

USA of Farrell for its 100 years of service. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute such a dedicated organization like Sokol USA.

STATEMENT ON HOLOCAUST
REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to observe Yom Hashoah, the Holocaust Martyrs and Heroes Remembrance Day.

The Holocaust was an unprecedented crime that took the lives of 6 million Jews, broke apart families, and wrongfully imprisoned individuals subjecting them to tortures, rape and other horrendous actions.

In 1933, the Jewish population of Europe stood at over 9 million. Most European Jews lived in countries that the Third Reich would occupy or influence during World War II. By 1945, close to two out of every three European Jews had been killed as part of the Nazi policy to systematically murder the Jews of Europe.

Yom Hashoah serves as a reminder that we must never forget the appalling tragedy of the Holocaust, and the 6 million Jews who lost their lives.

It was racism, bigotry, anti-Semitism and general religious intolerance that drove Hitler to pursue the destruction of the Jewish people. To honor the victims who lost their lives in the Holocaust, and to ensure that such acts never happen again, there must be a concerted effort to fight intolerance and discrimination.

Before I was elected to Congress in 1990, my family and I and our two children visited Dachau in southern Germany. It was important not only for my wife and I, but also for our children to see what inhumanity mankind could do to itself; not only for our generation but for our children and the next generation to make sure that it never happens again.

Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues on this Yom Hashoah in commemorating those who lost their lives in the Holocaust.

TRIBUTE TO MR. HAROLD SOENS

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and community service of Mr. Harold Soens, who recently passed away at the age of 66 at his home in Santee, California. As President of the San Diego Off-Road Coalition and the California League of Off-Road Voters, Mr. Soens was passionate about off-road recreation, devoting his life toward working with the community; especially children. He educated others about the sport, teaching the value of off-road safety and etiquette and working to protect the rights of all off-road enthusiasts while, at the same time, appreciating the environment with which we have been blessed.

Mr. Soens learned the value of service at a very young age, losing his father aboard the USS *Arizona* during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941. It was this example that Mr. Soens would follow throughout his life as he devoted his time toward the goal of creating a positive environment and future for outdoor recreation in California.

An off-road enthusiast since 1958, Mr. Soens rode everything from midgets to sprint cars and spent some time racing as a competitive motorcycle rider. Known for his sense of humor, friendliness, frankness and energy, Mr. Soens served in several capacities with the California Off-Road Vehicle Association, the American Motorcyclist Association, the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council, the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreational Area Technical Review Team and the Stakeholders Roundtable for OHV Recreation in California. Even with these responsibilities, Mr. Soens found the time to volunteer hundreds of hours at the Ocotillo Wells State Vehicular Recreational Area and as an ATV Safety Instructor for the State of California.

Mr. Soens was also heavily involved with the Survivors of Pearl Harbor and the California Police Activities League (CalPal) program where he served as a mentor to inner-city and under-privileged children by providing the opportunity for them to appreciate the beauty of our desert and the enjoyment of off-road activities. At all times, with all students, Mr. Soens stressed the responsibility of being safe and treating the land in which they lived and played with respect.

I wish to express to his wife, Jean, his four children, eight grandchildren and one great grandchild, my sincerest condolences for their loss. In a time where the idea of volunteerism is often seen as a burden, Mr. Soens' dedication and service is a reminder to us all that effort rendered toward the benefit of our community is the greatest use of our time.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO HERB
TOBMAN

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Herb Tobman, who passed away this past March. Herb was known as a successful businessman and a community leader and his quiet generosity that impacted the lives of countless Nevadans.

Herb was born in the Bronx in 1924. In the 1950s, Herb moved to Las Vegas, where he opened City Furniture Exchange, the first used furniture store in Las Vegas. The business thrived, and it was a Las Vegas landmark for more than 25 years. His success as a businessman led Herb to start Western Cab Company in 1965. Herb started with one cab, and ended with more than 134 taxicabs and 355 employees.

In addition to his business accomplishments, Herb was also an active participant in Nevada politics. In 1986, he ran in the Democratic gubernatorial primary against incumbent Richard Bryan. Instead of using his wealth to fuel his political aspirations, Herb limited contributions to \$10 per individual. Needless to

say, those limits put him at a competitive disadvantage, but Herb still managed to receive more than 15 percent of the primary vote.

Herb also knew the importance of giving back to his community and made many charitable contributions throughout his life. However, Herb never sought recognition for his efforts, but he impacted almost every life in southern Nevada. Every year, during the holidays, Herb anonymously fed hundreds of homeless individuals in Las Vegas. He helped local children with their college expenses, and he helped people who were down on their luck. No challenge was too great. If Herb knew you needed help, he was there to provide it oftentimes unknown to his beneficiaries. I needed help on several occasions, and Herb was always available. Herb was my friend and I will miss him very much.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the memory of Herb Tobman for his professional successes and distinguished philanthropic record. His death is a great loss to the community and he will be greatly missed. Nevada is a better place because of Herb.

TRIBUTE TO DAVE BIANCO

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Dave Bianco, the Project Coordinator, Automated External Defibrillator (AED) program, at St. Margaret Foundation.

Mr. Bianco, a resident of Hampton Township and an Iraq veteran, has designed the AED program to support a "heart safe" community. The AED program trains, and places AEDs in places where people tend to congregate like schools, churches, community centers and police and fire departments. AEDs are designed to reverse Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) which kills 300,000 people annually. The AED program through St. Margaret Foundation began 1998 and has saved 17 lives, including eight since June 2005. The Foundation has donated 162 AEDs since 1998 and continues to be the only foundation in the country that provides complimentary AEDs and full-service, diagnostics and repairs. Two AEDs will be donated to Al Zarenko, Director of Community Services, to be placed in the new community center in Hampton Township.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Dave Bianco for all of his work for St. Margaret Foundation. It is an honor to represent the Fourth Congressional District of Pennsylvania and a pleasure to salute such a dedicated individual.

TRIBUTE TO AN AMERICAN HERO—
MICHAEL J. NOVOSEL

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of America's greatest military heroes, Michael J. "Mike" Novosel, who