

could be related to him, Frank Sinatra helped define America for the rest of the world. He was the epitome of the American dream, rising from modest surroundings to become the biggest recording artist in the world. Although he was not a scholar, his impact on our national culture was enormous. And, it was a very positive impact. Frank became as identified with America as "mom and apple pie."

Everyone knows about Frank Sinatra's success as an entertainer. He made hundreds of hit records, was awarded three Oscars, received seven Grammys, a Peabody Award, and an Emmy. But many people don't know that he was also a great philanthropist and humanitarian. They may not know about this side of Frank Sinatra because of his modest nature and the quiet way he went about helping others. I know how often Frank Sinatra helped friends in need and total strangers. He contributed his name, time, and money to many, many worthwhile causes never desiring credit or recognition. But his generosity is legendary among those who know him. That is why he was honored with some of the Nation's most prestigious humanitarian awards—the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the Academy of Arts and Sciences' Jean Hersholt Humanitarian Award, the Life Achievement Award of the NAACP, and many others. In my community of Palm Springs, Frank Sinatra contributed generously to so many causes, including the creation of the Martin Anthony Sinatra Medical Education Center in honor of his father.

Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to know Frank Sinatra, and I am proud to consider him a friend and inspiration. We are honoring a truly great American.

IN HONOR OF THE STUDENT CHAPTER OF THE SOCIETY OF HISPANIC PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 5, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the student chapter of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, which garnered first place at the National Academic Olympiad. The four triumphant team members will be honored by the Hispanic Organization of Students in Technology at the Fifth Annual Gala Banquet at Campino Restaurant in Newark, NJ.

The event celebrates the accomplishments of the New Jersey Institute of Technology's [NJIT] victorious College Bowl Team. The team was composed of four engineering majors: Rene J. Yandun, Fernando Teixeria, Pablo O. Delgado Jr., and Aldo Nina. This National Academic Olympiad, held during the National Technical and Career Conference [NTCC] in Philadelphia, is a prestigious educational event sponsored by the companies such as Hewlett Packard, Kodak, Lucent Technologies, Amoco, Motorola, and Texas Instruments.

A series of valuable workshops were available at the conference, such as "The Academic Stress", "Student and Professional Workshop", "Creating Solutions for a Changing World", and "Improving your College Career—Making yourself more Marketable".

Members of the student chapter of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers were able to enhance their professional college careers—185 of the top engineering corporations and government agencies were present and recruiting talented Latino student Latino corporate America. The conference also supplied entertainment for the participating students which included a gala reception where company executives and students mingled for an evening of celebration.

NTC '97 played an essential role in the futures of these Hispanic students. Conferences of this type augment the possibility for NJIT students to become involved with important members of the professional world. They have the opportunity to pursue internships or employment in their prospective careers. Finally NJIT has received its deserved national recognition for their achievements in competing against schools in various regions of our country.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the outstanding work of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers and those individuals being honored at its annual gala. The victorious College Bowl Team members serve as excellent examples for other members of the Hispanic Organization of Students in Technology to follow. I commend their accomplishments and am delighted with their progress in the engineering field.

IN HONOR OF JOHNNY VADNAL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 5, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the lifetime achievement of Johnny Vadnal—band leader, master of the accordion, and Cleveland's Polka King.

Johnny Vadnal and his family—mother, Anna; brothers, Tony, Frankie, and Richie; and sister, Valeria—brought the joys and rhythms of polka music to Cleveland and the country for the past 50 years.

Johnny was the first polka band leader in the country to have his own television show in a major market. From 1949 to 1961, the Vadnals performed every Sunday afternoon at 1 o'clock on WEWS channel 5 in Cleveland.

In the late 1940's and early 1950's, the Vadnals played six nights a week. Johnny and his band were regulars at all the famous establishments including the Superior Ballroom, Twilight Gardens, Aragon Ballroom, and the Bowl Ballroom. Johnny was so popular at the Bowl Ballroom that not even Louis Prima drew a crowd like Johnny could.

At the height of his popularity, Johnny captivated 64,000 baseball fans at Cleveland Stadium when he introduced "The Baseball Polka" in 1950. Recording for RCA Victor, Johnny's biggest hits were the "Yes, My Dear" waltz, which sold 50,000 copies in its first week, "Two-Timing You," "The Slap Happy Polka," "The Prairie Polka," "The Mountain Climber," "No Beer on Sunday," "Blame in on the Waltz," "Clap Hands Polka," and his theme song, "The Wayside Polka." In 1983, Johnny wrote "My Alice Waltz" for his wife, and it was named polka song of the year.

Johnny's prodigious talent was matched only by the passion and sincerity with which

he played. "All I can say is I play from the heart," he has said.

On May 7, the National Cleveland Style Polka Hall of Fame will salute Johnny Vadnal upon his retirement. Mr. Speaker, we are richer as a nation and more civilized as a people for Johnny's contribution to the culture.

IN HONOR OF OFFICER ANTONIO NARDINI AND HIS FELLOW POLICE OFFICERS: MAKING A DIFFERENCE EVERY DAY IN THE LIVES OF THE RESIDENTS OF BAYONNE

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 5, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a truly special gentleman, Police Officer Antonio Nardini of Bayonne, NJ. Officer Nardini's extraordinary efforts will be recognized during the 1997 Make a Difference Day Awards ceremony in Arlington, VA.

The awards presentation will celebrate the contributions of 11 unique individuals—including Officer Nardini—chosen from more than 1 million people, from all over the Nation, who participated in USA Today's Make a Difference Day on October 26, 1996. Anyone who knows Officer Nardini is not surprised that he would be included in this elite group. His work as a Drug Abuse Resistance Education [DARE] Officer has positively affected the lives of countless young people in Bayonne. When the idea for this ambitious hunger reduction project came to Officer Nardini, local schoolchildren were naturally inspired to pitch in and make a difference themselves.

The road which has led Officer Nardini to this special acknowledgment began on 23d Street in his hometown of Bayonne where he witnessed numerous people awaiting food distributions outside a local church. Upon closer inspection, Officer Nardini surmised that there were indeed a number of community food pantries struggling to provide for their needy constituencies. This dire situation was a call to action for Officer Nardini and his fellow officers to volunteer their time to help ease the situation. They promptly installed a collection bin in their precinct, setting the example which many then followed, including city hall, the housing authority, senior citizens complexes, and every library in town.

USA Today Weekend held its annual Make a Difference Day October 26, 1996. With Thanksgiving less than a month away, it gave people an opportunity to give thanks for all they have by helping others in need. On that morning, 7,500 children from 17 local elementary schools, along with other volunteers from corporate, union, and civic groups, took up the challenge of helping those less fortunate than themselves. They joined Officer Nardini and his fellow officers going door to door, collecting food donations that were loaded onto trucks which were donated by the city of Bayonne. At day's end, 22 trucks were brimming with donations, and helped save the Thanksgiving holiday for many families in need. Some of the day's harvest was distributed to food pantries in the community, to help them with their good work.

It is an honor to have an exceptional person like Officer Antonio Nardini residing in my district. He exemplifies the true meaning of community service. I am certain my colleagues will join me in recognition of this remarkable gentleman.

A TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL GREENE

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 5, 1997

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of an outstanding individual, Michael Greene. Mr. Greene has led a truly remarkable life, in which he has utilized his passion for music in the realms of business, philanthropy, and education.

While completing his degrees in business and marketing Michael began his career as a recording artist and producer. In a few years he became President and CEO of Apogee Recording Studios where he managed 5 publishing companies containing over 5,000 song titles. He then entered into the cable television industry, where he founded the Nation's first video music network, the Video Music Channel. He would later assume the position of vice president of Crawford Post Productions, helping turn his small company into a leader in the field of video and film properties. While Michael was extremely busy and successful in his work, he always made time to give back to his community.

Throughout his career Michael has acted as a steward of music and the arts, especially in regard to their continued presence in America's schools. In this era of shrinking budgets, musical education has increasingly been viewed as a nonessential element in primary and secondary education, making it one of the areas hit hardest by cutbacks. Michael has led several efforts to reverse this trend and to promote music education. He was a cofounder of the National Coalition for Music Education which works to empower communities around the Nation to take the necessary steps on the local level to ensure that music and the arts will continue to be taught in their local schools. He was also the founder of National Arts Advocacy Day which sought to bring congressional attention to the elimination of arts education.

Michael has worked extensively on the local level where, largely due to his work, the number of secondary music programs has doubled in the Los Angeles Unified School District since 1991. It seems Michael takes to heart the following observation by Joseph Addison: "A man that has a taste of music, painting, or architecture, is like one that has another sense." Indeed Michael's legacy will be the appreciation and enjoyment of the arts in children that might otherwise never have known the genius of Mozart or Van Gogh.

Michael's fortitude and conviction led him to be one of the first within the musical community to take a vocal stance against the scourge of drug abuse among musicians. He created "Substance Abuse in Music: an Industry Intervention," and has encouraged higher standards in the fight against drugs. His efforts were made in hope of diminishing the glorification of substance abuse in the music industry.

His work as a businessman, artist, and philanthropist has made him a leader in the music industry for many years. In 1988 his position became official, as he became the Recording Academy's president and CEO. Next week the University of Southern California will award him with a Doctor of Music degree during their commencement ceremonies. This kind of honor is fitting for an individual that has done so much for his country, and his passion—music. I am privileged to represent such an individual and look forward to working with him in the future.

TRIBUTE TO BISHOP G.E.
PATTERSON

HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 5, 1997

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gilbert Earl Patterson, Bishop in the Church of God in Christ, and Pastor of both the Temple of Deliverance Church and Bountiful Blessings Church in Memphis, TN.

Recognized as one of the foremost preachers in the world, Bishop Patterson preaches every Sunday to a congregation of over 11,000 members, and to an international television audience on Black Entertainment Television and the Turner Broadcasting Network. Through his enlightening and uplifting sermons, Bishop Patterson provides spiritual sustenance to tens of thousands of congregants and millions of television viewers and radio listeners around the world.

Bishop Patterson has had a distinguished career as a minister. He was born in Memphis and lived in Detroit throughout most of his teen years. He began his vocation in 1957 at the young age of 17 and continued from 1962 to 1975 as copastor of Holy Temple Church of God in Christ in Memphis. In 1975, he founded Temple of Deliverance. In addition to his service to the people as a minister, Bishop Patterson is also a scholar and published writer. He attended LeMoyné-Owen College in Memphis, the Detroit Bible Institute and holds an honorary doctorate from Oral Roberts University. He is a contributing writer to the Spirit Filled Bible.

On Wednesday, April 30, Bishop Patterson was honored by his congregation in Memphis, TN. Bishop Patterson's commitment to his fellow man and to the common good have had a tremendous impact on my life. I consider him a confidant and a friend, Mr. Speaker. That is why I ask you and my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring this giant of a preacher, paragon of inspiration, and decorated soldier of the cloth, Bishop Gilbert Earl Patterson.

IN MEMORY OF HWANG MIEN LIN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 5, 1997

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Hwang Mien Lin, an influential journalist, publisher, and author from China and Cleveland, OH.

Mr. Hwang devoted his career to writing in the cause of liberty. He was born in Beijing, and became a journalist at the age of 18. During World War II, he fought against the Japanese occupation of Burma alongside England and the United States. He was one of a small number of brave soldiers who survived that conflict.

In 1944, Mr. Hwang was a cofounder of Newsdom Weekly, one of the leading anti-Communist magazines published in the Far East. By 1950, it was the first Chinese magazine published in both Chinese and English. Mr. Hwang was a central member of a group of writers and journalists who met with President Chiang Kai-shek and helped to formulate policy regarding mainland China.

Mr. Hwang was a widely read individual, a renaissance man, with a sharp intellect and a crisp writing style. When he retired in the late 1970's, he traveled back and forth between his home in Hong Kong and his children's homes in the United States. He is survived by daughters, Margaret Wong, Rose Wong, and Cecilia Wong of Shaker Heights; son, George Wong of Rocky River, and nine grandchildren. He will be missed by all who knew him and who read his work.

IN HONOR OF BENZION KLATZKO:
A DISTINGUISHED GENTLEMAN
MAKING A DIFFERENCE TO HIS
COMMUNITY

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 5, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional gentleman, Rabbi Benzion Klatzko. Rabbi Klatzko and the officers of the Congregation Shaarey Tefilah will have their installation celebrated at a brunch reception to be held in Perth Amboy, NJ.

Rabbi Klatzko was born in Cincinnati, OH, to Dr. Naftoli and Judy Klatzko. Under the guidance of his loving parents, Rabbi Klatzko grew up in a home that became a symbol to the community of Chesed and Hachnosas Orchim. This early family experience enabled Rabbi Klatzko to pass on his love of faith to the members of the congregation he now serves.

The pursuit of knowledge has always been important to Rabbi Klatzko. While a young man in Cleveland, OH, Rabbi Klatzko attended the Hebrew Academy of Cleveland under the leadership of Rabbi Nochum Dessler, as well as Telshe Yeshiva High School where he benefited from the tutelage of Rabbi Mordecai Gifter. After attending both Basis Medrash and the Center for Rabbinic Leadership, Rabbi Klatzko was ordained by Rabbi Avrohom Blumenkrantz at the Anshei Chemed in Far Rockaway, NY, in a Simicha ceremony, and subsequently also ordained at the Mirrer Yeshiva in Brooklyn by Rabbi Shumel Berenbaum and Rabbi Shraga Moshe Kalmanowitz.

Children and family have continued to be a major theme throughout Rabbi Klatzko's life. Married to the former Shoshana Juravel on June 30, 1988, Rabbi and Mrs. Klatzko's joyful union has produced five children; Yitzchok, Sholom Yedidya, Shira Sarah, Avi, and Elisha.