

Middlesex County, New Jersey. MCREA has made the protection of the retired school employees' state pension fund and insuring the continuation of current health care benefits among its top priorities. MCREA members are active in their community and have organized assistance programs for nursing home residents, and delivered food for the needy and financial assistance to students. They have also organized various social functions for members to attend various cultural performances and historic sites as well as extended trips throughout the United States and various foreign countries. Today, MCREA is proudly represented by over 1,675 members throughout Middlesex County and New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in congratulating the Middlesex County Retired Educators Association for 50 years of service. Their efforts continue to enhance the lives of retired educators throughout Middlesex County and New Jersey.

#### HONORING JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

#### HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2012*

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark Jewish American Heritage Month.

My family's story is very much an American Jewish story. On my father's side of the family, from the Russia-Poland border, an entire 1,000-year culture was wiped out as a result of World War II. My mother's side of the family comes from Thessaloniki, Greece, where there was a very vibrant Jewish community prior to World War II, totaling half of the city's entire population. But by the time the Nazis finished, there were only 1,000 Jews left there and I am not presumptuous enough to think that my family would have been among those chosen to live.

My family escaped both the Russia-Poland area and Thessaloniki in order to come to our Nation's shores. And I grew up hearing stories of what their lives had been and how thrilled they were to come to the safe haven of the United States of America. It was the very survival of my family. Had they stayed where they lived in Europe, we would have been exterminated in the Holocaust, but we came to this remarkable country, where we've not only survived, but we've thrived.

When my grandparents came here—and this is a story that is so common among American Jewish families—they couldn't speak English. They had no money. They had no skills. The only thing they had was a dream that their children and their children's children would have a better life here in the United States than they had where they came from.

We American Jews are lucky to be a part of the fabric of this great country, to have full acceptance, to be able to access the highest levels of power, to be able to effectuate meaningful change in a very positive way by participating in the American political process. We have made more than a life for ourselves in the United States of America. We are very proud Americans, and we are very proud Jews. And we appreciate so much the fact that this country offered so many remarkable opportunities and gave us a chance not only

for survival, but to become a part of something so much bigger than ourselves.

I urge my colleagues to join me in marking this special occasion.

NALENE CASTANEDA-ROMERO

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2012*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Nalene Castaneda-Romero for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Nalene Castaneda-Romero is a 12th grader at Pomona High and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Nalene Castaneda-Romero is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Nalene Castaneda-Romero for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

#### MARSHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL WE THE PEOPLE TEAM

#### HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2012*

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. I would like to congratulate a group of students in my district who have earned a national title in their understanding of constitutional issues in a changing world.

Participating in the national round of this year's We the People competition in April, Isabella Burke, Catherine Pouliot, and Samantha Silver of Marshwood High School in South Berwick, Maine, took first place in the unit on "What challenges might face American constitutional democracy in the twenty-first century?"

I am very proud of the level at which these students performed especially on a question of such importance to our country.

I would also like to congratulate advisor Matt Sanzone and the rest of the Marshwood team for making it to nationals for a fifth year. It is an incredible statement of this school's dedication in teaching students the foundations of American democracy.

#### HONORING RABBI MENACHEM MENDEL AND NECHAMA DINA MANGEL

#### HON. JON RUNYAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2012*

Mr. RUNYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to pay tribute to two of my constitu-

ents from southern New Jersey. Rabbi Menachem Mendel and Nechama Dina Mangel, are known to their friends as Rabbi Mendy and Dinie. They are a Chabad-Lubavitch Chassidic couple who were married in 1992 in Brooklyn, New York. They have directed Chabad Lubavitch of Camden and Burlington Counties, since settling in their New Jersey community in 1994.

Rabbi Mendy received his Rabbinical ordination in New York and together they began to offer a wide-range of educational programs to increase Jewish knowledge and observance in the area. By the spring of 1994, the Chabad Lubavitch Center was established in a storefront in Voorhees, Chabad Hebrew School was inaugurated, and Shabbat services began. In April of 2002, to accommodate the increasing number of programs and participants, Chabad moved to its present home in Cherry Hill. Rabbi Mendy and Dinie have since expanded their activities into Burlington County. In 2004, they brought Rabbi Yitzchok and Baili Kahan on board to begin the Gan Israel Day Camp at Chabad and to assist with the general growth and expansion of activities at the center. More recently, in the summer of 2010, Rabbi Menachem and Shterna Kaminker joined the staff, to work with the Hebrew-speaking community.

The Mangels are the proud parents of eight wonderful children, ka"n, ranging in age from 18–2 years. Many people have come to know Rabbi Mendy and Dinie and their children through their involvement and service to their community. They participate in their community's annual Menorah lighting ceremony, deliver Purim gift packages, teach classes in the synagogue, or invite friends and neighbors in to their home to enjoy a delicious and spirited Shabbat meal. They have opened their home and their hearts to share the warmth of Jewish life and tradition with the many Jews in our area. Rabbi Mendy and Dinie and their family have devoted their lives to ignite a passion for greater commitment to Jewish life in all whom they meet.

Rabbi Mendy will be honored this week at the annual Chai Gala celebration in Cinnaminson, New Jersey and I urge my colleagues to join me in offering my most sincere congratulations.

SAMANTHA GROENHOF

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2012*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Samantha Groenhof for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Samantha Groenhof is a 7th grader at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Samantha Groenhof is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Samantha Groenhof for winning the Arvada

Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE VETERANS OF THE  
JUNE 5, 2012 EASTERN IOWA  
HONOR FLIGHT

**HON. DAVID LOESACK**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2012*

Mr. LOESACK. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to welcome Iowa veterans of the Greatest Generation to our Nation's Capital today. These veterans, accompanied by volunteer guardians, traveled to Washington, DC to visit the National World War II Memorial that was built in their honor.

I proudly have in my office a piece of marble from the quarry that supplied the stone from which the World War II Memorial was built. That piece of marble, just like the memorial it built, reminds me of the sacrifices of a generation that, when our country was threatened, rose to defend not just our Nation but the freedoms, democracy, and values that are the basis of our great Nation. They did so as one people and one country.

The sheer magnitude of what they accomplished, not just in war but in the peace that followed has stood as an inspiration to every generation of Americans since. The Greatest Generation did not seek to be tested both abroad by a war that fundamentally challenged our way of life and at home by the Great Depression and the rebuilding of our economy that followed. But, when called upon to do so, they defended and then rebuilt our Nation. Their patriotism, service, and great sacrifice not only defined their generation—they stand as a testament to the fortitude of our Nation.

I am tremendously proud to welcome eastern Iowa's veterans of the Second World War to our Nation's capital today. On behalf of every Iowan I represent, I thank them for their service to our country.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE  
OF FORMER STATE SENATOR  
CATHIE WRIGHT

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2012*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sadness regarding the recent passing of former State Senator Cathie Wright, who represented the Simi and Santa Clarita Valleys in the California legislature for 20 years, and with whom I was proud to serve.

Born in Old Forge, Pennsylvania on May 18, 1929, Cathie Maranelli Wright launched her political career in the 1970s as a member of the Simi Valley City Council. Wright was the city's mayor when she ran for and won an open Assembly seat in 1980. During her tenure in the Assembly, Wright carried several pieces of legislation to address local issues, including a bill that added the valley's four

water purveyors to the Castaic Lake Water Agency. The legislation brought the water purveyors to the table for the purpose of negotiating a valley-wide management plan, something the local water community continues to do on a regular basis. She was an early and ardent supporter of the creation of the City of Santa Clarita, which incorporated in 1987.

In 1992 Wright, ascended to the state Senate when former Los Angeles Police Chief Ed Davis retired and served until 2000. As a Senator, Wright helped craft California's welfare and child support laws. She was instrumental in securing funding for the College of the Canyons, particularly a new library and a media & fine arts building. Senator Wright worked tirelessly to develop a Systems of Care approach that would provide early intervention for at-risk mentally ill youth.

Mr. Speaker, Cathie Wright's two decades of dedicated public service make her an outstanding example of her generation and its commitment to our Nation. It is appropriate therefore that we honor her life and contributions today.

**RYAN PFANKUCH**

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2012*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ryan Pfankuch for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Ryan Pfankuch is a 7th grader at Drake Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ryan Pfankuch is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ryan Pfankuch for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO MOLLIE EMERSON

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2012*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mollie Emerson of Rockford, Iowa for being awarded the Girl Scout Gold Award.

The Gold Award is the highest award that a high school-aged Girl Scout can earn. This is an extremely prestigious honor as less than 6 percent of all Girl Scouts will attain the Gold Award's rigorous requirements.

To earn a Gold Award, a Girl Scout must complete a minimum of 80 hours towards a community project that is both memorable and lasting. For her project, Mollie redecorated patient rooms at doctor offices in her community

to help patients feel more comfortable when visiting the doctor. The work ethic Mollie has shown to earn her Gold Award speaks volumes about her commitment to serving a cause greater than herself and assisting her community.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young woman and her supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. I am honored to represent Mollie and her family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating her in obtaining the Gold Award, and will wish her continued success in her future education and career.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF THE  
HONORABLE JOHN JOSEPH LEE

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2012*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Lee, a resident of San Mateo, California, who died at the age of 81 at the Palo Alto Veterans Affairs Hospice.

John Lee served his country as a Marine in Korea and Vietnam; was a successful businessman; a founder of Telogy Inc; was a highly respected member of the San Mateo City Council and served as Mayor. He was responsible for the completion of three major projects during his twelve year tenure—a movie theater complex, a new library, and a new police station.

He was known to all for saying "It's outstanding!" While he could be stern and firm minded, he was never disagreeable. He appreciated hard work and supported dedicated city employees. He worked to help the less fortunate, and in the words of San Mateo Police Chief Susan Manheimer, "He was a man who believed in valor and chivalry and duty."

John is survived by his son, John Lee Jr., of Oregon, daughters Brenda Lee Woodward, Karen Frost and J. Marcella Lee; his stepson Michael Streim and many grandchildren. He also leaves four siblings.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a true public servant who served his Nation with honor, valor, and generosity. He served his community with equal distinction, and earned the respect of his colleagues in public service and the deep regard of his entire community. I ask my colleagues to extend to his children, grandchildren and siblings our most sincere sympathy on their great loss. John Lee will be missed by everyone who had the good fortune to know him, and I count myself among those so blessed. Our community and our country have been strengthened by the life and the service of John Lee.

HONORING THE PLASMA PROTEIN  
THERAPEUTICS ASSOCIATION

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 5, 2012*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Plasma Protein Therapeutics Association (PPTA) as that organization celebrates its 20th anniversary.