

During World War II she volunteered for the security detail at the LaGuardia airport control tower. Never one to pursue her own place in the spotlight, she was the doting parent of Diane and Bruce and glorified in their careers as well as Lester's.

Blanche held strong views in the area of human rights and she used for good purpose the influence that her position allowed. She was an active participant in ORT, Hadassah, Association to Help Retarded Children and the NAACP. She truly exemplified American womanhood: A modern woman who grew with the times, but one who never forgot her heritage or her principles.

This land of ours is better for Blanche; its loss is even greater.

I have lost a constituent. America has lost one of its great ladies.

ON ANDREW McCOLLUM'S
ATTAINMENT OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 14, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Andrew McCollum of North Olmsted, OH, who will be honored this month for his recent attainment of Eagle Scout.

The attainment of Eagle Scout is a high and rare honor requiring years of dedication to self-improvement, hard work and the community. Each Eagle Scout must earn 21 merit badges, twelve of which are required, including badges in: lifesaving; first aid; citizenship in the community; citizenship in the Nation; citizenship in the world; personal management of time and money; family life; environmental science; and camping.

In addition to acquiring and proving proficiency in those and other skills, an Eagle Scout must hold leadership positions within the troop where he learns to earn the respect and hear the criticism of those he leads.

The Eagle Scout must live by the Scouting Law, which holds that he must be: trustworthy, loyal, brave, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, clean, and reverent.

And the Eagle Scout must complete an Eagle Project, which he must plan, finance and evaluate on his own. It is no wonder that only 2 percent of all boys entering scouting achieve this rank.

Andy's Eagle Project was the clean up of an island in the Cleveland Metro Park system which will enable animals and birds to feed and reclaim the island as part of a vibrant local ecology.

My fellow colleagues, let us join boy Scouts of America Troop 53 in recognizing and praising Andy for his achievement.

CONGRATULATIONS TO TEMPLE
BETH ZION-BETH ISRAEL SYNA-
GOGUE

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 14, 1997

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Temple Beth

Zion-Beth Israel Synagogue, in Philadelphia, PA, the congregation and community at large will celebrate with the recitation of the Kiddush Proceed and festive music. Located in central Philadelphia, Temple Beth Israel was established in 1840 and is the third oldest congregation in the Philadelphia. This historic congregation merged with Beth Zion (1946) in 1964.

In 1984, the Neziner congregation merged with Temple Beth Zion-Beth Israel. Today, the Neziner congregation would have been over 100 years old. All the artifacts from the Neziner Synagogue were carefully and lovingly placed at Beth Zion-Beth Israel in the lower level referred to as the Neziner Chapel.

This multicultural congregation represents Beth Israel members from Germany and Poland, and Neziner members from Russia and eastern Europe. Beth Zion members are offspring of both waves of immigrants who defied flight to the suburbs and created a major Jewish congregation in the heart of this great American city.

The present quarters, a gothic stone structure of the 19th century known as "A jewel of a synagogue," with its lofty tower, is reminiscent of the ancient synagogue in Prague, with its distinctive architecture. The sound interior upholds the concept of the threefold function of a synagogue: a house of worship; an area of study; and a meeting place. Some of the services provided to the congregation include a Hebrew School and Youth Activities Program for youth age 1½ through high school. Additionally, the synagogue offers an Adult Education Studies Program which is open to the public.

The anniversary of this great American multicultural Jewish synagogue is worthy of mention to remind us of the extent to which diversity is an integral part of the American character.

ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER
NETANYAHU'S ADDRESS TO THE
"VOICES UNITED FOR ISRAEL"
CONFERENCE

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 14, 1997

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, last week Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu gave a major address to the participants of the Voices United for Israel Conference in Washington, DC. Comprised of 200 Christian and Jewish organizations, Voices United for Israel collectively represents 40 million Americans whose support for Israel and its security are strong.

Because the Prime Minister's remarks were especially noteworthy, I would like to take this opportunity to share his speech with my colleagues, and therefore request that it be reprinted at this point in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER BENJAMIN
NETANYAHU AT "VOICES UNITED FOR IS-
RAEL" BREAKFAST

(By Prime Minister Netanyahu)

I may be 7,000 miles from Jerusalem, but I feel very much at home here. And I think the main reason is that you, too, feel that Jerusalem is your home too. Jerusalem is the home of all of those who believe in our val-

ues—in our values of freedom, in the dignity of man, in democracy, in peace, in belief and faith in the Almighty. That is what Jerusalem is.

Some describe it today as "Arab East Jerusalem." This is the place where David ruled. This is the place where Isaiah prophesied his eternal prophecies. This is the place where I walk and I feel my ancestors' footsteps on those stones, on those paths, on that ground. Jerusalem was, is, and will always be the capital of the Jewish people.

Jerusalem is the City of David, the City on a Hill, the city which the nation of Israel has cherished as its capital for 3,000 years. And it is something that defies all rational explanations. The connection of the Jewish people to its land and to its eternal city has broken all the laws of history.

It is more powerful than all the laws of history because it expresses the deepest yearning of the human soul and of a people to reach its salvation, to return once again to the crucible in which it was formed, in which its most cherished values were forged, and in which its future and its destiny can be realized once again. That is what Jerusalem means for all of us. (Applause.)

So it's not just a city. It is a great city, but it is also an ideal and, I think, an expression not only of the Jewish people's but of mankind's loftiest aspirations.

I know there are attempts to divide the city. It is done sometimes directly, sometimes obliquely, sometimes by challenging our rights to build apartments, for God's sake, in our city—apartments. (Laughter, applause.) But I want to assure you today, we will never allow Jerusalem to be redivided again—ever, never. We will keep the city united, and we will continue to do what we have done for the last two decades—three decades—and that is to keep it an open city, a city of peace, a city accessible to all three great faiths.

And it is only under Israel, in the close to 2,000 years since our dispersion and exile, that we have enabled that city to be open to every believer and every worshiper. That was not the case—it was not the case when the city was ruled by others. It was not the case in the 19 years from the start of the state of Israel, when the city was conquered—that eastern part of the city was conquered, and Jews were barred from the holiest place for the Jewish people, the Western Wall. And you know the fate of Christians in Jerusalem as well. That has changed forever.

We will keep Jerusalem united and we will keep Jerusalem open and accessible for unfettered worship for all Christians and Muslims and Jews. And we shall never resurrect those ramparts.

Now you have heard many things about Har Homa. You have heard that it is an Arab-occupied land in East Jerusalem—a settlement. Indeed. Well, first of all, it's not in East Jerusalem, it's in the southern part of Jerusalem. Secondly, it's not Arab-occupied land, it is land that is 75 percent private Jewish land—by the way, expropriated by the Labor government, god forbid. (Laughter.) The Likud didn't do this. There must be something wrong with this model! (Laughter.) And it is not, as was said, a settlement—not that I have anything against settlements, as you know. But it happens to be a neighborhood.

You can go out of this hotel and you can see a neighborhood: streets, apartments, groceries, supermarkets. What's wrong with that? Nothing.

This is what happens in cities; they grow. People get married, they have children, they need apartments. And that's what governments do. Preferably, they don't build; they allow contractors to build. We call that private initiative. But that's what we're doing.