

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

Lubavitch of Riverdale has worked to improve the lives of the Jewish population in the community.

As community centers go, Chabad Lubavitch of Riverdale has always shown a great deal of warmth as they embrace the very young to the old and everyone in between that live in the neighborhood.

By utilizing contemporary approaches to traditional values they have gone a long way toward reinvigorating the Jewish community. I want to thank my friend Rabbi Levi Shemtov, the entire leadership team and members of Chabad for all they have done and continue to do for our community. Congratulations again to Chabad Lubavitch of Riverdale on 23 great years of service.

NATIONAL SLAVERY AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION MONTH

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2015

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to mark January as National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

Millions of people are subjected to sex trafficking or forced labor every year.

Each January we take time to recognize the continuing scourge of human trafficking, but it is never easy to accept or believe that this horrible practice still continues in the 21st Century.

And this is not a problem only in far off foreign lands—it is happening right here, in our own country. We know this in the East Bay, which I represent, in which there is a significant problem with human trafficking and sex exploitation.

That is why we are so fortunate to have Alameda County District Attorney Nancy O’Malley fighting back hard against these traffickers and standing up for victims.

Earlier this month Nancy announced her office’s latest public relations campaign to help raise awareness about the tragedy of sex trafficking and make sure victims know how they can obtain help. She even has a special division within her office, called the Human Exploitation and Trafficking (H.E.A.T.) Unit, to fight trafficking.

I want to thank Nancy and everyone in the H.E.A.T. Unit for the work they do to help and protect the women and children of the East Bay. It is this kind of diligence and dedication that will hopefully, one day, bring an end to human trafficking and sexual exploitation once and for all.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LUKE WAGNER ADAMS

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2015

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life and service of Luke Wagner Adams. Luke was a beloved member of the Queens community, who recently passed away at 76 years of age.

A longtime Queens resident, Luke settled in Sunnyside as a young man and quickly became one of the community’s most well-known activists. One of Luke’s enduring legacies was his leadership at the helm of the Gateway Restoration Project, which led to the creation of Sunnyside’s most iconic symbol, the Sunnyside Arch. Luke led the charge on a number of additional projects to improve Sunnyside as a prominent member of the Sunnyside Chamber of Commerce, Sunnyside/Woodside Lions Club, Sunnyside Kiwanis Club, and Sunnyside Artists. In recognition of his long list of accomplishments, the Sunnyside Chamber’s annual ‘Sunnysider of the Year’ award was named in his honor.

Luke will forever be known not only for his love for his community, but also for his generosity and selflessness. Luke’s loyalty to his friends and community was unmatched, and he was willing to go above and beyond for those who asked him for help. Whether it was raising money for the hungry, being the first to welcome a newcomer to the neighborhood, or ensuring that others who joined him in his civic engagement received proper recognition, Luke was the most humble and genuine person one could come across.

Luke was immensely proud of his community, and dedicated his life to making his neighborhood a better place. Mr. Speaker, Luke’s commitment to Queens is, and will continue to be, an inspiration to all of us. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Luke Wagner Adams. May he rest in peace.

HONORING DR. EDMUND FRANCIS LA GAMMA

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2015

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Edmund Francis La Gamma for his receipt of the “Mentor of the Year” Award from the Eastern Society for Pediatric Research in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the care and treatment of our most vulnerable citizens—our newborns.

For almost four decades, Dr. La Gamma has committed himself to improving our understanding of diseases which affect premature babies and advancing their care. He has served as a Professor of Pediatrics, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at New York Medical College and Director of both the Division of Newborn Medicine and the Neonatal-Perinatal Fellowship Program at Maria Fareri Children’s Hospital. In these roles, he has been responsible for the care of infants at over 10 regional affiliate hospitals which span an area the size of the state of Delaware. In that time, he has transformed neonatal intensive care at Westchester Medical Center into one of the state’s most recognized neonatal intensive care units, earning New York’s highest designation of care and national admiration.

In addition, his work as a scientist has contributed greatly to the field of neonatology. Working with some of the most prominent doctors in his field, Dr. La Gamma has expanded our understanding of neonatal development and improved our ability to treat deadly dis-

eases in newborn infants. Moreover, throughout his career he has remained focused on ensuring his research be shared with the scientific community to advance neonatal care, and has published over 150 peer-reviewed research articles, including 25 book chapters. From this work, neonatologists across the country have benefitted from his insights on caring for premature and critically-ill newborns.

As head of one of the largest neonatal fellowship programs in the nation, he has helped shape the future of pediatric and neonatology through his mentorship of students, junior pediatricians, junior neonatologists and academic faculty. He has directly mentored almost 100 fellows in his career, and he has also shared his knowledge in hundreds of invited lectures around the world.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. La Gamma for his lifelong dedication to newborn health, his over 15 years of dedication to neonatal intensive care in my district, New York State, and the nation. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating him for his well-deserved “Mentor of the Year” award, and applaud his tremendous accomplishments.

HONORING ANNE HUTCHINSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 28, 2015

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, protecting the environment and our natural resources are vital, and when a school is committed to furthering those goals it deserves a great deal of praise and admiration. That is why I am proud to acknowledge the Anne Hutchinson Elementary School in Eastchester, New York which has been designated as one of the 2014 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School Honorees.

The prestigious Green Ribbon School program recognizes schools where staff, students, officials and communities have worked together to produce energy efficient, sustainable and healthy school environments and to ensure the environmental literacy of graduates.

The Anne Hutchinson Elementary School was the only New York State School nominated for the Green Ribbons School program during the 2013–2014 school year. The school’s commitments to reducing its overall environmental impact, cut utility costs, and promote awareness by incorporating a wide variety of environmentally conscious practices into learning made it one of only 48 schools across the country to be honored as a Green Ribbon School.

As a senior member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee I am keenly aware of the need to pursue smarter, greener energy practices in order to achieve true energy independence and face the challenges of climate change. Schools like the Anne Hutchinson Elementary School are laying the foundation for a more sustainable future and I am so proud to be able to represent such an environmentally conscious school as a Member of Congress.

Congratulations to the students, faculty and administrators of the Anne Hutchinson Elementary School on receiving this incredible honor and recognition.