

Model incorporates the concepts of Healthy People 2010, and it has been used in improving the quality and efficiency of the public health nursing practice. The creation and use of this model in one of the largest, most diverse, and dynamic settings in the country represents a tremendous advance in strengthening and expanding population-focused public health nursing. The influence of the model has extended well beyond the boundaries of California, with its adoption by the City of Detroit and the State of Michigan.

Margaret Avila provided the strategic and creative leadership for this effort. Her career path has included excellence in practice, in education, and in leadership.

Ms. Avila is a native of Los Angeles County and a product of the California educational system. She received a Diploma of Nursing from St. Vincent's College of Nursing, and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Mount St. Mary's College in Los Angeles. She has practiced as a staff nurse, a public health nurse, a nurse practitioner, a state nurse consultant, and an adjunct nursing faculty member. She has served as the Director of Nursing at the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health since 1999. She currently serves on the Board of the Los Angeles Chapter of the National Association of Hispanic Nurses.

Despite all of her success, Ms. Avila is never content to rest on her laurels. She has dedicated her life and knowledge to increasing opportunities for others. As a result, the Public Health Nursing Section of the American Public Health Association awarded Ms. Avila the 2004 Lillian Wald Service Award. She received this award by demonstrating initiative and resourcefulness in developing efforts to improve the health of the public through political, legislative, and interdisciplinary activism. This noteworthy achievement highlighted her leadership role in promoting social reform activities for client groups, influencing health policy and health laws, strengthening public health nursing practice, and collaborating with other health care workers, legislators, and public officials.

Margaret Avila is retiring as Director of Nursing for the Los Angeles Public Health Department. She is going into private practice and is establishing a woman's clinic in the underserved Pico Union area of Los Angeles. Her goal is to provide health access to low income women to improve their quality of life. She also plans to seek her doctorate degree.

Mr. Speaker, today I would like to personally acknowledge and commend Margaret for her dedication to the field of nursing which enriches and promotes the health of our community. She is a model of the passionate American educator, and a devoted and involved citizen. I know the rest of the House will join me in congratulating Ms. Margaret Avila and wishing her success in her future endeavors.

THE CONGREGATION ETZ AHAIM
IN RECOGNITION OF 75 YEARS OF
SERVICE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Congregation Etz Ahaim, the

oldest Sephardic Jewish congregation in New Jersey, as it celebrates the 350th anniversary of the founding of the Jewish community in the United States.

Etz Ahaim has been serving the Sephardic community of New Jersey for more than seventy-five years. It was founded by Jewish immigrants who named the congregation Etz Ahaim, "Tree of Life," after the oldest synagogue in Salonica, Greece. Founded at the start of the Great Depression, the synagogue struggled to stay afloat. Unable to afford a rabbi, they relied on the uncompensated services of Rabbi Benjamin Naar of Salonica, and on unordained lay leaders Eliyahu Nahama and Elie Saporta until 1955.

Since then, Etz Ahaim has been lead by Rabbis Ishmael Cohen, Murray Greenfield, Rafael Wizman, David Glicksman, Yamin Levy, and, from 1991 until today, Rabbi David Bassous. It has grown since its incorporation in April of 1927 from a circle of 25 worshipping in private residences, to a small community of 75 families in a building on Richmond Street, New Brunswick, to a vibrant congregation of 155 families in Highland Park. What was once a small group, barely able to afford the mortgage on their building during the Great Depression is now a thriving community and religious center of New Jersey.

Today, Etz Ahaim is deeply involved in the Middlesex County community. They sponsor community outreach, philosophy classes, dance lessons, educational opportunities. Etz Ahaim also has an active Sisterhood as old as the congregation itself, and which just came out with a Sephardic cookbook, "Come, es Bueno." On Sunday, November 7, they will be celebrating the 350th anniversary of the start of the Jewish community in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the profound cultural achievements of Congregation Etz Ahaim, both for the Sephardic community, and for Highland Park in general. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring them, and their many years of service to Jewish life in the United States.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, personal reasons require me to return to my district, and I am unable to be present for legislative business scheduled after 3 p.m., Wednesday, November 17, 2004. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 1417, the Copyright Royalty and Distribution Reform Act of 2004 (Rollcall No. 532), and "aye" on S. 2302, a bill to improve access to physicians in medically underserved areas (Rollcall No. 533).

I would appreciate it if my remarks would appear in the appropriate place in the RECORD.

TRIBUTE TO CHAPLAIN (MAJOR)
FLOYD L. WHITE III

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 19, 2004

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the retirement of Chaplain (Major) Floyd L. White III from the United States Army Reserve, and to recognize his years of service to his community and country.

Chaplain White served his country for 20 proud years, from June 4, 1983, to November 7, 2003. His role in the U.S. Army Reserve took him across the country and across the world. He served as a Battalion Chaplain for the 457th and 451st Chemical Battalions in Greenville, SC, and as a Brigade Chaplain for two brigades at Fort Dix, NJ. He served overseas in South Korea in Operation Team Spirit in 1990, and in 2001 he served in a Warfighter Exercise in Grafenwoehr, Germany.

Chaplain White is also a dedicated and motivated community leader. He is the Pastor of the Woodland Avenue Presbyterian Church in Camden, NJ, and is President of the Woodland Community Development Corporation. He serves on the boards of the Cooper University Hospital Foundation, the United Way of Camden County, the Camden Eye Center, and the Cooper Ferry Camden Waterfront Development Board.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great privilege to honor Chaplain White today. He embodies the American spirit of service to one's family, community, and country. I thank him for his dedicated service and wish Chaplain Floyd White all the best in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO CONGRESSMAN
WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

SPEECH OF

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 17, 2004

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to recognize my good friend, Congressman BILL LIPINSKI, and to thank him for his 22 years of service and vision and leadership in Congress.

I know we use the word—friend—often in this body. Usually right before we are about to disagree with our colleagues.

We say things like, I have a lot of respect for my good friend from Illinois, but I couldn't disagree more with his staunch support of the Chicago White Sox.

But as much as we use the word "friend" to frame our debates, I have always felt that Congress actually is a tough place to build real, lasting friendships.

That is why Mr. LIPINSKI will be so missed. Because while it's true that I hardly knew BILL LIPINSKI when I arrived here in 1993, it's more true now that I can hardly imagine not having Bill as one of my best friends and allies in public service.

I will miss his effectiveness and his leadership, but more than that I will miss his day-to-day presence and his friendship.

And I know I am not alone.

Because Mr. LIPINSKI has been such a good friend to so many of us in this body, on both sides of the aisle.