

track record of cooperation, and I am hopeful that this relationship will continue.

Of the many challenges for this new country, two of the most pressing are economic growth and the health of the Moldovan people. In an effort to create economic growth in the region, Mr. Kelley established a grain business in Moldova's farm communities. With a purchase of a grain elevator he provided opportunity for many farmers to market their crops. This effort to bolster a local economy will assist in relieving the financial burden many families face in these rural communities.

In an effort to address the pressing health care needs of this nation, Mr. Kelley recently led a group of Fort Wayne area health professionals to Moldova. The team of trained physicians, nurses and health care professionals performed necessary surgeries, administered treatments, delivered medical equipment, supplies and medicines to the Republican Hospital in Chisinau.

I commend Mr. Kelley for his energy and commitment to helping the people of Moldova. His leadership and selfless dedication to helping others have made a difference in this small country.

Good relationships between the United States and former Soviet republics, such as Moldova, enhance the security of the United States. I am pleased to recognize the contributions of a fellow Hoosier in this important effort.●

TRIBUTE TO RABBI PHILIP LAZOWSKI

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who, for 45 years, has served the Greater Hartford community with honor and distinction. On April 9, 2000 the friends of Beth Hillel Synagogue will mark the retirement of Rabbi Philip Lazowski at a dinner celebration in his honor.

Since accepting the position of Spiritual Leader at Congregation Beth Shalom in 1955, Rabbi Lazowski has helped the families of his congregation find strength through the principles of faith, humility, determination, forgiveness, and service. As the congregation has grown to include hundreds of families and take the name Beth Hillel Synagogue, Rabbi Lazowski has continued to impart his wisdom on these principles with the same energy and enthusiasm that has been his trademark. Through a number of books and interfaith efforts, Rabbi Lazowski has earned a lofty position within the state's distinguished history of spiritual leaders.

A survivor of the Holocaust, Rabbi Lazowski has also left his mark on the countless young people across the region who have heard him speak about his childhood in Poland during World War II. From the town of Belitza to the Dvoretz ghetto to more than a year of hiding in the woods, his story has resonated within the youth of the commu-

nity. With his many talks and presentations on this dark chapter of human history, Rabbi Lazowski has embraced his obligation to history and has proven that the light of truth can dispel all shadow.

For more than a quarter century, Rabbi Lazowski has served as Chaplain for the Hartford Police Department and has recently been named Chaplain for the Connecticut State Senate. His commitment to the spiritual health, not only of his congregation but all of the Greater Hartford area, is truly beyond question. Although he will be retiring from his position as Spiritual Leader of Beth Hillel Synagogue, I have every confidence that he will remain active as leader, educator and friend to the people of Connecticut.

Rabbi Lazowski stands as a shining example of the type of selfless individual that keeps our communities vibrant. It is with great pleasure that I formally extend to him my very best wishes on this special day.●

COMMENDING GENE R. "ROCKY" ROCCABRUNA

● Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, on March 15, 2000, Gene R. "Rocky" Roccabruna retired as Director of the State of Wyoming's Department of Transportation. Mr. Roccabruna stepped down from his position after rendering more than 30 years of outstanding public service. I regret his departure in the sense that it is indeed a loss to both the agency he headed and to the traveling public at large. But at the same time, I wish to extend, on behalf of my state's Congressional delegation, our gratitude for a job well done and our sincerest wishes for a long and happy retirement.

Mr. Roccabruna's retirement represents a milestone in Wyoming highway history as he was the last active Department of Transportation employee whose association with the agency dated back to the beginning of Interstate Highway System in 1956. After starting as an engineer trainee, he earned steady promotions and soon was in charge of multi-million dollar highway construction contracts. Several sections of Interstate 80 were built under his supervision and that road has since become not only Wyoming's busiest highway but a major artery for transcontinental commerce as well.

Mr. Roccabruna left the employ of state government to start his own contracting business but later returned and went on to hold several managerial positions within the Department of Transportation. His reputation grew along with his responsibilities. He became widely recognized for abilities as a good listener and consensus builder. For these and numerous other good reasons, Wyoming Gov. Jim Geringer appointed him in December 1996 to head the Department, which is the largest Wyoming state agency. During the past three-plus years, I, Senator ENZI and Representative CUBIN, and our

staffs, have had numerous opportunities to work with Mr. Roccabruna on many important state and national transportation issues. His advice was particularly valuable when we helped craft the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, and his contributions will provide benefits well into the future. While I look forward to a continuing good relationship with the Wyoming DOT under its new director, Sleetor C. Dover, I take this opportunity to again say thanks to Mr. Roccabruna for dedicating so much of his time and talents to making transportation more efficient, more enjoyable and safer for Wyoming residents and the entire traveling public.●

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OSHKOSH SENIORS CENTER

● Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the 25th Anniversary of the Oshkosh Seniors Center. Since its beginnings in a single room at the First Presbyterian Church in 1975, the Oshkosh Seniors Center has grown to occupy the present site at 200 North Campbell Road.

Friends of the Oshkosh Seniors Center were crucial to the success of raising \$500,000 of the \$1.2 million needed to build the beautiful facility on Campbell Road. The Friends of the Center, on behalf of the City of Oshkosh, worked unfailingly to realize what has become a first class center for senior citizens. They remain committed to meeting the demands of the continuing growth of the Center. Just as the dedication of the Friends of the Center has remained steadfast, the staff and volunteers of the Oshkosh Seniors Center have never wavered from its stated mission in 1975 "to become a multi-purpose seniors center."

The center meets the social, physical and emotional needs of senior citizens in the Oshkosh community by providing inter-generational, social, recreational, cultural and volunteer opportunities. These goals are supported by more than one hundred programs and activities in arts and crafts, fine arts, continuing education, games and recreation, community services, support groups, health and wellness, and other events. These offerings have been delivered at the center and at several locations in the area to thousands of people during the past year.

It is through the efforts of the center's Director, Sue Kreibich, staff members and countless volunteers who work diligently to make certain the Oshkosh Seniors Center continues to offer opportunities that allows senior citizens of the Oshkosh community to remain active and involved.

The center will observe its twenty-fifth anniversary during the week of April 2nd by announcing the inauguration of the Oshkosh Seniors Center Endowment Fund. This Fund will allow the organization to meet the needs of expansion to accommodate the substantial growth that continues at the