

our children. We are focused on teaching responsible communication skills that fosters excellence in self-expression and community involvement." The school has developed a rigorous curriculum consisting of a balance between college preparatory classes and voluntary community outreach. By providing such an academically rich, faith filled learning environment, Blessed Sacrament Catholic School has shaped its students into successful business owners, film producers, community leaders and philanthropists.

While upholding strong academic excellence, Blessed Sacrament Catholic School truly reflects the rich diversity of Los Angeles. Currently the school exceeds the state's average private school diversity rate, with students coming from a multitude of backgrounds. The school's success not be possible without a highly dedicated faculty, staff and administration who selflessly invest their time into productively influencing each student.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring Blessed Sacrament Catholic School upon the celebration of its 100th year of educating children in the Jesuit tradition and bettering the Hollywood community.

#### CELEBRATING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ

**HON. E. SCOTT RIGELL**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 13, 2015*

Mr. RIGELL. Mr. Speaker, celebrating the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz—forever a symbol of human evil and depravity—and the end of WWII, history's bloodiest war claiming 50 million lives, along with celebrating the 67th anniversary of the State of Israel reborn in its wake, we are duty-bound to remember these milestones that humanity may yet be free from threats to its very survival.

As a son of Polish Holocaust survivors who spent his early childhood in Kazakhstan, Poland, Austria and Germany, I wrote the following poem, "So unpredictably, in a humble corner/Of the Displaced Persons Camps/Exhibit in Richmond's Virginia Holocaust/Museum, a family's trying past at/Last has come to rest./Guarded on a consecrated wall./Inviting home, allowing unreservedly to/Shed a flowing tear; among the/Remnant of a people deemed expendable/It finds acceptance that only/Those touched by common loss/Provide, for they have shared/The fire and the pain."

We cherish the victims, survivors and liberators. The majority of the Holocaust survivors have lived in Israel where I grew up beginning in 1949, and those still alive along with their descendants and all Israelis, Jews and Arabs, are vulnerable given Iran's genocidal agenda begrudging Jewish survival and the one and only Jewish state. Iran's agents of terror are active on Israel's south and north borders. I travelled this past January on a Leadership Mission of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (Reform), witnessing firsthand Israel's unique security concerns. We visited Moshav Netiv Ha'asarah on Gaza's border that was hit during the recent 50-day Gaza War and saw an opening of a tunnel dug from Gaza. Israel's resilient people have

been terrorized by Hamas' rockets and shells far too long. From Mt. Bental on the Golan Heights at a UN observation post, we gazed on a cold and foggy day at ominous Syria, aware that Hezbollah there and in nearby Lebanon possesses 150,000 rockets at Iran's command.

Shiite Iran's drive for a nuclear capability is an overriding goal for its dictatorial clerics whose menacing tentacles pose unacceptable risk not only to Israel, alarming enough, but also to the entire Sunni Arab world whose domination it seeks. Israel's incredible and unshakable bond (so should it remain!) of mutual benefit and common vision with the United States whom Iran calls the "Great Satan," further makes Israel, the "Little Satan," a target for a repressive regime finding the West's progressive democracy anathema. While ISIS (The Islamic State) continues planting death and destruction in a widening range of global aspirations, with brazen barbarism of medieval darkness challenging civilization's norms. Brutal President Assad's genocidal assaults on his own Syrian people have so tragically passed the fourth year mark, with over 200,000 dead, thousands tortured in prisons, 3.9 million refugees mostly in Turkey, Lebanon and Jordan, and 7.6 million displaced within Syria, with the international community shamefully watching a catastrophe of a profusely bleeding wound infecting an entire region and beyond.

Israel, treating wounded and willing Syrians and ever present when disaster strikes anywhere, is the only source of stability and modernity in that troubled part of the world, and in its recent democratic elections Israeli Arabs freely participated (a right denied in the neighboring Arab States) winning the third largest bloc in the Knesset. The arduous search for peace with the Palestinians, who are yet to recognize Israel as the Jewish state it is, remains a steadfast goal in spite of Hamas' avowed aim to fight Israel, and its alliance with the Palestinian Authority. Israel struggles to address its socioeconomic gap and the Jewish pluralism issue, recognizing its astonishing and leading accomplishments testimony to being heir to the great Jewish legacy enriching the human family. The misguided BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions) movement only serves to weaken Israel and the prospects for peace that only a strong Israel can conclude, being the world's only democracy whose very existence and identity are questioned. A growing anti-Semitism in Europe, scene of the unfathomable Holocaust, with murderous acts in Belgium, France and Denmark, threatens Europe's historical Jewish presence.

At this season of sacred and soaring remembrance, we recall the 50th anniversary of the Selma to Montgomery March, the preceding "Bloody Sunday" of March 7, 1965, and the following Voting Rights Act. Rabbis and Jewish laypersons were disproportionately involved in the Civil Rights Movement and stood by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to uplift America to live up to its glorious promise for all. My synagogue is the world's only home to two African-American churches.

The forthcoming Tiananmen Square Massacre 26th anniversary on June 6th, 2015, prompts me to share my experience, "The Kaddish letters grow/Small in this overwhelming/Space of invisible evil./I shield them in the pocket./Close to my heart./Away from

the menacing/Look of the Chinese soldier./To protect memory." May our anguished planet know soon, in partnership with the Most High, Shalom's essential blessings of healing, hope and harmony. Amen.

Dr. Israel Zoberman is the founding rabbi of Congregation Beth Chaverim in Virginia Beach.

#### TRIBUTE TO TONY ALEXANDER

**HON. JAMES B. RENACCI**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 13, 2015*

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tony Alexander's 43 years of service to FirstEnergy. As FirstEnergy's longest-serving chief executive officer, Tony is responsible for propelling the company to the forefront of the energy industry.

Since joining FirstEnergy in 1972, Tony has served in a number of unique roles. His leadership has contributed to FirstEnergy's success every step of the way. Over the course of his career, he guided the company through significant mergers and acquisitions, regulatory challenges, and a range of operational and financial issues.

For example, Tony was instrumental in the merger of Ohio Edison and Centerior Energy, which formed FirstEnergy. A year after he was named president of First Energy, the company doubled in size and Tony deftly managed the company through significant regulatory, financial and environmental challenges during his career.

Not only is Tony a leader in our business community, he has also dedicated much of his life to serving the Greater Akron area. Currently, Tony serves on the Board of Trustees of Akron Tomorrow and Team NEO, and as an advisory trustee to the University of Akron Board of Trustees. In addition, he is on the President's Advancement Council of the Austen BiInnovation Institute and serves on the Institute's board of directors.

Northeast Ohio is grateful for his service. I wish Tony the very best in his retirement.

#### RED ROCKS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 13, 2015*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and applaud Red Rocks Community College for their dedication and commitment to Jefferson County and higher education.

Red Rocks Community College, with campuses in Lakewood and Arvada, offers more than 150 programs and 650 courses leading to two-year degrees or professional certificates. Since 1969, Red Rocks Community College has delivered a quality education to an eclectic mix of students of all ages, incomes and backgrounds. Serving 14,000 students each year, Red Rocks is the convenient community college down the street and a program that is worth traveling halfway around the world.

Red Rocks is also expanding its campus in Arvada for Health Careers, Technologies, and