

to work hard for the greater good. The Pelham community which I represent has no doubt been strengthened by the work of Kathie O’Callaghan, who has done so much not just to help her fellow Pelham residents, but also people from all over the world.

A Pelhamite for over 30 years, Kathie is a visionary who has broken conventional barriers and applied her talents to a wide range of charitable causes that have truly made a difference. Kathie’s most recent accomplishment is being the Founder & President of Hearts and Homes for Refugees, an innovative grassroots non-profit that supports U.S. Department of State designated agencies in welcoming, protecting and advocating for refugees resettling in U.S. communities. Inspired by the crisis in Syria, Kathie created a group to advocate for resettlement in Westchester County. HHR is now comprised of 400 volunteers that welcomed the first refugee family to Westchester County: a Syrian family of six that was resettled in Pelham. In 2018, Kathie led HHR in creating the Westchester Refugee Initiative, a county-wide coalition to support and grow the network of over 20 community and interfaith organizations and 1,500 individuals who support the welcoming movement in Westchester. Under Kathie’s leadership, the Westchester Refugee Initiative’s volunteers continue to welcome and advocate for new refugee arrivals and supports refugees who are already in the country and need of help.

Beyond her incredible work with refugees, Kathie has also been an integral part of the formation of the Friends of the Pelham Library; a Member of the Rotary Club of the Pelham; an In-Home Hospice Volunteer at Jansen Hospice & Palliative Care; a Pelham Manor Volunteer Firefighter; a Member of the leadership team of Huguenot Memorial Church; a Lector at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church; and was an honoree at the 2017 Pelham Woman of Distinction event.

Kathie has done it all, and the work she has done in Pelham is nothing short of inspirational. This year, the Pelham Civics are honoring Kathie at their 2018 Dinner. They could not have picked a more deserving honoree. Congratulations to Kathie O’Callaghan on this tremendous honor.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE OF
BARBARA HAYMS WEISS

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2018

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a remarkable woman, Barbara Hayms Weiss, who was born on March 15, 1931 in Chicago and passed away on July 21, 2018, in Palo Alto, California. She was predeceased by her beloved husband, Paul.

Barbara and Paul lived in Los Altos Hills and Palo Alto where they raised three children. They supported Jewish causes, arts organizations, and Democrats, especially women candidates.

Barbara earned her B.A. in Sociology from San Jose State University in 1976 at the age of 45. She then completed her M.S.W. with a focus on gerontology in 1981 from U.C. Berkeley. She worked at Little House in Menlo Park and joined Paul’s auto dealership, Key Chev-

rolet, as a Dealer-Academy trained potential successor, and helped run the agency until they sold the business in 1988. Barbara was also Board President of the Jewish Community Center of Palo Alto.

Barbara and Paul moved from their large home in Los Altos Hills to a condominium in Palo Alto, where they continued, via their Donor Advised Fund at the San Francisco Jewish Federation, to support causes that were important to them. They enjoyed frequent trips to Santa Fe, New Mexico for the Opera and SWAIA Indian Market, where they collected stunningly beautiful Pueblo pottery.

According to Barbara’s son Mark, his parents “just wanted America to continue to give opportunities that they got and wanted to back the right people to accomplish that.”

Barbara leaves her son Mark Weiss of Palo Alto and his wife Terry Acebo Davis; Linda Weiss Moulding of San Carlos and her husband Mark Moulding, Rick and Nancy Weiss of Los Altos Hills, and her grandchildren Aaron and Jon Lipinski of San Carlos.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Barbara Weiss, a patriot, a mother and a highly accomplished woman. I will always miss her, as will all those who were privileged to know her and admire the values she lived out so faithfully over a lifetime.

HONORING SISTERS’ JOURNEY AS
THEY CELEBRATE THEIR 20TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2018

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is my great privilege to rise today to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Sisters’ Journey as they mark the 20th anniversary of this remarkable organization. A faith-based breast cancer support and advocacy group, Sisters’ Journey began as a personal journey and continues today as a labor of love.

After being diagnosed with breast cancer, Linda White-Epps felt the fear and frustration so many do when facing breast cancer. She knew she needed to heal not only her body but her soul and searched for others who could relate to what she was experiencing. It was through this search that she educated herself on the disease as well as the health disparities that existed. African-American women are statistically more likely to die from breast cancer than other ethnic groups and they are diagnosed at younger ages and often with a more aggressive form of the disease. Linda also met more women than she ever imagined that were experiencing similar journeys and that there was an unspoken but agreed to code of silence that needed to be broken. It was from all this that Sisters’ Journey was born.

Linda began with a calendar created to break the silence among women of color with twelve women sharing their stories of hope and survival. Twenty years later, nearly two-hundred and fifty courageous women have given hope and inspiration to women and their families facing a breast cancer diagnosis. Sisters’ Journey has grown and become an invaluable resource of support and advocacy.

Monthly support groups meetings are held at a church parish hall; events include annual survivor cook-outs, a Christmas Party, and a Mother/Daughter “know your family history” brunch; and educational outreach programs include beauty shop chats, participation in community parades, as well as school programs for children from elementary through college. And, of course, there is the annual Pink Tea, an event which has grown to include hundreds of family, friends, and supporters, where the annual calendar is revealed.

Linda White-Epps survived for twelve years before succumbing to a recurrence in 2003. Sisters’ Journey and her legacy was carried on by her mother, Phyllis White, until her passing in 2010. Today, it is Linda’s daughter, Dawn White-Bracey, who carries on this labor of love. The celebration of Sisters’ Journey’s 20th calendar is not only a wonderful milestone for this incredible organization, but a celebration of the on-going legacy of Linda White-Epps and her remarkable journey. I consider myself fortunate to have known and worked with Linda, Phyllis, and now Dawn, and I am honored to call them friends. It is with the greatest admiration and my heartfelt congratulations that I rise today to extend Dawn and the Sisters’ Journey family my very best wishes as they celebrate this very special occasion.

HONORING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF OLIVE BRANCH BAPTIST CHURCH IN PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

HON. ROBERT C. “BOBBY” SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 26, 2018

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 125th anniversary of Olive Branch Baptist Church in Portsmouth, Virginia.

Olive Branch Baptist Church was formed in 1893 when a small group of parishioners separated from Zion Baptist Church and formed Zion’s Chapel. Under the leadership of Dr. John Armistead, Zion’s Chapel was established in a nearby facility called Copeland’s Hall and attracted worshippers two Sundays each month.

By 1897, membership had grown so large that a new and larger location was necessary. With assistance from their mother church, Zion Baptist Church, Zion’s Chapel was able to purchase an older sanctuary, previously known as Olive Branch Methodist Church. With the guidance of Reverend H.W. Chiles, the new church was renamed Olive Branch Baptist Church.

It is impossible to commemorate the 125th anniversary of this historic church without recognizing former pastors. Reverend H.W. Chiles served as the first pastor of Olive Branch Baptist Church. Under his leadership, the Sunday School, the Home Mission Circle and the Senior Choir was established.

In 1905, Dr. H. L. Barco took the helm. During his 11-year tenure, the church did very well financially and was able to pay off the church’s mortgage. In addition, he organized the Foreign Mission Circle and the Senior Usher Board.

Olive Branch Baptist Church’s first male auxiliary was established in 1918 when Reverend A. S. Hoard was installed as the third