

HONORING JAMES LAPIN

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 6, 2008*

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, James Lapin, an active member of the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, is truly a giving person. Mr. Lapin really understands the importance of doing and not just talking about giving. This is something he demonstrated by donating a kidney to a woman through a match made by the Halachic Organ Donor Society.

At the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale he is a frequent participant in many of the Bayrit's programs and has been instrumental in continuing Abraham and Sarah's Tent, the innovative program at HIR that provides free Shabbat dinner every Friday. He also shows his concern for our youth by being a big brother in the Big Sibling program of the Jewish Youth Encounter Program.

James and his wife Ann are parents of Gavriella and Sarit and have lived in Riverdale since their marriage in 2001. He is a graduate of the BA/MBA program of the University of Judaism and now works for Columbia University.

For his true selflessness and good works, he is presented with the Andrew Zucker Community Service Award.

PROVIDING FOR APPOINTMENT OF JOHN W. McCARTER AS A CITIZEN REGENT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

SPEECH OF

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 5, 2008*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the appointment of John McCarter to serve on the Smithsonian Institution's Board of Regents.

The Board of Regents is responsible for a variety of issues related to the Smithsonian Institution, including budgets, planning documents, proposed programs and construction, appointments to Smithsonian advisory boards, and legislative initiatives. Given the variety and importance of the Board's responsibilities in managing the public's most cherished cultural institutions, and given the recent controversies regarding Smithsonian leadership, we must support the appointment of members to the Board of Regents who will ensure that the Smithsonian Institution will fulfill its critical mission in perpetuity. That is why I am pleased to support John McCarter's appointment.

John McCarter has an accomplished history of service in both the public and private sector. Currently, he serves as President and Chief Executive Officer of The Field Museum, a jewel in the crown of cultural attractions in Chicago, and one of the greatest natural history museums in the world. The Field Museum attracts over 1 million visitors each year; its collection includes over 23 million specimens, a number which continues to grow due to its ongoing expeditions and research in 94 coun-

tries around the world; and its staff includes 72 Ph.D.s.

Under John's leadership, the Field Museum has undertaken a series of projects to rebuild and restore the museum. During his tenure the Museum has created several new permanent and traveling exhibits, including the "Tutankhamen and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs" exhibit in 2006, which has toured to Philadelphia, London, and soon Dallas, to sold out crowds. The museum has also expanded its educational role in the community, establishing partnerships with science teachers in the community and organizing activities for inner-city schools.

A native Chicagoan, John previously was Senior Vice President of Booz Allen & Hamilton, Inc. Earlier in his career, he served as President of DeKalb Corporation, and was Budget Director of the State of Illinois under Governor Richard B. Ogilvie. John was also a White House Fellow during the administration of Lyndon B. Johnson, and is currently a trustee of the University of Chicago and a board member and former Chairman of Chicago's Public Television Station Channel 11. McCarter is a graduate of Princeton University and Harvard Business School, and also attended the London School of Economics.

It is my honor to support the appointment of John McCarter to the Smithsonian Institution's Board of Regents. John's service to the Field Museum, to the City of Chicago, to Illinois, and to the country, will make him an invaluable addition to the Board.

ST. MARY MEDICAL CENTER PROVIDES EXCEPTIONAL HEALTH CARE

**HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 6, 2008*

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate St. Mary Medical Center for recently being named among the top 1 percent of hospitals in the Nation. St. Mary is one of only 49 hospitals in the Nation to be recognized with the Premier-Care Science Select Practice National Quality Award. The award is given to those facilities with the best patient outcomes and operating efficiency.

St. Mary Medical Center, located in Walla Walla, WA, was founded in 1880 by the Sisters of Providence. At the time, it was the first non-military hospital in Washington State east of the Cascades. Today, the hospital continues its 120 year commitment to providing excellent acute care, attracting patients from throughout the region.

This is not the first time St. Mary Medical Center has been recognized as a top performer. In 2007, the hospital was named among the top 100 hospitals in the Nation by 2 independent research companies. The national attention St. Mary Medical Center has received is a testament to the exceptional attention and care they give to each patient.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend St. Mary Medical Center for setting the standard for clinical excellence, and for providing excellent health care to the Walla Walla community. I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating the doctors and employees of

St. Mary Medical Center on this great achievement.

PAUL WELLSTONE MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION EQUITY ACT OF 2007

**HON. WALLY HERGER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 6, 2008*

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to correct the record with respect to Mr. STARK's comments about Shasta Regional Medical Center. First, the hospital did not close. Second, the malpractice to which he refers occurred under the previous ownership of the hospital, then known as Redding Medical Center. The hospital did not have physician investment at that time. The individuals who were found guilty of fraud and malpractice were punished appropriately and are no longer affiliated with Shasta Regional Medical Center. The new ownership of that facility has performed an invaluable service to the local community by taking over a failing hospital and working to rebuild its reputation, and they deserve the thanks of every member of Congress for that service.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF DEREK OWENS

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 6, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Derek Owens, a veteran Cleveland Police Officer who will be remembered for his unshakable commitment to the Cleveland community.

Derek Owens was born in Cleveland and remained in the area for most of his life. He graduated from the University of Toledo and later returned to Cleveland to earn his social Work degree from Cleveland State University in 1995. Owens was well known and will be fondly remembered in the neighborhoods in which he served for 10 years as a police officer. He often volunteered for neighborhood block watches and was recognized for his approachability, sense of humor and dedication to helping the community, even during his time off-duty.

Owens is survived by his wife, Erika, daughter Sydni and son, Chandler.

Madam Speaker and colleagues please join me in honoring Derek Owens, a vital member of the Cleveland community and dedicated Police Officer. May his commitment to the community serve as an example to all of us.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 6, 2008*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I would like to offer a personal explanation of the reason I missed rollcall vote Nos. 88

through 90 on March 4, 2008. My plane was delayed due to bad weather in Atlanta.

I would have voted:

Rollcall vote No. 88, H.R. 1143—To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease certain lands in Virgin Islands National Park and for other purposes “aye”;

Rollcall vote No. 89, H.R. 1311—To direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey the Alta-Hualapai Site to the city of Las Vegas, Nevada, for the development of a cancer treatment facility, “aye”; and

Rollcall vote No. 90, H.R. 816—To provide for the release of certain land from the Sunrise Mountain Instant Study Area in the State of Nevada and to grant a right-of-way across the released land for the construction and maintenance of a flood control project, “aye”.

IN HONOR OF SIXTY-THREE YEARS  
OF EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE  
AT TORAH ACADEMY OF MIN-  
NEAPOLIS

**HON. MICHELE BACHMANN**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 6, 2008*

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the teachers, parents, and community of the Torah Academy in St. Louis Park, Minnesota. This weekend, at its annual banquet celebration, the Torah Academy will celebrate 63 years of educational excellence and service to children from pre-school through the eighth grade.

Founded in 1945, the Torah Academy provides a well-rounded and highly regarded education in the basics of reading, writing, and arithmetic, as well as Judaic studies. The teachers and staff there are committed to providing a nurturing environment and to instilling in students a lifelong love of learning.

Torah Academy depends upon the dedicated service of so many fine individual volunteers and corporate citizens to ensure that it meets its mission of educational excellence. At their banquet this weekend, the community will honor two in particular: Rabbi Joshua Borenstein, the Academy's outstanding Executive Director, and King Solutions, Inc.

King, founded by Meyer Bolnick and Mike Patterson, will be honored as the Business of Distinction as “a business built on strong values, and a role model of responsibility and commitment to the community.” Community service is an integral part of the work that King does in the Twin Cities area.

In addition to Rabbi Borenstein, who has served the Torah Academy community for a full decade, the Academy depends on many fine staff, including Rabbi Binyomin Ginsberg, Dean, and Mrs. Ginger Vance, Principal. I join the Minneapolis-area community this weekend in commending these outstanding educators and active citizens for their commitment to the core values and mission of Torah Academy.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK  
OF ADRIENNE SWENSON

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 6, 2008*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to recognize the passing of a good friend, who was one of Sonoma County's notable environmental activists and a conscience for social justice, Adrienne Swenson. Adrienne was 81 when she died in January of pulmonary disease. Adrienne touched the lives of thousands through her successful environmental conservation efforts, her commitment to social justice, and her work for the Democratic Party.

I knew Adrienne through all of these arenas and agree with her friends and colleagues, who are universal in their praise.

“She was a remarkable woman. She was a person committed to the idea that society could be improved,” said David Thatcher, who along with others, helped Adrienne found the Peace and Justice Center of Sonoma County. “She was a tower of strength in so many ways.”

But what was so remarkable about Adrienne was that in all her interests she always had a wider context in mind. Her work with the local United Nations community, her commitment to the peace process, her participation on the county planning commission—she integrated them all in the interest of trying to make a better society.

Born in San Francisco, Adrienne spent her life in California, except for 2 years in Spain when she and her husband, Len, and their three children lived what she once called “the good life,” traveling about Europe, studying art and learning Spanish.

A trip to Yosemite later introduced her to what became her favorite activities—family camping, backpacking, and birding. This led to her lifelong devotion to environmental issues, which interest she shared with her husband, a longtime Sierra Club leader.

Later, Adrienne served on the Manhattan Beach City Council while living in southern California, and on the Sonoma County Planning Commission after moving back to northern California. “She really set a standard,” said Bill Kortum, a member of the board of supervisors, which appointed her. “She was always very well informed.”

Politically, Adrienne was active in the Santa Rosa Democratic Club and served on the Democratic Central Committee for nearly 20 years.

But where Adrienne really left her legacy was the Peace and Justice Center of Sonoma County.

“She had an incredible sense of justice in the face of overwhelming injustice,” says Elizabeth Stinson, the center's director. “She worked tirelessly for more than 30 years in every capacity you can think of.”

She was vehemently anti-war and opposed the occupation of Iraq. Standing on the corner at Mendocino and College avenues almost every week with a group of women, all dressed in black, she protested until she could no longer stand.

Madam Speaker, Adrienne Swenson would want us to carry on her work here in Congress, to be inspired by her tenacity and will-

ingness to confront difficult subjects, knowing the world is better for her contributions to it.

IN SUPPORT OF THE GOALS OF A  
NATIONAL SIBLINGS DAY

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 6, 2008*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to show my support for the goals of a National Siblings Day for all Americans, a day to honor our sisters and brothers for the many ways in which they enrich our lives. This occasion would give us the opportunity to show appreciation for our siblings, much the same way that Mother's Day and Father's Day are celebrated, and completes the celebration of the whole family. One of my Manhattan constituents, Claudia Evert, has worked tirelessly to encourage everyone to honor their siblings on April 10th each year.

April 10th marks the birthday of Claudia's sister Lisette, who died tragically in 1972 at age 19 in a car accident that also killed their father. An additional tragedy struck in 1987, when Ms. Evert's older brother, Alan, died in an accident in his home. He was 36 years old.

Siblings make an important contribution to who we are. Often, when our parents are gone, our siblings are our only remaining family. And, sometimes, as in the case of my constituent Claudia Evert, Siblings Day will help us remember siblings whom we have lost at an early age.

I applaud these past 12 years of hard work by Claudia Evert who has created a loving tribute to her deceased siblings with her work to establish a National Siblings Day. Her inspired work should serve as a lesson to us all. Since 1998, 31 governors have issued gubernatorial proclamations in their states for Siblings Day: AL, AR, AZ, CO, CT, FL, IL, IA, KS, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MS, MO, NE, NH, NJ, NM, NY, PA, RI, SC, VT, VA, WV, WA, WI and WY. Therefore, I now call on the Congress to recognize the importance of contributions of all family members, including our siblings, by supporting the goals of a National Siblings Day for all Americans.

PAUL WELLSTONE MENTAL  
HEALTH AND ADDICTION EQUITY  
ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 5, 2008*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted that yesterday Congress was able to pass the long overdue Paul Wellstone Mental Health and Addiction Equity Act, finally vowing to end the discrepancy of health care and treatment available to patients with mental illness and addiction disorders. I commend Mr. KENNEDY and Mr. RAMSTAD for their steadfast and courageous efforts to bring this bill, and even more so, this issue, to the forefront of this Congress. This bill seeks to establish parity in coverage between mental health care and other forms of health care, ensuring greater access to treatment.