

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO FLORINE MARK

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2007

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and admiration that I rise to congratulate Florine Mark on being a recipient of the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit's Jewish Community Boneh Kehillah Award. It is my privilege to applaud Ms. Mark as a deserving community member and friend for her many years of entrepreneurship, community service, and civil activism on a day when she is being acknowledged for her vast achievements.

As President and Chairman of the Board of The WW Group, Inc., Ms. Mark displays a keen business sense and devotion to promoting the physical and mental well-being of her fellow citizens, a commitment that she has worked diligently to nurture and expand for over 30 years.

In addition to her successful business career, Ms. Mark displays a devotion to the community at large and a gracious heart through her insight and support of local and national organizations on women's issues, healthy lifestyles, and the preservation of our rich cultural heritage. The American Heart Association, Detroit Institute for Children, Detroit Renaissance and Seeds of Peace are just a few of the many organizations that have benefited from her involvement.

Beyond her role as a business leader and pillar of the community, Ms. Mark is also the proud mother of 5 children and 19 grandchildren who share a bond of giving and receiving to each other, their neighbors and community.

I am honored to express my gratitude and admiration to Ms. Mark for the profound impact she has on the lives of men and women around the country and her impact on the Metro-Detroit Community. She truly exemplifies "Boneh Kehilla".

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Mark on this momentous occasion. May she know of our admiration and warmest wishes for continued success.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY— YOM HASHOAH

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day. I join the Jewish communities of my district in Brooklyn, the entire American Jewish community, and the State of Israel in recognizing this barbaric chapter of world history.

Over 60 years ago, the Nazi regime in Germany began the wholesale slaughter of the European Jewry. This occurred with little public outrage in the United States and the international community. The world, as well as the American government under President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, refused to act to save European Jewry and that silence undoubtedly contributed to the death of six million Jews, a million of whom were children.

When we hear the number six million, we shudder. The enormity of that number is paralyzing. Merely trying to count to six million would take months. Imagining the Nazi death machine executing so many human beings is daunting. Particularly for those of us who have not survived the Holocaust, absorbing the reality of that destruction from survivors is so essential to passing on the history of the Holocaust.

The moving museums and heart wrenching memorials dedicated to the Holocaust across the United States are vital in educating today's youth about the horrors of the Holocaust, and I want to commend all organizations and groups that are committed to this important work. It is additionally critical that European countries preserve the glaring remnants of the Holocaust that still exist today. Whether they are death camps, mass gravesites, cemeteries, synagogues or other holy sites from pre-Holocaust Europe, European governments have an obligation to preserve those sites for future generations. Sadly, numerous European countries including Lithuania, Ukraine and Romania have on occasion shirked their responsibilities in this regard.

While we remember the absolute devastation the Holocaust wrought on the Jewish community, we also mark the strength of those who heroically resisted the Nazis including those who fought in the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and at the Sobibor extermination camp.

I am privileged to represent a large but dwindling population of Holocaust survivors in my district. Many of these survivors rebuilt their lives with nothing more than the shirt on their back. Today, based on the strong foundations of those Holocaust survivors, the beautiful Jewish communities of Williamsburg, Midwood and Canarsie have flourished. These communities represent the best of Jewish life and have been instrumental in resurrecting religious life in the aftermath of the Holocaust by creating synagogues, yeshivas, and other religious institutions.

Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the efforts of organizations that have taken extraordinary steps in servicing and caring for the Holocaust survivor population in my district: The Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty; The United Jewish Organizations of Williamsburg; The Council of Jewish Organizations of Flatbush; The Jewish Community Council of Canarsie; The Conference of Jewish Material Claims Against Germany; Peasch Tikvah and all the Bikkur Cholim organizations. Their selfless work for Holocaust survivors continues to serve as an

inspiration to me and I am honored to recognize their hard work.

Madam Speaker, I join my colleagues here today in remembering the Holocaust. Though there are still Holocaust deniers today, it is imperative that we never forget.

TRIBUTE TO THE TUCKER HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, only a few schools excel in competition on a State level that ignites a community.

Under the leadership and guidance of Coach James Hartry, the Tucker High School Boys Basketball team has won a State Championship for the school, the city of Tucker and our beloved Fourth Congressional District.

These Tenacious Tigers of Tucker have demonstrated the will to win, the courage to win, the mechanics of teamwork and the astounding spirit of triumph from a mental and physical battle.

The 9th day of March, 2007 will go down in history as the day that our Tucker High School Boys Basketball team became the AAAA Champions of Georgia.

The team exhibited great moral character on and off the basketball court through the halls of Tucker High.

I was pleased to set aside March 31, 2007, to honor and recognize the Tucker High School Basketball Team for its victory for our District.

TRIBUTE TO MARK D. LERNER, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE ANNETTE M. AND THEODORE N. LERNER FAMILY FOUNDATION

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 19, 2007

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mark D. Lerner, Vice President of The Annette M. and Theodore N. Lerner Family Foundation, who will receive the "Chadesh Yameinu" (which means 'renewing our days' in Hebrew) Award from the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School of Rockville, Maryland, where Mr. Lerner has served as a board member and is a proud alumni parent. Mr. Lerner's vision of community service and his unwavering dedication to seeding tomorrow's leaders by supporting their education today made him an ideal recipient for this prestigious award.

Mark D. Lerner is a principal of Lerner Enterprises, the estate development, management, and investment company founded by his

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