

TRIBUTE TO HADASSAH

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 90th anniversary of an outstanding organization: Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America.

Many Americans recognize Hadassah as the premier organization for Jewish women. Others know of its many achievements in health care and social justice. But few realize that Hadassah is both the largest women's and the largest Jewish organization in the United States, with over 300,000 members. Every single Member of Congress represents members of Hadassah.

It has been my distinct pleasure and privilege to have had a long and fruitful professional relationship with Hadassah. When I first began working on genetic discrimination issues in 1995, Hadassah stepped forward to pledge its support. At my first press conference, Hadassah was one of just four organizations that endorsed that first genetic non-discrimination bill. Today, this initiative has the support of over 200 organizations—but Hadassah is still leading the way as a key player.

Indeed, I have found Hadassah to be among the most consistent and persistent allies any legislator could ever hope for. When Hadassah decides that an issue is a priority, it will work ceaselessly until its goal is achieved. Its members are well educated, savvy, and tenacious. Its leadership is focused, smart, and sophisticated. Few organizations are as effective.

Through our partnership on issues including genetic discrimination, women's health, and colorectal cancer, my respect and admiration for Hadassah has only grown. In 1998, I was proud to receive the Hadassah Nassau Region's Myrtle Wreath Achievement Award for "outstanding achievement in all areas of public service and . . . dedication to improving the health and well being of all Americans." This award hangs in a place of honor in my office. I was equally proud to be named a Lifetime Member of Hadassah for my work on issues important to their members.

Perhaps Hadassah's greatest achievement is the Hadassah Medical Organization, a network of 2 hospitals, 90 outpatient clinics, and numerous community health centers throughout Israel. These facilities provide state-of-the-art health care to 600,000 patients each year, regardless of race, religion, or creed. They often treat the most critically wounded victims of the region's ongoing conflicts.

I would like to invite my colleagues to join me in saluting the 90th anniversary of Hadassah. May Hadassah and its members enjoy another 90 years of activism.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LEONARD GREGORY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Leonard

Gregory and thank him for his extraordinary contributions to both the Pueblo Chieftain and the greater community of Pueblo, Colorado. Len's life-long dedication to the pursuit of excellence as a columnist and editor at the Pueblo Chieftain is matched only by the level of integrity and honesty with which he has conducted himself each and every day in that pursuit. He will always be remembered as an employee with the utmost dedication and talent, and will continue to be known as a leader in his community. As he celebrates his retirement, let it be known that it is a great loss not only for the paper, but also for a town that has relied on him for his wisdom and insight throughout his extraordinary tenure.

As a 38-year employee at the Pueblo Chieftain, Len's dedication, work ethic and unparalleled skill as a newsman ensured his unfettered rise through the ranks of the organization. He began his career in 1964 as a composing room employee, and then transferred to the newsroom in 1972 as a courthouse and general assignment reporter. In 1988, he was promoted from city editor to managing editor, and in 1999 was promoted to executive editor, where he oversaw the newsroom operation, served on the editorial board and represented the newspaper in the Pueblo community.

Since he began writing for the Chieftain, Len has distinguished himself as much more than an average employee. He has received numerous awards from the Colorado Press Association and the Colorado Associated Press Editors and Reporters for his column, which he began writing in 1979. He was named outstanding Alumnus by the University of Southern Colorado Alumni Association, and Newspaper Person of the Year by the Southern Colorado Press Club. Len's distinguished service and dedication is not limited to his professional endeavors, as he has proven himself an active leader within the community as well. He is currently a member of a number of organizations, including the Pueblo School District 60 Foundation Board, the University of Southern Colorado's Foundation Board and President's Advisory Council, and the Holy Family Parish Finance Council.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Len Gregory is a man of unparalleled dedication and commitment to both his professional and philanthropic endeavors. It is his unrelenting passion for each and every thing he does, as well as his spirit of honesty and integrity with which he has always conducted himself, that I wish to bring before this body of Congress. Len Gregory is a remarkable man, who has achieved extraordinary things in his career and in his community, and I would like to extend to him my congratulations on his retirement and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

PROCLAMATION FOR GARY GRETARSSON

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of New York's outstanding young men, Gary Gretarsson. The Boy Scouts of his troop honored him as they recognized his achievements by giving him the Eagle Scout honor on Friday, December 7, 2001.

Since the beginning of this century, the Boy Scouts of America have provided thousands of boys and young men each year with the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

This award is presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. Becoming an Eagle Scout is an extraordinary award with which only the finest Boy Scouts are honored. To earn the award—the highest advancement rank in Scouting—a Boy Scout must demonstrate proficiency in the rigorous areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of these awards, as their activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Mr. Gretarsson, and bring the attention of Congress to this successful young man on his day of recognition. Congratulations to Gary and his family.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY STUDENTS AT CONNER HIGH SCHOOL, HEBRON, KY

HON. KEN LUCAS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of some outstanding students at Conner High School in Hebron, in Kentucky's Fourth Congressional District. Specifically, I salute members of the school's chapter of the National Honor Society for their award-winning community service projects in recent years.

Most recently, Conner's honor students tackled an issue that we have addressed here in the House as well—the needs of America's homeless veterans. The honor students worked with a grocery bag manufacturer, Duro Standard Products; a local grocer, Flick's Foods; and Wal-Mart Stores, Incorporated; to have information about the Heather Renee French Foundation for Veterans printed on 21 million grocery bags.

You may recall that as Miss America 2000, Kentucky's Heather Renee French Henry made increasing our awareness of the needs of America's homeless veterans her mission, and came to Washington to campaign for the homeless veterans legislation we passed last month.

Now, thanks to the efforts of the National Honor Society members at Conner High School and some civic-minded business people, many people are learning about the needs of homeless veterans and Heather Renee French Henry's organization. Specifically, I'd like to recognize the students—Ashley Tepe, Jennifer Golatzki, Amanda Kordenbrock, McKenzie Ryle, and Katie Stacy, their National

Honor Society advisor Mike Hills. In addition, I would like to recognize these business people—Tom Coughlin of Wal-Mart Stores, James R. Eaton of Duro Standard Products, and Bob Flick of Flick's Foods.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending these outstanding students and fine corporate citizens.

JANUARY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE MONTH

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I have named the Franklin Square School District as School District of the Month in the Fourth Congressional District for January 2002. The schools are Polk Street, Washington Street and John Street Elementary Schools.

This month I've decided to honor three schools in the Franklin Square School District for their growth and innovativeness. Dr. Timothy Lafferty is the outstanding Superintendent of Schools in Franklin Square. Primarily serving the residents of Franklin Square, the school district also adds portions of these neighboring communities: Garden City South, West Hempstead, Elmont and Malverne. The administrators of the schools are: Gloria Perry, Principal, Polk Street Elementary School; Vincent Butera, Principal, Washington Street Elementary School; and Ceil Candreva, Principal, John Street Elementary School.

Today, all three elementary schools in the district held groundbreaking ceremonies for renovations and additions to be completed in this new year.

Any time I see Long Island schools growing, expanding and renovating, I'm heartened for our future. The very structure of a building is so vital to the inside health and well-being of the students, staff and faculty on the inside.

Dr. Lafferty and his administration prepare children to be contributing members of society along with their academic instruction. Providing a "Foundation for Success" is the driving force that shapes all programs in the Franklin Square School District's three elementary schools.

Two programs cited as "exemplifying the spirit" of the schools are the Accelerated Reading Program and the Character Development Program. The goal of the Accelerated Reading Program is to ensure that students read more books independently outside of the school day. Each teacher maintains a bulletin board which spotlights students' progress toward achieving their goals.

The Character Development Program aims to teach students values by stressing practice in addition to study and discussion. Through the implementation of cooperative learning, students learn to practice leadership strategies, impulse control and responsibility. Students learn to be good citizens. The vision of Franklin Square School District—A Foundation for Success—prepares Long Island students for a lifetime of learning. It is a vision shared by all members of Franklin Square community, including students, teachers, administrators and parents.

The Fourth Congressional District salutes the Franklin Square School District's focus on

the future. I congratulate all members of the Franklin Square School District community on this honor.

IN HONOR OF HAROLD JORDAN

HON. JOHN E. SWEENEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mr. SWEENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of the 22nd District of New York. Mr. Harold Jordan retired from the Greenwich Volunteer Fire Department in November 2001 after fifty years of continuous service. Mr. Jordan first joined the Greenwich Volunteer Fire Department on October 26, 1951 as a member of the Union Engine Company #1. During his half century of service, he served as a Captain, 2nd Assistant Fire Chief and 1st Assistant Fire Chief.

Mr. Jordan's selfless community service embodies the definition of a true American. Mr. Jordan has instilled this spirit of volunteerism in his family. His two sons and his son-in-law have all worked as volunteer firefighters. Mr. Jordan's dedication has served as an inspiration to his family, fellow firefighters and community.

As a result of recent tragedies, firefighters have finally received the attention and admiration they have long deserved. We must remember that firefighters put themselves in danger day in and day out. They do this because it is their job and they are proud to fulfill their duty. Mr. Jordan served his community in this impressive capacity for fifty years. I thank him and the 22nd District of New York thanks him for his tremendous contribution to the community.

I wish Mr. Jordan the very best as he begins his well deserved retirement.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MARIANO APRAIZ

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize a representative of the American spirit and drive, Mariano Apraiz. Mariano is a Spanish resident, who after living in America for over thirty years, will take his oath and become a citizen of the United States. The ceremony will take place in Denver, Colorado on Friday, December 14.

The reason I bring Mariano's name to bear is to tell his story of determination to become an American. Mariano came to this country to find a new way of life and experience new opportunities in the world. He found work as a miner, rancher, and eventually he found a position in the local school district. Now at the age of 55, Mariano has enjoyed a successful life in this country and I praise him for his determination and courage to live his dream.

Mr. Speaker, when asked why he wants to gain citizenship, he simply replies, "I want to vote." I think this statement speaks volumes for the pride Mariano has in his new country. He wants to be part of the process, he wants to participate in civic responsibility, and he

wants to make a difference. He has grown to love this nation and in these difficult and trying times, he truly is a symbol of American pride and spirit.

Mr. Speaker, Mariano's patriotism and love for America will culminate as he is sworn in as an American citizen. I am proud of Mariano Apraiz for his determination and courage. His lifelong goal will be reached and therefore, he deserves the recognition of this body of Congress.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ALBERT C. YATES

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 23, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Albert C. Yates, President of Colorado State University and this year's National Western Stock Show Citizen of the West. This award is given to the person who best exemplifies the spirit and determination of the western pioneer. Al Yates' leadership and dedication to Colorado and Colorado State University personifies this spirit.

Al Yates is the 12th president of CSU and has led the university to become one of the top research institutions in the nation. Since Yates took over as president in 1990, CSU has had record fund-raising, increased its enrollment, implemented core curriculum, increased research grants and recovered from a devastating flood that inflicted \$140 million in damages. He has brought remarkable vitality to CSU and has shown the important role higher education plays to the future of the West.

Born in Memphis, Tennessee, Al Yates enlisted in the Navy after high school and served on the U.S.S. *Kitty Hawk*. He then continued his education at the University of Memphis, graduating magna cum laude with degrees in mathematics and chemistry. Yates went on to earn a doctorate from Indiana University in theoretical chemical physics, served as the postdoctoral research fellow in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Southern California, and completed the Institute for Education Management at the Harvard School of Business. Before coming to CSU, Yates served nine years as the Vice President at Washington State University.

Mr. Speaker, Al Yates is a person of high integrity and honor. I consider it a privilege to know and work with him. He has served Colorado State University well taking the responsibilities and standards of his job to the highest level. In a recent edition of the Rocky Mountain News, Bill Coors was quoted as saying, "The Citizen of the West pays tribute to a person whose life and work embody the Western values we all hold so dear. With Al Yates, his work is his bond, and he's dedicated his time, energy and integrity to building our state's land-grant institution into a leader in the nation and a source of pride for Colorado." Furthermore, in a recent essay by Chancellor Dan Richie of the University of Denver (a recipient of the Citizen of the West Award in 1998), Richie said, "We are long-standing admirers of Yates, who has led the transformation of CSU from 'ag school' to premier research university."