Since 1988, he has served as the first in- cumbent of the Haig & Isabel Berberian En- dowed Chair of Armenian Studies at Fresno State. Dr. Kouymjian has taught a wide range of subjects: Armenian, Islamic, Classical, and Byzantine history and civilization; Western humanities, film, genocide and Saroyan studies. He also serves on the editorial boards of five publications in Armenian studies and the Board of Scholars of the Zoryan Institute, NAASR, and the Armenian Film Foundation.

Dr. Kouymjian has been awarded a Ful- bright Scholarship by the U.S. Government to teach in the Department of For- eign Languages and Literature at Yerevan State University in Armenia. Along with his many other accomplishments, he has been given the highest honor bestowed by the Ar- menian church to scholars and writers, the St. Sahag medal, St. Mesrob medal, by Catholics Karekin I.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Dr. Dickran Kouymjian for being named “Man of the Year” by the Armenian National Com- mittee of Central California. I urge my col- leagues to join me in wishing Dr. Dickran Kouymjian many more years of continued suc- cess.

TRIBUTE TO ESTHER K. SHAPIRO

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN
OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Es- ther K. Shapiro who will be awarded the Anti- Defamation Lifetime Achievement Award on April 4, 2000. This is indeed a high honor.

Esther Shapiro has devoted her life to social justice and civil rights. Her passion for human rights is longstanding. It began in the 1940’s when Esther and her late husband, Harold, were evicted for hosting an American-African in their government-owned housing.

In the 1960’s, she was drawn to the civil rights activities in the Deep South, and was part of the Michigan Friends of the South, an organization that courageously supported the efforts of Martin Luther King, Jr., the Freedom Marchers.

In her hometown, Detroit, Esther devoted her effort to win equal opportunities in hous- ing, labor and politics for African-Americans. She was the first director of Detroit’s Con- sumer Affairs Department where she worked to protect all consumers from abuse and scams.

Although recently retired, Esther Shapiro re- mains an activist as a consumer consultant to non-profit and business organizations, and currently serves as advisor on con- sumer affairs to Councilwoman Maryann Mahaffey, President Pro-Tem of the Detroit City Council.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating this remarkable woman, Es- ther K. Shapiro for her life work on behalf of human rights. I wish her good health and happiness as she continues to make this world a better place for all.

CONGRATULATING THE STEEL— HIGH ROLLERS BOYS BASKET- BALL TEAM ON WINNING THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS
OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, today I congratu- late the Steel-High Rollers Boys’ Basketball Team of Steelton, Pa., on winning the PIAA Class AAA State Championship. This is not the first time for these talented young men. They also celebrated victories upon winning at the state championship in 1998 and in 1992.

Starters Walt Chavis, Tanel Woodward, Kurt Cheatham, Joe Zimmerman and Scott Attivo play important roles on the Rollers. But it is all the players on the team who deserve the credit for this victory. These young men have sweated through hours upon hours of warm- ups, drills and scrimmages to become the great team they are today.

Coach Rick Binder is to be commended on training and shaping these young men into a formidable team. In just three seasons, Coach Binder has guided the Steel-High Rollers to three District 3 AAA championships and two PIAA—AAA championships.

I must also recognize the communities of Steelton and Highspire for the support they have given to their hometown team. When communities join together in a unifying spirit, the sky is truly the limit. It is self-evident the amount of pride and support these towns show, not only to this winning team, but to their school and area.

The Steel-Rollers deserve much praise for their victory. I know the U.S. House of Rep- resentatives joins me and the communities of Highspire and Steelton in honoring these hard- working and talented young men. Congratulations and continued success.

JEWISH WOMEN’S ARCHIVE MAKING VALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR UNDERSTANDING OF HISTORY

HON. BARNEY FRANK
OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to represent a Congressional District that is home to an important cultural institution known as the Jewish Women’s Ar- chive. The organization, which is located in the town of Brookline, Massachusetts, was es- tablished in 1995 to record and publicize the remarkably rich history of Jewish women in North America. Among JWA’s key projects are a “virtual archive” that provides an on-line di- rectory of source materials that are available on Jewish women in libraries and other facili- ties in the United States and Canada, and its Oral History Project, which is focused on the life stories of twentieth century Jewish women.

Another important JWA initiative, which co- incides annually with Women’s History Month in March, is the “Women of Valor” program, an educational and outreach project aimed at helping the Jewish community and, indeed, people of all faiths in North America, to de-
While most Americans are familiar with political activist Bella Abzug, few know about the accomplishments of anthropologist Barbara Myerhoff and Canadian Olympic athlete Bobbie Rosenfeld. All three women are featured in the year 2000 Women of Valor educational poster series produced by the Jewish Women's Archive. In Boston, institutions such as Temple Israel, the Leventhal Sidman Jewish Heritage Library, and dozens of other places will display the posters throughout Women's History Month and conduct programs highlighting the important roles women have played in history.

The posters are complemented by a workbook featuring a biography of each Woman of Valor, worksheets and suggested educational activities. Individuals can learn more through an interactive multimedia Women of Valor exhibit on the Jewish Women's Archive website at www.jwa.org. The unique and innovative exhibit includes speeches, photographs, news clips, letters and film clips from archives and libraries throughout the country.

"History teaches us about who we are and where we have been," said Gail Tversky Reimer, Executive Director of the Jewish Women's Archive. "For too long, the contributions of Jewish women have been ignored. We know enough about the lives of J"ewish women, past and present. The posters portray their subjects in pictures and narrative, using each woman's own words to create a compelling picture of her achievements and the times in which she lived.

Women of Valor posters and accompanying educational materials have been sent to more than 8,000 institutions and organizations throughout the United States and Canada.

Created in partnership with MIT's Center for Educational and Computing Initiatives, the Jewish Women's Archive website is the cornerstone of the Archive itself. It includes interactive multimedia exhibits, an on-line database and resources on North American Jewish women. A unique and invaluable research tool is the first stage in the development of a searchable Internet directory of all source materials on Jewish women available in repositories throughout the United States and Canada.

In its third year, the Women of Valor Project is funded by grants from the Covenant Foundation, Righteous Persons Foundation and the Dobkin Foundation. In previous years, the project has featured Glikl of Hamelin, Rose Schneideman and Henrietta Szold (1997); Rebecca Gratz; Lillian Wald and Molly Picon (1998); and Emma Lazarus, Justice Wise Polier and Hannah Greenbaum Solomon (1999). Women's History Month was designated by the United States Congress in 1987 to raise awareness among students and adults, female and male, of the many and diverse accomplishments women have made throughout history.

The Jewish Women's Archive was founded in 1995 to uncover, chronicle and transmit the historical record of Jewish women's lives—their impact on Jewish culture and their active participation in society at large. One of its first initiative was a four-year project with the Center for Women's History and the Women's National Political Caucus. Started in 1999, the project includes five volumes of the microfiche series Women in History, a searchable Internet database of the microfiche and online versions of the series. The project also includes the creation of a searchable Internet directory of all source materials on Jewish women, as well as the development of a searchable Internet directory of Jewish women. This unique and invaluable research tool is the first stage in the development of a searchable Internet directory of all source materials on Jewish women available in repositories throughout the United States and Canada.

From 1995 to 1998, the project was funded by grants from the Covenant Foundation, Righteous Persons Foundation and the Dobkin Foundation. In previous years, the project has featured Glikl of Hamelin, Rose Schneideman and Henrietta Szold (1997); Rebecca Gratz; Lillian Wald and Molly Picon (1998); and Emma Lazarus, Justice Wise Polier and Hannah Greenbaum Solomon (1999). Women's History Month was designated by the United States Congress in 1987 to raise awareness among students and adults, female and male, of the many and diverse accomplishments women have made throughout history.

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TRIBUTE TO ALEXANDRA LENNOX VAII

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, March 29, 2000

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Alexander "Al" Lennox Vail, a longtime friend, who passed away on January 4, 2000. He was 78. Vail was a California rancher, whose family had owned and managed Santa Rosa Island and its 54,000-acre cattle operation there for nearly a century.

Vail was born November 24, 1921 in Los Angeles, California, thirty minutes after his twin brother Russ. The two brothers grew up playing on the island that their grandfather had purchased in 1902, with partner J.V. Vickers. At just 21 years old, Vail began working full-time on Santa Rosa Island as a cowboy. In 1962, he became the general manager of the ranching operation.

Vail and his twin brother continued to manage the ranching operation, off the coast of Santa Barbara, until 1998. At that time, the last cattle were removed under an agreement to protect the island's native plants. Since 1998, the Vails and the Vickers (the Vickers are silent partners) continued to run a commercial elk and deer hunting operation on the island, which Vail managed until his sudden death.

Al will forever be remembered throughout the livestock community for his ethics and stewardship of the bounteous resources of an island that was in his family for almost 100 years.

Vail is survived by his wife, Catherine "Kay" Sutherland Vail of Santa Barbara; his daughters, Nita Vail of Sacramento and Mary Vail of...