

Wandell Elementary School; thus, I would like to recognize each of them for taking this vital step towards positive citizenship:

Jack Bush, James Butler, Natalie Formento, Alanna Fullerton, Grace Hinchin, Kaitlin Hofer, Maxx King, David LaManna, Lucy Pennell, Mary Pless, Aram Rashduni, Hannah Rogers, Michael Saks, Spencer Shih, Maya Silberman, Britni Strobeck, Richard Vincent, Emma Walsh, Taylor Wiener, Devin Bovino, Ryan Carr, Stephanie Devli, Kathleen Dorce, Zachary Dreznin, Elizabeth Dutko, Kristen Egan, Hana Friedman, Melissa Katsapis, Maeson Nolan, Alexander Rohrscheidt, Benjamin Saks, Katharin Spence, Mark Tseytin, Carl Villegas, Euan Walker, and Jaqueline Wiebye.

IN LOVING MEMORY OF THE  
LEGENDARY OLLIE WOODSON

**HON. MAXINE WATERS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 15, 2010*

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

To Juanita and the Family,

Like most of his fans, I had always admired Ollie Woodson the performer, from afar, as one of the mainstays of "the temptin' Temptations." When I finally got to meet the person—your husband, father, and grandfather—at a birthday celebration in the home of my dear friend Glodean White, I was really impressed with how friendly, warm and down-to-earth he was. Since that time, whenever I had the good fortune to see him, Ollie would always go out of his way to say hello and make that personal connection. His close friends tell me that was the generous spirit of the man, forever responding to those he loved.

We all know about the incredible voices and intricate dance moves that made a Temptations concert a must-see. But I specifically remember a wonderful solo performance Ollie did for the National Newspaper Publishers' Association at the Democratic National Convention in Denver. I was not only knocked out by his sheer ability to entertain but I thought about how Ollie and the rest of the Motown family have really been cultural ambassadors for America, all over the world.

As successful as he undoubtedly was both as a performer and producer, I will also cherish some of those special times right here at City of Refuge, when Ollie would grace the church and Bishop Noel Jones with a wonderful gospel song. He certainly never forgot his roots.

So today, let us celebrate both the performer and the man, who with his God-given talent has earned a place in history and in our hearts—Ali Ollie Woodson. May he rest in peace.

THE ISRAELI BLOCKADE AND THE  
FLOTILLA

SPEECH OF

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 15, 2010*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues in expressing support for the

State of Israel. Israel is a tiny country that has been under attack since its founding 62 years ago. Nonetheless, it has developed into a vigorous democracy. With a free and active press, freedom of religion, free elections and a free and independent judiciary, Israelis of all religions and nationalities enjoy rights and opportunities unimaginable elsewhere in the Middle East.

Israel is our strongest and most reliable friend in the Middle East. Israel is a strategic ally, helping to improve American anti-terrorism efforts, working with the US military to improve training, intelligence gathering, research and development, preparedness and protection of travel and trade.

Despite the threats against it, Israel's economy is thriving, in large part as a result of her agricultural, technological and medical innovations. Israel constitutes a fraction of 1 percent of the land mass and only 2 percent of the population of the Middle East. Nonetheless, Israel far outshines much of the world in terms of academic, scientific and technological achievement. Israel has the highest ratio of university degrees per capita in the world and produces more scientific papers and more books per capita than any other nation in the world. It is the only nation in the world that has had a net increase in the number of trees. Israel has transformed itself from an impoverished backwater to a gleaming modern nation, ranking among the very highly developed countries of the world.

The threat against Israel is growing. Hezbollah, along Israel's Northern border with Lebanon, is heavily armed with increasingly powerful weapons. Hamas, along the Gaza Strip, is vocal about its determination to destroy the Jewish State. And the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank is refusing to pursue direct talks with Israel, believing that they will get a better deal if the United States or other countries do the negotiating for them. Fatah leaders and the Abbas-controlled official media of the Palestinian authority continue to deny Israel's existence.

The recent Gaza flotilla in which armed thugs challenged Israel's blockade of the Gaza Strip makes clear that Israel is facing a clear and present danger. If the blockade is broken, weapons will flow freely into Hamas's hands. In the years preceding the blockade, Hamas launched more than 8,000 missiles at civilian targets in Israel, killing and injuring thousands. If the blockade is lifted without a peace agreement, Israel's cities and towns can expect the bombardment to resume.

Israel has to be vigilant in defense of its borders. The stated desire of Hamas and many Fatah leaders is to wipe Israel off the face of the world. When the world condemns Israel for defending its population, they are currying favor with terrorists at the expense of a democratic nation. And condemning Israel makes peace much less probable. I hope the Obama Administration will continue to make clear that Israel has no obligation to lift the blockade, and that it is Hamas and its terrorist allies who are responsible for the situation in Gaza.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join my colleagues in strongly expressing my support for Israel.

TRIBUTE TO LEWIS COUNTY VFW

**HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 15, 2010*

Mr. OWENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lewis County chapter of Veterans of Foreign Wars and to congratulate the group on their 50th anniversary. For over a half century, the VFW has served as the foundation for local veterans outreach and assistance, as well as a major supporter of our community in Lowville and surrounding areas.

Just as our soldiers pledge to leave no man or woman behind, the Lewis County VFW carries on that promise to our current and future veterans, helping all of us make good on the pledge to provide real opportunities to our troops upon their return from service.

The Lewis County VFW embodies what their national organization strives for—providing services that extend beyond the realm of veterans helping veterans. Their outreach and service in our region is invaluable and encourages community participation and volunteerism from both those in the armed forces and civilians alike.

From help in community food kitchens, work in blood drives, and assisting our veterans to receive their hard-earned benefits, the Lewis County VFW in New York's 23rd Congressional District truly knows how to accomplish their mission in making our area a better place.

Our local VFW in Lewis County increases civic pride and its 50 great years of serving our community is nothing short of remarkable. I would like to again thank them for their service and wish them the best moving forward.

IN HONOR OF ALBERT OLIZI, JR.

**HON. JOHN H. ADLER**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 15, 2010*

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Albert J. Olizi for his outstanding service as District Governor of District 16C of the Audubon Lions Club for 2009–2010.

Mr. Olizi is a graduate of LaSalle College and Temple University School of Law. He maintains a local law practice with offices in New Jersey and Pennsylvania. As an active member of the Lions club for many years, Mr. Olizi's outstanding contributions have not gone unnoticed. He has been named "Lion of the Year" multiple times, was honored with the International President's Recognition Award in 2007, and has held multiple positions within his local club, including President.

Throughout his term as District Governor, Mr. Albert Olizi has dedicated an enormous amount of time, energy, and dedication to fulfill the roles and responsibilities of the position.

Time and again, he has proven to be an outstanding leader for the Lions of District 16C.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me on congratulating Mr. Albert Olizi. The people of your community, the people of New Jersey, and the people of America thank you for your service.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF  
LENORE C. "LORI" WENDELL

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 15, 2010*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Lenore C. "Lori" Wendell, whose life was filled with family, friends and service on behalf of our community.

Mrs. Wendell was the cherished wife of the late Richard. Together, they lovingly raised their daughters, Jennifer and Heather. She was a devoted mother and enjoyed a close relationship with her grandchildren, Jamie, Patrick, Anthony, Quinn and Allan.

Mrs. Wendell's giving and kind nature reflected throughout her life. She was active in local politics and was a community leader. She consistently volunteered her time and talents on behalf of numerous causes. Whether to assist with a local fundraiser or to help a family in need, Mrs. Wendell was always there to help. She was also a longtime member of the American Legion Post 738 in Fairview Park, where she led numerous meetings and prepared countless dinners for a variety of Legion events. In local politics, she worked diligently, volunteering many hours on behalf of candidates whom she supported.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and remembrance of Lenore C. "Lori" Wendell, who lived her life with unwavering love for family and friends and great joy for life. I offer my condolences to all who loved her including her brother, John and her dear friend, Cliff. Mrs. Wendell touched the lives of many throughout our community, and she will be remembered always.

HONORING RAUL H. CASTRO,  
FORMER GOVERNOR OF ARIZONA

**HON. ED PASTOR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 15, 2010*

Mr. PASTOR of Arizona. Madam Speaker, while many have written of the inspirational story surrounding Raul Hector Castro, Arizona's first Hispanic Governor, it seems only fitting that in today's highly charged atmosphere of anti-immigrant sentiment, we take the occasion of Governor Castro's 94th birthday on June 12th to examine his life as one who has surely proven the American dream is achievable. In fact, he has not only shown that dream is achievable, he has also underscored the fact that those pursuing the dream contribute mightily to the strength of our nation.

Born in Mexico, the second youngest of 12 children raised in Arizona by an immigrant copper miner and a mother who was a well-trusted midwife, it would have been easy for

him to get lost in the shuffle of such a large family that had to scratch a living from the ground to survive, but early on, he recognized the value of setting goals and not giving up until they are met. Based on that determination, he parlayed his natural athleticism and keen mind in high school into a scholarship to Arizona State Teacher's College.

While no stranger to racism and discrimination when he graduated from college and become a naturalized citizen in 1939, he still had not anticipated the rejection he would experience when applying for teaching positions because school districts were unwilling to hire an Hispanic teacher. Discouraged, but not defeated, he traveled America for several years until he landed a civil service job as a foreign-service clerk for the U.S. State Department in Sonora, Mexico. Many would have been satisfied with a secure position in the federal government, but he was determined to further his station in life, becoming a Spanish instructor at the University of Arizona so that he might attend the institution's law school. Passing the Arizona State Bar in 1949, he established an enviable career over the next five decades that took him from Pima County Attorney through the appointment by two United States Presidents to three ambassadorships, in addition to becoming Arizona's first Hispanic governor. Throughout this process, he never lost sight of the importance of an education and his mother's mantra that he could accomplish whatever he set his mind to. As a result, when he did accomplish more than many ever hoped for, he didn't forget the four miles he and his Hispanic friends had to walk to school while the buses filled with Anglo children passed them by, and he worked tirelessly to rectify these kinds of incomprehensible bigotry.

For example, as a judge he presided over a full-schedule of cases, but was particularly disturbed by the vulnerable at-risk youngsters in the juvenile court system who were being shoved under the rug by society. This inspired him to take time every Monday to check attendance records at the local high schools. In the evenings, he would visit with families of students exhibiting high rates of absenteeism in an effort to get their support in encouraging the students to stay in school and make the most of that experience. This concern for improving society continued throughout his career. Sometimes limited to simply seeing Hispanic children given equal access to the YMCA, to concentrating on improving human rights abroad while serving as an ambassador, he never lost sight of using his opportunities to make a difference.

Throughout our history it has been proven that immigrants are far more than just an inexpensive work force. They are in fact a valuable asset to this country and Raul H. Castro is an outstanding example of one such person. Therefore, in light of today's divisive view of immigration, his story should be noted as a symbol of how the United States has benefited from those who value this country so much, and that after moving here to build a better life for their families, they remain dedicated to making sure that they improve our nation for future generations.

CONGRATULATING THE BENJAMIN  
FAMILY ON EIGHTY-FIVE YEARS  
OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 15, 2010*

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 85th anniversary of Carroll Cut-Rate Furniture, a local family-owned-and-operated business that has graced the Greater New Haven community for generations.

Begun as Carroll Cut-Rate Cosmetics by Samuel Benjamin in 1925, this small business has passed down through the Benjamin family and thrived through boom times and depression, peacetime and war, and even, in 1951, through a notable shift from discount cosmetics to the furniture trade.

Over the course of these 85 years, Samuel, his sons Jerry and Don, and his grandsons Cary and Bruce have always kept an eye to innovation, quality, and above all customer service. With ten full-time employees, the Benjamins have also worked to promote jobs in our state and across the country by stocking their store with Connecticut mattresses and American-made furniture.

The story of Carroll Cut-Rate Furniture is not only a triumph of small enterprise and business savvy. It shows that through hard work, perseverance, and ingenuity, the American dream still comes true. I salute the Benjamin family on this 85-year milestone, and I look forward to seeing them continue as a staple of our Connecticut community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GAL-  
VESTON HISTORICAL FOUNDATION

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 15, 2010*

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, on June 26, 2010, the Galveston Historical Foundation will celebrate its acquisition of the historic 1861 U.S. Custom House. I was pleased to help make this possible by sponsoring legislation, H.R. 2121, which directed the General Services Administration (GSA) to sell the Custom House to the Galveston Historical Foundation. H.R. 2121 passed the House by voice vote on September 9, 2009. It is therefore a great pleasure to extend my congratulations to the Galveston Historical Foundation for acquiring the U.S. Custom House.

The U.S. Custom House is the oldest non-military federal building in Galveston. The two-story structure was built in 1861 and has served many important historical functions, including housing the ceremony that officially ended the Civil War in Galveston. In 1917, construction began on a federal courtroom located on the second floor of the U.S. Custom House. In 1970, the house was listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and in 1974 it was commemorated as a Historic Custom House by the U.S. Customs Service.

In 1998, the Galveston Historical Foundation entered into a public-private partnership with the Federal Government that allowed the Galveston Historical Foundation to lease the