where she raised her family. She is the proud mother two children, a daughter, Stacey, and a son, Richard. Her favorite pursuits include collecting miniature elephants, solving crossword puzzles, and playing bingo.

For well over thirty years, Mattie has served the residents of Paterson as an employee of the Post Office. Her commitment to public service is combined with a sincere interest in private enterprise. In Keeping with this interest, Mattie works part-time as a real estate agent for Shriver Realty of Paterson.

In addition to her professional and familial responsibilities, Mattie is also actively engaged in a number of religious and service-oriented organizations. A faithful member of the Grace Chapel Baptist Church, she serves the congregation as the President of the Senior Usher Ministry. Mattie is also a participant in the Hospitality and Pastor Aide Ministries. She is also a member and the financial secretary of the Passaic County African American Woman organization. She is also member of Chapter 22 of the Matron Star of Bethlehem, the Order of the Eastern Star, and the Royal Matron of Lady Love, Chapter #7.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join me, our colleagues, the people of Paterson, and Mattie's family and friends as we honor her for here extraordinary contributions to the community.

CONGRATULATIONS SOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 1998

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, schools provide a foundation for both learning and growing. For three quarters of a century South Middle School has been able to provide students with a rigorous academic curriculum that is essential to prepare students for the future. Since the opening of South Middle School in 1922 there has been a strong emphasis placed on academic excellence, involvement in school co-curricular and athletic activities, and self-discipline and pride in taking responsibility for the development of each student reaching their academic height. I rise today to pay tribute to South Middle School, who ceremoniously celebrated its seventy-fifth anniversary on Thursday, February 26, 1998.

Since its opening, South Middle School has provided the student body with elective classes and organizations that cater to even some of the most diverse interests. Even in the early days students were encouraged to join clubs, organizations, play sports and even become hall monitors. Today the students still have many opportunities to participate in school social functions and have even undergone recent changes that help move the school forward. These changes have included the universal use of school ID cards, and the introduction of such classes as technical education and computers.

Each year 800 to 1,200 students attend South Middle School, which is dedicated to providing its students with a racially diverse urban environment. Six times a year 200 of the school's white, black, hispanic and disabled male and female students will attend a dance at the school. It is activities such as these that provide students from all different backgrounds with the chance to enjoy each other's company in such a positive setting.

The community has played a crucial part in making South Middle School an academic success and continues to take an active role in providing success for the future. The South Middle School staff is on a mission to provide comprehensive education to all students. The staff provides for the students' social, emotional, physical and intellectual needs, as well as their interests and special talents. Success is monitored through input and feedback from students, parents and the staff of the high schools they will eventually attend.

Mr. Speaker, the South Middle School has been an academic success as well as a strong foundation for both the students and the community. I encourage you and our colleagues to join me in recognizing the incredible contributions to the community and in congratulating them on 75 magnificent years of success, commitment and dedication.

TRIBUTE TO BERNADETTE PLOTNIKOFF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 1998

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bernadette Plotnikoff, a dedicated community leader who is being honored as an inductee into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

Bernadette Plotnikoff began her career in education as a teacher at Carlmont High School in 1953. She has devoted herself professionally and in all her volunteer activities to educating children and teaching the community about child abuse and neglect. Through her work on county commissions and task forces, she has helped make San Mateo County a leader on issues affecting children. Ms. Plotnikoff has created several programs to benefit children, including the Male Adolescent Awareness Program to help sexually abused boys overcome the trauma associated with abuse.

Mr. Speaker, Bernadette Plotnikoff is an outstanding citizen and I salute her for her remarkable contributions and commitment to our community. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and congratulating her on being inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

TRIBUTE TO SANDRA WHYTE

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 1998

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the accomplishments of my constituent, Ms. Sandra Whyte of Saugus, Massachusetts. She was a member of the Women's Olympic Hockey Team that captured the gold medal at the XVIII Olympic games in Nagano, Japan. Not only was she a member of a victorious team, but she will also go down in history as a member of the first United States Women's Hockey Team ever to compete at the Winter games.

Sandra was a member of the team, and a prominent one at that. At her forward position she scored two goals and acquired numerous assists during the course of the Olympics; these helped carry the team to the gold medal against Canada. Her playing ability as well as her sportsmanship throughout the games should be commended. Mr. Speaker, Massachusetts' Sixth District is proud to honor Sandra in her pursuits of excellence and in her representation not only of the district, but of the United States as well.

TRIBUTE TO FRANK LEONE

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 1998

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to introduce you to Mr. Frank Leone. On March 31, 1998, Frank will be honored as the Distinguished Citizen of the Year by the Passaic Valley Council Boy Scouts of America.

Frank was born and raised in the Fort Apache section of the Bronx, New York. After graduating from James Monroe High School in 1945, Frank joined the United States Navy. During the Second World War, he served with distinction aboard the aircraft carrier, USS Keersage. When Frank returned home, he studied electronic engineering at Farleigh Dickinson University and the Stevens Institute of Technology.

Upon graduation, Frank moved from New York to his current home in Oakland, New Jersey. It is there that Frank and his wife, Ellen, have raised their three children. Making use of his education, he began a brilliant career in the private sector, specializing in electronic engineering and sales. During this time, Frank was able to glean valuable business insight through his interactions with companies such as Allen and Dumont Labs, Curtiss Wright, and the Walter Kidde & Company. Characteristically, Frank used his knowledge to help the residents of Oakland. For twelve years, beginning in the late 1960s, Frank was President of the Oakland Chamber of Commerce, where he fostered a positive environment for the local business community.

In 1963, Frank began his auspicious career in public service when he was elected to serve on the Oakland Borough Council. After leaving the Council in 1965, Frank became the Acting Postmaster of the United States Post Office in Oakland. In June 1967, he received an official appointment to the post from President Lyndon B. Johnson.

In addition to his duties as Postmaster, Frank's reaffirmed his commitment to the people of Oakland by serving as the Civil Defense Director and the head of the Oakland Office of Emergency Management for twelve years. During the 1984 flood of the Ramapo River, Frank coordinated the relief effort in the Oakland area and toured the affected areas with Governor Thomas Kean.

Frank belongs to an extensive array of professional and service oriented organizations. In the past, Frank has held a number of important posts in these groups, including terms as the Vice President, the Legislative Chairman, and a National Presidential Aide for the National Association of Postmasters. Currently, he is the State Vice President and