

help American families by finding alternatives to \$4 gasoline, then it is time for Congress to ensure that we invest in renewable technologies such as solar, wind and biofuels that can help American consumers, our economy and our planet.

TRIBUTE TO PROFESSOR SAUL
FRIEDLANDER

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mr. WAXMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to congratulate UCLA history professor Saul Friedlander, who was recently awarded the Pulitzer Prize in General Non-Fiction for his work, *The Years of Extermination: Nazi Germany and the Jews, 1939–1945*.

Professor Friedlander was born to German-speaking Jewish parents in Prague in 1932 and raised in France during the Nazi occupation. Not until 1946 did he discover that his parents perished at Auschwitz. After immigrating to Israel at the time of its birth as a nation, he was able to pursue his passion for knowledge. After studying in Israel and Paris, he received his Ph.D. from the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva.

In 1983, Saul Friedlander served as a visiting professor at my alma mater, the University of California, Los Angeles. Four years later he was invited to join the faculty full time, receiving the 1939 Club Chair in Holocaust Studies. He later founded the influential journal, *History and Memory* and has established himself as one of the world's premier Holocaust historians.

Professor Friedlander has authored multiple titles on the Holocaust, including *Nazi Germany and the Jews, The Years of Persecution: 1933–1939*, which is considered to be the definitive work on the period. It led to a MacArthur Foundation Award, which he used to research and write his Pulitzer-winning volume. That work vividly depicts Jewish life throughout all of Europe and provides a modern understanding of the enactment of anti-Semitic policies in the World War II era.

Professor Friedlander's work is not limited to the academic, however; he has also served on commissions working to shed light on the Holocaust-era activities of corporations and governments.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the ongoing work of Saul Friedlander and his dedication to educating students and the global community, researching the Holocaust, and putting the indescribable into words.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN JOHN
SHIMKUS ON THE OCCASION OF
HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE
ARMY RESERVE

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a distinguished and dedicated military officer who has served this Nation with

great honor and distinction. Congressman JOHN SHIMKUS will retire as a lieutenant colonel from the United States Army Reserve on June 1, 2008, after nearly three decades of exemplary service in the United States Army and the United States Army Reserve. His career is a great example of the ideals that we expect and cherish from our Warrior-Citizens. Thanks to his service to our Nation, we all live a little freer and we are all more secure in our rights and duties as citizens of the greatest nation in the world. Today, I'm proud to take a few minutes to read a resolution I introduced to this Congress today to honor the outstanding career of Lieutenant Colonel JOHN SHIMKUS.

A RESOLUTION IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES HONORING THE SERVICE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN M. SHIMKUS, UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE

Whereas Lieutenant Colonel John M. Shimkus, United States Army Reserve, was born on February 21, 1958, in East St. Louis, Illinois;

Whereas Lieutenant Colonel Shimkus graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York, in 1980 with a bachelor's degree in general engineering;

Whereas Lieutenant Colonel Shimkus graduated from Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville, Illinois, in 1997, with a master of business administration;

Whereas Lieutenant Colonel Shimkus is a graduate of the Infantry Officer Basic Course, Infantry Mortar Platoon Officers Course, Jungle Warfare School, Airborne School, Ranger School, Infantry Officer Advanced Course, and the Master Fitness Trainer Course;

Whereas Lieutenant Colonel Shimkus is a graduate of the Reserve Component Combined Armed Services Staff School;

Whereas Lieutenant Colonel Shimkus attended the Reserve Component Command and General Staff College;

Whereas following Lieutenant Colonel Shimkus's entry into the Army, he served at the tip of the spear of the cold war as an infantry officer with the 1st Platoon, 54th Infantry in Bamberg, Germany, where he was our Nation's sentry, ready to fight at a moment's notice against Soviet tanks rolling toward the Fulda Gap;

Whereas Lieutenant Colonel Shimkus continued his commitment to selfless duty when after serving more than five years on active duty in the Army, he transitioned to the Army Reserve;

Whereas Lieutenant Colonel Shimkus served in many leadership positions in the Army Reserve, which included 7 years as a United States Military Academy Liaison Officer, where he helped our Nation select the best candidates to become future leaders of the Army;

Whereas Lieutenant Colonel Shimkus was elected to public office for the first time in 1989 as a township trustee in Collinsville, Illinois;

Whereas Lieutenant Colonel Shimkus was elected to serve his first term as a Representative from the 20th District of Illinois in 1996 in the 105th Congress, and has continued to dutifully dedicate his service as a statesman in the 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, and, presently, the 110th Congresses;

Whereas over a multifaceted career of distinguished public service dedicated to the preservation of the principles upon which our Nation was founded, from his plebe days at West Point to the halls of Congress, in his every step Lieutenant Colonel Shimkus has embodied the epitome of excellence in

statesmanship, service to country, and to his fellow citizens;

Whereas Lieutenant Colonel Shimkus's commitment to public service commands the Nation's highest respect and gratitude;

Whereas Lieutenant Colonel Shimkus embodies all seven Army core values: loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage; and

Whereas Lieutenant Colonel Shimkus has had a tremendous positive impact on the Army Reserve: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the House of Representatives

(1) honors Lieutenant Colonel John M. Shimkus for his service of over 28 years on the occasion of his retirement from the Army Reserve on June 1, 2008;

(2) commends Lieutenant Colonel Shimkus for his dedication and commitment to excellence as an infantry officer and leader;

(3) recognizes the tremendous dedication and fortitude with which Lieutenant Colonel Shimkus has led an exemplary career in public service, three times the citizen, having balanced his time in the Army Reserve with the demanding duties of his roles as husband, father, businessman, community leader, high school teacher, citizen-soldier, and Congressman with consummate professionalism and boundless devotion to each;

(4) recognizes Lieutenant Colonel Shimkus as a soldier, leader, and statesman, for displaying the highest levels of leadership, professional competence, integrity, and moral courage throughout his distinguished military service.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor for me to present the distinguished credentials of Lieutenant Colonel JOHN SHIMKUS before the Congress today. It is our good fortune that Congressman JOHN SHIMKUS continues to serve our Nation in the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING PAULINA TUL-ORTYL

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Paulina Tul-Ortyl of Toledo, Ohio on the 40th anniversary of the commencement of the Echoes of Poland.

It is with the deepest appreciation that I pay tribute to Paulina Tul-Ortyl upon reaching the 40th anniversary as the founder, director and choreographer of the Toledo-based "Echoes of Poland" song and dance ensemble. Her enthusiasm, energy and dedication to the performance of Polish folk dances and songs have given appreciative audiences, through the United States, Canada, and Poland, the satisfaction of seeing and hearing the essence of absolute beauty.

Paulina was born and educated in Poland and has a degree in dance choreography from the prestigious Catholic University of Lublin. She has blessed the Toledo community with her talents, her pride of our Polish-American culture and her generous nature, providing numerous years to the development and awareness of the artistic and cultural gifts in our Toledo youth.

The Echoes of Poland was founded in the fall of 1967, when Paulina was asked to prepare a group of young people to perform some of the traditional aspects of the Polish Christmas celebration. She gathered some of her friends from the Nebraska Avenue and La-grange Street areas in Toledo, OH, for the

church pageant. During the first few years, the troupe held practices once a week. They were asked to participate at many local festivals and church functions. At that time, the ensemble practiced at several places in Toledo including St. Anthony's, The Argonne Post, Polish Falcons, PNA Hall and the Lagrange-Central Center. Today, the group practices at the Polish Roman-Catholic Union of America (P.R.C.U.A.) hall on Tuesday and Thursday nights.

Through the weekly practices, Paulina has instilled in her members a great sense of pride and love for Polish folk customs through dancing and singing. A nonprofit organization, the Echoes of Poland have performed at festivals and concerts throughout the United States and in Canada. In 1977, the ensemble traveled to Rzeszów, Poland for the Triennial World Festival of Polish Folk Dancers. One reviewer said, "By the end of the performance, everyone in the audience was tapping feet or clapping hand to the infectious rhythms." Since 1979, the group has staged their own concerts in the Toledo area to show our full repertoire of regional and national dances. During the mid-seventies, Mrs. Ortyl began a children group to train the young members for the adult ensemble. By starting at a young age, the children become familiar with many of the rudimentary skills in the art of song and dance. In 1980, a Kapela, a Polish band, was added. The dancers certainly enjoy dancing and singing to a live musician.

Because of Paulina's untiring drive and inspiration, the ensemble was awarded first prize from a field of 64 competitors at the Rzeszów, Polish Folk Festival in 1980. The ensemble won the highest honor for authentically portraying Polish Folk culture by performing the Dozynki, the Polish Harvest Celebration. The Ensemble has made the trip to the Rzeszów Festival seven times and always performs admirably.

Through the years, Paulina has received numerous proclamations, certificates, awards of appreciation and recognition for her outstanding contribution in the field of preserving one of the most endearing aspects of Polish culture; the traditional folk songs and dances from the several distinct regions in Poland.

For example, On October 16, 1983, The Echoes of Poland Folk Song & Dance Ensemble held their Fifteenth Anniversary. Mrs. Ortyl was honored for her dedication in perpetuating Polish culture among hundreds of youth in the Toledo area.

In 1996, WGTE Public Broadcasting was putting together a special on the Polish people of Toledo for their Cornerstones series entitled "The Polish in Toledo" and contacted Paulina about providing the music for this endeavor. Paulina got some musicians together and recorded all the folk music for this 41-minute tribute to the Poles in Toledo.

In 1997, The Ohio House of Representatives recognized the members of the Echoes of Poland for their valuable contribution to the preservation of our Polish culture through song and dance.

On January 16, 1999, the ensemble had the honor to welcome Lech Walesa, former leader of Solidarność and former President of Poland, to St. Adalbert for an informal meeting with the Polish community.

In the spring of 2002, Echoes of Poland celebrated their 35th anniversary. Paulina remains the sole choreographer and director of

the ensemble. Paulina was presented an appreciation award from P.R.C.U.A. and recognition award from Polish American Congress at the Annual Spring Concert for all her years of dedication.

The Echoes of Poland, under Paulina performed their first television show in America, "Polka Bandstand" in October 2004. They performed a suite of dances from the Lublin region and Kujawac Obarac to an enthusiastic live audience.

Therefore, it with sincere gratitude that I extend heartfelt congratulations to all Paulina has done to strengthen our community through the Echoes of Poland. I wish her unrelenting energy, enthusiasm and success as she continues her journey as being the director and choreographer of this most esteemed and talented group.

Sto Lat Paulina!

HONORING MONTICELLO'S STATE CHAMPION BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding results achieved by the Monticello High School Boys Cross Country team. This past fall Monticello captured the Iowa Class 2A Cross Country Championship.

The Monticello team finished the course with a team average time of 16 minutes, 55 seconds. And the individual winner of the meet was Monticello runner Nate Dotterweich who finished the course in 15 minutes, 43 seconds.

Madam Speaker, I am extremely proud of the accomplishments of the Monticello Boys Cross Country team, both on and off the court. Perhaps Paul "Bear" Bryant, the late, great coach of the Alabama Crimson Tide football team says it best: "Show class, have pride, and display character. If you do, winning takes care of itself." This past weekend, Monticello proved just that.

TRIBUTE TO MR. SIDNEY LAPIDUS

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Mr. Sidney Lapidus and to congratulate him on receiving the Emma Lazarus Statue of Liberty Award. Mr. Lapidus' deep commitment to the American Jewish Historical Society has ensured that its collection is preserved and expanded for generations to come.

A graduate of Princeton University and Columbia University Law School, Sidney began his career as an attorney with the Securities and Exchange Commission in New York. A retired partner at Warburg Pincus LLC, one of the country's leading private equity firms, Sidney also serves on the Boards of Directors of Lennar Corporation, one of the Nation's largest homebuilders; Knoll Inc., a leading manu-

facturer of office furniture; and the Neiman Marcus Group, a leading upscale retailer.

Sidney contributes to and advocates on behalf of a number of charitable causes, several of which concern American history and Jewish affairs. He served as president of the American Jewish Historical Society from 2003 to 2007 and is now its chairman. He is a member of the advisory councils for Princeton University's History and Judaic Studies Departments. He is also a vice chairman of the American Antiquarian Society and is a trustee of the New York Historical Society. In other areas, he is chair of the United Neighborhood Houses of New York and a member of the Executive Committee of New York University School of Medicine.

Mr. Lapidus has balanced his distinguished career and philanthropic work with an equally impressive family life. He and his wife, Ruth, live in Harrison, NY. They have three married children—Gail, Janet and Roy—and six grandchildren—Sara, Eric, Kate, Henry, Jessica, and Zack. An avid skier, Sidney also collects British and American books about politics and economics from the 17th and 18th centuries.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize my good friend Mr. Sidney Lapidus for a successful career in finance and unparalleled devotion to charitable causes. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring his tremendous accomplishments.

HONORING JON LESTER

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2008

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Jon Lester, a resident of Puyallup, Washington, for his bravery in surviving cancer and his achievements as a pitcher for the Boston Red Sox in Major League Baseball.

Jon graduated from Bellarmine Prep School in 2002. That same year, the Red Sox drafted him. He played for the Red Sox's minor league team, the Portland Sea Dogs.

In 2005, Jon led the league in strike-outs, was named the Eastern Pitcher of the Year, and was selected for the Eastern All-Star Team. The following year, Jon was diagnosed with anaplastic large cell lymphoma and had to undergo chemotherapy. Following his treatment he returned to Major League Baseball in 2007. Lester was an integral component of the Red Sox's World Series victory, closing out the final game.

On the 19th of May, 2008, he threw a no-hitter against the Kansas City Royals. It was the first no-hitter since September 2007, and the first by a left-handed Red Sox player since 1956. Bowing to Jon's achievement, Kansas City manager Trey Hillman could only explain, "We're on the wrong part of history."

Jon also found time for philanthropic work for the Children's Hospital of Southwest Florida, the Boston Parks and Recreation summer program and the Boys and Girls Club of Chelsea, Massachusetts.

I hope my colleagues will join me in honoring Jon's courage, his athletic gifts, and his deep concern for his community.