

and to nominate them for admission to the U.S. service academies. While at the Academy, they will be the beneficiaries of one of the finest educations available, so that in the future, they might be entrusted with the very security of our Nation.

I am confident that Jerrod Hawk has both the ability and the desire to meet this challenge. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating him for his accomplishments to date and to wish him the best of luck as he begins his career in service to our country.

A SALUTE TO BILLY STRAYHORN
AND ELLINGTON '95

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 1995

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to pay tribute to Billy Strayhorn and his many contributions to jazz music as a pianist, composer, lyricist, and arranger.

Billy Strayhorn will soon be remembered in the city of Pittsburgh during "Ellington '95: The Thirteenth Annual International Conference on the Life and Music of Duke Ellington," where delegates from 16 countries and 34 States will be in attendance. This event is dedicated to the memory of Billy Strayhorn and is being hosted by the Billy Strayhorn Chapter of the Duke Ellington Society in Pittsburgh, PA.

Billy Strayhorn was born in Dayton, OH on November 29, 1915, and was raised in Pittsburgh where he graduated from Westinghouse High School. It was in Pittsburgh at the Stanley Theatre, now the Benedum Center for the Performing Arts that the close association and collaboration between Duke Ellington and Strayhorn began. This remarkably productive collaboration endured for nearly three decades and produced more than 200 compositions and arrangements.

The musical compositions of Billy Strayhorn are among some of America's most popular jazz standards. Billy Strayhorn's music includes Take the 'A' Train, the Ellington Band's theme song, Lush Life, Something to Live For, Day Dream, After All, Chelsea Bridge, Lotus Blossom, and Blood Count. Billy Strayhorn has been honored on many occasions for his contributions to jazz and was elected to the "Songwriters' Hall of Fame" on April 15, 1984, by the National Academy of Popular Music.

The discovery of previously unknown Billy Strayhorn compositions has brought new recognition and acclaim to this great composer's memory. A newly discovered composition, Portrait of a Silk Thread, was premiered at the 1994 Ellington Conference in Stockholm, Sweden. Other previously unknown compositions have been found and will be premiered for the world at the Ellington Annual International Conference in Pittsburgh, May 24-28, 1995. I am confident that the presentation of these newly discovered compositions will be among the highlights of this year's Ellington conference.

Mr. Speaker, it is proper that the Members of the U.S. House should take note of Billy Strayhorn and his outstanding contributions to the musical heritage of the United States of America and the world. Billy Strayhorn and Duke Ellington were ambassadors to the world and helped to enlighten millions of individuals

from around the globe to the American jazz experience. I am pleased that the memory of Billy Strayhorn will be celebrated in Pittsburgh later this month and commend to the House and the American people "Ellington '95: The Thirteenth Annual International Conference on the Life and Music of Duke Ellington."

RECOGNITION OF JUDITH PISAR

HON. CHARLES E. SCHUMER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 1995

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. Speaker, one of the pleasures of serving in this legislative body is the opportunity we occasionally get to acknowledge publicly the outstanding citizens of our Nation. I rise today to honor Judith Pizar in her installment as a Chevalier of the Legion of Honor in France, an honor she received on May 26, 1994. Ms. Pizar's contributions have led to building of a widely-admired cultural bridge between the United States and France and to Franco-American cultural relations in general.

A native of New York, Ms. Pizar has spent the last two decades in Paris working for the American Center in Paris, a cultural center that houses contemporary American art. Founded 63 years ago, the American Center has helped bridge the gap of cultural differences between the United States and France. Under Ms. Pizar's direction, the American Center has expanded with a new building that was dedicated on June 4, 1994. The new building will house a 420-seat theater, studios, a gallery, classrooms, and apartments for visiting artists and writers and will have space for an American restaurant.

Ms. Pizar has also organized cultural, educational and charitable events for artists in France and the United States. She has put together exhibitions of young painters and a variety of multi-media events on both sides of the Atlantic.

Mr. Speaker, it is no surprise that France has bestowed this high achievement to Ms. Pizar, a person dedicated to the cultural and intellectual education of our countries.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in commending Ms. Judith Pizar for her valuable work. She is an inspiration to us all.

TRIBUTE TO SARA AND SIMHA
LAINER

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 1995

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Sara and Simha Lainer, close friends of mine for more than 40 years and people passionately dedicated to the welfare of the Jewish community of Los Angeles. Natives of Eastern Europe, the Lainers came to southern California via Mexico, where they lived and worked for several years. We are lucky to have them.

Sara Lainer, a distinguished author of scholarly articles, has been an active volunteer on

behalf of Hadassah, Pioneer Women, General Israel Orphans Home, the Yiddish Culture Club, and many other organizations. She continues to lecture in Hebrew and Yiddish to groups in Los Angeles, and she holds an honorary doctorate from the Hebrew Theological College, Jewish University of America. Her commitment to the intellectual and spiritual components of Judaism is extraordinary.

Simha Lainer, who ran a successful real estate business in the San Fernando Valley, is a strong supporter of, and a dedicated volunteer with, the University of Judaism, the Jewish Community Foundation, the ADL, and West Coast Friends of the Hebrew University. Anyone who cares about the Jewish community of Los Angeles owes a huge thanks to Simha Lainer.

In 1989, the Lainers established the Simha and Sara Lainer Fund for Jewish Education, which has thus far awarded \$290,000 in scholarships to 400 children around the city. I can think of nothing more important than ensuring Judaism remains vibrant and alive in Los Angeles.

Simha and Sara also raised three sons, Mark, Nahum, and Luis, who have followed in the tradition of their parents in working hard on behalf of their community. I am indeed lucky to be good friends with all three, as well as their wives, Ellie, Alice, and Lee.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Sara and Simha Lainer, whose tireless efforts to make this a better world inspire us all.

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

HON. LEE H. HAMILTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 3, 1995

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to insert my Washington Report for Wednesday, April 26, 1995 into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

THE OUTLOOK FOR THE ECONOMY

With all the attention given to the Contract With America in the first 100 days, it is also important to focus on an issue of much importance for many Hoosiers—the state of the economy and what can be done to strengthen the outlook.

1994 was a year of solid economic growth, strong job creation, and low inflation, a very unusual combination for the postwar period. The Midwest, including Indiana, did even better. Most everyone would be pleased if we could just freeze the 1994 numbers. But analysts warn that the rise in interest rates during the past year is slowing important sectors of the economy—particularly housing and autos—and that the rest of the economy may also shift into lower gear this year and next.

Performance Of The Economy. Economic Growth The economy's total output of goods and services grew 4.1% last year. This was the strongest growth in seven years and well above average for the postwar period. Much of the growth was fueled by a boom in business investment in new equipment. Housing starts hit their highest level since 1988, output of motor vehicles rose to the highest level in more than a decade, and industrial production rose 5.4% over 1993, the strongest gain in ten years.

Jobs. The economy created 3.5 million jobs in 1994, the strongest job growth in ten