the ''People's Budget'' here: http://bit.ly/peoples-budget.

Our government should serve all of its citizens. By bolstering the social safety net for those who most need it and prioritizing measures that reduce the growing inequality in our nation, The People's Budget does just that, and it deserves the support of Congress. We urge you to vote for it when it comes to the House Floor.

Thank you for your consideration.

A TRIBUTE TO LINDSAY MOSER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Lindsay Moser for being named a 2015 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines Area that are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious honor based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2015 class of Forty Under 40 honorees will join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Lindsay has the determination and drive to be successful in all that she does, and her exemplary work with Principal Financial Group Inc. is a testament to that. As the Campus and Diversity & Inclusion Manager for Principal Financial Group, Lindsay is passionate about going the extra mile. Lindsay's outstanding work ethic and dedication to service, both professionally and personally, makes our state proud.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Lindsay in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great State of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Lindsay on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2015 Forty Under 40 class a long and successful career.

REMEMBERING ANDREW J. PARISE, MAYOR OF THE VILLAGE OF CEDARHURST, NY

HON. KATHLEEN M. RICE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Miss RICE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Andrew Parise, the longtime mayor of the Village of Cedarhurst who passed away last month at the age of 90. A decorated veteran of World War II, Mayor Parise fought in the Battle of the Bulge and personally bore witness to the atrocities of the Holocaust when his division liberated the Buchenwald Concentration Camp. After the war, Mayor Parise returned home and spent 60 years as a decorated public servant, fully devoted to his neighbors and his community.

I wish to share the following essay by Rabbi Mordechai Kamenetzky, remembering Mayor Parise as a man who led by example, who welcomed human beings of all religions, races and ethnicities and created a spirit of equality and inclusiveness in the Cedarhurst community that will live on long after his passing.

[From AMI Magazine, Feb. 18, 2015]

A MAYOR TO REMEMBER

(By Rabbi Mordechai Kamenetzky)

I went back to the shtetl last week. You know, like the fellows who go back to Hungary or Poland 50 years after the war, the ones who left when they were little kids. When they get there, though, it's a different shtetl.

Of course, some of their old neighbors are still there. You know, the Januariuszes and the Stanislaws in Poland and the Andrashes and Ferkos in Hungary. There they are milling around, looking at you with a mixture of disdain and curiosity, and you're not exactly sure what you're doing there either.

Still, there's something that always draws a person back to his beginnings. What is it? Maybe it's a longing for ''your land, your birthplace and the house of your father'' that even pogroms, concentration camps and ruthless natives can't repress.

You are wondering, I am sure, where I went. No, it was not the little village of Tzitivyan in Lithuania, nor was it Dolhinov, Minsk or even Ostrov.

I went back to the world in which I was born and raised, before it was transformed into a vastly different universe. A remnant of that world was compressed and transplanted into a funeral home in Lynbrook, Long Island, where my father and I went to pay our respects to the old neighborhood and its colorful characters.

Andrew Parise, our backyard neighbor for 58 years, and the mayor of the Village of Cedarhurst since 1995, passed away last week. At a time when Jews were a minority in Woodmere and Cedarhurst—and Orthodox Jews almost nonexistent—Mayor Parise opened his arms and embraced us warmly.

Mr. Parise was loved and revered by everyone. Possibly the oldest active mayor in the United States, he commanded respect; indeed, no one ever referred to him as anything other than ''the mayor,'' It was, lehavdil, almost like ''the rosh yeshivah.''

It's hard for city folks to relate to a mayor who rode around in an older Lincoln Town Car with a license plate reading ''CEDMAYOR,'' stopping to kibbitz with the locals, and offering rides to people when it rained. He implored my father and me to cut through his backyard to shorten our Shabbos walk to shul, and worked diligently on solving zoning problems for the myriad shtiebelach popping up on village street corners.

It was gentiles like Andy Parise who facilitated the harmonious transformation of Cedarhurst, a very secular town that, along with four other similar villages, burgeoned into the Orthodox community known as the Five Towns.

My trip to the funeral home in Lynbrook was a trip back in time, as I met so many players of the original five shtetlach there, people whose influence and presence were so prominent when I was a kid.

Of course, joining me in the room was my father and an Avi, an Asher and an Ari, much younger than I and strangers to the past to which I'd come to pay my respects. Still, for the most part it was the universe of the pre-frum Five Towns, when the Nickys, Jimmys, Tonys, Joeys and Jesses dominated. If I closed my eyes I could almost hear my father pleading and cajoling to get the garbage picked up, the zoning approved or the unions to back off.

In those days, the Italians ran the town. Orthodox Jews were an anomaly; a yarmulke was such a strange sight on Central Avenue that I remember distinctly tugging on my mother's sleeve whenever I saw another one and shouting, ''Look, Ma! He's wearing a yarmulke!''

As I made my way up to the front of the room in search of the Parise children I was stopped by Nick Fabrizio. When I was a kid he was a bus driver; now he owns the bus company. It was one of the largest independent bus companies in our area. While he still comes into the business every day he has passed most of the reins—or the wheels—over to his son Michael. ''Hey! Rabbi!'' he called out. ''How's your pop? I remember how he used to call me at five o'clock in the morning on snow days, pleading with me to pick up the kids even though the public schools were closed!'' He was interrupted by Nicky DeSibio, whose father, affectionately known as Uncle Pete, used to be a big Republican politician.

''What a loss,'' he said, shaking his head. ''Were you aware that I did all the zoning work for you guys when your father had all these problems with the yeshivah back in the day?'' Then he spotted my elderly father and hugged him. ''Rabbi! I was just telling your son . . .''

He was relating some of his ''war stories'' when a voice rang out as if we were standing at a wedding. ''Hey! It's Mutty!'' Yes, that was my sobriquet well before my hair turned gray. ''I've never forgotten you! How's your dad? How's Tzqueaky?'' pronouncing my brother Zvi's name the exact same way all the kids, as well as Mr. Shave, our Irish tenant, used to. It was David Parise, the youngest of Andy's three kids, as enthusiastic and warm as always.

I could remember myself as a seven-year-old kid with a large yarmulke, watching the older fellows, Parise, Ferguson, Collins and Newman, playing stickball. They always let me play with them and never made fun of my head covering or my religion. And I can't remember a negative remark against Leroy Collins, the first and only black kid in the neighborhood. I even joined them on some of their mischievous adventures at the Cedarhurst railroad station, which by today's standards are rather innocuous, but I would still rather not mention.

David was peppering me with questions and I was asking him if he knew whatever happened to the rest of the gang. All of a sudden my mind was in a 50-year-old place, filled with Farinas, Lanzilottas and DiLorenzos. As the names came swirling back at me I wondered: Why hadn't I experienced all the anti-Semitism I'd heard so much about?

Then my eyes glanced at the mayor, lying in repose in a half-opened coffin, next to the myriad medals he'd received fighting the Nazis and liberating Buchenwald, including a Purple Heart. I thought about the tone he'd set for his family and for all of his friends.

When asked, he was proud to talk about his experiences. ''When we got to Buchenwald, there were no live people left; maybe a few. Mostly there were large pits filled with skeletons. General Eisenhower wanted us to go into the concentration camps so we could be witnesses to Hitler's atrocities.''

I thought of the early years, when he'd embraced my father's presence and vision for the town. I thought of all the times my father went to him to take care of a ''problem.''

I also remembered hearing stories from other rabbis, some of whom arrived years later. Rabbi Aryeh Ginzberg once related how the mayor had refused to let him sit on a folding chair in his office, insisting on schlepping in a big comfortable leather one for him. ''My rabbi doesn't sit on a folding chair if I can do anything about it,'' he said.

The Mayor would always visit our sukkah, and I heard that after my parents started going away for Yom Tov he continued the tradition by visiting the sukkah of Rabbi Zalman Wolowik, the local Chabad shaliach. When Rabbi and Rebbetzin Wolowik were sitting shivah for their son, Levi Yitzchak, the mayor visited every day.

Somehow, he always managed to figure out a way to make things work, whether it was a shul having a problem with zoning laws or trying to get additional parking spaces. His favorite motto was something like the Gemara's ''koach d'heteira adif'': ''Some people in authority express power by saying no. I express it by saying yes.''

As I looked at the medals I thought of what it must have been like for an Italian kid fighting the Nazis and liberating the Jews.

I also reflected on how the towns and the landscape have changed. Orthodox Jews are now on the board of local villages; the deputy (and soon to be) mayor of Cedarhurst is a trustee of the Young Israel of Woodmere. Torah-observant citizens make up the majority of the school board.

I glanced at the coffin and the medals, and the Purple Heart. Being among all the people who had treated my father and our family with such warmth and accommodation, I thought, ''I may have gone back to the shtetl of my youth, but I was not with the Lithuanian, Polish or Hungarian collaborators.'' I was in the presence of the soldiers, and their children who are fighting the Nazis until this very day.

CELEBRATING THE 36TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT

HON. TOM PRICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. TOM PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize a very important day in U.S.-Taiwan relations. April 10th marks the 36th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA). This important statute has been critical in defining the diplomatic, economic, and strategic relationship we have enjoyed with Taiwan over the last four decades. The TRA has strengthened our relationship and helped to encourage a particularly strong economic partnership. Over the course of the last few decades, Taiwan has created a thriving and innovative economy that most countries around the world envy. Taiwan plays a critical role in the supply of everyday products and is fully integrated in the global economy.

Also, as we near the 70th Anniversary of the end of the Second World War, it is just and appropriate that we remember the Republic of China's important contributions to the alliance that defeated fascist militarism in that heroic struggle.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to many more decades of cooperation between the United States and Taiwan. I am also confident that if we continue to enhance our economic relationship with this fellow republic, the dynamic partnership that we've built together will continue to thrive in the future.

TRIBUTE TO ARJUN KUNJILWAR

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to interact with some of the brightest students in the 22nd Congressional District who serve on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council. I have gained much by listening to the high school students who are the future of this great nation. They provide important insight into the concerns of our younger constituents and hopefully get a better sense of the importance of being an active participant in the political process. Many of the students have written short essays on a variety of topics and I am pleased to share them with my House colleagues.

Arjun Kunjilwar attends Dawson High School in Pearland, Texas. The essay topic is: in your opinion, why is it important to be involved in the political process?

VOTING: A POWERFUL WAY TO GET INVOLVED IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS

During the time when the US Constitution was first proposed, why was it important that every one of the 13 states ratified it? There wasn't a need for a unanimous vote, but there was a need for unity and full cooperation. In a similar sense, while voting on an issue doesn't have to be undisputed, it represents a loyalty and adherence to the American belief of democracy where individual voices and opinions can be freely expressed. Every citizen should vote in any election because individual beliefs can unite together to achieve anything desired. A vote can represent so many things. It has the power to magnify one's voice so that it can be heard by others. It can help drive change when many are put together. It signifies a person's concern and perspective of what actions will lead to improvement. It can unite a group of people to help work towards a certain goal.

In today's society, presidential election voting seems to have lost some of its importance. Since 2004, while the number of people who are eligible to vote has increased by 18,000 (attributed to increasing population), the number of people who actually fill out the ballot has increased only about 7,000, and the percent of the population that actually does vote has dropped about 2%. In a society that constantly focuses on what can be improved, voting provides the stimulus for change. People may choose not to vote because they don't feel as if their opinion will cause or spark anything. Yet, voting is the most efficient tool in the hands of the public that can steer the nation in the direction they desire. It also allows the governing bodies to know what is exactly expected of them and keeps them in check. Voting therefore, represents an unalienable role in the government, and should be considered as an important duty of every citizen.

Finally the right to vote it is the greatest symbol of any democracy where the freedom to make choices will always prevail. While the voting process might not give every citizen his or her vision of a perfect society, those who choose to vote express a loyalty to their nation and the want to have it functioning perfectly. So while all votes might not be needed to determine a majority, doesn't each and every one of them have their own value?

HONORING DAVID SHUFFLER

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, as we give pause this month to commemorate the innumerable contributions that African Americans have made—and continue to make—to our nation, I rise to honor a Bronx activist, organizer and impassioned voice for community empowerment. It is with great pleasure and admiration that I stand before you today to applaud Mr. David Shuffler for his many years of compassionate public service and tireless work to improve the lives of our community residents.

Mr. Shuffler was born and raised in the South Bronx where he continues to live, work, and serve the community today. Mr. Shuffler is the Executive Director at Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice (YMPJ). YMPJ is a multi-service, faith based, grassroots community organization located in the Bronx River/Soundview sections of the Bronx that has served the community with unwavering dedication for more than twenty years.

Mr. Shuffler began his career as a public servant when he became a member at Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice in the summer of 1994. Upon quickly joining the staff at YMPJ, Mr. Shuffler became an integral part of forming the original R.I.V.E.R. Team, which led grassroots community organizing efforts that resulted in victories like the creation of Concrete Plant Park and Starlight Park. Today, these parks offer more than thirty acres of waterfront park space, and play a critical role in the realization of the South Bronx Greenway. Mr. Shuffler was also a leader on other important issue campaigns such as unemployment and police reform. The breadth of issues that David Shuffler has worked to champion over the years speaks to the power of his vision, and his commitment to ensuring that the quality of life of individuals in our community is consistently improving.

Today, Mr. Shuffler continues to influence various levels of government on a wide spread of local issues. Over the course of his career he has been able to secure over $50 million dollars for community led efforts throughout the city and helped move effective policy which has directly benefitted some of the most vulnerable individuals in our community. I am grateful to Mr. Shuffler for his ongoing dedication to our community, and I am honored to call him a fellow public servant.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Mr. David Shuffler for his consistently remarkable dedication to public service and longstanding commitment to improving our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHIEF JOHN AMOROSO

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2015

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Chief John Amoroso on his retirement after four years of dedicated service as