

Union (ACLU) Roger Baldwin Medal of Liberty Award; the Eugene V. Debs Foundation Outstanding American Award, and the Ellis Island Medal of Freedom Award. She is also the recipient of the Consumers' Union Trumpeter's Award. In 1998, she was one of three Ms. Magazine's, "Women of the Year," and the Ladies Home Journal's, "100 Most Important Women of the 20th Century." In addition, she has received three honorary doctorate degrees for her extraordinary career.

Madam Speaker and distinguished colleagues, we ask you to join us in saluting Dolores Huerta for her impressive efforts and unyielding commitment to empowering women and improving the lives of farm workers.

NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of this past April as National Child Abuse Prevention Month where Americans across the country worked to raise awareness of child abuse prevention and services available to victims.

Child abuse is a tragic, destructive, and a largely silent epidemic that affects millions of Americans—both children and adults.

And it is never more tragic than when it is sexual in nature. Unfortunately one in six children in our country experience this in their lifetime.

In fact, in my district, there was a young woman who was abused by a teacher she knew and respected over a decade ago. I am proud to say that she has not only recovered and is leading a happy life, but is also one of the officers in a group headquartered in Santa Ana called The Innocence Mission, which is working to help prevent abuse.

The Innocence Mission is putting forward a message of empowerment, one that tells parents they CAN prevent child sexual abuse. A message that speaks directly to children and adult survivors and says to them—they are not alone. Victims have the support of their communities, and have nothing to be ashamed of.

Far too often we read stories of child abuse in the headlines. It is heartbreaking and preventable, and that is why we must work to raise awareness not only just in April but year round.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. HARVEY KAPLAN OF THE SAN MATEO MEDICAL CENTER

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Harvey Kaplan who proudly states that he has spent his entire career as a pediatrician. I have been friends with Dr. Kaplan for three decades and have witnessed his passion for those entering the world.

Dr. Kaplan was appointed to the San Mateo Medical Center in 1969. He also is a Clinical

Professor of Pediatrics at Stanford University School of Medicine and a member of the Community Clinical Faculty of Lucile Packard Children's Hospital.

In the 1970s he took a special interest in treating children who might be victims of abuse. He says he thought of himself as a pioneer in those days as he helped the center develop an interdisciplinary approach to treatment. He eventually assisted in the establishment of the Children's SAFE Center which was on the cutting edge of detecting and treating child sex abuse. He is now a member of the San Mateo County Pediatric Death Review Team.

Although Dr. Kaplan admits to having a few bouts with the lure of private practice, he says those moments passed, replaced by the satisfaction of providing pediatric care to families that normally wouldn't have access to an array of services. Clearly, this Brooklyn native has been California's gain.

Madam Speaker, the San Mateo Medical Foundation is right to honor the contributions of Dr. Kaplan at a special ceremony on April 30. He has truly been a hero of healthcare for our county and State.

HONORING POLISH NATIONAL DAY

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. STEARNS. Madam Speaker, on May 3, the people of Poland celebrated the 219-year anniversary of the passage of the Constitution of May 3, 1791. This Constitution is regarded around the world as Europe's first and the world's second modern codified national constitution, following only the ratification of the United States Constitution in 1788. This is a great day not only for the Polish people but also for freedom loving people around the world.

The United States and Poland share similar values and the two Constitutions reflect that shared commitment to liberty for all people. In fact, according to one Polish historian, the May 3 Constitution was "founded principally on those of England and the United States of America . . . and adapted as much as possible to the local and particular circumstances of the country." In addition, historians have pointed out a number of similarities between the two Constitutions, including an advocacy of a separation and balance of powers and a bicameral legislature. Article V of the May 3 Constitution states that, "the integrity of the states, civil liberty, and social order remain always in equilibrium." The United States and Poland share an unbreakable commitment to freedom and liberty. I congratulate the people of Poland on this momentous day.

In honor of this special day, I would like to put into the RECORD a speech given by the President of the European Parliament, Jerzy Buzek, in honor of Polish National Day.

Dear Ambassador, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to be here in this wonderful old building, the Renwick Gallery, in the heart of this nation's capital.

Over the past few days, in my capacity as President of the European Parliament, I have been holding discussions here in Washington on issues relating to the European

Union. I should therefore like to thank you, Mr. Ambassador, for holding this reception so that we might meet and celebrate together one of the key events in Polish history.

A few short steps away lies a park containing monuments to great heroes of freedom and democracy. For the last century and more, it has housed a monument to Tadeusz Kościuszko, a hero of two nations—Poland and the United States—and a staunch defender of the Polish Constitution of 3 May 1791—Europe's first, and the world's second, such document.

This year's Polish Constitution Day celebrations are overshadowed by the tragic events of 10 April, which have shown how important a modern constitution is to Poland, as indeed to any democratic country. During this difficult period, the 1997 Constitution has ensured continuity of government and a stable Presidency in our country.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Having joined the European Union, Poland now enjoys a two-fold partnership with the United States: both as a sovereign state and as an important member of a unique community of 27 countries and close to half a billion people.

The European Parliament, with its more than 700 directly elected Members, is the most democratic of the EU institutions. I believe that the time has now come for closer relations to be forged between our Parliament and the U.S. Congress. Day-to-day responsibility for doing so will lie with our newly opened office in Washington, which Piotr Nowina-Konopka was recently appointed to head up.

In today's world, the partnership between Europe and the United States is an alliance whose importance cannot be overstated. And it is because we are democracies that that alliance should have a parliamentary dimension. The commemoration of 3 May is an appropriate occasion to draw attention to this fact, because constitutions are the supreme expression of parliamentary law-making in the majority of the world's democracies.

May this anniversary inspire us, as politicians, to be ever more effective in our efforts to ensure the good of our free nations.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. JAMES MEIER OF THE SAN MATEO MEDICAL CENTER

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. James Meier, a dedicated physician in my district who has devoted his career to providing quality care to a generation of the poor and less fortunate in San Mateo County. I have had the pleasure of knowing Dr. Meier for 30 years and have witnessed his passion and dedication to his work.

Dr. Meier took a three-month temporary assignment at the San Mateo Medical Center and stretched it to more than 40 years and counting.

He has worked through the lean years when the county board of supervisors nearly voted to close the hospital. Those votes spurred an effort to raise community awareness of the Center's services. Dr. Meier played a lead role in forming the San Mateo Medical Center Foundation which has helped garner the needed public support to keep the hospital functioning as a provider of high quality medical care.

Dr. Meier's reason for coming to work each day is captured in his positive attitude. He heaps praise on the other doctors, nurses and support staff who combine to make the center a wonderful place to practice medicine.

Madam Speaker, the San Mateo Medical Foundation is right to honor Dr. Meier's contributions in a special ceremony on April 30th. He is without question a hero of healthcare in the county and State.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN J. HALL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. HALL of New York. Madam Speaker, on March 16th, I missed rollcall vote 118 on passage of H. Res. 605. If I were present, I would have voted "aye" in support of recognizing the continued campaign to persecute, intimidate, imprison, and torture Falun Gong practitioners in China. I strongly supported this legislation.

The Chinese Government has conducted an official program of persecution and suppression of practitioners of Falun Gong for ten years. I join my colleagues in Congress in expressing sympathy to practitioners of Falun Gong in China, the United States and around the world, and in calling on the Chinese Government to end their campaign of discrimination, intimidation and imprisonment of Falun Gong practitioners.

FOND DU LAC HIGH SCHOOL SESQUICENTENNIAL

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. PETRI. Madam Speaker, few events resonate more within a community than marking a major anniversary of its only public high school. This year, in my home town of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, we are celebrating 150 years of continuing commitment to academic excellence that has been achieved by Fond du Lac High School.

As described by G.K. Chesterton, one of the most influential English writers of the 20th century, "Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another." I believe the generations of those who have lived in Fond du Lac since the high school first opened its doors in January of 1859 have been very well served.

Fond du Lac is similar to many cities of its size throughout this great nation. Its citizens are hardworking and civic-minded; they are family-oriented and committed to their children; and they understand the value of a high-quality education. It is for these reasons the high school is such a source of community pride and so tightly woven into the fabric of the community.

It was this commitment to education that initially drove concerned parents to petition for the creation of a high school in October of 1858 in order to develop their children's base

of knowledge beyond the fundamentals. In what has become recognized as a typical American trait of every generation, they wanted their children to achieve more than they had and they knew education was the key. They also knew there needed to be a facility where the work of education could be completed.

The first permanent high school in Fond du Lac was built in 1865 at a cost of \$17,000. That building burned to the ground in 1868 but, undaunted, the community responded by building a four-story, brick and stone facility, which was completed in 1871 at a cost of \$45,000. As the city grew, its citizens responded by building larger schools, expanding them, and when necessary replacing them, in a cycle that has been repeated many times over. How far we have come from the first high school classes held in the Sewell Store on Main Street to the expansive, multimillion-dollar, high-tech school we have today.

But a high school is more than just bricks and mortar; more important are the people who have worked there and have been a part of its development. As Fond du Lac celebrates this important milestone, it is appropriate to remember individuals like George B. Eastman, the first Superintendent of the Fond du Lac Union High School District; Edwin Johnson and M.S. Merrill, Fond du Lac High School's first teachers; and Julia Gibbons and John P. McGalloway, who were among those who served on the first elected school board in the 1920s. Those who belong to more recent generations will tell you not to forget Lowell P. Goodrich, who served as Superintendent from 1923 through 1940 and after whom the high school would be named for many years.

Through the generations, Fond du Lac High School has graduated students who have gone on to contribute to their communities and professions in a wide array of occupations and pursuits, demonstrating that education is indeed "the soul of a society."

As we reflect on the profound impact of education, please join me in congratulating the people of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin as they celebrate the sesquicentennial of their high school this year.

HONORING CITYLINK ON 40 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. AARON SCHOCK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. SCHOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 10th anniversary of the Greater Peoria Mass Transit District, also known as Citylink.

The Greater Peoria Mass Transit District was first formed on May 4, 1970 to provide public transportation to the Village of Peoria Heights, West Peoria Township and the City of Peoria.

In its first year of operation over 667,000 passengers rode the Citylink system. Since that time the Greater Peoria Mass Transit District has expanded its area of operations to include East Peoria, Pekin and Bartonville. With this expanded area of service the transit dis-

trict was able to provide over 3,000,000 bus rides to passengers this past year.

During its 40 years of service to the Greater Peoria area, innovation has been key to the success of the transit district. Citylink was the first transit system in the country to take advantage of local commodities by implementing ethanol-fueled buses into its fleet. A relationship with the Peoria Historical Society was also established in order to bring trolley-buses into the district's fleet. These trolleys were obtained in order to provide for historical tours of the area with the guide of local Peoria Historical Society Members.

Catering to the needs of its passengers has been another key to the success of the transit district. Citylink has extended early morning and late night routes in order to help those passengers with work shifts starting early or ending late in the night. Along with these hours of extended service, special fares were established to help seniors, students and passengers who may be physically or mentally challenged. In fact, over 118,000 trips were given to paratransit riders during this past year alone.

I wish to congratulate and thank the Greater Peoria Mass Transit District and all the staff members who have provided stellar service to the entire Peoria area over the past 40 years. It is my honor this day to congratulate them, 40 years after their inception.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. MARK HIGHMAN OF THE SAN MATEO MEDICAL CENTER

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Dr. Mark Highman, a cardiologist who willingly chose the career path of public service medicine over the more lucrative road of private practice. I feel very fortunate to have known Dr. Highman for 30 years. Clearly, decades of patients at the center who lacked insurance or the money to pay for it appreciate his decision to practice at the San Mateo Medical Center.

He was appointed Medical Director of the Special Care Unit, Vice Chief of Medicine and Chief of Cardiology to the center in 1977. Dr. Highman also is an Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine at Stanford University.

The diversity of patients and their medical challenges prompted Dr. Highman to become certified in critical care. He considers treating the less fortunate to be, in his own words, "richly rewarding" and that speaks volumes to what this healer is all about. As a career-long medical musketeer he is the embodiment of the esprit de corps at the center.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Mark Highman is a hero of healthcare to a generation of the less fortunate in our county and State. The San Mateo Medical Foundation is right to honor his contributions at a special ceremony on April 30th.