

Power Association, the Large Public Power Council, the California Municipal Utilities Association and the National Business Council for Sustainable Energy. In addition, she has been a tireless advocate for clean energy and is on the board of the California Climate Action Registry and the National Alliance to Save Energy.

Under her leadership, SMUD has made many significant improvements in lowering their rates, improving their reliability, increasing their renewable energy programs and their overall customer satisfaction. Ms. Schori helped keep rates 20 to 30 percent below private energy companies, and earned bond rating upgrades from the major credit rating agencies. During her tenure, Ms. Schori worked to establish and expand SMUD solar programs, new energy efficiency goals, and a Greenergy program that has become one of the largest in the nation. SMUD is now a leader in renewable energy and energy efficiency. Due to these efforts, SMUD has been ranked by JD Power and Associates as one of the top providers in California for residential customers and one of the top in the nation for commercial customers.

Ms. Schori's 14 years as general manager of SMUD is the longest of any general manager in SMUD's 61 year history. Her dedication to our community is apparent through her work both with SMUD and with other local non-profits. She serves on the board and is treasurer of Valley Vision. She also actively supports the United Way California Capitol Region's Foster Youth Initiative and was the 2006 recipient of the DeTocqueville philanthropy award. Personally, Ms. Schori has been a pleasure to work with. Her thoughtfulness and intelligence has empowered employees to work diligently with an open door policy. She has also routinely testified in front of Congressional committees on energy issues.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Jan Schori's distinguished commitment to Sacramento and our energy needs. Ms. Schori's outstanding leadership and dedication to SMUD, has helped promote the use of clean, renewable energy resources that not only benefits our community, but also sets an example for other providers across the state nation. We all are thankful for her efforts. As Ms. Schori's husband Case Buttermann, colleagues, family and friends gather to honor her service, I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing her continued good fortune in her future endeavors.

---

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. DEAN HELLER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2008*

Mr. HELLER of Nevada. Madam Speaker on rollcall No. 244, motion to adjourn, had I been present, I would have voted "nay".

IN MEMORIAL OF SGT. STEPHEN LICZBINSKI

### HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2008*

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart. On Saturday May 3, 2008, Sgt. Stephen Liczbinski, a 12-year veteran of the Philadelphia Police Department and a constituent of the 13th Congressional District, was shot and killed while responding to a bank robbery.

Sgt. Liczbinski, who would have turned 40 today, left behind a wife, Michelle, and three children, Matt, Steven, and Amber. He was known to his friends and colleagues as "the real deal," "a great family man," and "a hero."

Sgt. Liczbinski spent most of his career working South Philadelphia as a beat cop in the Fourth District. In November 2007, he moved to the 24th District where he was promoted to Sergeant and became a valuable asset to his fellow officers. He was known as a great supervisor who treated all of his colleagues equally.

When he wasn't on the clock, Sgt. Liczbinski was known as a dedicated father who would bring his entire family with him to police barbecues.

His last words, according to the brave Northeast Philadelphia residents who ran out of their homes to provide him with comfort and assistance was "Tell my wife I'll miss her."

Like many in Philadelphia, I'm hurt and shocked that we've lost yet another courageous, outstanding officer. Unfortunately this is not an isolated incident. The lack of respect for our law enforcement officers and the failure to respect the life of any human is appalling and intolerable.

Our city owes Sgt. Liczbinski its eternal gratitude for the sacrifice he made to protect the public from these heinous criminals.

In respect of that sacrifice, I ask that the whole House of Representatives extend its condolences to Michelle Liczbinski, her family, and the Philadelphia Police Department for their loss.

May our thoughts and prayers ease their grief and help sustain the dedicated men and women of the Philadelphia Police Department who put themselves in harms way every day to protect the safety of our families and communities.

---

#### THE CINCO DE MAYO HOLIDAY

### HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2008*

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I am proud to commemorate Cinco de Mayo, the historic celebration of Mexican heritage and pride.

On May 5th, 1862, Mexican General Ignacio Zaragoza Seguin led 4,000 Mexican troops into battle against the French in the Battle of Puebla, just 100 miles from Mexico City. General Seguin led his brave troops to a spirited victory in spite of being badly outnumbered and lacking the modern weaponry possessed by the French.

The Mexican effort in the Battle of Puebla epitomized courage, as the outmanned troops survived three bloody French assaults and finally achieved resounding success. Numerous Mexicans gave their lives not solely for their country, but also for the timeless values of freedom and justice. The tremendous fight put up by the Mexican troops at the Battle of Puebla also had a substantial impact on the United States' history, as the French defeat provided President Lincoln with crucial support as the Civil War descended into chaos.

There can be no doubting the bravery, spirit or patriotism of the thousands of Mexican troops who fought and, all too frequently, gave their lives at the Battle of Puebla. In the spirit of remembering the sacrifices of those troops, Cinco de Mayo provides us with a perfect opportunity to recognize the sacrifice for sovereignty, the importance of courage and, above all, the universal yearning for freedom.

Cinco de Mayo is celebrated throughout Mexico and the United States with a joyous mixture of food, music and dancing. It has also taken on great significance in the United States as a day to celebrate broadly the culture and ancestry of Americans of Mexican heritage.

The Mexican forces who won the Battle of Puebla should not and will not ever be forgotten, nor will the values for which they fought. I commend those forces for their spirit and courage and I wish all those celebrating the holiday across Mexico and the United States a happy Cinco de Mayo.

---

#### ON THE PASSING OF YOSSI HAREL

### HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 6, 2008*

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today with great sadness to note the recent passing of Yossi Harel, the legendary Haganah commander responsible for shepherding thousands of Jewish refugees through British blockades and to safety in the nascent Jewish homeland.

Harel was perhaps best known for commanding the ship Exodus 1947, which was intercepted off the coast of Haifa by British warships in July 1947, carrying 4,553 Jewish refugees from Europe.

The unconscionable decision by the British authorities to send these Holocaust survivors aboard the Exodus back to Germany focused the world's attention on the plight of Jewish refugees and their desire to leave the fetid displaced persons camps in Europe for a new life in soon to be sovereign Israel.

Members of the United Nations Special Commission on Palestine saw first hand as these refugees, with their meager possessions, were unloaded from the ramshackle Exodus 1947 in the port of Haifa and prepared for their return to Europe—all just precious feet away from the land they had so desperately yearned to reach.

Incredibly these refugees—just two years removed from the horrors of the Holocaust—were held by the British in a former S.S. concentration camp after their return to Germany. This shocked the conscious of much of the world and further galvanized opinion against the British blockage and in favor of the establishment of a Jewish state in Mandate-era Palestine.