

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to pay tribute to the contributions of Karol Sacca. Karol has achieved a delicate balance between leadership and friendship with her students. Karol's dedication has led to many young people becoming excited about learning. Thank you Karol for your contributions.

COMMENDING SAINT AGNES
HOSPICE FOR 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Saint Agnes Hospice in celebrating 25 years of compassionate care. An open house was held to commemorate this milestone on Monday, November 24th in Fresno, California.

In its 25th year, Saint Agnes Hospice continues to focus on pain and symptom management in patient care, and strives to raise awareness among the public and physicians about the value of Hospice care. Since its establishment in 1978, the organization's main purpose has been to reflect the mission of the Saint Agnes Medical Center by extending Christ's love to the terminally ill and their families; recognizing that each person is unique and deserving of compassion while stewarding the human and financial resources. Their goal is to meet and serve the needs of individuals, promoting dignity, comfort, and peace to enable them to live until they die. Founded by Sister Raphael McGrath, CSC, BSN, MSNE, Saint Agnes Hospice has made it possible for terminally ill patients to live out their final days with dignity in the comfort and privacy of their own home. Hospice focuses on living and maintaining the patient and family's quality of life.

Saint Agnes Hospice has grown dramatically over the years and continues to offer patients and families a variety of levels of care. During fiscal year 2003, it served 346 patients, an increase from 265 patients in 2002. The Hospice Team is staffed around the clock by an outstanding group of individuals; physicians, nurses, chaplains, social workers, and volunteers. The four levels of care available are Routine Home Care, Continuous Home Care, Inpatient Respite Care, and General Inpatient Care. FOOTSTEPS, an expressive arts support group is available for children who have experienced difficult life losses and their caregivers. Finally, Bereavement care is planned and available to support families for a year following the loss of a loved one.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to congratulate Saint Agnes Hospice on its 25th anniversary. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing them many years of compassionate care for the citizens of the Central Valley.

THE YOUNG MASHADI JEWISH
CENTER

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call to the attention of the House an important

event in my district: the groundbreaking for the Young Mashadi Jewish Center in Great Neck on December 14, 2003. I want to offer my best wishes and congratulations to all the men and women who have contributed their time, energy and support to bring this tremendous project into being.

America and New York in particular have been blessed by a growing number of Jews of Iranian descent, who have made an enormous contribution to the health and vitality of our Jewish community. Owing to their bitter experience as a persecuted religious minority in Iran, they—more than most—have come to understand the meaning of the prophet Jeremiah, "If you will remain in this land, then I will build you up and not pull you down; I will plant you, and not pluck you up. . . ." The expansion of this community's physical presence through the construction of this center is a sign of continuing growth and maturity, and one which I happily encourage.

Mr. Speaker, as always, breaking ground on a new religious center is a joyous event. Such structures are gifts to the future and expressions of our most admirable goals for our posterity. The Young Mashadi Jewish Center in Great Neck will include classrooms and a playground for children, a youth center for young adults, a recreational lounge to accommodate social, cultural, and educational programs for the community seniors, and other spaces available to host all those events which connect individuals and families to their community.

This center will be built with love, dedication, determination and an abiding faith in the future of the Jewish people. In short, it will be a center that reflects the values of the people who built it.

Mr. Speaker, in the Jewish faith, when a book of study is completed, the accomplishment is celebrated by offering encouragement to immediately return to the work ahead. The groundbreaking of the Young Mashadi Jewish Center in Great Neck is a great step forward, a real achievement. But it is a step which only promises greater things. In the days ahead, I know the whole House will join me in saying "Chazak! Chazak! v'Nitchazayk!" (Be strong! Be strong! And may we be strengthened!)

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SOUTH
PASADENA KIWANIS CLUB'S 80TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the South Pasadena Kiwanis Club upon its 80th anniversary.

Kiwanis is a worldwide service organization of women and men who share the challenge of community and world improvement. Since its founding in 1915, Kiwanis has grown to include approximately 9,000 clubs in more than 80 nations.

The South Pasadena Kiwanis Club, founded in 1923, consists of business and professional people who work or live in the South Pasadena area that have an interest in volunteer service. A family-oriented organization, South Pasadena Kiwanis members are committed to serving the youth, families and senior citizens of South Pasadena.

Some of the club's charitable contributions include the South Pasadena Educational Foundation, Farm City Youth, Special Olympics, the Summer Reading Program, "Terrific Kids," the Young Men's Christian Association, "Concerts in the Park," and Little League. The South Pasadena Kiwanis Club is the main sponsor for South Pasadena High School's Key Club and "Grad Night" Breakfast, in addition to providing student scholarships at the high school, middle school and elementary schools. In addition, some of the club's annual events include a Fourth of July Pancake Breakfast, a Spaghetti Dinner in conjunction with the South Pasadena Fire Department, and participation in the construction of the city of South Pasadena's Rose Parade Float.

The time, energy and care that the South Pasadena Kiwanis Club has given to the community are extraordinary, and the residents of South Pasadena have benefited greatly. At this time, I ask all Members to join with me in commending the South Pasadena Kiwanis Club for 80 years of dedicated service to the South Pasadena community.

HONORING CHANA LYMON

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, teaching is one of the noblest professions I can think of. I rise today to honor one of those teachers. Her name is Chana Lymon. Chana is the Director for Sylvan Career Starters in Columbia, Tennessee. She recently received the Educator Excellence Award from Sylvan Education Solutions. This award is presented to individuals who meet and exceed all of the standards of Excellence and Program Management. Award winners have developed well trained motivated teams and ensure that all service activities meet Sylvan standards.

The Career Center serves youth ages 18–21 who have dropped out of school or have not been able to complete traditional high school due to a barrier such as teen-parenting, truancy, delinquency, debilitating illness, or an academic deficiency. The centers help students prepare for the GED and State TCAP or Gateway tests. They also offer employability and work assistance as well as computer literacy training.

It has become evident through their work that Ms. Lymon and her staff strongly believe in promoting the importance of self-worth. Self-esteem is the most important factor that will go hand in hand with success. I congratulate Ms. Lymon and her staff for promoting education as the key to a better future.

TRIBUTE TO THE 2003 PEOPLE AND
PERFORMANCE AWARD WINNERS

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 8, 2003

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Monical's Pizza Corporation (Monical's) for receiving the People and Performance Award (PAPA) during the Multi-Unit