

the Congregation of Saint Joseph, who dedicate their lives to serving God and their fellow parishioners.

Throughout her 96 years, Sister Leona touched the hearts and souls of many. We have suffered a great loss in her passing, but those of us who were lucky enough to have known her are better people for having shared in her special gifts. Sister Leona will never be forgotten.

THE INTER-AMERICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK: HELPING TO EXPAND OPPORTUNITIES IN THE HEMISPHERE

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 17, 1999*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, the Inter-American Development Bank was established in 1959 with the purpose of helping to develop economic markets in Latin America and the Caribbean. Its original membership included 19 Latin American and Caribbean countries and the United States. Today, it boasts a membership of 46 countries, 28 within the region and 18 in Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. The Bank has committed itself to financing projects that seek to improve the lives of our neighbors within the region by promoting small business, supporting state modernization projects with the purpose of strengthening democratic systems, and complementing ongoing public sector and economic reforms which focus on energy, transportation, and communications systems.

In an era of increased trade globalization and market diversification, the Inter-American Development Bank has played an essential role in helping expand competitive trade markets for Latin American and Caribbean countries. By 1997 in fact, the Bank had approved 2,456 loans totaling \$84 billion to help these countries work towards economic integration. As part of the Free Trade of the Americas process, the Inter-American Development Bank had been a key force in implementing strategies to support sub-regional integration and provide support for the FTAA Working Groups.

IDB's programs have served to strengthen the Western Hemisphere by helping to expand trade, diversify exports, and increase competitiveness. As the Inter-American Development Bank celebrates its 40th year of service, I commend their dedication to mobilizing resources for the region and for its role as a catalyst for social and economic development within the Hemisphere.

CENTRAL NEW YORK WORLD WAR I VETS HONORED BY FRENCH GOVERNMENT

**HON. JAMES T. WALSH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 17, 1999*

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, March 24, 1999 at the Syracuse, New York Veterans Administration Medical Center, two Central New York constituents of mine, both

veterans of World War I, will be honored by the French government with a presentation of the National Order of the Legion of Honor, that country's highest honor.

As Chairman of the VA/HUD Subcommittee on Appropriations, I am extremely proud to know that these American warriors will be decorated in this way for their role in winning the war on French soil. They reflect the bravery and courage of thousands of young Americans who dutifully represented our nation and freedom-loving people everywhere.

They are David Ginsburg and Eugene Lee, two men who left as teens and returned to their community in Syracuse to continue on with their lives, raise families, and cherish freedom even more—knowing that they had done their duty to country, and that they had seen the darker side of mankind, but also the rewards of valor.

In 1917, David Ginsburg, who will celebrate his 101st birthday on April 18 this year, enlisted in the National Guard 4th Ambulance Company, a unit that was part of the American Expeditionary Forces sent to Mexico to capture Pancho Villa. After returning to the U.S., the unit was sent to France while World War I raged. After the war, Mr. Ginsburg joined the Marine Corps and served for 16 years. Today he is believed to be the oldest living Marine Corps Drill Instructor. He has been an active member of the Jewish War Veterans Post 131. He returned to civilian life in Syracuse to work for more than 35 years for the Eastwood, Netherland and Seneca Dairies.

Also in 1917, Eugene Lee, who will celebrate his 100th birthday on the very day of this ceremony, enlisted in the Marine Corps. Among the first Marines sent to France, he was wounded while fighting the Germans at Belleau Wood on June 6 and 7, 1918. Following recovery, he served in Germany with the Army of Occupation. He was one of the last American troops to return home after the war. He was awarded the Purple Heart and Silver Star for Heroism. Mr. Lee returned home and worked 42 years for New York Lighting Company, which today is Niagara Mohawk.

We applaud these two individuals on the occasion of this great commemorative honor. I also want to thank the French government for making this award.

RETIREMENT TRIBUTE TO ROGER J. DOLAN

**HON. GEORGE MILLER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 17, 1999*

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating Roger J. Dolan on the occasion of his retirement from the Central Contra Costa Sanitary District and recognizing him for his many years of dedicated public service.

Roger has enjoyed a career marked with many personal and professional achievements. During his time with the East Bay Municipal Utility District, Roger was responsible for the pilot investigation of physical, chemical, and biological processes which established the design criteria for a 120 million gallon per day high purity oxygen activated sludge proc-

ess. He supervised the design of this \$85 million plant, and managed its construction.

Since becoming the general manager-chief engineer of the Central Contra Costa Sanitary District in 1977, Roger Dolan has developed a nationally recognized household hazardous waste facility, and a 45 million gallon per day secondary treatment plant with sludge incineration, ultra-violet disinfection and water reclamation.

While Roger's achievements have won him the praise and respect of his colleagues and peers, these deserving benchmarks cannot overshadow his consistent commitment to environmental protection and his exemplary stewardship of our natural resources. His pursuit of technological innovation in the field of wastewater treatment and water recycling, and his promotion of scientific research into the methods of protecting the waters, fish and wildlife in the San Francisco Bay, are the hallmarks of his career for which I am most thankful.

I know I speak for all the Members of this Chamber when I wish Roger J. Dolan a very happy and healthy retirement, and when I thank him for the many contributions he has made to our community.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES MANDEL

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 17, 1999*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, March 25, the Highland Park Conservative Temple and Center will present the coveted Chaver Award for exemplary community service to Mr. Charles J. Mandel. This is a richly deserved honor, and I am proud to join in paying tribute to Mr. Mandel for his tireless service to the temple and to our community.

Mr. Mandel, known as Charlie to his many friends, has certainly left his mark on the temple, both in terms of the physical facility, as well as in his service to temple community. He can frequently be seen with a screwdriver or a hammer or a tape measure in his "golden hands." But Charlie Mandel's fingerprints go far deeper. He has been affiliated with the Highland Park Conservative Temple and Center since 1953. After officially joining the temple in 1955, he was appointed Gabbai, and continues in that position to this day as Senior Gabbai. He was elected to the Temple Board of Trustees in 1955, and continues to serve on the board where he has also held the posts of recording secretary and financial secretary. In recognition of his loyalty and commitment, he was granted honorary life membership to the Board of Trustees, a position held by only four other people.

Mr. Mandel has been active on the Religious Committee, House Committee, Bazaar Committee, and has had the unique experiences of serving on the Rabbinical Search Committees for both Rabbi Yakov Hilsenrath and Rabbi Eliot Malomet. In addition, he was Chairman of the "Special Fundraising Committee" for 40 years.

Charles Mandel was born in Jersey City, where he graduated from William L. Dickson High School in 1936. He then went on to Rutgers University and received a bachelor of science degree in ceramic engineering in 1938. He served as plant manager and ceramic engineer with the Willett Company for