

voice their experiences and educate policy-makers. Specifically, this bill will create a survivors-led U.S. Advisory Council on Human Trafficking to review federal government policy and programs on human trafficking. This council will advise, formulate assessments and recommendations, and submit reports to the Senior Policy Operating Group and the President's Task Force to Monitor and Combat Trafficking Persons.

Directly hearing and learning from those who fell victim to this heinous crime is the best tool to eliminate human trafficking. Ultimately, this legislation values survivors, beyond just their stories. I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this crucial bill, so that we may finally rid of human trafficking—once and for all.

Mr. Speaker, be it labor or sex trafficking, human trafficking is the worst kind of atrocity. Each day, this scourge continues to endanger, exploit, and enslave lives. Even as we bring further awareness to this crime this month of January, we must sustain the fight each and every day.

#### HONORING ELLIOT FORCHHEIMER

#### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 2015*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, community partners who are truly dedicated to serving the public good are an invaluable asset to any elected official in government. As the Representative of New York's 16th district I have had the pleasure of working with some truly remarkable community leaders, none more remarkable than my dear friend, Westchester Jewish Council Executive Director Elliot Forchheimer.

Raised in Kew Gardens, Queens, Elliot's love affair with Jewish communal life started at the legendary Cejwin Camps, where he was inspired to pursue a career in the Jewish community. He became an Administrator at Camp Ramah and went on to join the Young Israel of Scarsdale, where he was a Youth Director for six years under the mentorship of the late Rabbi Jacob Rubenstein.

In 1996 Elliot joined the UJA-Federation of New York in the Program Services department, serving in a position focused on camps and JCC's. Shortly thereafter he became the very first Director of Westchester Program Services and Agency Relations for UJA-Federation's Westchester Office. After a stint at Synagogue 2000, Elliot returned to UJA-Federation's Commission on Jewish Identity and Renewal, focusing on synagogue relations.

Elliot's greatest professional privilege however has been serving for the last 10 years as the Executive Director of the Westchester Jewish Council. In this role he has steered the proverbial ship at WJC, working with elected officials, community groups, and over 150 Jewish organizations that span the breadth of Jewish expression. Elliot has helped ensure that Westchester remains a bastion of mutual respect and cooperation amongst all community members.

In addition to his phenomenal career achievements, Elliot has created an incredible legacy at home, with his beloved wife, Joan, and their two children, Ilana and Jacob. They are his true pride and joy.

This year, the WJC is honoring Elliot at their 39th Anniversary Gala for all he has done to better the Westchester community. I am honored to be able to congratulate Elliot on this incredible achievement, and I am even more honored to be able to call this incredible community partner my friend.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. BLAISE ALAN DENTE, RECIPIENT OF THE SCRANTON CHAPTER UNICO'S UNICAN OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR 2014

#### HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 2015*

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Blaise Alan Dente, who has been named the 2014 UNICAN of the Year for the Scranton Chapter of UNICO. UNICO is the largest Italian American service and volunteer organization in the United States, and many of my constituents, especially those living in the Wyoming Valley, have come to know Mr. Dente well through the Scranton Chapter.

Mr. Dente is a lifelong resident of Pittston, PA, having graduated from Seton Catholic High School before matriculating to East Stroudsburg University of Pennsylvania. There, he earned a Bachelor of Science in Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism Management; a degree that he has put to commendable use in his ownership and operation of Dente's Catering and Rental.

As a member of the American Culinary Federation (ACF), Mr. Dente obtained his certification as a Certified Chef de Cuisine, and in 2011, was inducted as an "honorary fellow" in the American Academy of Chefs, a prestigious subset within the ACF. Mr. Dente has earned a slew of other esteemed decorations, including medals, ribbons, and certificates for his work in both hot and cold food competitions. He was subsequently named the ACF Chapter Chef of the Year in 2008.

As an active member of the Scranton Chapter of UNICO since 2004, Mr. Dente and his staff host an annual dinner meeting for the chapter's membership. However, his service to the community extends beyond the kitchen. Mr. Dente is a member of both the Wilkes-Barre and Greater Scranton Chambers of Commerce. Additionally, he actively volunteers for the Pittston Tomato Festival Committee and is a Fourth Degree Knight of Columbus Council 372 & Assembly 948. Such diverse and committed involvement certainly contributed to Mr. Dente being named one of the "Top 40 under 40" Business Professionals in 2010.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Mr. Blaise Alan Dente for his proven commitment to bettering the lives of those within the Scranton Chapter of UNICO, as well as the lives of those individuals within my own district. I congratulate him for the distinguished honor in being named the 2014 UNICAN of the Year, and know that he will continue to pursue bright endeavors in the future.

RECOGNIZING THE SEVENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ

#### HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 2015*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, Wednesday marked the seventieth anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz concentration camp on January 27, 1945. An estimated 1.1 million people, mostly of Jewish descent, lost their lives there between 1940–1945.

The seventieth anniversary occurs at a pivotal time. The recent terrorist attacks carried out in France demonstrated that anti-Semitism still exists as the world witnessed the senseless killing of people solely based on their religion. The senseless attacks in France remind us of the dark days of World War II when so many lost their lives because of their religion or ethnicity.

We must never forget the atrocities that occurred at Auschwitz and elsewhere during the Holocaust. The human race must never again let such unspeakable events take place. Racism, prejudice, and anti-Semitism must not be allowed in our societies and must be stopped wherever they occur.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembrance of the lives lost at Auschwitz. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the magnitude of this anniversary and the significance that it plays in our world today.

THE REINTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO AWARD THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO HUMANITARIAN AND SPORTING LEGEND MUHAMMAD ALI

#### HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 2015*

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to reintroduce legislation to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Muhammad Ali in recognition of his contributions to our nation. I believe it is long past time to recognize and honor an American civil rights activist and sporting legend with Congress' highest honor. Over the course of his illustrious career, Muhammad Ali has produced some of our nation's most lasting sports memories. From winning a Gold Medal at the 1960 Summer Olympics to lighting the Olympic torch at the 1996 Summer Olympics, his influence as an athlete and a humanitarian has spanned over fifty years.

Despite having been diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in the 1980s, Ali has devoted his life to charitable organizations. Ali and his wife, Lonnie, are founding directors of the Muhammad Ali Parkinson Center and Movement Disorders Clinic in Phoenix, AZ and have helped raise over \$50 million for Parkinson's research. In addition to helping families cope with illness, Ali has led efforts to provide meals for the hungry and has helped countless organizations such as the Make-A-Wish Foundation and the Special Olympics.

Muhammad Ali's humanitarian efforts go beyond his charitable activities in the United

States. In 1990 Muhammad Ali travelled to the Middle East to seek the release of American and British hostages that were being held as human shields in the first Gulf War. After his intervention, 15 hostages were freed. Thanks to his devotion to diplomatic causes and racial harmony, Ali is the recipient of many accolades, including being chosen as a "U.N. Messenger of Peace" in 1998 and receiving the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2005.

Through his unyielding dedication to his sport and to struggling populations around the world, Muhammad Ali serves as an example of service and self-sacrifice for generations of Americans. The Congressional Gold Medal is a fitting commemoration of his life and work, for which he is deservedly known as "the Greatest."

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing one of our nation's most lasting and influential figures by signing on to this important legislation.

#### HONORING HADASSAH LIEBERMAN

##### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 2015*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, a life dedicated to serving the public good is not only noble, it is inspirational. Hadassah Lieberman's life, spent working on everything from health issues to educational improvement, is one of those tremendous inspirations.

Hadassah's reach and influence has extended from the Riverdale neighborhood all the way out to the international community. Born in the Czech Republic, Hadassah and her family left Eastern Europe in 1949 for Massachusetts. A graduate of Boston University, Hadassah earned a degree in Government and Dramatics and later received a Masters Degree in International Relations and American Government at Northeastern University.

Her studies and interests steered her to a host of organizations dedicated to serving the public good. Currently, Hadassah is on the board of Open University and is a former Global Ambassador with Susan G. Komen for the Cure, the world's largest network of breast cancer survivors and activists. She developed an Advisory Network for Women's Health to promote awareness and prevention of heart disease, and is a former Director of HFL & Associates, a firm dedicated to expanding domestic and international awareness of non-profit organizations.

Hadassah has also dedicated a tremendous amount of time to community service through her work with Meridian House, the Auschwitz Jewish Center Foundation, and the United States Holocaust Memorial Council.

Hadassah's true pride and joy though is her family; her husband, former Senator Joe Lieberman, their four children, and ten grandchildren. Since returning to Riverdale with Joe, Hadassah has experienced the great warmth of the Chabad community, and has had an active role in its growth and promotion. I am proud to not only count Hadassah and Joe as constituents but to also call them friends.

Chabad of Riverdale is honoring Hadassah at this year's celebration dinner. I want to congratulate her on this wonderful honor.

#### HONORING GOVERNOR EDMUND "JERRY" BROWN OF CALIFORNIA

##### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 2015*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues from California to recognize and honor Governor Brown. Governor Brown is the first governor in the history of California to be elected to four terms.

Governor Brown's unprecedented four gubernatorial terms reflect the high level of trust and confidence Californians' have in him to lead our state. Throughout his illustrious three terms in office, Governor Brown has proven to be an effective leader committed to ensuring economic vitality and fiscal responsibility as well as reducing crime, investing in education and protecting our environment.

During his first two terms in office, Governor Brown built a prudent budget surplus and in his recent third term, has carefully balanced the state's budget and established a strong rainy day fund. During his first two terms he enacted multiple pieces of legislation aimed at reducing crime and keeping our streets safe. Also during his first two terms, Governor Brown significantly increased state funding levels for higher education and established educational standards high school students must meet to be eligible to graduate. Governor Brown has long been an advocate for protecting our environment; in fact, during his first two terms California became the first state to establish energy efficiency standards. Governor Brown has continued to build on this legacy in his recent third term by raising our state's clean energy goal. Governor Brown's fourth term promises more positive changes for California, including continued efforts to improve and increase transportation options within our state.

In addition to his service as Governor of California, Governor Brown has served the people of California as Secretary of State and Attorney General. In these roles, Governor Brown worked to protect California's working families and consumers by cracking down on crime, uncovering mortgage fraud and real estate scams, and working to prevent the abuse of campaign laws. Outside of statewide office, Governor Brown served as the Mayor of Oakland, California, where he worked to revitalize the downtown area by attracting new restaurants, businesses, and art galleries. He also worked to improve education opportunities in the city and reduce the rate of serious crime.

Mr. Speaker, Governor Edmund "Jerry" Brown leads our state with integrity and with the best interests of all Californians in mind. Along with my colleagues, I thank him for his years of service and look forward to seeing all that he will accomplish for our state throughout his fourth term.

#### THE CIDER ACT

##### HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 2015*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the CIDER Act, legislation that

will support the growing number of craft and entrepreneurial cider makers across the country. The cider industry has tripled in size since 2007 and there has been tremendous growth in Oregon. As these businesses get off the ground, I am working with them to ensure a strong federal partnership and to break down arbitrary barriers that prevent this industry from realizing its potential.

During the fermentation process, a variety of factors can lead to small changes in the composition of a cider's alcohol content and carbonation. Because of the narrow way that hard cider is currently defined in the tax code, these small variations can lead to cider being taxed at a rate fifteen times higher than what the statute clearly intended. The legislation will better tailor IRS rules to reflect variations in craft ciders. This legislation will update the tax definitions to reflect the growing diversity of the U.S. cider market, better match international rules and strengthen U.S. export opportunities, and broaden the definition to include both pear and apple ciders.

Production nationally has been robust, more than tripling from 9.4 million gallons in 2011 to 32 million gallons in 2013. Cider revenues in the U.S. have been just as impressive, tripling from \$178 million in 2007 to \$601 million in 2012. Providing clear regulations and a tax structure that mirrors the real world for this agricultural product will allow this industry to continue its expansion while making ciders that people want to drink.

Cider making is sometimes closer to an art than a science. As the American apple and pear hard cider industry becomes more prominent on the world stage, and cider becomes a beverage choice for more Americans' developing palettes, we need to ensure that cideries have every opportunity to expand and meet the needs of this growing market without an unfair tax burden.

#### HONORING CHABAD LUBAVITCH OF RIVERDALE

##### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 28, 2015*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, as the Representative of the great 16th Congressional District of New York I have the pleasure and honor of representing many wonderful groups. One of those wonderful organizations, Chabad Lubavitch of Riverdale, is hosting their "Celebrating 23 Years of Kindness" dinner on January 24th, and I couldn't be more thrilled to recognize them on this occasion.

Founded in 1992 under the guidance of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Chabad Lubavitch of Riverdale seeks to strengthen the cultural bonds of Jewish identity through spiritual outreach, adult education, childhood education, daycare, day camps, Sabbath and Festival services and hospital visitation.

As one of 2,700 centers in 70 different countries, Chabad Lubavitch of Riverdale embraces the Chabad Lubavitch philosophy, teaching understanding and recognition of the Creator as a means of reinforcing and nurturing Jewish culture. For the entire Chabad Lubavitch community, refining and governing one's actions through wisdom, comprehension, and knowledge is the true key to a fulfilled life, and it is in this vein that Chabad