

drug prosecutions and arrests have plummeted.

In comparison, the Republican Congress has provided effective leadership in the war on drugs by providing resources for law enforcement and increased funding for DEA anti-drug initiatives such as combating Caribbean and Southwest border drug trafficking. In addition, we have provided ample funding for the Safe and Drug Free Schools program to establish comprehensive, integrated approaches to drug and violence prevention at our nation's schools.

Eliminating America's drug problem, especially the curse of drug use among our nation's youth, should be one of the federal government's top priorities. I applaud the House's passage yesterday of legislation prohibiting federal funding for needle exchange programs and I hope the Congress will continue to work to eradicate the scourge of drug abuse that continues to eat away at our homes, schools and neighborhoods.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO RON LEHMAN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding individual from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District, Mr. Ron Lehman.

Today, Thursday, April 30, 1998, Mr. Lehman will retire from his position as bailiff for the Sandusky County Court of Common Pleas in Fremont, OH. Ron, a highly regarded and distinguished law enforcement officer, will be retiring after 30 years of exemplary community service to the citizens of Sandusky County.

Thirty years ago, Ron began his career in law enforcement as a Police Officer for the City of Fremont. He later worked as a Deputy with the Sandusky County Sheriff's Department. In 1976, Ron began working as the bailiff for the Honorable Harry Sargeant at the Municipal Court. Three years later, in 1979, Ron continued his service with Judge Sargeant becoming the bailiff for the Court of Common Pleas, where he has served for the past 22 years.

Ron's dedication to law enforcement and to Judge Sargeant and the Court is surpassed only by his unwavering commitment to his family and his friends. To all those who know him, Ron is a wonderful person and a caring and loving husband.

They say that America works because of the unselfish acts of her citizens. No where is that more evident than with the actions and contributions that Ron Lehman has given to his family, his profession, and his community.

Mr. Speaker, I would urge my colleagues to stand and join me in paying special tribute to Ron Lehman on the occasion of his retirement, and in wishing him the very best in the future.

SENSE OF CONGRESS ON 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDING OF MODERN STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it is a special privilege for me today to honor the nation of Israel on its 50th birthday. On May 14, 1948—the fifth day of Iyar, 5708 under the Jewish calendar—after years without a national homeland, the Jewish people established a new country and the historic nation of Israel was reborn. As Israelis celebrate their country's 50th anniversary, the international community is celebrating with them 50 years of independence.

In the 5th Congressional District of Wisconsin, the Milwaukee Jewish Federation, the Hillel Foundation-Milwaukee, the Jewish Community Center, the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Center for Jewish Studies, the Coalition for Jewish Learning, and other organizations have scheduled a series of events to commemorate this occasion. On May 15th, the Consul General of Israel to the Midwest, Tzipora Rimon, will come to Milwaukee to participate in a forum called "Israel at 50! Taking Her Place in the Global Economy." I look forward to participating in that important conference.

As someone with a great interest in Israel, Middle Eastern affairs and world peace, I believe that the political transformations in this region during the past few years have been dramatic. I was deeply saddened when Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin was felled by an assassin's bullet on November 4, 1995. I met with Prime Minister Shimon Peres in February, 1996, during a visit to Israel with the group Milwaukee-Jerusalem 3000. And I listened as his successor Benjamin Netanyahu addressed a joint session of Congress, in July 1996. We have come a long way, despite attempts by extreme factions to harm Israel and the cause of peace in the region.

I would like to quote an excerpt from Israel's "declaration of independence," published 50 years ago as the British mandate over the area drew to an end: "We extend our hand in peace and neighbourliness to all the neighbouring states and their peoples, and invite them to cooperate with the independent Jewish nation for the common good of all."

It is in that spirit, and with that faith, that I will continue to work with the administration to ensure the United States remains firm in its commitment to the security of Israel and to those principles necessary to guarantee the success of the Arab-Israeli peace process.

HIGHER EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to extend the authorization of programs under the Higher

Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes:

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in support of the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. A college education has become a virtual necessity for success, but the rising cost of tuition has put that diploma further and further out of reach for many students.

I am particularly glad that this bill makes more funds available for financial aid programs, and especially Pell Grants, which help open the doors of college to America's neediest students. Increasing the maximum Pell Grant from \$3,000 to \$4,500 may not sound like a lot, but to many students it makes all the difference in the world.

Now that we have authorized more funds for Pell Grants, I encourage my colleagues to work together to support a budget that makes that money available to students who are depending on this financial aid to pay for their college education. It does no good to authorize increases if we do not make the money available to make those increases real.

I am also pleased that we have worked out a compromise that will lower the interest rates on student loans. But I am concerned about the billion dollar pay off we are giving to lending institutions. This money will actually make student loans more profitable for banks than the typical loan portfolio.

We should put that funding toward financial aid programs and helping students—not bankers. But overall, I believe this bill does the right thing in making college accessible to more Americans, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

TRIBUTE TO THE FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP LIONS CLUB ON THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Franklin Township Lions Club which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

Having served as a Lion myself since 1982 in this very club, I am well aware of the important role and contribution that the Lions Club makes in so many communities around our country especially in the Township of Franklin, New Jersey. As the former Mayor of the Township, I can personally attest to the numerous activities and the community involvement of the Lions.

In particular, the Franklin Lions helped to found the Township's Little League, funded the scoreboard at the High School, hosted a Halloween parade, and raised money for the High School seniors to go on to college through scholarships. They have also provided eye glasses, eye exams, hearing tests and a host of other health related screenings to all the members of the community. And it was the Lions who raised the funds for a sensory garden for the handicapped and blind. Their fund raising efforts have also served members of the community in need. In one such instance, the Lions worked tirelessly to help raise the necessary funds to help a young man in the community who was in need of a liver transplant.

I would like to congratulate the Club's current officers, Joseph Bocklage, President and Treasurer, Julius Schwartz, First Vice President, Upendra Chivukula, Second Vice President, John Dutkowski, Secretary, Mario Zanon, Tail Twister/Lion Tamer, Lou Agg and Harold Rosenzweig who act as first year directors, Kevin Hrabinski and Bernie Rubin who serve as second year directors and Brendan Nihill the Membership Chairman. Each of these men and all of the other men and women of the club have selflessly given of their time and resources to serve their community.

As this Congress continues to emphasize the need for service organizations and volunteers to assume a greater role in one Society, it will be organizations like the Lions that year after year continue to bring about positive change. On Saturday night, the Franklin Township Lions Club will hold the 50th anniversary dinner and I would like to extend my best wishes. The people of your community, the people of New Jersey and the people of America thank you for your service.

As America looks toward the 21st century, Lion's Clubs around the nation stand ready and committed, full of energy, creativity and solutions to help us become a better society and solve the problems that face our nation. The Lion's motto, "We serve" is an inspiration to us all because it epitomizes this organization's commitment to their fellow man.

TRIBUTE TO HENRY AND JANET ROSMARIN

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, my colleague Mr. WAXMAN and I rise today to pay tribute to Henry and Janet Rosmarin, who are actively involved with Temple Ner Maarav and the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Project. Their interest in the latter is more than historical; Henry and Janet are survivors themselves.

Henry, born Henryk Rosmarin, and Janet, born Jadzia Jakubowicz, met in her father's apartment in the shtetl of Czeladz in Poland. Henry came to High Holiday services, illegal under the rules of the conquering Nazi powers. Two years later the Gestapo rounded up all the Jews in the village.

As the Nazis closed in, Henry, displaying remarkable bravado and optimism, turned to Janet and said, "When this is all over we should find each other and we should get married and make a life together." She promised to meet him back in the same town when they were free.

A few weeks later they were deported to the death camps. During the war Janet was an inmate at Auschwitz and Birkenau; Henry at Gross-Rosen, Buchenwald and a few others. One of the ways Henry survived was with his harmonica. He entertained his captors in return for his life.

Most of Henry's family and most of Janet's family were murdered in the camps. Despite his grief, Henry kept his promise. He returned to Czeladz and waited for Janet. After several months a young woman came to town and happened to ask a cousin of Henry's what had

become of Henryk Rosmarin. "You must be Jadzia Jakubowicz," was the startled reply.

Fifty years ago, Henry and Janet were married. They raised a family and settled in Southern California. The Rosmarins have somehow retained the values of the shtetl—family and community—while living in an entirely different and more complex world.

We ask our colleagues to join us in honoring Janet and Henry Rosmarin, whose story is testimony to the power of the human spirit. Their will to live is a stirring example for us all.

TRIBUTE TO THE CEA

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a fine organization that represents the teachers of my state, the Connecticut Education Association. 1998 marks the 150th anniversary of the CEA, an advocate of teachers and public education that represents not only the 30,000 teachers in its ranks but the hundreds of thousands of children they instruct.

We in Congress all know the crucial role that teachers play in educating our nation's children. We as legislators and parents count on them to do their job with enthusiasm, vigor, and skill. We value them as important factors in our children's well-being, and we treat them as such.

However, respect for teachers has not always been as high as our beliefs would suggest. For many decades, teacher pay and benefits were lower than in most other occupations. Society did not reward teachers properly for their performance nor were they provided with much needed support.

Organizations such as the CEA have enlightened the public and its legislators about the need to attract and keep excellent teachers, the need to compensate them appropriately for their toils, and the need to provide them with a supportive work environment that helps them do their job at the level we expect. The CEA has worked and is still working to advance the teaching profession and accordingly, advance the children they instruct.

When the CEA was formed in 1848, teachers in Connecticut's small towns, many of which are in my district, were typically versatile young women who made education come alive from bland textbooks. They taught in one-room schoolhouses in which all of the town's children attended, they formulated lesson plans for each child, catering to individual needs.

The CEA came about as a means of helping teachers with their tasks. As Connecticut grew and modernized, the CEA took action to improve teacher's pay and establish teaching as a profession. Salaries rose, benefits grew, and the requirements that were placed on teachers were expanded. Because of these hard fought efforts, the quality of instruction in our classrooms has increased. Today's teachers benefit from predecessors who sacrificed pay and time so that our children would benefit from high-quality teachers and a high-quality environment.

Today's public school teachers are just as versatile as their 19th century counterparts. A

typical Connecticut teacher today must deal with as many as 150 or more students in one day, students from a variety of backgrounds, from a variety of family structures, with a variety of interests, and deal with a variety of pressures. Despite the enormity of their task, teachers regularly deliver. The CEA serves as their partner in their efforts, providing services and assistance to its members.

I commend the CEA on its proud history and congratulate it on the milestone it has reached. Connecticut, and the nation, is undoubtedly better off because of the CEA.

TRIBUTE TO BELLEFONTE AREA HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JOHN E. PETERSON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the accomplishments of a dedicated group of young people who worked together to achieve something no one in the Bellefonte Area High School has ever done. I wish to pay tribute to students and their faculty advisors who participated in the Central District History Day Project Competition. They won first and third places in the Senior's Group Project Division.

This year's History Day Project theme was Migration. First place went to Kamal Aboul-Hosn, Justin Miller, and Ben Spicer for their project entitled "Communism: Rise, Reign & Fall." Third place went to Stacey Waksmonski, Jessica Rhoads, Jessica Benson, Jeremy Acker, and Daria Cramer for their project entitled "Women of the West—Travels and Changes."

Today's youth are our leaders of tomorrow. They will become some of the very best leaders because of examples like the faculty members of the Bellefonte Area High School. Faculty advisors Ed Fitzgerald, Martha Nastase, and Tricia Steckel are to be especially commended for their encouraging efforts which led to the above awards. When we hear about the poor state of education or educators in our country, we need to think about success stories such as these. Hard work and commitment will achieve much as these students and faculty members demonstrate.

I extend my warmest congratulations and best wishes to these Bellefonte Area High School students as they compete in the State Championship Competition at State College on May 13–14. Their enthusiasm for this project and desire to share history is commendable and should be encouraged by all.

HIGHER EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to extend the authorization of programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes: