspaper industry viable in a highly competitive era and is fully committed to enhancing the communities they serve.

Rich Perlberg, publisher and general manager of Home Town Newspapers, is both a second generation president and the third Perlberg to head Michigan's volunteer, statewide organization of newspapers. His father, Ed Perlberg was president in 1982, and his brother Bob served in 1992. Actually, the Perlberg family tradition goes back even farther. Rich's grandfather, Floyd, once served as a board member of the now 300-member association.

Rich Perlberg understands that community newspapers are the historians of American life, as well as the watchdogs of community well-being and a cornerstone of the community economy.

Perlberg assumes the Michigan Press Association presidency at a critical time. While newspapers that reflect their communities are the very backbone of a the community, the backbone of these publications is retail advertising. Without that revenue, it would be nearly impossible for newspapers to serve their communities. The recent dip in the economy and other media competition for advertising revenue, present Perlberg with a major challenge in the new year.

Perlberg's family tradition in community newspapers and his successful newspaper career make him the right man for Michigan's newspaper industry in 2002. He began his career sweeping floors, proofing ads and writing copy at his father's paper in Bay City, Michigan. He has since risen to lead one of the state's most respected and successful community newspaper groups. He is well-prepared to assume responsibility for the association.

We congratulate Rich Perlberg on his new opportunity and wish him and the Michigan Press Association the very best in the coming year.

THOUGHTS OF RABBI ISRAEL ZOBERMAN ON HIS RECENT TRIP TO THE MIDDLE EAST

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 12, 2002

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, on September 11 and in the weeks that followed, it seemed inconceivable that anyone in the world would ever be able to return to true normalcy. The

horror of that day would—as well it should—live forever in our hearts and minds. But, in parts of the world, old hatreds have been revived and violence has once again become an everyday occurrence. In particular, the Middle East has again become a tinderbox.

Rabbi Israel Zoberman of the Congregation Beth Chaverim in Virginia Beach, a congregation that draws people from all over the Tidewater area, recently traveled to Israel for the Israel Bonds Rabbinic Conference Solidarity Mission. As someone who had grown up in Israel before coming to the United States to preach, Rabbi Zoberman is regrettably well accustomed to the daily routine of violence in the Middle East. But, he is far from desensitized to its effects on human lives. He published his thoughts on the recent violence in the National Jewish Post, and he has shared them with me. I commend his article to my colleagues' attention as well.

As an early supporter of mutual accommodation between the Israelis and the Palestinians, I urged in the wake of the 1982 Lebanon War—in an article inserted into the Congressional Record by then Senator Charles Percy of Illinois—for responding creatively to the Palestinian question while guaranteeing Israel's security. Indeed, the 1993 historic handshake between the late Prime Minister Rabin and Chairman Arafat at the south lawn of the White House vindicated those believing in the necessity of peace between the long warring parties. However, the past 16 months have painfully impacted the peace camp following Arafat's initiation of the Second Intifada, violently rejecting former Prime Minister Barak's wide proposal at Camp David to fully end the historic conflict.

While on an Israel Bonds Rabbinic Conference Solidarity Mission, we watched on Israeli TV the captured ship "Karine A," packed with fifty tons of Iranian offensive weapons ordered by the Palestinian Authority. Major General Shlomo Gazit (Res.) who headed the Israeli Army Intelligence branch, described to us the action as the most daring commando raid since the 1976 Entebbe Operation, also meant to save Jewish lives. All that while General Anthony Zinni was in the region receiving cynical assurances from the Palestinian of their commitment to implement a cease-fire.

U.S. Ambassador Daniel Kurtzer, the second consecutive American Jew to serve in the important post replacing Ambassador Martin Indyk, greeted us most warmly and unequivocally state, "there is a connection between the ship and the Palestinian Authority for which it should answer." Jerusalem's Mayor Ehud Olmert, thanking us heartily as did Israelis at large for visiting at a trying time, emphasized that the ship's episode illustrates the gap "between Arafat's declarations and deeds" with peace remaining elusive.

Israel's President Moshe Katsav movingly welcoming us in his official residence was highly critical of Arafat's conduct since the Peace Process began, and stressed the internal division the latter created in Israeli society. He emphatically announced, acknowledging borrowing President Lincoln's famous phrase, "Mr. Arafat, you cannot fool all the people all the time." The President spoke of the need to vigorously fight terrorism while asserting the meeting points of common interests between Palestinians and Israelis.

Deputy Defense Minister, Dalia Rabin-Pelossof, daughter of the slain Yitzhak Rabin, bemoaned the transition "from hope