

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to join me in support of H.R. 4041.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. MANZULLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4041, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the topic of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor May as Jewish American Heritage Month. I'm so pleased to be joined by my colleagues tonight as we honor our Nation's Jewish community through Jewish American Heritage Month.

□ 1950

As the first Jewish woman to represent the State of Florida in the United States Congress, I am so proud to be a strong voice on many issues crucial to our community, from tolerance and understanding to *tikkun olam*—repairing the world.

In 2005, members of the Jewish community in south Florida approached me with the idea to designate a month to honor the contributions that American Jews have made to our Nation. As a result, I was the proud sponsor of Jewish American Heritage Month, which the House and Senate unanimously passed in 2006 and has been proclaimed by both President Bush and President Obama annually since then.

This year, in 2012, is the Seventh Annual Jewish American Heritage Month. JAHM promotes awareness of the contributions American Jews have made to the fabric of American life from technology and literature to entertainment, politics, and medicine.

As we are all well aware, the foundation of our country is built upon the strengths of our unique cultures and backgrounds. The American Jewish experience is the story of the immigrant, the labor movement, the battle for civil rights, and so much more. Jews in America have blazed trails from the battlefield to the Supreme Court, from the sports field and symphony hall to

the pages of our Nation's history books and our Nation's Capital.

From the time of the Colonies until today, Jewish communities have played a significant role in American history and telling the American story. That's why communities across the country have come together to celebrate Jewish American Heritage Month during the month of May.

Seven years ago, this idea gained momentum as 250 of my colleagues joined me as original cosponsors of a resolution urging the President to issue a proclamation for this important month. Senator Arlen Specter led the effort in the Senate, and together the House and Senate unanimously passed resolutions supporting the creation of Jewish American Heritage Month.

Now, each year, the month of May introduces Jewish culture to the entire country in order to raise awareness and dispel harmful prejudices. Unfortunately, Mr. Speaker, we have seen a precipitous rise in intolerance and anti-Semitism, not just in this country but across the globe. It is my hope that by providing the framework for the discussion of Jewish culture and contributions to our Nation we will be able to reduce the ignorance that ultimately leads to anti-Semitism.

Over the last number of years, I have talked about the impact and the contributions of the Jewish community to our country over more than 350 years of Jewish life in America. It has always struck me that Jews in America are less than 2 percent of the American population, and so as much, many of our colleagues—most Americans—never actually spend much time around the Jewish community. So our traditions are unfamiliar, our culture and our religion—of which we are both—are not something that most folks encounter every day. That is the reason that we honor communities like the Jewish community with a cultural awareness month so that we can raise that awareness and make sure that people who don't usually have an opportunity to get the kinds of information that these months provide can really reach out to one another and learn more so that we can be the melting pot and also the salad bowl that is always debated about the United States of America.

Over the last 7 years, we have seen JAHM grow from an inspired idea to a national reality. We've had a group of committed organizations and museums around the country that have worked to get JAHM into the classroom, on the airwaves, and into the halls of our government, as today's activities demonstrate.

Just before votes this evening, President Obama hosted the Third Annual Jewish American Heritage Month reception at the White House, welcoming leaders from the Jewish community into the Nation's House.

The President told the story—not a really wonderful note in our Nation's history—of General Ulysses Grant who, at the time of the Civil War, had actu-

ally issued an order, Mr. Speaker, to expel Jews from their homes in the war zone during the Civil War. President Obama went on to also talk about how President Lincoln issued an order rescinding that order. The Library of Congress brought out from its archives all of the documents related to General Grant's order and President Lincoln's order to make sure that we could protect the rights of individuals and make sure that our commitment as a Nation to religious tolerance and freedom was preserved from then through history.

Tonight, I'm so pleased to be joined by my colleagues to commemorate the American Jewish experience. From sports games, to concerts, to lectures and films, JAHM is truly an interdisciplinary and multimedia experience, and we want to see these efforts continue to grow. However, it's vital that this idea takes hold not only for Jewish organizations, because, after all, we're already familiar with the contributions of Jewish life in America. We want to make sure that this month is an opportunity to grow that knowledge and reach out to communities across the country.

It's our responsibility to continue this education. If we as a Nation are to prepare our children for the challenges that lie ahead, then teaching diversity and celebrating it is a fundamental part of that promise. Together, we can help achieve this goal of understanding with the celebration of Jewish American Heritage Month.

The lessons of Judaism inspire us to do great things, from our commitment to service, to our political advocacy, to our cultural contributions to this Nation. Together, we can and should celebrate our community's history and values so that not only the Jewish people, but all Americans may go from strength to strength.

Now I'm delighted to recognize one of my colleagues who has been an incredible leader for the United States of America, for the people of her district in New York, and someone that I am proud to say has been a mentor throughout my time here in the U.S. House of Representatives, Congresswoman NITA LOWEY from the great State of New York. By the way, let me add, Mr. Speaker, that Congresswoman LOWEY is the ranking member on the Foreign Operations Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee.

Mrs. LOWEY. Let me thank my outstanding colleague from the State of Florida, Congresswoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. I personally want to express my appreciation for the work you have done to make this day a reality so that we can all acknowledge Jewish American Heritage Month. It's because of you that this day is noted, and it's because of you that we have gathered at the White House for a really inspirational speech from President Obama. So as a Jewish American, I want to express my appreciation to you.

I know that it may not be coincidental that this was a special time in

your life this past week. I think it's appropriate that we talk about your family and your personal commitment to your Jewish heritage. During this month—last week, I believe—your daughter celebrated her bat mitzvah or bene mitzvah. This is such an amazing, amazing time in your life when your daughter or your son reaches that point where they have studied, they have learned what it is to be a Jewish American here in the United States of America. I am sure that your family was just overflowing with joy. And I just want to say mazel tov to you. That means good luck and congratulations.

So today I not only rise, Mr. Speaker, to express my appreciation to Congresswoman DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ for making this Jewish American Heritage Month an annual tradition, but to express my appreciation to you for organizing this event tonight.

I rise to mark the contributions of Jewish Americans to the rich culture and history of our Nation during this Jewish American Heritage Month.

Jewish tradition embraces the concept of Tikkun Olam, repairing the world. Indeed, our actions in Congress are aimed at that concept—helping to improve our society and create equity for all Americans through quality health care, education, and economic opportunity, regardless of their ethnic, cultural, or socioeconomic background. What I am very proud of is that our commitment to justice reaches beyond our borders.

□ 2000

The history of the Jewish people reminds us of our unique responsibility in the international community to stand up for what is right, speak out against hatred and injustice, and ensure that the lessons of the Holocaust are not lost to history. We have a responsibility, and we must defend those unjustly persecuted, no matter where they are, and we must stand by our ally, Israel, in the face of continued threats.

I hope you will join me in celebrating the rich history of Jewish Americans and in looking forward to an even more vibrant and just future for all people.

Thank you.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Thank you so much, Congresswoman LOWEY. Thank you for your leadership and your commitment as a Jewish American woman, and for blazing a trail. And thank you for acknowledging my daughter and son's bar and bat mitzvah.

Ms. LOWEY. Oh, it's the twins?

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. It was the twins, yes, both of them, and it was a pretty incredible weekend. It was really amazing to, coincidentally, have the B'nai Mitzvah service and ceremony during Jewish American Heritage Month. Their birthday is May 15, and we had a wonderful celebration last weekend.

Thank you so much. And thank you for being an incredible example. As a

Jewish mother who is raising Jewish daughters, thank you for being an incredible example for them.

Mrs. LOWEY. Well, as a Jewish mother and a Jewish grandmother, I am very proud of my three children and my 8 grandchildren. And I just want to say, again, that you are really a role model for all women, not just Jewish women, a strong woman with integrity, who is committed to her Judaism, her family, and yet you understand so well that we have an obligation beyond ourselves, as we lift people up and hope that all people, in the United States of America and around the world, have the opportunity to raise children and have a good life, and can have a future.

So I want to thank you because you are a role model that just does it all. In fact, it's amazing to me that you've done it all. So congratulations. Thank you again for marking this important month for all of us.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Thank you for joining us. Thank you so much.

It is now my privilege—boy, it's hard to say enough good things about an incredible woman, a fighter, someone who has been a champion for the values that I know I was raised to believe in around my family dinner table growing up, the epitome of Tikkun Olam.

Mr. Speaker, let me—we're going to use some Yiddish phrases here and Hebrew expressions tonight that some may not understand. But the foundation of the Jewish community, and our commitments to service and our commitment to fighting injustice, is based in the notion of Tikkun Olam, which means repairing the world. And so often, we have mountains in front of us that seem so tough to climb, and repairing the world can seem like an insurmountable obstacle. But working together to address a little bit of injustice, just a small bite at a time, but banding together to do it, is something that the Jewish community has stood for for many years.

And there is no finer example of someone—I have to tell you that JAN SCHAKOWSKY, as a representative from Illinois, and as someone who had a reputation that I became aware of long before I actually had the privilege of serving in this institution, was someone I wanted to be like when I grew up because she has been the absolute epitome of what I know I was taught to believe in around my family table, which was that we should stand up for people who have no voice, fight for the civil rights and civil liberties that are instilled as Jewish values. And I'm so thrilled that you joined us here tonight, Congresswoman JAN SCHAKOWSKY from the great State of Illinois.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Thank you so much, DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, for your leadership role in making Jewish American Heritage Month a reality. Really, this was your idea, and you mobilized the Members of the House in a bipartisan way to make this happen, and we're so appreciative.

I think Jews and non-Jews alike realize that it's important that we honor the culture and the heritage of the Jewish community. Throughout American history, Jewish Americans have helped shape American culture and society. For over 350 years, Jewish Americans have made untold contributions to our country, through science, art, medicine, education, sports, technology, entertainment, and government. Jewish Americans have served in the military and in government, have helped build and grow our economy, and have served their communities as teachers, nurses, organizers, and in countless other critical roles.

American Jews played a critical role in creating and sustaining a homeland for all Jews around the world—the State of Israel, our beloved State of Israel, first, as a refuge for those who survived the Holocaust, continuing to be a place where all Jews are welcome, and today, an enduring and essential ally of the United States of America.

As a first-generation Jewish American, I have personally witnessed the struggles and successes of Jewish immigrants who came to this Nation in order to create a better life for themselves, their families, and future generations, the reasons that all immigrants seek out the United States. Like other important immigrant communities, the Jewish experience in the United States represents the promise, the opportunity, and the freedom of America.

I think today about my grandparents, Sam and Mary Cosnow, who settled in Chicago with three of their four children. The fourth was born in the United States. My mother was not. They came from Russia. They left a place that they knew they would never return to, left a place where there were pogroms, where it was dangerous for the Jews, and came to Chicago, Illinois.

And every Sunday we would go to my grandparents House in Humboldt Park, and I would rush out to what is now the garage, but then was the barn, where Teddy, the horse, was there. And I would say hello first to Teddy, I think, even before my grandparents.

Teddy would pull the cart that my grandfather, a peddler, would—every weekday he would get up at the crack of dawn and take Teddy and the wagon to the vegetable and fruit market several miles away and load up the cart and carry bags of potatoes up several flights of stairs in the alleys of Humboldt Park to his customers.

My grandmother stayed home. She made the clothes for her children and was a homemaker. And they put all of their children through college. That was the American Dream.

My grandfather, as a peddler—now, college tuition wasn't what it is today and it was easier to do that, but two teachers, one lawyer, one business college student, all of those children of Sam Cosnow, the peddler, could make it in America. That is the American

Dream. It's the immigrant dream. It's the dream of hardworking people who believed that if you are willing to get up at the crack of dawn and carry potatoes up the back porch that you could do it here. That's the America we dream for everyone and for our children and their children; that they can have a good life if they are willing to work hard.

An estimated 250,000 Jews live in Chicago today. Chicago's vibrant Jewish community has been home to countless prominent figures, from sports to the arts to politics. Saul Alinsky, the father of community organizing, came from a Russian Jewish immigrant family. Nobel Prize-winning author Saul Bellow grew up in Chicago, a Jewish—from Humboldt Park, as my grandparents and my parents lived. And his work strongly reflects both his Jewish roots and the city of Chicago.

Actors Jeremy Piven and Mandy Patinkin were both raised in Jewish households in Chicago. And Benny Goodman, the clarinetist known as the "King of Swing," called Chicago home.

□ 2010

Sidney Yates, my predecessor, served in the House for nearly 50 years, passionately working for environmental protection and government funding for the arts. Also, two current members of the Chicago Bears NFL team, Gabe Carimi and Adam Podlesh, are Jewish Americans.

So, Mr. Speaker, Jewish American Heritage Month is an opportunity to recognize the contributions of Jewish Americans to our community, to our country, to our culture. For 350 years, Jewish Americans have made extraordinary contributions to American life and culture; and in Chicago and throughout the country, American Jews continue to be leaders in their communities.

All of those Jews in America today owe a thank-you to Congresswoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ for creating the Jewish American Heritage Month of May, so I thank you.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Thank you, Congresswoman.

Let me also thank you for your leadership as a ranking member of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade for the Energy and Commerce Committee; and your leadership in the area of health care has been incredibly important for America.

I think it's interesting. First of all, you taught me something that I didn't know tonight. I did not know that there are two Jewish players on the Chicago Bears. One of your staffers was joking with my staffer today, saying that there are actually more Jews on the Chicago Bears than there are in the Illinois delegation, which is really kind of ironic, actually. Thank you so much for being here.

Now it is my privilege to introduce and acknowledge a friend and colleague from the neighboring district of mine, someone who is a relatively new Mem-

ber, who had some big shoes to fill but who has done so capably. He serves as a member of the House Committee on the Judiciary and on the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, and he was a State senator in the State of Florida. I am fortunate that I don't need his bio as a cheat sheet because I know him so well. He is our colleague from the great State of Florida, Congressman TED DEUTCH.

Mr. DEUTCH. Thank you very much to my dear friend Congresswoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and thank you for your committed work in making sure that not only this Special Order hour takes place tonight but for your work in ensuring that Jewish American Heritage Month has become a reality. You are to be commended for that, and I think we are all the better for it. I appreciate it, and I appreciate the opportunity to be here tonight.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the seventh annual Jewish American Heritage Month, which is an opportunity for our Nation to recognize the many contributions of Jewish Americans throughout our history. America's Jewish community has helped shape our country since its inception. Jewish Americans have courageously served in our Armed Forces in every major conflict of our Nation's history. They've also helped drive America as a powerhouse of economic innovation, contributing key advances in everything from science and medicine to the law and the arts.

Today, as we mark this year's Jewish American Heritage Month here in Congress, I would like to highlight our community's tremendous contributions to American social policy. Jewish Americans have a long history of shaping our political priorities as a Nation. I am proud to be part of a community that has led efforts to protect the most vulnerable, to ensure fairness in our justice system, to promote economic opportunity, and to safeguard the religious freedoms and liberties of all Americans.

We need look no further than Social Security, a program that helps keep 50 million Americans economically secure each year. Serving on the committee that helped establish Social Security was Wilbur Cohen, a man who was eventually appointed by President Kennedy as an Assistant Secretary for Legislation of Health, Education, and Welfare. As a member of President Johnson's Cabinet, Wilbur Cohen's influence over issues that impact America's seniors continue to grow, and many today regard him as the man who built Medicare.

Jewish Americans also took an active role in our Nation's struggle for civil rights. In the 1950s and 1960s, Jewish Americans were passionately engaged in the struggle for civil rights:

Rabbi Stephen Wise, the great American Jewish leader, was one of the founders of the NAACP. He made the case that civil rights were not only a Jewish issue but that civil rights were

a quintessential Jewish issue. He understood and believed firmly that the Jewish community and that the Nation—America—were stronger when prejudice was defeated and when equal rights were extended to all;

Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel marched with Martin Luther King, Jr., in Selma. In reflecting upon that march, Rabbi Heschel said, When I marched in Selma, my legs were praying. It was his understanding, his commitment, to what he viewed as essentially the holy work of lifting up all Americans and of ensuring equal rights for all;

Several prominent Jewish activists, including Michael Schwerner and Andrew Goodman lost their lives, along with African American activist James Chaney, while fighting for the right to vote alongside organizers in the South;

And perhaps there is no greater indication of Jewish Americans' involvement in the struggle for civil rights than the fact that both the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965—two landmark pieces of civil rights legislation—were both drafted as legislation at the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism.

As a Jewish American, I am honored to be part of a community that throughout our Nation's history has helped make America a more fair and a more just Nation—a Nation where opportunity extends to all, where everyone can be lifted up by being given the chance to succeed. It is a commitment to ensuring that seniors live lives of dignity and where the poor receive the support that they need when times are most difficult. Finally, it is the respect for every American—the dignity of every American—that is recognized and fought for still to this day by so many in the Jewish community.

I am so grateful to my friend Congresswoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ for helping to ensure that we have the opportunity to share these thoughts here on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives this evening. I am grateful for that opportunity. I thank you for it.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Thank you so much for your commitment and for your leadership. It is really a privilege to fight side by side with you on behalf of our constituents in south Florida and on behalf of the values that matter so deeply to our community.

For many years, actually, before you were elected to public office, I watched your commitment to the U.S.-Israel relationship and to a strong and vibrant Jewish State of Israel as an AIPAC activist and then as a State senator, now as a Member of Congress and as a colleague. I thank you so much for joining us here this evening.

It is now my privilege to recognize a newer colleague and a newer friend but someone whom I have seen develop as a leader and someone who has stepped up to represent her constituents in the

western part of our country, which I'm sure is a completely different Jewish experience than the east coast experience. Congresswoman SUZANNE BONAMICI is a new Member who was elected in a special election not even a year ago—actually, just a few short months ago. She has stepped up and represents the Portland area in Oregon. More importantly, she is a member of Congregation Beth Israel, and I am pleased to recognize her here tonight.

Ms. BONAMICI. Thank you so much for yielding me this time, Congresswoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, and for your leadership in Jewish American Heritage Month. It is great to join you and our other colleagues here this evening.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the contributions that so many Jewish Americans have made to our communities, to our States, to our country. There are many Jewish Americans who could be recognized here this evening and who deserve to be recognized for their contributions here this evening in honor of Jewish American Heritage Month.

I rise to pay tribute to a great Jewish American, an Oregonian, Mr. Harold Schnitzer. Born in 1923, Harold Schnitzer was the fifth of seven children of Russian immigrants.

□ 2020

He was born to Rose and Sam Schnitzer, who took a junk business and turned it into a steel empire.

As a boy, Harold earned 25 cents a week for polishing metal at his father's scrap yard. He told his teachers at Lincoln High School in Portland that his future was in steel. By the age of 16, he came back here to the East and he was studying at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, from which he graduated in 1944. He served in World War II. He dealt scrap metal during his time in the Army, and he was expected to take over the family business, but something happened. He didn't want to compete with his brothers. So he left to start his own real estate company, Harsch Investment Properties.

Throughout his life, Harold, along with his wife Arlene Schnitzer, generously supported education, health care, and cultural and Jewish institutions and organizations not only in Portland, but throughout the State of Oregon. Harold Schnitzer lost his life last year in 2011 at the age of 87. There is no question that he embodied *tikkun olam*. He made the world a better place.

I want to thank you for this opportunity, Congresswoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, to pay tribute to a great Jewish American, but also to say thank you again for making Jewish American Heritage Month a reality so that others can learn about the contributions of Jewish Americans around this great country.

Thank you again for this opportunity.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Thank you so much, and thank you for your

service on the House committee on the Budget. We serve on that committee together, and you have represented your constituents well. I appreciate you honoring the contributions of Jewish Americans across this country here tonight.

Now it is my privilege to bring to the rostrum—for lack of a better term—a friend and colleague who represents the southern region of California in San Diego, who has been an incredible leader on the Armed Services Committee, and who has definitely in her own right been a Jewish leader and as a Jewish woman someone who has taken a leadership role in the area of armed services, not only not traditional for women, but one that we have a story to tell about Jewish involvement throughout our American military history. And I'm going to share a little bit about that later, but thank you so much.

Congresswoman SUSAN DAVIS.

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Thank you.

And I want to thank my colleague DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ for having us together to talk about Jewish American Heritage Month this evening. It's important for us to do that.

Whenever we think of perfecting our union—the President spoke about this a little bit today as he hosted a number of individuals in the Jewish community and people from around the country. The thing that I always think about is *tikkun olam*, because it is part of our tradition to repair the world.

Many Jewish people came to the United States having left a community in which they weren't able to make contributions, and I think that's partly why in bringing some talents and some skills—and, yes, in many cases they weren't skills that were honed very well when they first came to this country, but they developed those. And in developing those skills and making a contribution and becoming treasures for each of their communities, they clearly made a great deal of effort to repair the world. They continue to do that in so many ways.

There is another tradition that we have. It's called *tzedakah*. It's about caring for others. It's about giving to others. It's about engaging people in that effort. It's about going down to soup kitchens from time to time. It's about bringing homeless people into your synagogue or into your temple during the winter. It's about engaging all the time because we know that that's important to do. That caring of *tzedakah* goes back to so many of the traditions that we all share. It's about the golden rule. It's about taking care of one another. It's about treating people the way that we want to be treated. That's very much a part of our heritage.

I'm going to share a little story today, and it's a story that I think my colleague is going to be laughing a little bit about because it's not something that I would ordinarily do. But I

had a chance to read a little bit about a very special Jewish woman. Her name was Thelma Tiby Eisen, and she was born in 1922 and lives today. I tell this story because she was very famous as a professional athlete in America. Probably people who don't know about Jewish women in athletics or in baseball wouldn't know of her, but those who do would know that name.

I bring that up because my colleague brought me into the first and only bipartisan women's softball team here in the Capitol. I have to share my story because I never played team sports in my life. In fact, I probably picked up a baseball maybe once to hit somebody, but I really don't remember doing that at all.

So when I was asked by my colleague to join with her in this team, which is supporting young survivors of breast cancer, I thought, Well, that's crazy for me to even do this because I can't make a contribution to this team. But I've done it because I've cared about the cause certainly of young survivors who have breast cancer and largely because there are a number of Jewish women who by virtue of their genes have a propensity to develop breast cancer.

Right around the time that I actually had agreed to be on this team—actually, this even goes back to walking in the 3-day march for breast cancer—I learned that my sister had breast cancer. Fortunately, she has been able to overcome that. But it was something that I knew and I had to take account of in my own life, as well. But I wanted to share this story because I enjoyed reading about Thelma Tiby Eisen. I'm going to share that.

One of the most versatile and talented professional athletes in America was Gertrude Tiby Eisen. She was born in Los Angeles in 1922, and she was a star of the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League, the only professional women's league in baseball history. The women's hardball league lasted from 1943 until 1954, and she was one of at least four Jewish women in that professional league. As its only Jewish superstar and a pioneer in American women's sports, she was an outstanding athlete in her native Los Angeles. She started playing semipro softball at age 14. When the league was formed in 1943, she won a spot on the Milwaukee team, which was moved the next year to Grand Rapids, Michigan. Her best season was in 1946, when she led the league in triples. She stole 128 bases and made the all-star team.

The part of the story that I particularly like was that Eisen's family was very ambivalent about the career choice that this "nice Jewish girl" had made, although she ultimately won all of their respect.

"We played a big charity game in Chicago for a Jewish hospital," Eisen recalled in an interview with historian David Spaner. "My name and picture were in every Jewish newspaper. My uncle, who had said, 'You shouldn't be

playing baseball—you'll get a bad reputation, a bad name,' was in the stands bursting with pride that I was there."

When she retired from professional baseball in 1952, she settled in the Pacific Palisades area and became a star for the Orange Lionette Softball Team, leading them to a world championship in 1993. She helped establish the women's exhibit at the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York, and she wanted to have all this recorded to keep the baseball league in the lime-light:

"It gets pushed into the background," she said, "just as women have been pushed into the background forever. If they knew more about our league, perhaps in the future some women will say, 'Hey, maybe we can do it again.'"

Well, that's probably how all of us feel here in our bipartisan effort in women's softball. We're going to play this game on June 20. We're going to play against all of our women colleagues in the media: TV, radio, and print.

□ 2030

We certainly hope that we're going to bring back a victory here.

If I may, Mr. Speaker, I wanted to just highlight a few people, really my contemporaries in San Diego, who have made such a contribution because they're well known in our community and certainly when we think of Jewish American Heritage Month, we can't help but think of these individuals who today are continuing to make a contribution. Two of them have passed on.

One, of course, is Jonas Salk that we all know very well. The Salk Institute of San Diego continues to educate our scientists for our country and really for the world, globally. I've had an opportunity to meet with a number of young scientists there from time to time, and their enthusiasm and their desire to really cure diseases in our country are just always inspiring, and I think of them often when I think of the Salk Institute.

The other person who I wanted to highlight very briefly is a gentleman named Sol Price. Sol Price was the founder of Price Club, he and his family. Whenever you think of ingenuity, innovation, entrepreneurs, he was great, great at this. He also founded an organization that I had an opportunity to be the executive director of in its early years, the Aaron Price Fellows Program, educating a very, very diverse group of young people to repair the world, to find in civic life as a student and then as they go on as adults, to find a way to really make a contribution to their community. It's a wonderful program and the young people come here to Washington every year.

Finally, to just say, in regard to great contributors in our community and across, across the world today, Dr. Irwin and Joan Jacobs. Dr. Jacobs is the founder of Qualcomm along with

Doctor Vitebi in San Diego, who have made such extraordinary, extraordinary contributions and continue to do that every day. It's a real honor to be in a community where their philanthropy is so well known.

Finally, we have a very active group of Jewish war veterans in San Diego, and I just wanted to thank Alan Milefsky, who has been the Veteran of the Year in San Diego and continues to reach out and make a great contribution and remind everybody of his extraordinary story as a Jewish war veteran.

Thank you very much to my colleague for bringing us together today, and it's been my honor to have an opportunity to speak about Jewish American Heritage Month.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Thank you so much. Thank you, Congresswoman DAVIS. Thank you for your leadership and for sharing the stories of the important contributions that Jews in the San Diego community in America have made through the fabric of American history.

It's now my pleasure and my privilege to ask my colleague from the great State of Connecticut, CHRIS MURPHY, to share some things.

I had—this is a reunion of sorts. A number of years ago, when Mr. MURPHY and I, along with Mr. RYAN of Ohio and our former colleague, Congressman Meek from Florida, we used to spend a little time down here on the House floor, around this time of night or later in the 30-Something Working Group, and you may still actually be eligible to participate. I no longer would be.

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Barely. Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Maybe I would be part of the "something" in 30-something.

I did have a chance to meet your fantastic Lieutenant Governor, Nancy Wyman, today at the Jewish American Heritage Month reception at the White House. She is obviously an incredible leader, an example of the political leadership that is part of the contributions that American Jews have made to American life.

Mr. MURPHY.

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Thank you very much, Congresswoman WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. I don't think that we were ever allowed down on the House floor this early. It was normally close to the witching hour when I, Representative RYAN, you, and Representative Meek were down here, but it is wonderful to be back here.

I was really touched when you approached me earlier today to ask me to come and say a few words, because the Murphys are not a very well known Jewish American family. Yet in Connecticut we are so, so proud of the legacy that we have helped contribute to with respect to Jewish American heritage, and this is a great way to be part of this month's celebration.

You know, the list is long in Connecticut. You know, I think about somebody like Annie Fisher, who was

one of the pioneers of special education in this country trying to segment out a different way to teach kids with learning disabilities. She was the first female principal, first female superintendent in Hartford, Connecticut.

I think about a young guy by the name of Kid Kaplan, who was from my district, from Meriden, Connecticut, was a featherweight champion of the world, one of the top 10 featherweights by most people's estimates. But I think maybe most about some of the political legacy that Jewish Americans from Connecticut have left this country.

I think a lot about Abraham Ribicoff. Abraham Ribicoff was everything in Connecticut. He was our Governor, he was our Senator, he was our Congressman. He faced, not so quietly, the prejudice that so many Jewish Americans faced as they entered into political life and commercial life throughout the last 100 years.

He talked openly when he first ran for Governor about walking into social halls and hearing prejudiced whispers throughout the room as he walked in. He also talked about taking that prejudice head on. He would walk up to the podium, and he would talk about the fact that he had lived the American Dream as the son of Polish immigrants, as a young guy who grew up working in zipper and buckle factories throughout the Hartford region, that he was living the American Dream, that if he could do it so could everybody else and their kids in that room.

He was probably best known for a moment at the podium of the Democratic National Convention in 1968 when Chicago police were outside treating protesters fairly roughly. He was the one member of the political elite to stand up on that podium and call them out for their tactics, and even with the mayor of that city sitting in the front row calling him some pretty unfriendly names. He kept his cool and is credited with essentially marginalizing that kind of violence, certainly with historical hindsight.

Maybe most important is that Abraham Ribicoff also saw his role as one of the leading American Jewish political figures in this country to help pave the way for others. He had a young intern, not long after he became U.S. Senator, named JOE LIEBERMAN. He hired, in the early 1970s, his administrative assistant, a young hot-shot lawyer named RICHARD BLUMENTHAL.

The two of them, both given their political sea legs by Abraham Ribicoff, are today proudly serving as Connecticut's two United States Senators, both part of our proud political tradition in Connecticut of Jewish American participation in American politics.

I am really thrilled to be down here with you to share my gratitude for what Jewish Americans in Connecticut have meant to our cultural life, to our educational life, to our sporting life and, yes, to our political life. Representative WASSERMAN SCHULTZ,

thank you for your leadership and thank you for allowing me and asking me to come down this evening.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Thank you so much, Mr. MURPHY, and thank you for your leadership as a member on the Foreign Affairs Committee, as well, and your commitment and support to a strong U.S.-Israel relationship, also an important issue to those of us in the Jewish community and important to Americans, as Israel is our strongest ally and friend.

You are right, and the reason that I wanted you to come down tonight is because growing up as a nice Jewish girl on Long Island, I knew a few folks over your way in Connecticut, being a resident of the tri-State area, and knowing the rich tradition of political activism and involvement of Jewish leaders in Connecticut and your leadership. You know, we will call you an honorary Jew tonight—Murphyberg, or something like that. But thank you so much for your leadership on behalf of your constituents and your State, and thank you for joining me this evening to honor the contributions of American Jews to the fabric and the tapestry of American life.

Mr. Speaker, I am going to wrap up here in a few moments. I want to share a few other things to help tie a ribbon on the second-to-last day of Jewish American Heritage Month. We'll wrap up tomorrow.

□ 2040

I want to share a story of a Floridian, because oftentimes—certainly, recently—Florida would be well-known for our significant, sizable, and accomplished Jewish community, particularly in south Florida, where my district is. I like to say that I'm the person that represents paradise down our way in south Florida. But the paradise that we see today in south Florida was mostly swamp land many, many years ago. And so the pioneers that blazed the trail that allowed for the vibrant communities that we have in our State really were just that—they were pioneers.

I want to share a story of one of those pioneers. For example, Moses Elias Levy, who lived from 1782 to 1854, was one of the earliest and largest developers in the State of Florida. At his Pilgrimage Plantation, which was the first Jewish communitarian settlement in our country, Moses housed several Jewish German families while reintroducing sugarcane to our State. Thanks to his cultivation of the first sugarcane plantation in Alachua County, which also has the good fortune of being the home county to the University of Florida, my alma mater—go, Gators—Florida boasts a thriving sugar production market today, and that can be traced directly to Moses Elias Levy.

As a civil rights activist, though—that's the contribution that I want to highlight—as America's first Jewish abolitionist author, Levy exemplified not only the American entrepreneurial

spirit, but the Jewish value that we've been talking about here this evening of *tikkun olam*—repairing the world.

He was an early and ardent advocate for public education for both boys and girls—and that also was not common back then. Education was typically more often left for boys, and girls were kind of lucky if they had someone in their lives that encouraged them to get an education and to continue it for any length of time.

So I'm proud to remember Moses Elias Levy's early contributions and dedication to education and gender equality. Interestingly enough, Levy County today is named after this gentleman, as well as David Yulee Levy, who was our first United States Senator in the State of Florida, and who was also an American Jew.

The other thing I want to mention, Mr. Speaker, is it is also not often that Americans are aware of Jewish contributions to our military history. And there is a way that people can get educated about American Jewish contributions to the military history throughout our history of involvement militarily by going and visiting the National Museum of American Jewish Military History, which is in our Nation's Capitol on Dupont Circle. I had an opportunity to host a Jewish American Heritage Month event month there a few years ago, and was really thrilled to learn about the contributions all the way back, Mr. Speaker, to the Revolutionary War.

Jews were not only a part of fighting the Revolutionary War and fighting for freedom in the United States, but also financing and making sure—Haym Solomon was an important figure in ensuring that the Minutemen had the resources under George Washington's leadership to ultimately be able to make sure that we have a country and that we are the beacon of freedom across the world that we are today. That was in no small measures thanks to the contributions of Jews who were pioneers here in America.

Lastly, Mr. Speaker, I want to share some of the really unique and wonderful events that have happened throughout Jewish American Heritage Month, and that we will continue to foster and thrive in and encourage both Jews and non-Jews to celebrate these rich traditions.

Earlier this month, right at the beginning, on May 2, there was a focus and program on "Religion and Politics: When General Grant Expelled the Jews." It's so important. And Jewish community leaders and religious leaders talk so often about the importance of not forgetting about previous persecution so that we can make sure that history doesn't repeat it. Having an opportunity at the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia to hold that lecture so that we are familiar with that history was important.

There was also a program in Miami Beach, "Coming to America: The Jew-

ish Impact and the Jewish Response." We had some unique programming, "The American Jewish Deli—A History," because food is so important to the Jewish way of life all over the world. That was held in New York City at the Park East Synagogue.

Two other important events to highlight were the Jewish American Heritage Month Film Festival, which was held right here in Washington, D.C., in the Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Library Auditorium. And lastly, the program held in Margate, New Jersey, by the Board of Jewish Education highlighting the contributions of Jewish women in America.

As a Jewish woman in America, I am really proud to have been a part of introducing this resolution ensuring that ultimately we were able to honor the contributions of American Jews to our history, but also to make sure that we can help all Americans make it a priority that we promote tolerance, that we reduce anti-Semitism, reduce bigotry, and hopefully, Mr. Speaker, reach out to non-Jews across this country and help them learn a little bit more about a culture that they may be unfamiliar with, about a tradition and a history that might be a little bit foreign to them, so that we can all come together as we're so committed to do in America as one people standing for freedom, standing for tolerance, and standing for justice.

I yield back the balance of my time.

CLEARING THE NAMES OF JOHN BROW AND BROOKS GRUBER

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STIVERS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, this is not the first time I've been on the floor of the House to speak about the V-22 Osprey crash that took place in Arizona in 2000—the crash that claimed the lives of 19 Marines. Mr. Speaker, the pilots of the Osprey, Major Brooks Gruber and Lieutenant Colonel John Brow, have been blamed for the accident by the media.

The reason I'm standing here 12 years later is that the Marine Corps has not supported the finding of their own accident investigation for 12 years. The fact is, the official report, known as the JAGMAN report, conducted by the United States Marine Corps, clearly states that the pilots were not at fault.

On page 77 of the JAGMAN it says: "During this investigation, we found nothing that we would characterize as negligence, deliberate pilot error, or maintenance material failure."

After 12 years, the JAGMAN, which has not been—nor do we want to try to change that report that I just read, Mr. Speaker, but we're asking the United States Marine Corps to make the change that is necessary because after the crash on April 8 of 2000, the United