

while I might sometimes deviate from his text, he should just keep right on doing what he does.

Matt says he plans to travel, look for opportunities to write, and again take up playing chess, which he learned at the age of four from his father, Al, who was one of America's leading players in the mid-20th century.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN JOSEPH CROWLEY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 31, 2018

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct privilege to honor and recognize the accomplishments of a dear friend, a dedicated public servant, and an overall wonderful human being, my colleague Congressman JOE CROWLEY. This year, the Ancient Order of Hibernians in the Bronx is honoring JOE at their Annual Dinner Dance. They could not have picked a more deserving honoree.

JOE and I go way back, starting with our days together in Albany as Members of the New York State Assembly. A native of Woodside, Queens and lifelong New Yorker, JOE has served the people of the Bronx and Queens in Congress since 1998. Before being elected to Congress, JOE received a bachelor's degree from Queens College, ran a successful small business for nearly a decade and represented the 30th Assembly District in the New York State legislature. Throughout his career in public service, JOE has been driven by a desire to protect New York's middle class.

JOE has always been dedicated to making the Bronx-Queens community more prosperous and secure. He established the Crime Stoppers program in 2002 to support local organizations that are working to reduce crime and improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods, and it has delivered more than \$1 million in federal funding to the Bronx-Queens community for graffiti clean-up, after-school programming, and civic patrol efforts.

As Chairman of the Democratic Caucus, the fourth-highest ranking position in House Democratic Leadership, JOE's efforts in Congress focused on building strong communities, creating jobs, increasing access to health care and housing, protecting seniors' hard-earned benefits, and opening up educational opportunities for working families.

When not fighting for his constituents, JOE can be found spending time with his lovely family—wife Kasey Crowley and their three children—or playing with his band.

Both local and national media have recognized JOE for his effective and impressive record of leadership in Congress. The New York Times has noted that his peers consider him to be a "hard working representative" who is "an impassioned advocate for his district." I couldn't have said it better myself. Come January I will miss JOE's presence in Washington, but I know he will continue to be a powerful force for good in the New York City community. Congratulations to JOE on this honor and a remarkable career.

HONORING THE LINCOLN PARK JEWISH CENTER 80TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 31, 2018

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate one of the great religious institutions in my district, the Lincoln Park Jewish Center located in Yonkers. This year, the Center is celebrating its remarkable 80th Anniversary and I would like to take the opportunity to recognize that feat in Congress.

Lincoln Park Jewish Center is an inclusive, modern Orthodox Jewish congregation that strives to create spiritual growth through prayer, acceptance, community and fellowship. To achieve this goal, the synagogue supports the following: HaMakom Tefilah, a place to increase spirituality with heartfelt prayer by encouraging personal growth through participation, self-reflection, and spontaneity; HaMakom Ahavat Chinam, unconditional love and acceptance, regardless of background or current level of observance; HaMakom Limud Torah, a place to search and study Torah leading to a more fulfilling Jewish life; and HaMakom Simcha, a place to enjoy and celebrate.

The congregation at Lincoln Park Jewish Center is currently led by Rabbi Levi Welton, who was ordained by the prestigious Machon Ariel Institute of Jerusalem in 2005 and has since then served congregations in Australia, San Francisco, and, of course, Yonkers New York. His pastoral experiences include young professional development, inter-faith work, community building and multimedia production. Additionally, Rabbi Welton is the Founder of the Torah Values Network, a staff writer for New York Jewish Life Magazine, and a Captain in the United States Air Force.

The Lincoln Park Jewish Center has provided incredible support to its congregants and the community for 80 years now. Here's to 80 more. Congratulations to Rabbi Welton and the entire Lincoln Park Jewish Center family on this great occasion.

HONORING DR. ANDREA CODDETT

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 31, 2018

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated public servant in the Yonkers community, Dr. Andrea Coddett, who this year has been named "Woman of the Year 2018" by the Luther V. Garrison Sr. Masonic Foundation Inc.

Dr. Coddett is the Deputy Superintendent for the Yonkers Public Schools. In her role, she oversees the Division of Teaching and Learning, ensuring that all curriculum is aligned to the New York State Learning Standards and that all instruction is aligned to 21st Century learning skills, so students are prepared for college and or careers. As the Chairperson of the Yonkers Basics Advisory Board, Dr. Coddett leads a team of approximately 40 volunteer members from various community sectors charged with saturating the community

with five research-based interactive pillars proven effective in redressing cognitive and social-emotional inequities due to poverty.

Dr. Coddett began her career in education as a Special Education teacher after which she became a building-level Math Specialist. In her administrative career, Dr. Coddett has worked as a District Math Specialist PreK–12, an Early Childhood Principal, a K–5 principal, a Director of Secondary Special Education and an Assistant Superintendent for Instruction K–12.

Dr. Coddett is a graduate of Fordham University where she earned a doctorate in Executive Leadership. She holds Masters Degrees in Curriculum and Instruction with a Reading specialization and Educational Administration from Pace University and a Bachelor degree in Psychology from Mercy College. Dr. Coddett also holds administrative certifications in School District Administration and School Building Administration and Supervision, as well as teaching certifications in Special Education, birth through 21, and General Education, N–6. Dr. Coddett continues to influence school transformation and policy decisions by serving on Carnegie Foundation's national Improvement Leadership Education and Development (iLEAD) steering committee with university and school-based educators committed to integrating improvement science principles into leadership development and educational practice.

Having lived in and been educated in four different countries on three different continents, Dr. Coddett considers herself a global citizen. It is her contention that as an educational leader, she is one of the gate-keepers of tomorrow and believes that each and every child deserves an excellent education. As a former classroom teacher myself, I happen to agree wholeheartedly. Dr. Coddett has achieved a great deal and is well deserving of this honor. Congratulations to her on receiving this wonderful recognition.

HONORING CO-OP CITY 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 31, 2018

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the largest co-operative housing development in the nation and a place that holds a particularly meaningful place in my heart, Co-op City in the Bronx. This year, Co-op City celebrates its 50th Anniversary and as such stands as one of the great housing successes in our country's history.

Co-op City is a New York State Mitchell-Lama housing cooperative with apartments in high-rise and townhouse buildings. There are three shopping centers on Co-op City property, 8 parking garages, professional offices and a complete educational park.

Construction of Co-op City began in 1966 on a site that was formerly home to an amusement park at which I used to work as a young man called "Freedomland." Residents began moving into the complex in 1968, and construction was completed in 1973. Co-op City is divided into five sections, with each section denoted by a letter of the alphabet. Co-op City is managed by the Riverbay Corporation and is led by a Board of 15 residents, each elected to three-year terms.

Co-op City is a special place, not just to me, but to the thousands of people who have had the privilege of calling it home over the years. I myself am a former Co-op City resident, and my family and I lived there for many years. I have so many fond memories from my time there; from starting a family to beginning my career in public service, I can trace so many wonderful moments and life-events back to my Co-op City days. I can also trace so many wonderful friendships back to Co-op City, many I still cherish to this day.

As fortunate as I was to have lived in Co-op City, I am just as fortunate to now represent Co-op City in the halls of Congress. I hope that my service can in some way give back to the community that has given me so much.

As a part of the Mitchell-Lama housing program, Co-op City has provided quality housing at an affordable rate to generations of New Yorkers. As we celebrate its 50th Anniversary, it's important to reflect on just how fortunate we are to have such a strong and thriving housing development in the Bronx. I'm proud to say I lived in Co-op City, and I'm just as proud to still serve Co-op City today as Congressman.

Congratulations to the Riverbay Board, the entire Co-op City community, and all the residents who have made the past 50 years in Co-op City a tremendous success

and Eusebio were torn from their children and deported to Mexico.

But over the last sixteen months, we didn't give up. We kept working to reunite Maria with her family—to bring her home.

Finally, after more than a year of work, we were able to secure an H1-B visa for Maria. And this past Sunday, I was honored and overjoyed to join Maria as she was reunited with her children.

But Maria isn't the only mother torn from her children by President Trump's immigration policies.

Also in the news this week was the story of Shaima, whose son Abdullah Hassan has been on life support at Children's Hospital Oakland, in my district.

Abdullah is two years old and suffers from a genetic brain condition. His mother Shaima, who was born in Yemen, has been barred from travelling to the United States to be with her son because of the Trump Administration's un-American Muslim ban.

Abdullah doesn't have much time left—and Shaima feared that she would not be able to say goodbye to her young son.

Mr. Speaker—is this really who we are? A country that denies mothers safe passage to be with their dying children?

No family should ever have to endure this. And in the face of such unimaginable cruelty, I am proud to say that our community stepped up. I want to thank everyone who showed up, who protested and organized and petitioned for this outcome.

Because of your advocacy, the State Department granted a visa waiver to Shaima so she can be with her son. She will be able to be with her son, to hug him and to say goodbye.

But we know that there are many other people like Maria and Shaima who remain separated from their families.

When I went down to the border earlier this year, I saw the prison-like conditions that they were keeping children in.

There were kids sleeping on concrete floor—with only thin emergency blankets to keep them warm.

And to this very day, there are hundreds of children in HHS custody. And Secretary Nielson can't tell us when they will be reunited.

Let's be clear: this isn't an immigration policy. This is a family separation policy.

Children torn from their mothers, parents deported away from their kids. And it's up to Congress to stop it.

It's past time for us to restore—justice, dignity and common sense to this immigration system.

We need to ensure kids who have lived here their entire lives—like Maria's oldest daughter—can make a life in the only country they have ever known.

We need to get this disgraceful, discriminatory travel ban off the books, so no loved one has to experience what Shaima went through.

We need to pass comprehensive immigration reform so that people like Maria and Eusebio can come out of the shadows.

Mr. Speaker—for every case like Maria's or Shaima's there are dozens more left unresolved.

Countless families have been left in limbo, unsure if or when they will ever see their loved ones again.

Not only do we owe it to these families to fix our broken immigration system—we owe it

to the country and the constitution to live up to American values.

HONORING THE COMMUNITY SYNAGOGUE OF RYE

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 31, 2018

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, our houses of worship are often the ties that bind our communities together. In Rye, few institutions have been as successful in strengthening the neighborhood and bringing people together as the Community Synagogue of Rye, which this year is celebrating its remarkable 70th Anniversary.

One Sunday in early autumn 1948, 7-year-old Betty Wolder asked her parents if she could go to church with her friend Susan who was Christian. Her parents explained that since they were Jewish and did not belong to Susan's church, she could not attend. Betty continued to ask questions and her parents wanted to give her better answers. The Wolders contacted the few Jewish people they knew in Rye about forming a Jewish religious school, and a sponsoring group of families. The response was extraordinarily positive, and the rest is history.

A beautiful mansion—built in 1903 at 200 Forest Avenue—was purchased in June of 1950, and Rabbi Samuel H. Gordon, an experienced, widely traveled liberal Rabbi, was hired as the first spiritual leader in 1950. From there, Community Synagogue grew and flourished. The congregation is now around 500 families and over 300 students from Rye, and several communities between Greenwich and White Plains. The synagogue has an ambitious education program for both children and adults, numerous opportunities to become involved in social action, beautiful worship services, and life cycle celebrations. Their enthusiastic and active committees help make the synagogue a dynamic and caring community, and their work has grown beyond the congregation to serve the greater community.

Community Synagogue of Rye has had an amazing 70 years. Congratulations to the leadership and congregation on this occasion.

HONORING RAY O'HANLON

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 31, 2018

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, the importance of a free and open press cannot be overstated, especially in our local communities. I am very fortunate to represent a district that is covered by the Irish Echo, an outstanding local newspaper, which is led by my friend and one of this year's Ancient Order of Hibernians' honorees, Ray O'Hanlon.

As Ranking Member on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, I have had the pleasure of working with Ray for many years on a wide variety of topics, including Irish-American issues which have always been particularly close to my heart.

Ray is the editor of the New York-published Irish Echo. A native of Dublin who worked for

FIXING THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S UN-AMERICAN IMMIGRATION POLICIES

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 31, 2018

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as an elected representative, but also as a mother—a mother who is horrified and outraged by the actions taken by the Trump Administration to deliberately separate families.

Like any mother, I love my children and cannot imagine being separated from them. But because of the Trump Administration's policies, some mothers have no choice.

Just this week, I have been working to reunite two mothers in my community who were prevented from reuniting with their families.

The first story I want to share is of Maria Mendoza-Sanchez. Maria has lived with her family in the East Bay for more than two decades. She and her husband Eusebio raised four beautiful children, worked hard, and purchased a home in Oakland.

Maria went to school while raising small children and went on to become a nurse at Highland Hospital. She was beloved by her patients and her colleagues.

Maria and Eusebio tried to do the right thing. They paid their taxes and came forward to legalize their immigration status. And for years, they were on a path to citizenship.

But like many families, Maria and Eusebio's efforts did not matter to the Trump Administration.

Under President Trump's misguided enforcement priorities, Maria and Eusebio were targeted for deportation.

And last summer—after more than twenty years building a life in our community—Maria