

America's elders. Prior to her work at Beatitudes, Peggy had a leadership role with Volunteers of America. She has chaired the Arizona Association of Homes for the Aging, and has served on Arizona governor's committees and task forces on the nursing shortage, long-term care, Alzheimer's residential care, and assisted living. She also has been a delegate to the White House Conference on Aging.

Although Peggy Mullan is stepping down as AAHSA's chair, her service to our country's elder population will continue. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating her on her leadership and I look forward to continuing to work with her to create a healthy, ethical, and affordable system of long-term care and aging services for America's elders.

#### TRIBUTE TO EMPLOYMENT HORIZONS

#### HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Employment Horizons of Morris County, New Jersey, a vibrant organization I am proud to represent! On Thursday, October 18, 2007, Employment Horizons is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Founded in 1957, Employment Horizons is the premiere, not-for-profit agency providing comprehensive employment, training and job placement services to persons with disabilities in the greater Morris County area.

Employment Horizons, formerly known as the Occupational Training Center of Morris County, was founded by a group of concerned parents who wanted to expand work and personal growth opportunities for their children with disabilities. During the 1950s and 60s, those with disabilities had very few options available to them and special education services were just evolving. Work centers, such as their packaging and assembly unit, were developed at that time to provide disabled adults with a place where they could earn money and maintain their self-respect. Over the years the agency has experienced rapid growth in the number of and breadth of services provided to meet the needs and choices of the individuals they serve, both on-site as well as in the community, as well as to meet the changing needs of the business community.

As a social business enterprise, the agency seeks to provide high-quality, competitively priced, services to the business community through their commercial operations while, at the same time, furthering their mission to "assist people with barriers to employment to achieve their individual vocational objectives and establish self-sufficiency in the community."

Over the past 50 years, Employment Horizons has established relationships with hundreds of businesses and created training and employment opportunities for thousands of individuals who require special assistance to obtain employment.

Madam Speaker, I am privileged to honor Employment Horizons. I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the members of Employment Horizons for their fifty years of service! Again, I offer my praise and thanks to their dedicated trustees, administra-

tion, support staff, volunteers and active parents who work tirelessly on behalf of Employment Horizons' children.

#### HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF FREMONT, NEWARK AND UNION CITY

#### HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker I rise today to honor the League of Women Voters of Fremont, Newark and Union City. On October 27, 2007, the League will be celebrating 50 years of civic engagement with our community. Individuals who helped to shape the Tri-Cities of Fremont, Newark and Union City, after their incorporation, formed the League.

Over the last 50 years, members of the League of Women Voters of Fremont, Newark and Union City have registered thousands of voters, hosted hundreds of candidate and other public forums, published and distributed voter information, and produced a community based cable program that has been actively broadcasting for over 10 years.

The League of Women Voters of Fremont, Newark and Union City has stayed true to its mission and held to its motto: Democracy is not a spectator sport! The League has been a leading voice for voter service, citizen education, advocacy, and government accountability.

I applaud the League members for their commitment to empower citizens to shape better communities. The Tri-Cities, over the last 50 years, have greatly benefited from the League's activities and initiatives to make a positive difference.

I join the Tri-Cities community in thanking the members of the League of Women Voters of Fremont, Newark and Union City for their untiring efforts and send best wishes for many more years of successful public service.

#### HONORING BUCKS COUNTY COMMISSIONER SANDRA MILLER

#### HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Bucks County Commissioner Sandra Miller, a dear friend and committed public servant. Commissioner Miller has served Bucks County for over 16 years. First elected to the County Commission in 1991, Sandy was re-elected again 1995, 1999 and 2003.

As a Bucks County Commissioner, Sandra Miller was responsible for a county operating budget of over \$450 million and a workforce of 2,800 employees. Through her efforts, she was responsible for preserving over 12,000 acres of open space. She also made significant improvements to the emergency management system including the 9-1-1 emergency call system.

The Commissioner and I both attended Bucks County Community College. While I

stayed just 1 year, she finished what she started—she graduated from BCCC and went on to the Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science. Sandra was the first graduate of the Community College to serve on its board of trustees. Commissioner Miller was also a pioneer—she was the first woman to serve on the Middletown Township Zoning Hearing Board. As a member of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania, she is a past chair of the Democratic Caucus and was a member of the Tax Reform Committee.

Madam Speaker, Commissioner Miller is not just a great public servant; she is also a close friend. She has stood with me through tough times—times when others weren't around. She is second to none in her knowledge of Bucks County. She is a trusted advisor, a loyal friend and the dean of our county.

Madam Speaker, Commissioner Sandy Miller has led our community with distinction and her legacy is a source of great pride, both to the Miller family and to all of Bucks County. Her selfless devotion to the residents of Bucks County, Pennsylvania has been unwavering and her work to make Bucks County an even better place to live will no doubt continue after she leaves the County Commission. I urge my colleagues to join me today in thanking Commissioner Miller for a career of dedicated service as we wish her luck as she leaves public service and enters private life.

#### PRESIDENT'S VETO ON S-CHIP

#### HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the SCHIP program. President Bush's veto on SCHIP has abandoned at least 24,000 children in my District alone. President Bush claims we want "gimmicks" and "funding schemes"—we don't want gimmicks we want insurance for 8.7 million uninsured children. Children like Kristofer and Felecity Famutimi from San Bernardino County, whose hospital care for sickle cell anemia crippled the family financially. Their mom, Ola had to quit her job to take care of them. SCHIP is the only reason they have pulled through.

President Bush claims that Democrats are "putting health coverage for poor children at risk—to gain political points". I am not voting for politics, I am voting for the 33,000 children in my District who are currently uninsured. Covering 800,000 children costs the same as 1 week of the war in Iraq. It is time America gets her priorities in order. I urge my colleagues to secure the futures of our Nations' poorest children by voting to override the President's veto.

#### HONORING TEMPLE BETH EL'S 80TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 17, 2007*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Temple Beth El as it celebrates its 80th anniversary. A celebration will

be held on October 19 in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

Members of the community committed to principles of Reform Judaism founded Temple Beth El in 1927. The first services were held in the Paterson Building in downtown Flint. Rabbi Leo M. Franklin of Temple Beth El Detroit presided over the signing of the Articles of Association. Maurice Rosenbaum, Moses Rosenthal, Arthur Dubois, and Harry Winegarden were the first officers. The Temple Reform Sisterhood, under the direction of Mrs. James Rapport, started on June 8, 1927 and officially changed its name to Temple Beth Sisterhood when Temple Beth El was formally founded later in the same year.

In January 1935 the first permanent home for the Temple was purchased. Located at the corner of Liberty and East Second Street, it provided a place for services and religious school. The mortgage was burned on October 19, 1941 and the following year the Temple joined the Union of American Hebrew Congregations. It remains affiliated with this organization until today.

Under the direction of Rabbi Morton M. Applebaum the congregation expanded and soon needed a larger space. The Temple moved to the building on Ballenger Highway and the first services held there took place on April 14, 1950. The Jewish community worldwide was in mourning over the murder of six million Jews during the Holocaust. The role of the synagogue as the center of Jewish life took on new meaning and the opening of the new Temple was heralded as an example of the vibrancy of the Flint Reform Jewish Community.

To meet the needs of the community Temple Beth El moved to its present location. This move has provided opportunities to interact with its sister congregation, Beth Israel. The sanctuary and building were designed to enhance the congregation's ability to face the future and meet the challenges of tomorrow. Under the direction of Rabbi Karen Compane, the Temple's first female Rabbi, Temple Beth El has augmented its reputation as the friendly "Temple Family."

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representative to rise with me today and applaud Temple Beth El as it celebrates 80 years of spiritual vitality and dedicated community involvement. I congratulate them for their achievement and echo Dr. Max S. Hart when he prayed, "May God let his countenance shine upon all of us, and cause this Congregation to flourish and prosper for the next fifty years."

#### RECOGNIZING THE SOUTH LEXINGTON 12-YEAR-OLD ALL-STAR TEAM

#### HON. BEN CHANDLER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Mr. CHANDLER. Madam Speaker, today I would like to recognize the South Lexington 12-year-old All-Star team of Lexington, Kentucky, who recently won the 2007 Cal Ripken/Major 60 World Series in Van Buren, Arizona. This phenomenal group of young people went undefeated this season, securing the World Series title in the final round against Scottsdale, Arizona.

Demonstrating admirable determination and teamwork, the 2007 South Lexington team indisputably rose to the occasion. This year's exciting win is no surprise but merely represents the hard work the players put in all season. The team was no doubt inspired by years of success by previous South Lexington Youth Baseball teams. Ten different South Lexington teams have gone to the Ripken World Series, and in the past 15 years, three of these teams returned home with the title.

I would like to congratulate Coach Kevin Payne, others who supported the team, and, in particular, the players on their success. It is an honor to have such an inspiring group of individuals represent Kentucky's youth, and I very much look forward to seeing the continued achievements of these remarkable young men in the future.

#### PROMOTION OF ARTISTIC GIVING ACT OF 2007

#### HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague from Pennsylvania, Mr. ENGLISH, to introduce the Promotion of Artistic Giving Act of 2007, legislation that would amend recently enacted limitations on the donation of fractional gifts with more measured restrictions.

Fractional gifts are charitable donations to museums and galleries of partial interests in art or other collectibles that confer a substantial public benefit while permitting a tax benefit over an extended period of time. Like all qualified charitable gifts, the taxpayer receives an income tax deduction of up to 30 percent of his or her adjusted gross income for the donation to the charitable institution—in this case, museums. Fractional gifts are a valuable tool for many taxpayers due to the value of the art or collectible being donated as the value of the gift is far in excess of the amount of the available deduction. The benefit of these types of donations is that many fractional gifts would never be given to a museum without the potential donor being able to participate in an extended gift-giving program.

While well intentioned, the unnecessarily harsh provisions relating to fractional giving included in the Pension Protection Act of 2006, PPA, have effectively ceased charitable donations of partial interests in art to our Nation's museums and galleries. In trying to close a tax loophole, the PPA suffocated a time-honored method of giving that has made many of our national treasures such as the Hope Diamond and Vincent Van Gogh's "White Roses" available to the public. By rolling back some of the most restrictive provisions of the PPA, this legislation strikes the right balance between tax and charitable giving policy, addresses concerns about tax evasion, removes fractional giving from estate and gift tax provisions, and again encourages lifetime donations of art for the enjoyment of the public.

Since the passage of the PPA, fractional giving has dramatically decreased. For instance, a Santa Fe, New Mexico, museum had a potential donor of a tribal folk art collection worth approximately \$2 million withdraw an offer to give the collection to the museum.

Similarly, a potential fractional gift of an important body of work from a well-known Pennsylvania artist has been withheld as a result of the change in law.

The PPA made two dramatic changes to the income tax deduction benefits available to donors. First, donors of appreciating artwork are now limited on all contributions to the fair market value determined at the time of the donation of the initial fractional gift. Second, donors are now required to complete the fractional gift within a 10-year period. Combined, these changes negated much of the tax benefits for donating a fractional gift of valuable pieces of artwork and need to be modified. This legislation would slightly modify these provisions to require taxpayers to get a certified appraisal from the Art Advisory Board at IRS for gifts of over \$1 million and require gifts be completed during the life of the donor. These modest changes will address congressional concerns about valuation of gifts and unlimited time periods for gifts while providing the necessary incentives for these types of charitable donations.

Unfortunately, the PPA also modified estate and gift tax rules for fractional gifts. These rules have proven to be unworkable and unnecessary. The abuses of fractional giving involved the income tax deduction, not any reduction in estate or gift taxes. Modifying the estate and gift tax laws based on valuation and recapture rules applied for income tax purposes will result in unfair outcomes for taxpayers. Unless these rules are modified taxpayers of completed gifts could have estate tax liability on an asset that is no longer in their estate or have gift tax liability on gifts that were never made. For these reasons, our legislation essentially removes the changes made in PPA to estate and gift tax rules for fractional gifts.

Our Nation has a wealth of culture and creativity. Museums are the venue through which individuals can learn from, engage in, and enjoy history, culture, and art. Our bill will encourage the transfer of museum quality pieces from individuals to public institutions.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on swift passage of this important legislation.

#### HONORING LT. COL. PEDRO ALTIERY

#### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 17, 2007

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, among the many of our men and women who serve in Iraq are the Nurse Corps Officers who treat the ill and the wounded, giving sustenance while saving lives.

Lt. Col. Pedro Altiery is one such member of that Corps whose exceptionally meritorious service earned him the Bronze Star for his service during Operation Iraqi Freedom from March, 2005 to May, 2006.

He was described as one of the best Nurse Corps Officers who ensured the highest standards were kept in operating rooms and in providing quality care to the detainee population. He developed a highly organized, professional and clinically excellent team which could be called on in a moment's notice to be fully operational.