

will grieve over the loss of this incredible individual, we can take comfort knowing his sacrifice was made while fulfilling his dream of serving our nation. I would like to extend my heartfelt respects to his family and friends as they mourn his passing. It is my honor to pay tribute to the life of Chance Phelps before this body of Congress and this nation.

A TRIBUTE TO CANTOR BARRY REICH

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to honor and pay tribute to Barry Reich, the Cantor at Peninsula Temple Shalom of Burlingame, California, located in my Congressional District. Cantor Reich, who received his Hazzan Minister Commission in 1979 from the Cantor's Assembly of the Jewish Theological Seminary, is not merely a Cantor, but a multi-talented musician who has used his talents to affect the lives of thousands of people.

Cantor Barry Reich was born in 1948 in the Boyle Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles, California, where he came from a long line of cantors. His father was a renowned cantor, and at the time of Barry's birth was the Cantor at the legendary Breed Street Synagogue. As one would imagine, Barry was immersed in world of music and religion as cantorial music from record players and music books could be heard and seen throughout the Reich home.

From a very young age it was obvious that Barry possessed extraordinary talents. In fact, Mr. Speaker, at the young age of five, Barry sang a solo during the High Holiday service of Slichot with such mastery that when he was finished the entire congregation congratulated him. This wonderful performance had the unintended consequence of Barry upstaging his celebrated father, who had to wait out the hosannas before he could continue the service which was supposed to begin immediately afterwards. Another indicator of his magnificent musical talents was shown when Barry, then only 8 years old, joined the Breed Street Synagogue Choir as its youngest member. He was aided by the fact that his father, the Cantor was in desperate need for a soprano vocalist and Barry was a wonderful soprano.

When the Reich family moved to Florida when Cantor Reich was offered an important position at Temple Emanuel of Miami Beach, Barry continued his musical education on the East coast where he attended the Frost Conservatory of Music. It was in Florida that Barry met Harry Volpe, a widely renowned guitarist, who Barry credits with being the single biggest influence on his musical direction.

By the time Barry was ready to attend high school his family, which had expanded to include his brother Brian, had returned to Los Angeles. After graduating from Lincoln High School, Barry Reich went on to study at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music and San Francisco State College, where he earned his Bachelor of Music Degree.

Mr. Speaker, it was while he was in college that Cantor Reich's future employer, Peninsula Temple Shalom's Rabbi Gerald Raiskin first heard Barry Reich. When the then future cantor was performing at an Israel Bonds rally.

Rabbi Raiskin, who knew Barry's father, was so impressed with the eighteen year old Barry that he called Barry's father to request that Barry audition to be the cantor at Peninsula Temple Shalom. Since that fateful day, thirty-six years ago, Barry Reich has been the Cantor of Peninsula Temple Shalom and has become part of the fabric of the synagogue. By his own estimates he has prepared over 1500 youth for their Bar or Bat Mitzvah with his trademark passion and innovative approach to music and education.

Mr. Speaker, Cantor Barry Reich has poured his heart into to his cantorial work and has generously shared his talents with many, passing on his passion of music onto numerous persons. He is most deserving of this tribute and our praise, and I urge all of my colleagues to join me in honoring a great man, an excellent musician, and an extraordinary Cantor.

THE DANGER OF THE CHAVEZ REGIME TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND HEMISPHERIC PEACE

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the deterioration of democratic institutions in Venezuela under Hugo Chavez and the need for immediate international action.

Under Hugo Chavez, Venezuela is becoming a cancer in the Americas. As Chavez seeks closer ties with the tyrant Castro, and other totalitarian regimes, the rule of law in Venezuela is eroding, human rights abuses are on the rise, and ties with terrorists are continuing.

The community of nations can no longer remain impassive as freedom loving Venezuelans are trampled on by the Chavez regime. At this moment in time, the countries of the Western Hemisphere must take a stand for freedom, and support the immediate approval of the recall referendum on the tenure of Chavez.

Why is immediate international action needed? Under the OAS agreement of May 2003, the recall referendum must occur before August 19, 2004 if the Chavez regime is to be removed from office before January 2007. If the referendum is held after August 19, 2004, and Chavez is removed from office by the Venezuelan people, then his appointed Vice-President would serve the remainder of his term. The Chavez regime will then have been removed from office but allowed to retain power. This would be a tragedy for the Venezuelan people.

If the referendum is held before August 19, 2004, and Chavez is ousted by the Venezuelan people, then there will be a special election 30 days later to elect a new President. Under the OAS agreement of May 2003, after the recall is certified and approved, the recall referendum must be held within the next 97 days. If Chavez is to be held accountable to the democratic will of Venezuela, then the recall must be approved by the second week of May.

The community of democracies must not allow Venezuela to become the next totali-

tarian state in the Western Hemisphere. Though Venezuela has been moving steadily towards a dictatorship, we must not allow the slow pace of repression to shield us from the reality of a Chavez regime with tyrannical intent.

Today and everyday we must extend our solidarity to the freedom loving people in Venezuela. We must bring an international spotlight and coordinated pressure on the recall process and Chavez' delaying tactics. It is my belief that the longer the international community passively observes the erosion of rights in Venezuela, the more probable dictatorship becomes. We cannot practice the politics of appeasement in Venezuela. We must practice the politics of solidarity and put pressure on the regime to ratify the recall signatures before the regime runs out the clock and retains two more years to wrap the rope of dictatorship around the necks of all Venezuelans.

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of the more than six million Jews who died in the Holocaust. Among those that were killed were women and men, adults and children, young and old. They were killed not for committing heinous crimes, but because of their religion. The Nazis seized their homes and murdered them in the gas chambers of Treblinka and Auschwitz-Birkenau. Those who were not killed were worked until their bodies could no longer withstand the torture. Today, we remember all that they accomplished and the potential that remains unfulfilled. We also remember those whose lives were forever changed as a result of the Holocaust.

If you read towards the end of Jewish prayer services, you will find the Mourner's Kaddish. Although the Mourner's Kaddish does not speak of death, it has been interpreted to talk about the greatness of God and the desire for peace: peace between nations, peace between individuals, and peace of mind.

Unfortunately, the world in which we live is not one of peace. Every day, many Jews around the world face the injustice of anti-Semitism. Spurred on by propaganda and regimes that seek no less than the destruction of the Jewish people, anti-Semitism is gaining support around the globe. As we continue with the war on terror, let us remember those who have died and those who continue to be persecuted just because of their religion.

On this day, Yom Hashoah, we remember the more than six million Jews who died in the Holocaust and in the tradition of the Mourner's Kaddish, work for peace among nations, among individuals, and for peace of mind.

TRIBUTE TO LT. COL. WAYNE POTTER, VOLUNTEER

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 21, 2004

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a man who selflessly dedicated his