

CONGRATULATING ABINGTON  
MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

**HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 15, 2010*

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Abington Memorial Hospital for winning the Keystone Alliance for Performance Excellence, KAPE, 2010 award. As the first recipient of this state-wide honor, Abington Memorial Hospital is being recognized for an ongoing commitment to quality and excellence that makes it a leader among the area's hospitals. I am honored to represent Abington Memorial Hospital in Congress.

Abington Memorial Hospital has provided comprehensive, high-quality services to residents of Montgomery, Bucks, and Philadelphia Counties for more than 90 years. A not-for-profit hospital, Abington Memorial Hospital has a staff of more than 900 physicians including primary care, medical, and surgical specialties. Abington Memorial Hospital has the only Level-2 trauma center in Montgomery County and is a major regional referral center for cancer care, cardiac care, and surgery.

Recognition for its outstanding workplace environment and high quality of care is not new to Abington Memorial Hospital. In 2008, Abington Memorial Hospital was awarded the Magnet Prize, one of the most prestigious awards in the nursing field, and has also been accredited, approved or licensed by more than 15 state and nationwide organizations.

Applicants from both small and large organizations across Pennsylvania, from all sectors including education, health care, manufacturing, government and non-profit organizations were able to apply for the 2010 KAPE award. Applicants were evaluated by an independent board in the areas of leadership, strategic planning, customer focus, measurement, analysis and knowledge management, work-force focus, process management, and results. Abington Memorial Hospital's excellence in all of these categories made it a clear winner for the 2010 KAPE award.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me as I congratulate Abington Memorial Hospital for winning this prestigious award and applaud the hospital for more than 90 years of excellent care.

HONORING SENATOR SUSAN  
TUCKER

**HON. NIKI TSONGAS**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 15, 2010*

Ms. TSONGAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Senator Susan Tucker from the Fifth District of Massachusetts for her exemplary service to the citizens of the City of Lawrence and the towns of Andover, Dracut, and Tewksbury as a Massachusetts State Representative and Senator.

Senator Tucker was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 1982

and to the Massachusetts Senate in 1992. While in the Senate, she served as Chair of the Joint Committee on Housing, Vice-Chair of the Joint Committee on Telecommunication, and as member of the Committees on Education, Ways and Means, Economic Development and Emerging Technologies, Financial Services and Revenue.

Senator Tucker has exhibited a lifelong commitment to advocacy and community service, and earned a reputation as an innovative and responsive leader. Known for her willingness to take on any challenge, she worked tirelessly to eliminate auto insurance fraud and address the foreclosure crisis in Massachusetts. Senator Tucker has received numerous leadership awards from state-wide groups recognizing her contributions to the betterment of life for citizens of the Commonwealth. In 2008, she was awarded the Pioneer Institute's Better Government Award for taking on auto insurance fraud, and in 2009 she was named Legislator of the Year by the Massachusetts Association for Families for her dedication to improving the lives of foster and adopted children.

Senator Tucker and her husband, Mike, reside in Andover and have two grown sons, as well as the loves of her life, granddaughters, Secoya and Autumn.

Upon her retirement, I wish to thank her for her friendship, recognize her for her inspiring leadership in the Massachusetts Senate, and congratulate her for her distinguished career.

IN HONOR OF EDWIN AND ALMA  
LAKIN

**HON. JOE SESTAK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 15, 2010*

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, today, it is my honor to recognize Edwin and Alma Lakin for their outstanding work to support Holocaust and genocide education initiatives, locally and nationally, through the Pennsylvania Holocaust Education Council.

This remarkable couple's consistent advocacy for a Holocaust Library and Resource Center at Albright College, as well as their fundraising efforts on behalf of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, the Lakin Early Education Center, the Jewish Federation of Reading, and innumerable humanitarian projects worldwide, reflects their commitment to remembering mankind's darkest hour. If we do not, we may allow these unspeakable horrors to be repeated.

In the words of Nobel Peace Prize Winner Elie Wiesel, "Mankind must remember that peace is not God's gift to his creatures; peace is our gift to each other." The Lakins' perseverance in honoring the victims of the Holocaust and their exemplary efforts to bring out the best in us all is essential to achieving that peace.

I join good people everywhere in commending Edwin and Alma's vigilance against hatred and tyranny. We should all be so strong.

HONORING DR. LUKE TORIAN'S  
15TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY  
WITH FIRST MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 15, 2010*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Dr. Luke Torian's 15th Pastoral Anniversary with First Mount Zion Baptist Church of Prince William County. As Pastor, Dr. Torian has served not only the congregation of First Mt. Zion but also the community. For three years he served on the Action in Community Through Service of Prince William County Board of Directors, and he is currently a member of the Prince William County Ministerial Association. Additionally, in 2004 Governor Mark Warner appointed Dr. Torian to the Virginia Board of Counseling.

Since 1995, Dr. Torian has helped First Mt. Zion expand from 650 members to a congregation of almost 3,500 members. This growth has led to the development of a new public facility and sanctuary, from which nearly 70 different ministries and community service programs operate. In addition, Dr. Torian has worked with the Virginians Organized for Interfaith Community Engagement, VOICE, an organization that seeks to energize local communities to fight for important social change such as expanding affordable housing.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Pastor Luke Torian and the First Mount Zion Baptist Church congregation as they celebrate this important milestone and plan for a successful future.

A TRIBUTE TO VIRGINIA HAWKINS

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 15, 2010*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Virginia Hawkins.

Virginia Hawkins was born on August 29, 1908 in Stanton, Virginia. She came to New York in 1930. She has always been committed to the community's needs and has dedicated herself to helping others, and has heard the call from God to serve her church and community.

She has been a member of the Newman Memorial United Methodist Church under the pastorate of Reverend O.W. Jones for 57 years.

Ms. Hawkins has served as a member of the MacDonough Street Block Association since its inception. She was the first to sign up as a block watcher, and has always demonstrated concern about the safety and unity of her neighbors.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions of Virginia Hawkins.