

oncology nurses see the pain and suffering caused by cancer and understand the physical, emotional, and financial challenges that people with cancer face throughout their diagnosis and treatment.

Over the last ten years, the setting where treatment for cancer is provided has changed dramatically. An estimated 80 percent of all cancer patients receive care in community settings, including cancer centers, physicians' offices, and hospital outpatient departments. Treatment regimens are as complex, if not more so, than regimens given in the inpatient setting a few short years ago. Oncology nurses are involved in the care of a cancer patient from the beginning through the end of treatment, and they are the front-line providers of care by administering chemotherapy, managing patient therapies and side-effects, working with insurance companies to ensure that patients receive the appropriate treatment, provide counseling to patients and family members, in addition to many other daily acts on behalf of cancer patients. I thank all oncology nurses for their dedication to our nation's cancer patients, and commend the Oncology Nursing Society for all of its efforts and leadership over the last 30 years. They have contributed immensely to the quality and accessibility of care for all cancer patients and their families, and I urge my colleagues to support them in their important endeavors.

HONORING JULIAN BURNSIDE—A
TRUE HERO

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Julian Burnside, a friend and fellow veteran whose long and distinguished life recently came to an end.

Julian was an extraordinary man. Born in Tampa, he worked for the city as well as for Tampa Electric Company. Later in life he worked as a safety engineer for Underwriter's Laboratories. Julian was active in the community, volunteering his time and expertise to charitable and civic causes, especially during his busy retirement. He founded a Republican Club in my congressional district back when being a Florida Republican was unusual. He was a loyal Republican who held fast to his conservative principles, though he did so amiably and without disparaging those who held differing opinions.

Julian also was a distinguished and decorated Army veteran of the Second World War. He fought in the Battle of the Bulge, where inexperienced and battle-weary American soldiers stopped German troops from breaching their lines and splitting Allied Forces. British Prime Minister Winston Churchill called it "undoubtedly the greatest American battle of the war," which thwarted Hitler's last attempt to stop surging Allied fortunes. Julian justifiably was proud that some believed it was the greatest battle in American military history, a battle in which he was injured and earned the Purple Heart.

Julian also endured a seven-month stay as a prisoner-of-war in Dresden, Germany, a time during which he lost 60 pounds from near starvation. He credited thoughts of his wife,

and of the desire to again eat pork chops, for helping him get through those tough times. "I could see those pork chops frying in a pan," he once said in his typical lighthearted way.

Mr. Speaker, I was blessed to know Julian Burnside for so many years and benefit from his friendship, humor, and kindness. I will miss him as will everyone whose lives he touched.

COMMON SENSE AUTOMOBILE
EFFICIENCY ACT OF 2005

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that provides credit for the purchase of new qualified fuel cell, hybrid, or other alternative fuel motor vehicle.

The Common Sense Automobile Efficiency Act of 2005 encourages consumers to purchase environmentally friendly vehicles that will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions while simultaneously reducing our country's oil dependence. It repeals the phase-out of the Qualified Electric Vehicles Credit and Deduction for Clean fuel-Vehicles so that 100% of the credit can be claimed through 2009. Consumers would receive a tax credit of up to \$1,000 for hybrid gas-electric powered vehicles and \$4,000—for fuel-cell vehicles.

Making our environment cleaner and reducing our dependence on foreign oil requires the participation of all stakeholders, including both consumers and manufacturers.

Cars, SUVs and other light trucks consume millions of barrels of oil every day and emit harmful amounts of carbon dioxide, a principal greenhouse gas. Passenger vehicles alone account for one-fifth of all U.S. carbon dioxide emissions. With significant fuel economy and low tailpipe emissions, alternative-fuel and advanced-technology vehicles help to reduce the environmental impact of driving an automobile. Getting more miles out of a gallon of gas means lessening our dangerous reliance on oil, lowering levels of key air pollutants, and saving consumers money at the gas pumps.

All Americans need a choice in buying cars that can increase their fuel-efficiency. While the average fuel economy of vehicles on the road is at a twenty-one year low, gasoline prices continue to strain business and family budgets. Americans now spend more than \$500 million per day to fuel their cars and light trucks. Families deserve a more affordable way to get to work, school, vacation, home or any destination on the road. Businesses that rely on vehicles to function need the cost-efficiency of driving hybrid vehicles.

Although major automakers currently offer advanced technology and alternative fuel vehicles and plan to produce a full range of fuel-efficient options, including SUVs, minivans, and pickup trucks, the cleanest vehicles available to the public should be more economical.

The tax incentives provided by this bill would not only save consumers money—but spur market demand for more fuel-efficient vehicles. As people around the country embrace cleaner, more efficient cars, American automobile manufacturers must continue to improve fuel efficiency in order not to lose market share and jobs. This bill would help automakers invest in the production of alternative

fuel motor vehicles—and accelerate the introduction of newer models into the marketplace.

The Common Sense Automobile Efficiency Act of 2005 provides a win-win situation for consumers, the economy, and the environment. It offers valuable incentives for the purchase and production of alternative vehicles and fuels—and enables consumers to help limit fuel consumption, reduce our dependence on foreign oil, and protect our air quality.

TRIBUTE TO CONGREGATION BETH
AM ON THE OCCASION OF THE
FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS
FOUNDING

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Congregation Beth Am as it celebrates its 50th anniversary. Since its founding in 1955, this Reform Jewish Synagogue has been a leader in social action and community welfare in the Bay Area, and has embodied the Jewish community's longstanding involvement in religious and public life. Since its beginnings with 100 families represented at its first meeting, the congregation has grown to nearly 1,400 families from the mid-Peninsula area who gather at Beth Am to worship, to study, to lead and to strengthen both the Jewish community and the Bay Area community as a whole.

When Congregation Beth Am was founded, the population of the San Francisco Peninsula was booming. Beth Am filled a need for a new Reform Synagogue and it grew accordingly after its establishment. The first formal meeting, which was held in March of 1955, was attended by 300 people representing 100 families. A year later, the congregation grew to 250 families. Registration at the religious school, which also opened in March of 1955, jumped from 100 children at its founding to 340 children only 2 years later. Beth Am first met in the First Methodist Church and Unitarian Church for Shabbat and High Holy Day services. Today, members congregate in a beautiful synagogue in Los Altos Hills.

As Beth Am's congregation has grown, so has its involvement with the communities on the Peninsula. Members have volunteered their time and resources to a variety of causes throughout the area, including the Ecumenical Hunger Program, the Urban Ministry of Palo Alto, and Opportunities Industrialization Center West. The congregation's Social Action Committee notes that "We, as Jews, are commanded to pursue Justice, and to participate in Tikkun Olam, or Repairing the World." The congregation's website has a "Tikkunometer" that counts the number of hours the congregation has pledged to community service. Fueled by this sense of responsibility to the community and dedication to service, Congregation Beth Am has improved our community and the lives of those around them.

None of this would be possible without the outstanding leadership that Congregation Beth Am has been blessed with since its founding 50 years ago. Rabbi Irving A. Mandel was Beth Am's first Rabbi. He was followed by Rabbi Sidney Akselrad in 1962, who for 24 years imbued Beth Am with a social-action

consciousness by participating in a variety of interfaith endeavors, spreading understanding of Jewish heritage, and fighting to break down racial barriers in the United States. Rabbi Akselrad served as President of the Northern California Board of Rabbis, the Western Association of Reform Rabbis, and the Palo Alto Ministerial Association. When he became Rabbi Emeritus in 1987, Rabbi Richard A. Block took on his role as Senior Rabbi. For 12 years, Rabbi Block led the congregation, initiating a process of educational innovation he dubbed "life-long learning," which inspired a national partnership, the "Experiment in Congregational Education." His successor, Rabbi Janet Ross Marder, has been leading Beth Am since she became Senior Rabbi in 1999. She served as the first woman President of the Pacific Association of Reform Rabbis, and the first woman President of the Central Conference of American Rabbis. She's married to Rabbi Sheldon Marder of the Jewish Home in San Francisco, and together they are raising 2 daughters, Betsy and Rachel.

Mr. Speaker, I'm exceedingly proud to honor Congregation Beth Am as it celebrates its 50th anniversary. For a half century it's been a center of worship and service and it has truly lived up to its name, Beth Am, which translates from Hebrew to "House of the People." Beth Am is a source of pride to everyone in our Congressional District and will continue to be a pillar of our community for decades to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROGER F. WICKER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. WICKER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 90, the vote to suspend the rules and pass S. 686, a bill for the relief of the parents of Theresa Marie Schiavo, I was unavoidably absent. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

TENNESSEE CRIMINAL JUSTICE LANGUAGE ACADEMY

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of individuals in Tennessee who are providing a much needed training program for the law enforcement community. Columbia State Community College under the direction of its President, Dr. Rebecca Hawkins, in partnership with the Governor's Highway Safety Office directed by the distinguished Charles Taylor, along with countless others have worked together to institute a Spanish Language Training program for police officers.

These two organizations have joined in the development of the Tennessee Criminal Justice Language Academy. The Academy is housed at Columbia State Community College and provides Spanish language training for police officers in Tennessee. The program is funded through a grant from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

As you know, Mr. Speaker, the Hispanic population is surging across our nation. A large number of Latino and Hispanic individuals have made their way into Tennessee. Both urban and rural communities in Tennessee have seen a great influx of people with Hispanic origin. This causes new demands on the social institutions of our state and it has created a major need in the law enforcement community. Law enforcement officers must be able to communicate with the citizens in their communities or they will not be effective in carrying out their duties. In large cities, police departments sometimes have officers who can speak the diverse languages of the citizens, but this is not the case in most areas of Tennessee due to the rural composition of our state. Most law enforcement in Tennessee are English speaking only, which causes many disadvantages for both the officers and the Hispanic citizens in the community.

Verbal communication is crucial for police officers in traffic stop situations. The officer and driver must have a common understanding and way to communicate. If not, a barrier develops leaving both the officer and the Hispanic citizen with few options to resolve the issue. Officer safety becomes a problem in these type cases as well.

In traffic stops where the driver is suspect of being impaired, it is extremely important for the officer to be able to communicate with the individual. The commands for the NHTSA approved Standardized Field Sobriety Test (SFST) must be given by the officer and understood by the suspect to be effective. If the officer cannot speak and understand Spanish and the suspect cannot speak and understand English then the SFST is not effective in assisting the officer in making the decision to arrest or not. This leaves two scenarios: the officer allows the impaired driver to leave without arrest, or an innocent driver is arrested. The breach of communication causes both actions.

Tennessee has not overlooked these problems. The Hispanic population is already in our communities, and we have started providing training to law enforcement agencies so that a bridge of communication can be built. The Spanish for Law Enforcement Program has trained over 1000 officers thus far. This joint program by the Tennessee Governor's Highway Safety Office and Columbia State Community College serves as a model for other states that are experiencing the same need. Simply put, this program provides officers in Tennessee with a necessary new tool to better serve their communities.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF FRED AND ROSEMARIE GORTLER

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to draw attention to the 50th wedding anniversary of Fred and Rosemarie Gortler of Fredericksburg, Virginia. I first became acquainted with the Gortlers during Fred's two decades of serving here as a Democratic floor assistant in the House of Representatives and it is an honor to celebrate this loving couple's marital milestone.

Fifty-one years ago, Fred Gortler and Rosemarie Battista met on a blind date in their hometown of Staten Island, New York, while Fred was home on leave from the Navy. At the time, Rosemarie was a nursing student at St. Mary's Hospital in Brooklyn, New York. They were engaged only four months later and were married on May 14, 1955.

The couple remained in Staten Island for over 20 years before moving to their current home in Fredericksburg in 1977. Both Fred and Rosemarie have committed their careers to serving the public and their communities. Fred worked for 21 years in the New York City police force, in positions ranging from administrative to mounted police officer in Central Park. Shortly after relocating to Fredericksburg, he began his service in the U.S. House of Representatives where he stayed for over 20 years.

Rosemarie was a practicing nurse at Saint Vincent's Hospital in Staten Island where she was also a member of the faculty, teaching psychiatric nursing. She returned to school to obtain her Masters in Counseling and currently works as a private counselor, specializing in individual, family, and substance abuse counseling. She has also co-authored several children's books including Little Acts of Grace, Just Like Mary, and A Very Scary Time, written numerous newspaper and magazine articles, and contributed regularly to a mental health column in a local newspaper, titled Minding the Mind.

The couple has been blessed with five children and 18 grandchildren, the newest addition to the family coming all the way from China. The Gortler family extends out from Virginia to Connecticut, Illinois, and Florida.

The couple's 50 years of dedication to each other reflects that of their own parents, as both Fred and Rosemarie's parents also enjoyed 50 years of marriage. In late April, the couple will be joined by many friends and family at the Chapel and the Officers' Club in Fort Belvoir, Virginia to toast their half-century of marriage. Their children and grandchildren will be proudly hosting the couple's anniversary celebration, where Fred and Rosemarie will renew their wedding vows. The celebration is being held early due to grandparent obligations—six grandchildren in three different states will be graduating in May.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring and celebrating 50 years of marriage between Fred and Rosemarie Gortler, a union built on devotion and love for family. I have had the privilege of knowing this loving couple for many years, and have witnessed the strong sense of family values, self-sacrifice, and commitment to public service that defined their lives together. It is with great joy that I extend my congratulations to Fred and Rosemarie Gortler and their beloved family, and I wish them many more years of wedded happiness.

HONORING SCOTT TOWNSLEY CHASE

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, they say the sinew of our representative democracy is its citizens.