

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### PAYING TRIBUTE TO ART WEINTRAUB

#### HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 11, 2005*

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Arthur E. Weintraub for his distinguished professional career, spanning nearly five decades. As Art prepares to retire from his position as President of the Northern Metropolitan Hospital Association, I would like to recognize and thank him for his tremendous leadership in the Hudson Valley region of New York, including his more than 23 years of service to this important regional hospital organization. Prior to this position, Art worked as Executive Director of the Hudson Valley Health Systems Agency, and earlier as Senior Vice-President of Mid-Hudson Pattern for Progress. Before moving to the Hudson Valley, Art also worked with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and later held a senior planning position with the Tri-State Regional Planning Commission. Art's broad expertise in regional planning and health care policy and management have made him an invaluable resource to our region and to the many hospitals and communities that are served by Normet.

Over the course of more than two decades, Art has skillfully balanced the interests of our local community hospitals in a seven-county area of the Hudson Valley, working to find common ground among institutions with a wide array of challenges and in some cases, competition among themselves. Through Art's careful and persistent efforts, Normet has served as an effective advocate to help our public hospitals meet serious challenges and maintain their financial stability in a quickly changing and demanding environment. Under Art's leadership, Normet has promoted important public policy initiatives that improve and strengthen our regional hospitals, helping to ensure the continued availability of quality health care services for the fast growing Hudson Valley region.

Art has received numerous honors over his career including being named a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellow for study at Princeton University in 1977. He has been honored by the American Red Cross, the Arthritis Foundation, the Greater Hudson Valley Family Health Center, area chambers of commerce and a host of community service organizations. In 1997, he was selected national chairman of the U.S. Conference of Metropolitan Hospital Associations, and in 2004 received the Award of Distinction as the Hudson Valley Healthcare Executive of the Year.

In addition to his leadership at Normet, Art has volunteered a great deal of time and energy to improving our region. Recently, Art was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Veterans Affairs to an advisory panel for the VA Campuses at Montrose and Castle Point. Over the years, Art has served in a variety of community service positions, including as presi-

dent of the Newburgh Consolidated District Board of Education and as co-chair of the Community Partnership for a Healthy Westchester Task Force. He has served as an officer on the governing boards of numerous organizations and institutions, including St. Luke's Hospital, the American Health Planning Association, Westchester Health Foundation, Mid-Hudson Pattern for Progress, Pace University Nursing School and Law School Health Advisory Boards, Business School Advisory Board of SUNY New Paltz, Hudson Valley Technology Development Center, Greater Hudson Valley Coordinating Council, Metropolitan Transportation Authority Management Advisory Committee, Orange County Charter Review Commission, Orange County Child Study Center Advisory Board and Congregation Agudas Israel. He is also a Charter Member of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Art received his Bachelor's Degree from Hunter College, and a Masters Degree from New York University's Graduate School of Public Administration. He also completed the Executive Program in Health Policy and Management at Harvard University's School of Public Health. Art currently is an adjunct professor at the New School University's Graduate School of Management, and has held faculty appointments at New York Medical College and Vassar College. He has had numerous articles on health and environmental policy issues published in professional journals.

In addition to these numerous professional credentials, it must be noted that Art is personally regarded as a friend to many of us in the Hudson Valley. He inspires great loyalty in the members of his association and affection from the countless others with whom he has worked over the years, including many of my colleagues in the New York congressional delegation. He will be sorely missed by those of us who have had the pleasure of working with him.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to congratulate Art Weintraub and his family on his upcoming retirement after so many years of service to the Hudson Valley Region. I would like to take this opportunity to offer my very best wishes to Art for a healthy and happy retirement along with my deep appreciation for his vision, dedication and hard work over his impressive career.

### SUPPORTING GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL HEPATITIS B AWARENESS WEEK

SPEECH OF

#### HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 5, 2005*

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for increased awareness and education around the potentially life-

threatening disease, hepatitis B. Hepatitis B is the most common liver infection in the world, and approximately 5,000 Americans will die from complications of this disease in 2005.

The hepatitis B virus is extremely infectious. In fact, it is 100 times more infectious than the HIV virus. Twelve million people in the United States are already infected, and an additional 100,000 more will become infected this year. In my home state of Wisconsin, nearly 600 cases of hepatitis B are reported each year.

This disease is easily transmittable through blood and blood products, bodily fluid, from mother to newborn, unprotected sex, and intravenous drug use. Furthermore, this disease is especially dangerous because many people are completely unaware that they may have come into contact with it until they develop more serious complications such as cirrhosis of the liver or liver cancer. Less than ten percent of Americans suffering from hepatitis B are receiving proper treatment for their disease.

Last week, I was proud to join my colleagues in supporting House Resolution 250, Supporting the Goals and Ideals of National Hepatitis B Awareness Week. Though vaccinations, increased awareness and education initiatives surrounding hepatitis B, this disease is largely preventable. During the week, community events across the country will bring together patients, public health advocates, physicians, and at risk populations to increase awareness and bolster education efforts on preventive measures and disease management.

As we recognize National Hepatitis B Awareness Week, I am hopeful that we can join together and work towards an end to this life-threatening disease.

### SUPPORTING GOALS AND IDEALS OF A ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DAY

SPEECH OF

#### HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 10, 2005*

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 142, honoring Rotary International on the occasion of the organization's one hundred year anniversary. I am proud to note that the Rotary Club was founded in 1905 by Paul P. Harris in my hometown of Chicago, Illinois. Over the past century, the Rotary Club has grown into one of the largest nonprofit organizations in the world.

Rotary's Membership includes 1.2 million professional and business leaders who belong to 31,000 clubs in over 165 countries. These members adhere to the Rotary's motto, "Service Above Self," through community service projects, high moral conduct, and promotion of international good will.

In 1985, Rotary International launched PolioPlus, an effort to immunize the children of

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