

person in the history of the Borough of Carteret to place the Wreath of Honor at the Carteret Soldiers and Sailors Memorial in Carteret Park.

Joseph was recognized by the Carteret Veterans Alliance and the Senate and General Assembly of New Jersey as being a truly patriotic citizen and the youngest presenter of the Wreath of Honor at the Carteret Soldiers and Sailors Memorial. He was a special guest speaker in July of 2001 at the Rotary Club of Carteret, and was presented with an official Certificate of Appreciation. In addition, Joseph received a proclamation from Carteret Mayor Jim Failace, and was honored with a Joint Resolution from New Jersey State Senator Joseph Vitale, Assemblyman John Wisniewski, and Assemblywoman Arline Friscia.

Joseph is presently enrolled at Holy Family School in Carteret, New Jersey. He enjoys playing Basketball and Little League Baseball.

He is the son of Joseph and Bernadette Wutkowski.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Joseph A. Wutkowski for his patriotism, and for honoring America's veterans in Carteret, New Jersey, and veterans all across America.

APPALACHIAN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACT AMENDMENTS OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 26, 2002

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this legislation to reauthorize the Appalachian Regional Commission. Since 1965, the ARC has fostered cooperation among the Federal Government, Governors of Appalachian States and local community leaders for economic development initiatives.

I am especially pleased the bill today adds Hart and Edmonson counties in my district to the Commission. Based on economic data, both of these counties fall into the ARC's distressed classification, the Commission's lowest economic status rank. I believe I can speak for these counties when I say they appreciate this opportunity for assistance in improving their economic situations.

This bill also changes the Commission's fund distribution, requiring half of its program funds to be directed to ARC's distressed counties. Distressed counties are the ones most in need of the extra development assistance ARC provides, and it only makes sense that we target a substantial portion of the project funds available to the areas most in need.

Membership in the ARC does not guarantee funds for local areas, but membership does give local development leaders an opportunity to apply for grants and make the case for their proposals to boost economic and social development.

I want to thank Chairman LATOURETTE for his support in adding these counties deserving of assistance to the Commission and for his support of economic development in Kentucky.

While I would have preferred that we were voting on the chairman's original legislation which included neighboring Metcalfe County in the Commission, I am pleased with this out-

come. We passed that legislation in August. Unfortunately, the other body did not agree to our version of the legislation, and we had to make this compromise. I hope the committee will consider adding Metcalfe County to the Commission in the future, as this area is also economically deserving of aid.

I appreciate the work of Chairman LATOURETTE and Chairman YOUNG in this process, and I urge the House's support for this bill.

IN RECOGNITION OF HADASSAH'S 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the 90th anniversary of Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America. As the largest Jewish membership organization in the United States, Hadassah exemplifies the true spirit of voluntarism.

Founded in 1912 by Henrietta Szold, a Jewish scholar and activist, Hadassah is committed to unifying Jewish people throughout the world. Its mitzvot, or good deeds, are felt at home in America and abroad in the land of Israel.

In Israel, Hadassah funds and maintains two hospitals and 90 outpatient clinics that treat 600,000 patients each year regardless of ethnicity or religious background. Hadassah also supports four other major organizations in Israel and the United States. The Hadassah Israel Education Services group provides cutting-edge technical and vocational training for Israeli citizens, while the Youth Aliyah program provides education and support to immigrant youth. The Young Judea program builds connections between American teenagers and Israel through student exchange partnerships and the Jewish National Fund works to preserve Israel's natural resources by constructing parks and planting trees.

The impact of Hadassah can also be felt throughout the United States. The organization is represented in every congressional district and members work with political leaders on matters ranging from U.S.-Israel relations to women's health and equality issues. Hadassah volunteers are active in community service projects, educational initiatives, and programs benefitting women and their families.

In my district of California, there are over 250 Hadassah members and six active chapters. These chapters have raised over \$5 million for the Hadassah Hospital and educational programs in Israel.

On this, its 90th anniversary, I salute Hadassah's efforts to promote education, welfare, and women's rights, that have helped preserve strong cultural ties with Israel.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 39 and No. 40, had I been present, I would

have voted yes. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend the vote due to circumstances at home. Several Illinois steelworkers may lose their jobs due to the closing of a few large plants, and I felt the need to show my support for these workers and their families.

ARC OF MERCER COUNTY

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. ENGLISH. Mr. Speaker, Norman Vincent Peale—a pastor and a motivational speaker—said “Change your thoughts and you change your world.”

Fifty years ago, more than 20 residents of Mercer County, many of them parents of developmentally disabled children, recognized a need in their community. The area lacked much needed education programs that addressed the special needs of their children. This included not only basic education but also the development of job and social skills. With that focus, they established what has evolved into the Arc of Mercer County.

Remember, this was a time when mental retardation was often misunderstood by society. Those who were developmentally disabled were quickly committed to asylums. It was believed that they could contribute nothing to the community. But, these Mercer County residents knew otherwise. They knew these precious individuals could enrich people's lives if they could find a way to integrate them into society. So with hope, optimism and faith, they actively sought donations of space, time and money to establish a program where children and adults with mental retardation could learn to support themselves, learn social skills and attend classes designed to meet their special needs.

These 20 families, through their actions and deeds, changed the way we view mental retardation forever, not only in their own community but worldwide. We now know that being developmentally disabled is not an end-all, they play a vital role in our economy while gaining independence for themselves.

MCAR has grown from a small patchwork organization who once borrowed classroom space from the Salvation Army and the American Legion to a powerhouse agency providing services to more than 500 individuals with mental retardation. Their services have expanded to include vocational training, residential services, employment services and recreation and socialization programming. MCAR owns 17 group homes, a campus of education facilities in Hermitage as well as a Mechenbier workshop in Greenville.

For 50 years, MCAR has given some very special people in the community the opportunity to stand on their own two feet. With their various programs, they are building new and better bridges, ensuring everyone has the opportunity to live a full and productive life. I applaud the founding officers—Mrs. Peter Jarocki, Mrs. Frank Machuga, Mrs. Royal DeWeese, and Mrs. David Cooke—for working with the community to develop a program that helps so many. Under the leadership and inspiration of current CEO Bob Beech and his board, the vision of these families has only flourished.

Mr. Speaker, those with developmental disabilities and their families face a lifetime of challenges. MCAR has provided the tools necessary to ensure that those challenges are met. I would like to congratulate the founding families and everyone at MCAR—past and present. Your hands and hearts have left a positive imprint on so many lives, mine included. Last but not least, I would like to congratulate the clients of MCAR. You have come so far. Your contributions to our local community are felt in so many ways and our lives are enriched by knowing all of you. You have truly made Mercer County a better place to live.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RUSS
SODERQUIST

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 27, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate a Lions Club member from Grand Junction, Colorado whose hard work and dedication has been rewarded with the highest honor given to any Lions Club member. Russ Soderquist was recently awarded the Melvin Jones Fellowship, and as he celebrates his achievement, I would like to commend him for his commitment to excellence that has resulted in this honor. He is certainly a well deserving recipient of this Fellowship and I am pleased to represent him and his chapter of the Lions Club in Colorado.

Russ has served as a member of the Grand Junction chapter of the Lions Club since 1969. Throughout the years, Russ has become famous for his writing on a variety of issues and subjects, drafting letters with concerns and comments to the President of the Lions Club and his fellow citizens. What set Russ apart is that not only is he active in raising concerns to the attention of others, but he also proposes actual solutions. In addition to his letters, Russ also writes numerous articles, several of which have appeared in the Lions Club international magazine. Russ is well known throughout his community as a compassionate man who is dedicated to his community and improving the lives of others. He always conducts himself with sincerity and honesty, both in his letters and in his everyday life.

Mr. Speaker, the diligence and commitment demonstrated by Russ Soderquist certainly deserves the recognition of this body of Congress, and this nation. Russ' achievement serves as a symbol to community members throughout Colorado, and indeed the entire nation. The Melvin Jones Fellowship is an incredible honor that has been awarded to a well deserving recipient. Congratulations Russ, and thank you for all of your hard work!

JOSEPH ORSULAK HONORED ON
OCCASION OF RETIREMENT

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call the attention of the House of Representatives to the long public service of my

good friend Joseph P. Orsulak of Lansford, Pennsylvania, who will be honored with a retirement dinner on March 2, 2002.

Joe began his political career working for the late Congressman Francis "Tad" Walter of Easton in Washington, D.C., as an assistant publication officer. In 1971, he was appointed as Carbon County's chief clerk and served several county commissioners in that capacity over the next 20 years. During his terms as chief clerk, the commissioners entrusted him with additional responsibilities and named him the country's fiscal director to coordinate all fiscal and budgeting affairs of the country government.

During his service as country chief clerk, the state Association of County Commissioners asked him to serve on a state committee to create an instructional booklet on the duties and responsibilities of a county chief clerk. He accepted the challenge and contributed many administrative ideas to improve the way chief clerks do their jobs.

In 1993, Joe was elected to the first of two full terms as Carbon County treasurer. During his first term as treasurer, he installed a new computer system and upgraded the software to conform with the various changes in the hunting, fishing, and dog license regulations.

One of his primary duties as treasurer was serving on the Carbon County Employees Retirement Board. In his capacity as a fiduciary member of the board beginning in 1994 with a portfolio worth \$20 million, he set a goal of reaching \$50 million during his term of office, and this goal was reached in 2000. Joe was also instrumental in having the Retirement Board to evaluate its investment policies and strategies by engaging the services of a second investment manager to diversify the employee pension fund portfolio.

He served on the legislative and nominating committees of the Pennsylvania State Association of County Treasurers, and hosted two state conventions in Carbon County. He was also a member of the Pennsylvania Finance Officers Association.

In December 2000, Joe was appointed to the Pennsylvania State Association of Elected County Officials to represent all treasurers in Pennsylvania. In this capacity, he met monthly with state legislators on the Local Government Commission in Harrisburg to discuss legislation pending in the state House of Representatives and state Senate.

Mr. Speaker, Joe also dedicated himself to serving his neighbors outside of his official capacity. He was active in the former Panther Valley Jaycees, serving as an officer on a local, regional and state level. He concluded his tenure in the Jaycees organization as a Pennsylvania state vice president and state chairman of a program called "Operation We Care" accepting the portfolio of the "Apple Butter Sunday" program. He coordinated the statewide program where Jaycee chapters raised funds for the mentally disadvantaged children of Pennsylvania. In two weeks the organization raised over \$400,000, and the funds were used to send children to summer camps to enjoy the fruits of recreation.

Also in his activities with the Jaycees, Joe had a major role in creating a "Leadership in Action" committee, and traveled throughout the region instructing Jaycee chapters in leadership skills and the importance of the use of the rules of parliamentary procedures in public meetings.

Joe is a member of St. Michael's Roman Catholic Church and a graduate of the former Lansford High School. A lifetime Democrat, he has served on the Carbon County Democratic Executive Committee and as a member of various Democratic clubs in the county.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call to the attention of the House of Representatives to the long public service of Joseph P. Orsulak, and I wish him a happy retirement.

TRIBUTE TO BOB CALLEGARI

HON. ROBERT A. BORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. BORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend a devoted public servant, Bob Callegari, who is retiring following 31 years of dedicated service with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Bob and I have worked together in Philadelphia to advance many waterway projects and I am confident these projects will benefit the entire region for many years to come, serving as a legacy to the Army Corps, and the man responsible for their implementation.

Bob Callegari began his career in 1971, with the North Atlantic Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He served initially as an economist on the North Atlantic Regional Water Resources Study, and from 1972 to 1976 as the Chief of the New York Metro Study Section of the North East Water Supply Study, which resulted in the authorization, by Congress, of a \$3.2 billion water supply project.

From 1977 through 1987, Mr. Callegari served in the Passaic River Study Branch, New York District, as Technical Coordinator, Acting Branch Chief and Branch Chief. During his tenure, Mr. Callegari led the development of the largest Phase I General Design Memorandum at that time, a \$21 million effort. Additional projects totaling \$1.5 billion were authorized, including a flood warning system. As a result, Mr. Callegari's organization was the recipient of numerous awards for outstanding performance.

Bob Callegari came to the Philadelphia District as Chief of the newly organized Planning Division in 1987. At that time, the Philadelphia District had only five active planning studies and one project authorized for construction. Recognizing the needs of the region and the Corps unique capability in flood control, Bob effectively outreached to potential customers and partners generating widespread congressional support. His efforts resulted in an impressive increase in construction or planning projects.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure committee and in my previous role as ranking member of the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Development, I have worked closely with Mr. Callegari to advance projects crucial to improving and protecting the Philadelphia waterways. He believes, as I do, that we must enhance, preserve and protect our waterways, improving our environment in the process.

With congressional support, and Mr. Callegari's leadership, we have successfully reconstructed a seawall at the historic Glen Foerd on the Delaware and made needed waterway improvements at Pennypack Creek and