

CELEBRATION OF THE FESTIVAL
OF DIWALI

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 26, 2011

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the joyous Festival of Diwali. Diwali directly translates from Hindi, into "Row of Lights." From this translation, Diwali has come to be known as "The Festival of Lights." Celebrations of Diwali involve the lighting of lamps to symbolize hope and joy. Other common practices include lighting fireworks and distributing sweets and gifts. The lighting of lamps is meant to symbolize the victory of good and the removal of darkness, or evil. The spiritual darkness is said to be "vanquished" by the many lights, bringing happiness and bliss to the people of this Earth.

This cultural and religious festival is celebrated by nearly 1 billion Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, and Buddhists in more than 20 countries. In the United States, some 2 million people observe Diwali, including many in the multi-cultural congressional district that I am proud to represent.

Diwali is one of the most important holidays within Hinduism. In the Hindu faith, Diwali is linked to Rama's triumphant return following his victory over Ravana as told in the epic "The Ramayana." Following Rama's victory, his people lit clay lamps along the capital city as to celebrate the returning of their King. These clay lamps were called Deepavalis, which Diwali is a shortened version of. In many Hindu calendars, Diwali corresponds with the start of a new year, correlating with the ideas of rebirth and renewal.

In Jainism, Diwali marks the date upon which Lord Mahavira achieved the state of absolute bliss or Nirvana. It is said that King Chetaka, upon Lord Mahavira achieving Nirvana, lit a multitude of lamps in order to create a material light to replace the light of intelligence that had been lost.

In the Sikh tradition, the foundation of the Golden Temple is said to have been laid on Diwali. In this tradition, the 6th Sikh guru Hargobind was released from prison on the festival of Diwali. Hundreds of lamps were lit in honor of Hargobind's return.

Mr. Speaker, there is great diversity among the faiths that celebrate this joyful holiday. Across all of these traditions, Diwali holds significance in the South-Asian community as a time of hope, happiness and the renewal of life. For this reason, I am proud to be a co-sponsor of House Resolution 439, recognizing the historical and religious importance of Diwali. I would like to join with all those celebrating this joyous time and wish Shubh Diwali to all.

IN HONOR OF FILIPINO AMERICAN
HISTORY MONTH

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 26, 2011

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the millions of Filipino Americans across America and to recognize October as Filipino American History Month.

Filipinos first arrived on America's shores in the 16th century and they are now the third largest Asian American community in the United States with nearly 4 million Americans of Filipino descent.

Filipino Americans have contributed to the United States in every field of endeavor, like science, medicine, education, business, politics, agriculture, and they have served with distinction in our armed forces.

They continue to enrich American life through their contributions to our arts and culture.

In my home district, the California 9th, there are over 68,000 Filipino Americans and I know that my district is stronger and more successful because of their presence.

I believe that it is important to acknowledge the important role that immigrants play in the fabric of American life and I would encourage the leadership to act quickly on S. Res. 287, to officially designate October 2011 as "Filipino American Awareness Month."

IN MEMORY OF THE LIFE OF
MILDRED HEMMONS-CARTER

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 26, 2011

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to the life of Mrs. Mildred Hemmons-Carter who passed away on Friday, October 21, 2011.

Mrs. Hemmons-Carter was born in Benson, Alabama, on September 12, 1921 and graduated from school in 1941 with a degree in Business from the Tuskegee Institute.

On February 1st of 1941, Mrs. Hemmons-Carter received her pilot's license making history as the first African-American woman to do so.

On February 1st of this year, a celebration was held to honor the 70th anniversary of her licensing.

Mrs. Hemmons-Carter is survived by her husband of 70 years, Ret. Col. Herbert E. Carter, an original Tuskegee Airman.

It is a sad day in Alabama as we lose one of our great women who proved the sky is the limit. We honor the memory of Mildred Hemmons-Carter today.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. IVAN BODIS-
WOLLNER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 26, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to and honor Dr. Ivan Bodis-Wollner for his work on advancing the knowledge of Parkinson's Disease, towards finding a cure and establishing a PD Clinic that offers specialized, comprehensive care for all patients.

Dr. Bodis-Wollner has established and maintained a Parkinson Disease and Related Disorders Clinic, designated as a Center of Excellence (COE) by the National Parkinson Foundation since 1995. His work as a Professor of Neurology and Ophthalmology has

taught him the discipline needed to continue his outreach in this field. In this capacity Dr. Bodis-Wollner, popularized the concept of the "Pre-Cardinal stage" of Parkinson's disease both in the field of neurology and in the lay press. This concept helps to recruit patients in early phases for participating in NIH sponsored neuroprotective trials clinical research.

Dr. Bodis-Wollner has done extensive work in the Brooklyn area producing ongoing, renewable multicenter research for the potential neuroprotective effect of Creatine and of Co-Q10. Several of his works focus on the affluence of Parkinson's disease in inner city communities and among African Americans and other racial and ethnic groups. The significant strides Dr. Bodis-Wollner has made in his research will undoubtedly benefit countless numbers of constituents in my district and the New York region.

Dr. Bodis-Wollner was Chief Editor of Clinical Vision Sciences and after its merger, Section Editor of Vision Research in all for 14 years. He has lectured around the world, taught medical students, and trained scores of younger scientists who have worked with him and learned from him in his laboratory. Among his students are professors of neurology and clinical neurophysiology and faculty members in neurology. Dr. Bodis-Wollner is also the Chairman of the "Non-Motor" working group of the Parkinson Study Group, a nationwide think-tank for clinical Parkinson Disease Research. Further, he has published well over 100 research studies in peer reviewed journals including Nature, Science, Journal of Physiology, Brain, and Annals of Neurology.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Dr. Bodis-Wollner for his accomplishments in the area of health care and his service to Brooklyn and New York.

RECOGNIZING FIRE CHIEF JIM
MILLER, A FORMER LOCKPORT
TOWNSHIP FIRE CHIEF WHO
PASSED AWAY AT THE AGE OF
74

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 26, 2011

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a selfless public servant, former Lockport Township Fire Chief Jim Miller. On September 13, Chief Miller passed away at the age of 74. As a firefighter, he dedicated his life to protecting his neighbors. As Fire Chief, he helped steer the Lockport Township Fire Department through turbulent economic times.

Mr. Miller began his remarkable career as a firefighter in 1959. He became Fire Chief in 1979 and served in that capacity until 1987. As Fire Chief, he kept his station afloat despite scarcity of equipment and firefighters. When he became Fire Chief, instead of purchasing the traditional new white helmet, Mr. Miller simply spray painted his old helmet white because of the Department's tight budget. After the economy rebounded, he kept his old white helmet and elected to purchase better equipment for his firefighters instead. This small example of his willingness to do the best for his firefighters and share the hardship of a tight budget made him a model for what a Fire Chief and a great leader should be.

Firefighting was in Jim Miller's blood. Both his uncle and father were firefighters and he passed on much of his wisdom to his son-in-law. He also considered all those at his station to be part of his extended family and treated them as such. He made it a point to visit his station when returning to Lockport Township from his retirement home in Florida to see his old colleagues. During these trips he would marvel at the new technology and increased number of firefighters. Firefighters then and now know that without his courage to keep the station afloat in the 1980s, these improvements might not have been possible.

Mr. Miller was preceded in death by daughter Jodi Miller and survived by his loving and devoted wife of 54 years, Jyme, and his children Jami, Kelly, and Jim.

Please join me in honoring the life of Jim Miller. He was a brave and selfless public servant. His contributions to Lockport Township and his life of service will not be forgotten.

HONORING MARILYN A. BOK

HON. TOM MARINO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 26, 2011

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of my constituent, Marilyn A. Bok, on the occasion of her retirement.

After completing high school, Marilyn attended the College of St. Rose, where she earned her Bachelor's Degree in chemistry. She then went on to earn her Master's Degree in Public Administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Before starting the Community Foundation for the Twin Tiers, Marilyn taught, owned a consulting and research firm, served as Chair of the Board of Commissioners of Bradford County, and served as Director of Rural Services Institute at Mansfield University. Additionally, Marilyn wrote several grants for startup funding for the Bradford County Dental Clinic, the Family Literacy Program, and the Bradford County Tobacco Cessation Program.

Marilyn Bok began her tenure with the Community Foundation for Twin Tiers in 2001, having served as both volunteer Board Chair and CEO after founding the organization.

Marilyn has always had a strong commitment to volunteering in her community. She has served as President for numerous organizations, including; Penn York Opportunities for the Handicapped, Inc.; Valley Jaycees; and Greater Valley Youth Activities Council. Marilyn has also chaired over numerous committees, including; Regional Workforce 90s Task Force; Executive Committee Northern Tier Regional Planning Commission; and Endless Mountains Heritage Park Management Committee. In 2009, Marilyn was recognized by WATS/WAVR as Individual of the Year for her many contributions to her community.

Marilyn and her husband, Edward, are the proud parents of four and grandparents of eight. They have resided in the Wyoming Valley for over 45 years.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Marilyn Bok, on the occasion of her retirement and ask my colleagues to join in praising her commitment to community and country.

HONORING THE WORK OF ALEX
KANKULA

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 26, 2011

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Alex Kankula's dedication and commitment to helping our nation's veterans. Mr. Kankula is a distinguished veteran of both World War II and the Korean War serving in both the United States Navy and Coast Guard.

After his discharge from active duty, Mr. Kankula selflessly dedicated the next thirty years of his life to improving the lives of our nation's veterans. Mr. Kankula has been a volunteer at the Northport VA Medical Center in New York for three decades. Over the years he's been an advocate for homeless veterans by working in halfway houses in four different Long Island towns. Seeing the tremendous need our homeless veterans face every day, he's worked in the community to collect clothing, food, house wares, and furniture for these veterans.

Mr. Kankula's leadership also paved the way for the creation of two new programs at the Northport VA Medical Center. He recognized the need for nursing home patients to have a recreational outlet and established a wheelchair dock-fishing program. The nursing home patients look forward to this excursion and visit local waterways for a fun day of fishing several times a year. Mr. Kankula then went on to create an "Adopt a Vet" program to ensure nursing home patients were always remembered on their birthdays and holidays. He connects the veteran patients with community members who send birthday cards, holiday greetings, and letters. The creation of these two programs has raised the morale of countless veterans.

I offer my recognition of Alex Kankula's unwavering dedication to our nation's veterans. His patriotic spirit and selfless devotion has improved the lives of veterans and serves as an example for all Americans.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF SANFORD
"CORKY" KURLAND

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 26, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember Sanford "Corky" Kurland, co-founder and owner of Corky & Lenny's, the popular Cleveland-area restaurant and deli. Corky passed away last Saturday after a long illness.

Corky Kurland was a native Cleveland and a 1948 graduate of Glenville High School. He worked with his father Carl Kurland on a food truck and helped at a small grocery store that his parents bought on Union Avenue. After graduating from meat cutting school in Toledo, he went to work at the Miami Restaurant at East 105th and Euclid in the then-bustling Uptown section of Cleveland. He enlisted in the U.S. Army and became a chef at Fort Benning, Georgia, in 1952. When he returned to Cleveland, he took a job as a counterman and manager at Eddie Sands Deli

at Cedar Center in South Euclid. When Sands decided to sell his deli, Corky Kurland became a partner with Dave Katz, who already owned a deli on Lakeshore Boulevard. After a year, Katz wanted to stay on Lakeshore and sold his share of the business to Corky and Lenny Kaden, a mutual friend who was then in the menswear business. Corky and Lenny became partners and renamed the business "Corky & Lenny's" in 1956. In 1973, Corky and Lenny opened a second deli on Chagrin Boulevard in Woodmere. In 1991, Corky's son Kenny and his nephew Earl Stein bought out Lenny Kaden's share of the business and the three have been partners ever since. The partners closed the Cedar Center location in 1994 but celebrated 55 years in business recently at the Chagrin Boulevard store.

Corky & Lenny's is a true meeting place. Many business deals have occurred there, as have many blind dates, some that became marriages. Corky & Lenny's is a magnet for celebrities when they come to town. Actors and comedians such as Totie Fields, Liberace, Joel Gray, Shecky Greene, Sammy Davis Jr., Jackie Mason, Frankie Valli; athletes including Jim Thome, Zydrunas Ilgauskas, Mike Brown, Moe Vaughn, Wally Szcwabiak, and Mike Holmgren; and elected officials, including Howard Metzenbaum and John Glenn have been spotted there. I have been a patron of Corky & Lenny's since my days as a caddy at east-side golf courses while still a teenager. I had breakfast there just last week. And as usual, I saw people there whom I have known for many years.

Corky Kurland was active in his community and liked to spend time with his family. He was a frequent traveler who made friends wherever he went. He was a member of Beth Am and B'nai Jeshurun synagogues, the Knights of Pythias, the Masons, the Kiwanis, the Beachwood Chamber of Commerce, the Jewish Community Center, the Jewish War Veterans, the Lake Forest Country Club and the Hawthorne Country Club.

Mr. Speaker and respected colleagues, please join me in mourning the loss of Sanford "Corky" Kurland. I send my sincere condolences to his wife of 57 years, Gloria; his son Kenny; his daughter Dr. Susan Kurland Rapkin; his sister Helen Manheim; his 6 grandchildren; his extended family; his many friends, and the loyal patrons of Corky & Lenny's.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR FDA'S
APPROVAL OF ARTIFICIAL PAN-
CREAS TECHNOLOGIES

HON. JOHN KLINE

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 26, 2011

Mr. KLINE. Mr. Speaker, I offer the following statement urging the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to move forward in the approval process of artificial pancreas technologies and issue draft guidance no later than December 1, 2011.

Diabetes is a common, serious, and costly disease that poses a major public health problem. Diabetes affects more than 25 million adults and children in the United States or 8.3 percent of the population. One out of every