

Electric was presented with the President's "E" Award in 1994 for its strong commitment to developing and growing exports.

Headquartered in Cleveland, Ohio, Lincoln Electric is the world leader in the design, development and manufacture of arc welding products, robotic arc-welding systems, plasma and oxyfuel cutting equipment and has a leading position in brazing and soldering alloys.

Lincoln Electric has approximately 3,000 hard-working employees in Northeast Ohio, and 7,000 nationwide and throughout the globe. Exhibiting its commitment to its employees, Lincoln Electric guarantees employment to its workers after three years of service. The company has not exercised its layoff options in the United States operations since post war 1948.

Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, May 23, 2006, U.S. Secretary of Commerce Carlos Gutierrez will present Lincoln Electric with the President's "E Star" Award. I am proud of Lincoln Electric, which since its founding in 1895 by brothers John and James Lincoln, has shown a strong commitment to Cleveland and Northeast Ohio. I praise Lincoln Electric and its hard-working employees and wish them continued success.

TAIWAN'S STATUS IN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, with a population of 23 million people, Taiwan is a democracy and a global economic power, yet it is not a member of the United Nations. In January of this year a proposal failed concerning Taiwan's World Health Assembly observer status during the World Health Organization's Executive Board meeting in Geneva. I am concerned that with the outbreak of SARS and ongoing concerns related to the possible human-to-human transmission of H5N1 Bird Flu, Taiwanese membership in international health entities should be considered with a greater sense of urgency.

I urge the Administration to take steps to allow entry of Taiwan into all relevant international health organizations to ensure the best possible response to any potential future health outbreaks that could ultimately invade the United States and detrimentally impact Americans. Despite not being a member of the World Health Organization, Taiwan has declared its voluntary early compliance with all provisions of the International Health Regulations (2005).

Mr. Speaker, I urge the Administration to encourage key leaders of other nations to resume talks with Chen Shui-Bian as soon as possible.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I was unavoidably delayed and missed

the vote on the Inslee amendment to H.R. 4200, the National Defense Authorization Act, Roll Call 149.

I respectfully request the opportunity to record my position. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 149.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF MRS. SALLY FALKMAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Mrs. Sally Falkman, upon the occasion of her retirement from teaching—an exemplary career that follows 30 years of outstanding service, commitment, inspiration and instruction on behalf of every child who was a student in her classroom.

Mrs. Falkman has dedicated the past 29 years of her professional expertise as a teacher at St. Ignatius of Antioch Elementary School. Her dedicated focus on shaping, growing and inspiring the minds and hearts of young children never faded or wavered. For 30 years, Mrs. Falkman instructed students in social studies and religion classes, teaching third, fourth and fifth graders, and has done so with grace, compassion and a gentle spirit, capturing the curiosity and imaginations of her students and the admiration of parents and peers.

Mrs. Falkman's exceptional work ethic, excellent rapport with her students and her colleagues and creative and enthusiastic style of teaching consistently captivated the children, guiding them to a platform where learning and discovery flourished. As new and advanced teaching technologies and advancements evolved, Mrs. Falkman regularly learned and embraced every new technique. But the heart of teaching—the respect, love and confidence that a teacher expresses to her students, will never change, and this vital element in a child's educational experience is the intangible gift that Mrs. Falkman consistently gave to every student.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Mrs. Sally Falkman, for giving true meaning to the words: teacher, mentor, guide and friend. Her chosen vocation of teaching will be forever remembered by her students, their parents, and also by the faculty and staff at St. Ignatius of Antioch Elementary School, where her excellence, compassion, kindness, gentle nature and true gifts for teaching and inspiring our children will be remembered always and held as a brilliant example for all young teachers to follow.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER AND PUBLIC SERVICE OF JOEL CARP—SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR COMMUNITY SERVICES AND GOVERNMENT RELATIONS FOR THE JEWISH FEDERATION/JEWISH UNITED FUND OF METROPOLITAN CHICAGO

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the career and public service of Joel Carp.

For 28 years, Joel Carp has been an effective leader for the Jewish Federation/Jewish United Fund of Metropolitan Chicago, and the Jewish community as a whole. As Senior Vice President, his responsibilities include management of its Government Affairs Program, delegating the budget for social welfare programs, and supervising the State of Illinois refugee and immigration programs, as well as several homeless services programs. Joel's persistent dedication and devotion to social services has truly made a difference in many people's lives and in many organizations.

Joel has dedicated his life to creating public policies that provide quality, comprehensive health and human services for people in Chicago and nationally. He is a member of numerous local, state, and national professional and community service organizations, and has served on various governmental task forces, including the City of Chicago's Task Force on Hunger. His work at the Illinois Department of Human Services includes service on the Governor's Families and Children Leadership Sub-Cabinet. With his knowledgeable background, he has published over 30 articles on various subjects in the field of social work, social planning and resettlement.

Joel was the recipient of the Melvin A. Block Award for Professional Distinction from the Associated YM-YWHAs of Greater New York, and he also received the City of Chicago's Commission on Human Relations Award. His vision is credited as the driving force behind numerous projects that continue to enhance not only Chicago, but our entire nation.

Mr. Speaker, it is hard to overstate the impact that Joel Carp has had on improving the quality of life for thousands of people in Illinois and across the nation. I am proud to call him a friend, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing his contributions and wish him and his family the very best in the future.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF MS. VALRIE A. BENNETT

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Ms. Valrie A. Bennett who recently departed this world as we know it. Although we grieve her being taken from us we must not see her departure as a loss because she fought the good fight, ran the good race and completed her life's mission. A woman of true character gifted with an

endearing spirit, she was an inspiration and mentor to many in her life, including a very close family member and a dear friend and colleague of mine Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON-LEE of Houston, Texas.

A matron of the family, she dedicated her life to keeping her family together and instilling exemplary values in those she influenced. Congresswoman JACKSON-LEE can attest to this because that same dedication has made her what she is today, a compassionate and honorable public servant.

Ms. Bennett was not only active in providing for those she loved in her own household, but she was deeply involved with the many institutions and people in my Congressional District in New York where she resided for almost 50 years. She was a prominent member of her community church in which she served as an Elder always welcoming strangers into the fellowship and assisting in serving their spiritual needs. She is remembered for her belief in and practice of fervent prayer.

With many years of experience connecting with young people in the community she has influenced my lives. Ms. Bennett has accomplished this through the use of certain outreach programs that get to the core of problems within our inner cities. Ingrained with the caring spirit that only a mother has, she was responsible for many of the great initiatives aimed at keeping young people off the streets.

With high admiration I enter into the RECORD a tribute to Ms. Valrie A. Bennett, for I know that Ms. Bennett's heart of gold has touched someone in the community; whether it is a person of youth, vibrant with life and spirit, or a person of age with greater life experience. All who knew her benefited from her active counsel and example. Even though Ms. Bennett has gone on her strong spirit and commitment live on in each and everyone of us. She will truly be missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES A. LEACH

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, May 18, 2006, I missed a series of votes because of a commitment to give a commencement address at Indian Hills Community College in Ottumwa, Iowa. If I had been present, I would have voted the following way: roll No. 160, On ordering the previous question and agreeing to the resolution, "aye"; roll No. 161, On agreeing to the resolution, "aye"; roll No. 162, On the motion to suspend the rules, "aye"; roll No. 163, Weiner of NY amendment, "aye"; roll No. 164, Poe of TX amendment, "no"; roll No. 165, Pallone of NJ amendment, "aye"; roll No. 166, Beauprez of CO amendment, "no"; roll No. 167, Hinchey of NY amendment, "aye"; roll No. 168, Chabot of OH amendment, "aye"; roll No. 169, Oberstar of MN amendment, "aye"; roll No. 170, Putnam of FL amendment, "aye"; roll No. 171, Hefley of CO amendment, "no"; and roll No. 172, On final passage, "no."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CAMERON STAY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cameron Stay, a young man who exemplifies what it means to be a noble citizen.

Cameron, who is 29 years old, was recently involved in a life changing motorcycle accident. I had the pleasure of visiting Cameron while I was in Las Vegas and can personally attest to his courage and his character.

Cameron is a history buff, who graduated from Green Valley High School in 1994, and subsequently attended Community College where he earned a degree in criminal justice.

His strong work ethic and commitment to the greater Boulder City community serve as an example and an inspiration. Having met Cameron, I was struck by his magnetic personality and extremely friendly demeanor. Cameron is an enthusiastic and positive individual. As the eldest son, he has set a good example for his younger brothers and has always been a positive influence.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Cameron Stay, a young man who personifies what it is to be a civically minded individual and a good man. I wish him a speedy recovery.

TRIBUTE TO THE STANLEY F. ROMANOWSKI POST 6896 VFW

HON. THADDEUS G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. McCOTTER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge the 60th Anniversary of the Sgt. Stanley F. Romanowski Post 6896 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Westland, Michigan.

On May 12, 1946, the founding members instituted this Post in the Gymnasium of Munger Intermediate School and dedicated its mission to serving the citizens of Wayne County, Michigan. Named after Sgt. Stanley F. Romanowski, a decorated soldier of World War II who gave his life for his country, the Romanowski Post 6896 courageously pays tribute to the deceased by helping the living.

Each year, the 6896 members of the Romanowski Post 6896 launch charitable initiatives to assist the needy, aid the ill, support the students, and recognize the educators of our community. Among the many notable programs, these veterans host the Christmas Needy Basket Program, which provides food for underprivileged families; a Muscular Dystrophy Drive; a Diabetes Drive; a Cancer Drive; a \$50,000 scholarship fund for students; and a Teacher of the Year program.

In memory of Sgt. Romanowski's birthday, members hold an annual December memorial service in remembrance of United States fallen veterans. This summer, the Romanowski Post 6896 will also hold the first monthly memorial service at Westland City Hall dedicated to Prisoners of War, Soldiers Missing in Ac-

tion, Blue Stars Mothers, and Gold Star Mothers. These deeds serve as a constant reminder, to ensure the bravery of our soldiers, the fragility of our needy, and the heroism of our fallen will not be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of his exemplary love for the United States and our citizens, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending these veterans for their bravery and in thanking the Romanowski Post 6896 for 60 years of loyal and unrelenting service to our community and our country.

RABBI BRIAN MICHELSON

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 19, 2006

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rabbi Brian Michelson of Berks County for his service to the Jewish Community Center and surrounding community.

Rabbi Michelson grew up in the New York City area and went on to pursue a bachelor of arts degree from Franklin & Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. After earning his BA, Rabbi Michelson received his MAHL from Hebrew Union College in Los Angeles, California and then his Rabbinic Ordination from Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, Ohio. Recently, he completed a graduate certification in Healthcare Ethics from Rush University.

In 1998, along with his wife Holly and their daughters Naomi and Gabriella, the family moved to Reading, Pennsylvania where the Rabbi joined the Reform Congregation Oheb Shalom. Before moving to Pennsylvania, the Rabbi chose to help spread the faith in Melbourne, Australia.

Rabbi Michelson is extremely active in the community. He is the Chair of the Chaplin's Advisory Committee of the Reading Hospital and is also an Associate Chaplain for the health community. Additionally, he is a Board member of Home Healthcare Management, serves on its Medical and Professional Advisory Committee, and is Vice-Chair of its Ethics Committee. In his quest to pursue development of interfaith relations, the Rabbi is also a member of the core group for the Interfaith Hospitality Network.

When not working in the medical arena, the Rabbi is active in the Reform Congregation Oheb Shalom where he teaches adult education programs. He is also an instructor with the Reading Area Community College's Department of Continuing Education, where he teaches an Introduction to Judaism course.

Rabbi Michelson's philosophy of action is to simply do what needs to be done. When not spending time on inter-faith and healthcare issues, the Rabbi manages to spend time cooking, drinking coffee, sailing, and watching movies.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring Rabbi Brian Michelson for his outstanding dedication and service to the Jewish Community Center, the Reading Hospital, and the entire Berks County community.