

school's athletic programs. He initiated the Sports Challenge program, whereby he contributes one percent of collected receipts to school sports and exercise programs to Mariposa Elementary School. Mr. Dubberke often supplies ice to booths, concessions and exhibitors during the annual Mariposa County Fair, Homecoming and other community events.

Mr. Dubberke has held numerous leadership positions. He was appointed by the Governor to the Mariposa County Fair, Board of Directors. He has also served on the Mariposa County Water Agency Advisory Board and is past president of the Sierra Edelweiss German Club. For his tremendous service to his community, Mr. Dubberke has been honored with the Western Fairs Association's Blue Ribbon Award, Central California Excellence in Business Award in 2005, California Outstanding Retailer of the Month and was named Businessman of the Year in 2000 by the Mariposa County Chamber of Commerce.

The Americanism Medal is awarded to a person that has demonstrated extraordinary qualities of leadership, trustworthiness, service and patriotism. Mr. Dubberke has certainly met those qualifications; he understands the responsibility as an American citizen to respect the flag, teach others to support our Constitution, participate in government and to give back to our country. Mr. Dubberke recently published a book, "Three Times Blessed," in which he teaches valuable lessons on what it takes to find true happiness and success.

Mr. Dubberke and his wife have been married for over 50 years; they have four children and eight grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Dieter Dubberke upon being honored with the Americanism Medal. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Dubberke many years of continued success.

HONORING DONALD OETMAN ON  
HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. BART STUPAK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 19, 2010*

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Donald Oetman of Allegan as he retires from the International Union UAW after 45 years of loyal and dedicated service as a member and officer of the United Auto Workers. Since 2002, Don has served as director of UAW Region 1D, a vast district covering 62 counties that spans western, central and northern regions of Michigan, including the Upper Peninsula. During his service he has been a committed and enthusiastic voice for the working men and women and retirees of UAW Region 1D.

In 1963, shortly after graduating high school, Don went to work at Micromatic Textron in Holland, Michigan. Two years later, Don served as a member on the committee of plant workers that came together to form their own UAW local union—UAW Local 1502. Not only did these union supporters win the organizing drive, they also successfully negotiated the first contract with management.

Don quickly rose within the UAW when he was asked to serve as vice president of the

newly formed UAW Local 1502, becoming president in 1967. Don was also chosen as bargaining chairperson of his local, in addition to his duties as president. He served in these capacities until 1984 when he was appointed by UAW President Owen Bieber and Director Robert Flierman to the International Union UAW staff as a service representative of the Region 1D staff. Don went on to serve as assistant director to the 1D region from 1995–2002 and was elected director of Region 1D in 2002, and re-elected in 2006.

From the beginning, Don has understood the importance of community and has been active throughout the labor community and his community in West Michigan. He has served on the board of directors for several community organizations, including the Michigan Association of United Ways, the Red Cross, and the Michigan State University Labor Studies program. He also serves on the Muskegon and Kalamazoo Labor/Management Joint Participation Committees, the Workforce Development Board for Allegan and Kent Counties, the Coalition for Labor Union Women, and was a Local Union Discussion Leader for the Stewards/Committeemen training and for high school labor studies classes.

It is indicative of Don's big heart and giving nature that when he looks back over the past 45 years, he considers his greatest accomplishment as having served so many UAW members, retirees and their families. He was especially fond of telling the stories of the UAW in days past to the young staff he worked with, and in sharing this history Don has helped to pass his knowledge and enthusiasm onto the next generation of UAW leaders. For Don, it truly is the people within the UAW family that have made his many years with the UAW so rewarding.

While he is closing one chapter in his life, Don is looking forward to another that includes being at home with his wife Corlyn and helping with the yard work, spending more time with his three children and his grandchildren, enjoying a few more rounds of golf, and doing some fishing. He will also stay active in his church and the Allegan Democratic Party.

Madam Speaker, Don has made a lifetime of contributions to organized labor and his community, looking out for the best interests of workers across Michigan. He has exceeded the call to service in his professional and personal life, demonstrating leadership by example for generations of UAW members. Therefore Madam Speaker, I ask that you, and all of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives, join me in honoring UAW Region 1D Director Donald Oetman and congratulating him on his retirement from International Union UAW.

TRIBUTE TO THE MORRISTOWN  
JEWISH CENTER BEIT ISRAEL

**HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 19, 2010*

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Morristown Jewish Center Beit Israel, of Morristown, New Jersey, which is celebrating its 80th Anniversary in 2010.

The Morristown Jewish community was first incorporated as a formal religious body on

January 5, 1899 as the House of Israel. Their first meeting place was at 4 Race Street, where Hebrew School classes were held and services were conducted. As the congregation grew, it moved several times to accommodate the expanding membership. In 1918, the religious body purchased a three-story Victorian home at 177 Speedwell Avenue in Morristown. The building was remodeled to accommodate religious services and religious school classes.

Between 1921 and 1924, the idea of creating a multi-purpose community center arose. During this time period, a demand for wider use of the facility for religious, cultural and social purposes developed. The desire for a building suited to these multiple purposes gained momentum. Maurice Epstein, founder of the M. Epstein Department Store, led a campaign to raise \$34,000 toward this goal. Shortly thereafter, plans were presented to the membership and the cornerstone of the new building was laid on March 3, 1929.

From the 1930's through the 1950's, Jewish community life revolved around the center. In the 1960's additional classrooms and a new social hall were built and in the 1980's the former gymnasium was converted into a ballroom. In 1987, the building, listed on the National Register, received a Heritage Commission marker. A nursery school was added in 1992.

Culturally, socially and spiritually, the Morristown Jewish Center Beit Israel has been a positive force in people's lives, and its members continue to enrich the well-being of Morristown and the surrounding area through its presence.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Morristown Jewish Center Beit Israel as it celebrates its 80th Anniversary.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL  
TEACHER WEEK

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 19, 2010*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1312, a resolution commemorating National Teacher Week. This week in May recognizes the millions of educators who play an integral role in shaping the lives of children across the country.

Teachers are charged with the essential responsibility of preparing the youngest generation of Americans to compete and excel in our global economy. Every day, they sacrifice for the sake of their students. They are relentless and admirable in performing a difficult and sometimes thankless job. They walk into their classrooms and face a daunting task—ensuring each student learns and succeeds.

That is why I'm working for our students, teachers and schools, especially during these economic hard times. Without federal aid to protect education jobs, budget crises at the State and local level will result in increased class sizes and massive layoffs. As a Member of Congress, it is my job to do what I can to make sure classroom doors stay open so students can learn. Last year, I voted for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (P.L. 111–5), which saved or created over 400,000 teaching jobs nationally, and nearly 7,000 in Minnesota.