

contests and would spend many hours of her own time planning and leading district workshops.

Ms. Wong's work has been so important to the community that her fellow staff members, along with her students, have decided to honor her through the dedication of a Professional Research Center and a Memorial Reading Garden. Both the center and the garden will be built next to the library that Ms. Wong loved for 12 years.

It is my distinct pleasure to ask my colleagues to join with me in saluting Ms. Wong for her outstanding achievements. She was an amazing person and her memory will live on through the Cynthia Wong Research Center and Reading Garden and through the many lives she touched.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MAXINE JAMES, ESSEX COUNTY HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2006

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a great deal of pleasure that I ask my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me as I rise to congratulate my Chief of Staff, Ms. Maxine James, on her induction into the Essex County Hall of Fame. This is a well-deserved honor for Ms. James, as she has been a positive force for the betterment of Essex County for many years.

Fortunately for me and the residents of Essex County, Ms. James has always been strongly committed to meeting the needs of her community. It was through her vision and insight that some of the finest public servants in Essex County have been drawn into government service. She has also been responsible for helping to establish long-term, beneficial programs in the County, including the Newark Emergency Services for Families (NESF). NESF provides a life-line for residents of Newark and Essex County who are facing challenging situations including homelessness, a lack of heat, or the need for food to feed their families. She has contributed her time and talent to numerous community-based organizations over the years.

Throughout my years as an elected official, Ms. James has been a staunch supporter, friend and confidante. She is a true professional with a creative genius that has garnered many friends from all walks of life. Before my election to Congress, I had the privilege of working with Ms. James at Prudential Insurance Company in Newark, where she impressed me with her enormous energy, intelligence and tenacity. During my tenure on the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders, Maxine generously volunteered her services on several committees doing work to benefit the local community.

When I was elected to the office of Newark Municipal Council in the early 1980's, Maxine joined my team and did an excellent job running my office and providing assistance to the residents of the South Ward over the course of 7 years. In 1988, upon my election to Congress, I selected Ms. James to be my Chief of Staff, and she continues in that role today. Her loyalty is admirable and her dedication is un-

paralleled. She is indeed "one of a kind" and it is my good fortune to have benefited from that distinction.

Ms. James is the mother of two children, Chris and Brian, and the proud grandmother of two, Olivia and Malcolm.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in extending best wishes to Ms. Maxine James as she is inducted into the Essex County Hall of Fame. I am pleased to congratulate her on this very special award and wish her all the best as she continues her public service.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JOEL M. CARP

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2006

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Joel M. Carp who will soon retire from the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago after 28 years of service to that organization. Through the Jewish Federation, Mr. Carp has supported the organization's goals of supporting local, national and international services in regards to human welfare.

Mr. Carp is an advocate for sound public social policy and has written over 30 articles pertaining to social work, social planning and refugee resettlement. Throughout his career, Mr. Carp has collaborated with the City of Chicago Mayor's Task Force on issues from hunger to homelessness. Additionally, Mr. Carp was appointed to work with the City of Chicago on welfare reform.

Previous to his work with the Jewish Federation, Mr. Carp devoted 20 years to the Jewish Community Field Center. Mr. Carp has worked in partnership with various organizations such as HIAS, NYANA and OMB Watch to champion for societal improvements. Moreover, Mr. Carp taught as a social work field Professor at various universities in their graduate programs.

Mr. Carp is a man of integrity who keeps his word. At the request of my Chief of Staff Richard Boykin and Craig Roberts, Chief of Staff for Representative JOHN SHIMKUS, Mr. Carp organized an Illinois Chiefs of Staff delegation to visit Israel. During the visit, the Illinois Chiefs of Staff learned many interesting things about Israel and had the good fortune of meeting with the current Prime Minister Ehud Olmert.

Mr. Carp is highly esteemed for his social policy work and was recently presented with the Melvin A. Block Award for Professional Distinction. Mr. Carp is a pride to the Chicago community and his many years of work are incredibly appreciated. Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, please join with me and the residents of the Seventh Congressional District in saluting Mr. Carp for his achievements in the Jewish community, the Chicago-land area and the United States.

PALESTINIAN ANTI-TERRORISM ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM MARSHALL

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 22, 2006

Mr. MARSHALL. Madam Speaker, I plan to publish additional thoughts elsewhere about why I voted against H.R. 4681, The Palestinian Anti-Terrorism Act of 2006. I expect to be joined in these thoughts by Dr. Bruce Hoffman, a world renowned expert on the subject of terrorism. For now, however, let me simply offer the following brief observations for today's RECORD, particularly because my vote so angered a valued colleague of mine.

In my view, H.R. 4681 passed the House by an overwhelming majority earlier today because my colleagues seek the end of violent jihadist terrorism and are committed to protecting Israel and its citizens. As my words, votes and actions consistently show, I strongly share these objectives. But at this juncture, I would try a different strategy to attain them.

The storied Archibald Wavell, then a young British officer who had served on Allenby's staff in Palestine, offered this prescient bit of irony about the treaties ending World War I: "After the 'war to end war' they seem to have been pretty successful in Paris at making a 'peace to end peace'." That his prediction has come true thus far is of grave concern to the United States and Israel, two fast allies facing violent jihadist enemies with access to ever more sophisticated killing technology. Somehow we must break the cycle of hatred and violence.

Though facially counterintuitive given its history of hatred and violence, I believe Hamas' victory in the Palestinian elections offers a rare, if slim, opportunity to break this cycle, an opportunity well worth exploring given the enormous stakes and intractable nature of the problem. Unfortunately H.R. 4681 squanders that opportunity by rushing to judgment about the added danger of Hamas as a majority legislative party and by merely continuing strategies that have failed for decades to secure a lasting peace. It and the economic embargo already undertaken by Israel and the United States are apt to further radicalize the Palestinian population (and the Arab world generally), accelerating and extending the cycle of violence and broadening the opportunity for Al Qaeda in Palestine.

Hamas, in the short run, cannot credibly agree to the three preconditions set in H.R. 4681. But it can agree to a cessation of violence while diplomacy progresses. With luck, time and diplomatic skill, that might lead to a peace agreement accepted by Hamas and, hence, worth something more than the paper evidencing it. Palestinian Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh has said that Hamas could redefine its position if doing so would further the interests of the Palestinian people. And polls consistently show a majority of Palestinians will accept a two state solution and recognition of Israel.

Hamas now enjoys Ariel Sharon-like strength and credibility among Arabs and Palestinians. No question its election victory at least calls for extra vigilance and caution from Israel and the West. It has committed acts of terrorism which all decent people condemn in

the strongest terms. But Hamas, given time to change and adjust, may have the strength and credibility to break the cycle of hatred and violence on behalf of those it now represents, the Palestinian people. After all, Sharon changed. And who but Sharon could have accomplished the withdrawal from Gaza?

I understand a number of my colleagues voted against H.R. 4681 for humanitarian reasons. These are certainly compelling, but I agree with the vast majority of my colleagues that such issues must take a back seat to the fundamental, long term security issues presented by the Hamas electoral victory. My "no" vote is quite narrowly based. I think this situation calls for time and diplomacy. H.R. 4681 offers neither and evidences, yet again, why Congress should not be conducting our foreign policy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2006

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, last week I could not be present for votes on May 17–19 due to my son's graduation from a California law school.

If I had been present on May 17, I would have voted "no" on amendments to the Forest Emergency Recovery and Research Act, H.R. 4200 (rollcall votes 147, 148, 149, and 150). As a cosponsor of H.R. 4200, I would have voted "yes" on final passage of the bill (rollcall vote 151).

I would have voted "no" on the Marshall Rule to consider the budget (rollcall vote 152), "no" on the previous question (rollcall vote 153), and "no" on the rule to consider the Republican budget (rollcall vote 154). I would have voted "no" on the Watt Substitute (rollcall vote 155).

On May 18, I would have voted "no" on the Hensarling Substitute (rollcall vote 156).

I would have voted "yes" on the Spratt Democratic Substitute, which would have accumulated smaller deficits and less debt than the Republican budget, provided \$6.5 billion more for Homeland Security and \$8.6 billion more for veterans' health care over the next five years. In addition the substitute, would have provided \$150 billion for middle class tax relief such as child tax credit, marriage penalty, and extension of 10% tax bracket (rollcall vote 157).

I would have voted "no" on final passage of the irresponsible Republican budget, which passed 218–210 (rollcall vote 158).

I would have voted "yes" on H. Res. 740, calling on the Government of the United Kingdom to immediately establish a full, independent public judicial inquiry into the murder of Northern Ireland defense attorney Pat Finucane (rollcall vote 159).

I would have voted against the previous question and rule to consider the Interior Appropriations bill (rollcall votes 160 and 161).

I would have voted for H. Res. 795, which condemns the terrorist attacks in Dahab and Northern Sinai, Egypt (rollcall vote 162).

I would have voted for the Weiner Amendment to reopen the Statue of Liberty to the public, which passed 266–152 (rollcall vote 163). I would have voted "no" on the Poe

Amendment to open the outer continental shelf to oil and natural gas drilling (rollcall vote 164). I would have voted for the Pallone Amendment to prohibit the EPA from finalizing changes to the Toxins Release Inventory, which collects and reports information on toxic substances (rollcall vote 165). I would have voted "no" on the Beauprez Amendment (rollcall vote 166). I would have voted "yes" on the Hinchey Amendment, which would require that any new leases for offshore oil and gas drilling include royalty payments if the price of oil or gas is over a certain threshold (rollcall vote 167).

I would have voted against the Chabot Amendment, which would prohibit funds for new logging roads in the Tongass National Forest in Alaska (rollcall vote 168).

I would have voted for the Oberstar Amendment to prohibit the EPA from enforcing guidelines set 3 years ago that significantly limit the applicability of the Clean Water Act to streams, ponds, and wetlands (rollcall vote 169).

I would have voted "yes" on the Putnam/Capps amendment to reinstate the bipartisan moratorium on drilling in the Outer Continental Shelf (rollcall vote 170).

I would have voted "no" on the Hefley Amendment, which would provide a one percent across-the-board cut to all programs funded in the Interior Appropriations bill (rollcall vote 171).

I would have voted for final passage of the Interior Appropriations bill given the significant improvements made to the bill by the passage of the Hinchey, Oberstar, and Putnam/Capps amendments (rollcall vote 172).

On May 19, I would have voted "no" on the Previous Question and passage of the rule for consideration of the Military Construction and Quality of Life Appropriations bill (rollcall votes 173 and 174). I would have voted "no" on the Blumenauer Amendment which would have cut \$440 million from the BRAC Base Closure account (rollcall vote 175).

I would have voted for final passage of the Military Construction and Quality of Life Appropriations bill (rollcall vote 176).

JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 23, 2006

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and pleasure to rise in recognition of Jewish American Heritage Month, which was inaugurated this year to be celebrated annually during the month of May.

Jewish American Heritage Month is a special opportunity to celebrate Judaism not only as a religion, but a culture that is rich in history, tradition, and flavor. The American Jewish Community has made significant contributions to our society and has helped weave the fabric of American life.

In 1833, it was a Jewish immigrant, Emma Lazarus, who composed the poem "The New Colossus" as part of a fundraising campaign to erect the Statue of Liberty. The monument was later inscribed with her words, "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free." These words have

come to symbolize America's role as a haven for all who seek opportunities and freedom from persecution, including hundreds of thousands of Jewish immigrants who arrived at our shores.

My own grandparents came in the early 1900s from what is now Moldova after escaping hardship and pogroms. They settled in a working-class Jewish neighborhood in Los Angeles much like other communities that sprang up in major cities around the country. They lived amid a tight-knit community of kosher butchers, synagogues, and Jewish businesses, where Yiddish was often heard on the streets.

Although sometimes criticized for their insularity, these ethnic neighborhoods epitomized the values of charity and community service, building a safety net long before Medicaid, Medicare and Social Security came into existence. In this regard, Jewish Los Angeles has an impressive history. The Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles (JFS), established in 1854, was one of the first umbrella organizations of its kind to support comprehensive support services like a food pantry, care for the elderly, and assistance for the unemployed.

The community in Los Angeles also earned distinction for its openness and diversity. A special milestone being celebrated in my district this year is the 100th anniversary of Sinai Temple, which is the oldest Conservative congregation west of the Mississippi. L.A. is now home to the University of Judaism, Hebrew Union College, and an array of synagogues and schools from all streams of Jewish religious practice.

Of course, Jewish Los Angeles is perhaps best recognized for the many Jewish entrepreneurs and entertainers who have taken on prominent roles as producers, actors, recording artists and media personalities. Jewish Americans also made their mark in education, science, economics, literature and many other arenas. More than a third of U.S. Nobel Prize winners in science or economics have been Jewish. There have been 18 Jewish Recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor. While Jews in the United States have also suffered periods of discrimination and anti-Semitism, the community has persevered as a champion of civil rights, tolerance and religious freedom. It is often said that Jews living in America are freer, safer, and more prosperous than at any time or place in Jewish history.

One reason it is particularly fitting that this month has been chosen to honor Jewish American Heritage Month is that May 5th is the anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel. The United States was the first major country to officially recognize the fledgling Jewish State. Our relationship has been cemented through robust economic ties and strong military cooperation, and an enduring partnership based on democratic values.

Although Jews account for barely two percent of the population, there are today more Jews living in the United States than any other country outside of Israel. I welcome the designation of Jewish American Heritage Month and the opportunity for all Americans to learn about the contributions made by one of our nation's most vocal and vibrant minorities.