

The Moses and Aaron Foundation Special Fund for Children is dedicated to assisting children with disabilities and their families with a wide range of programs including social, physical, financial and wheelchair assistance, as well as counseling and guidance.

It also provides scholarship funding to educational institutions; collects; purchases; and distributes clothing for children in need and remembers them with presents at holiday time or when hospitalized.

In cooperation with Ballys Fitness Centers the Moses and Aaron Foundation under the direction of its President Rabbi Yaacov Kaploun, and Executive Vice President Yehuda Kaploun has been able to establish 27 physical fitness and therapy centers and has arranged for sound and musical equipment in other institutions.

The corporate and individual supporters of the Foundation, include Metropolitan Lumber, Bally Total Fitness, Mr. David Buntzman, Mr. & Mrs. Jarred Feldman, Mr. Robert Gans, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gans, Mr. Avi and Dr. Laura Greenbaum, Mr. and Mrs. David Hirsch, Mr. and Mrs. Ira Rennert, Mr. Eli Rothman, Mr. Mark Selden, and Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Feldstein. We recognize the special support of Ashley and Liora Herschman, recipients of the Dr. Steven Stowe Acts of Kindness Memorial Award, who by their contributions and kindness have brought happiness and a smile to the faces of hundreds of special children.

On Saturday night July 31, 2004 at the Sullivan County Community College, Lock Sheldrake, New York, the Moses and Aaron Foundation under the Honorary Chairmanship of Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel, will sponsor its eighth Summer "Chazak—Strength" Concert honoring and paying tribute to special and outstanding children, and is produced by STB Jewish Music Productions. The Guests of Honor will be the Special and Outstanding children, many of whom will perform with the entertainers on stage. More than forty organizations and schools serving the physically and mentally disabled children will be represented.

The Chazak Concert and the Moses and Aaron Foundation's other programs demonstrate a caring and compassionate concern for the quality and dignity of life of others and merit the appreciation of all those who have benefited from its services.

The Moses and Aaron Foundation was founded in memory of Rabbi Dr. Maurice I. Hecht and Aaron Kaploun, both of whom led lives of exemplary community service. It is in this sentiment of communal dedication that the Moses and Aaron Foundation has devoted itself to serving the needs of a unique group in the community.

I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the Moses and Aaron Foundation, an organization which exemplifies the generosity of spirit in American society.

TRIBUTE TO MR. NORM D. COVELL

HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to Mr. Norm D. Covell, a man with a great career in public service. For the past four decades, Norm has worked tirelessly to reduce air pollu-

tion and its affects on public health. Norm will soon retire from his current position as the Air Pollution Control Officer for the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District. As Norm's friends, family, and colleagues gather to celebrate his distinguished career, I ask all my colleagues to join me in saluting this outstanding citizen of Sacramento.

After obtaining his bachelor of science degrees from California State University—Fresno, Norm began his environmental health and air quality career as a military preventive medicine specialist. Eventually, Norm would be appointed as the Assistant Director for the Fresno County Department of Health and Assistant Air Pollution Control Officer. During his two decades of service in Fresno County, Norm was instrumental in implementing a number of effective and innovative solutions to air quality management.

In 1984, Norm was named as the Air Pollution Control Officer for the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District. During this period, Norm has been deservedly recognized as a visionary and dedicated leader at the local, state, and national levels of government for his efforts in advancing programs and policies that significantly improve air quality.

The Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District works cooperatively to coordinate the efforts of local, state and federal government agencies, the business community, and private citizens to achieve and maintain healthy air quality for Sacramento. This vision recognizes that the AQMD alone cannot achieve healthy air for Sacramento, but that combined with its regulatory role and its lead role in development of innovative programs, it can encourage the cooperative inter-agency and public effort that will be required to improve air quality. As the Air Pollution Control Officer, Norm oversees a dedicated staff of 83 positions and an annual program budget of \$19 million.

Norm was an instrumental force in developing an innovative market-based incentive program to reduce regional mobile source emissions. This program eventually became the model for the very successful Mayor Program that has been adopted throughout California. Norm also played a crucial role in creating the Business Environmental Resource Center that helps regional small businesses understand and comply with air quality, hazardous materials and water quality regulations. Throughout his career, Norm has demonstrated a consistent ability to increase awareness of air quality issues. Therefore, it is no surprise that so many of Norm's projects and ideas have gained national recognition and replication.

As a result of his sterling reputation in the field of air quality management, Norm has served in a number of important leadership roles. Norm was the President of the California Environmental Health Association from 1977 to 1979. Norm served as the President of the California Air Pollution Control Officers Association from 1984 to 1986. From 1994 to 1995, Norm was the President of the National Association of Local Air Pollution Control Officials. Norm's impressive resume is a testament to his status as one of California's most accomplished leaders in the field of air quality management.

In his retirement, Norm can look forward to spending more time with his family. Norm will

also devote more time to two of his favorite pursuits: fishing and his beloved San Francisco 49ers. I am confident that Norm would achieve great success and happiness in his retirement, just as he had throughout his professional career.

Mr. Speaker, as Norm's friends, family and colleagues gather to celebrate his great career; I am truly honored to pay tribute to one of Sacramento's most honorable citizens. The Sacramento region has benefited greatly from having Norm's strong leadership. He will be missed greatly by all who worked with him. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in wishing Norm continued success in all of his future endeavors, wherever retirement may lead him.

THE SECURITY AND FAIRNESS ENHANCEMENT FOR AMERICA ACT

HON. WILLIAM L. JENKINS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 22, 2004

Mr. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, a significant majority of Americans believes that current immigration levels need to be reduced, according to consistent polling results over the last decade. This country currently admits about one million new legal immigrants every year. An undetermined number come in illegally. Realistically, it will take several years to produce the comprehensive reforms that are needed. However, there is something that we can do now to improve the situation.

In 1990, immigration laws were changed to include a new diversity lottery program. The premise of this new program was to encourage more immigration from nations that were not already sending large numbers to the United States. Unfortunately, the current format for this lottery program are subject to fraud and abuse and leave our nation exposed to those who may seek to do harm on American soil.

Under this program, any applicant that applies under the current setup for this program may be chosen at random and given the status of a permanent resident simply based upon luck. We already have a tragic example of the potential for danger with the story of Hesham Mohamed Ali Hedayet, the gunman who killed two people at the Los Angeles International Airport in July of 2002. The investigation of this shooting revealed that the gunman had been in the U.S. illegally, but his wife won the visa lottery. This enabled the husband to apply for permanent status and remain in the country to commit his crimes.

There are also a number of stories of fraud and abuse that have been identified by the Inspector General of the State Department. Duplicate applications, identity fraud, and forged documents have been found to be commonplace in these reviews, leaving our national security at risk.

The current diversity visa program does a disservice to our immigration policy and to those immigrants who have moved through the more traditional process that allows them to lawfully reside in this country. Combining this with the clear threats to our national security, it is imperative that we take steps to reform this dangerous program.

Legislation has been introduced that I have cosponsored, H.R. 775, the Security and Fairness Enhancement for America Act, which