

PROJECT ROFEH RECOGNIZES
LEADERS**HON. BARNEY FRANK**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2002

Mr. FRANK. Mr. Speaker, for several years I have had the very distinct honor of sharing with our colleagues information about the important charitable work done by ROFEH International and the New England Chassidic Center. Under the leadership of Grand Rabbi Levi Y. Horowitz, the New England Chassidic Center and ROFEH International do an excellent job of helping people take full advantage of the wonderful medical facilities we have in Boston. Through their efforts, families are able to come to Boston when members of those families need medical care, and find their needs tended to so that they can focus on the important job of being supportive of that individual in need of medical care. I am very proud that this innovative program that does so much for people at a time of their-greatest need is headquartered in the district I am privileged to represent, and I am pleased to put here into the RECORD of our proceedings a list of those individuals who are receiving awards from ROFEH at a November 10 dinner, in the hopes that this will inspire people elsewhere in the country to emulate this creative work.

Mr. Speaker, here is the list of the award winners and a brief description of their efforts which does not do full justice to them, but does give some indication of how important they have been to ROFEH's vital work.

Dr. Eugene Braunwald is the Distinguished Hersey Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School, Faculty Dean and Chief Academic Officer of the Partners HealthCare System founded by the Brigham and Women's and Massachusetts General Hospitals. He is the only cardiologist who is a member of the National Academy of Sciences. In 2000 the living Nobel Prize winners in medicine voted Dr. Braunwald as "the person who has contributed the most to cardiology in recent years". The doctor is a Holocaust survivor. Dr. Eugene Braunwald, will receive the coveted "Lillian and Harry Andler Memorial Award".

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gann in recognition of their devotion to ROFEH International will have the newly renovated ROFEH International facility named in their honor, "The Joseph and Rae Gann ROFEH International Residence Facility". Mr. and Mrs. Gann have been affiliated with the Bostoner Rebbe, Grand Rabbi Levi Y. Horowitz for over 50 years and they continue to be strong supporters of ROFEH International.

Others to be bestowed with special laudatory communal awards are Mr. Irwin Chafetz and Mr. A. Joseph Stern.

Mr. Irwin Chafetz is the director of Interface Group-Massachusetts, Inc., a privately held company that owns and operates GWV International.

He has been instrumental in the development of ROFEH International and the renovation of its residential facility for the benefit of the families and the desperately ill, who come to Boston for medical help.

Mr. Chafetz received a Boston University Distinguished Alumni Award in 2000, and was honored by the Massachusetts Anti-Defamation League in 2001. He is a member of the

executive board of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) and is an active participant at Chabad House of Lexington.

Mr. Chafetz grew up in Dorchester, Massachusetts. He lives in Brookline with Roberta his wife. They have two sons and four grandchildren.

Mr. A. Joseph Stern is a developer of residential and commercial construction. Mr. Stern's list of accomplishments as a builder of community needs is truly impressive. Despite his busy schedule, he has devoted and continues to devote substantial amounts of time, effort and material resources to a host of worthy causes.

Mr. Stern has a long family connection with the Bostoner Rebbe, Shlita. Recently he has been most helpful in the Rebbe's effort to reconstruct the ROFEH International building, making it possible to house the desperately ill and their families.

Mr. Stern continues to live up to his reputation as a builder of Torah and Chesed. He credits his accomplishments to the traditions handed down by his parents and grandparents.

Mr. Irwin Chafetz and Mrs. A. Joseph Stern will be presented with the ROFEH International Master Builders Award.

TRIBUTE TO WALLY LAIRD

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2002

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to commend one of Northwest Indiana's most distinguished citizens, Wally Laird, of Rensselaer, Indiana. On Friday, September 27, 2002, he will be honored for his exemplary and dedicated service to our community. Wally's praiseworthy efforts will be recognized at a special Rensselaer/Remington Area Chamber of Commerce dinner, as an endowment for a scholarship has been established in his name.

The scholarship, the Wally Laird Youth Service Award, was created to honor a high school student who shows similar qualities to Mr. Laird. These qualities include dedication to community causes and commitment to education, as well as possessing the willingness to share the knowledge he or she gains with others. This banquet and scholarship is in honor of Wally Laird's service as well as his demonstrated commitment to improving the communities of Northwest Indiana.

Wally Laird, a longtime resident of Rensselaer, graduated from Rensselaer High School in 1950 and went on to Purdue University to earn his bachelor's and master's degrees in agricultural economics. A local farmer and entrepreneur, Wally Laird is most widely known by radio-listeners as the host of WRIN/WLGI's "Farm World." Aside from farming and his radio work, Wally is an active Rotarian and gives much of his time to the Carnegie Players theater group. Additionally, he has been working, with others in the agricultural community to bring an ethanol-producing facility to Jasper County, Indiana.

The featured speaker at this dinner will be WGN Radio personality Max Armstrong. Armstrong is one of America's best-known and widely followed agriculture journalists. His

daily broadcasts, with colleague Orion Samuelson, have been heard by millions of Americans across the United States for nearly 25 years. Armstrong has spent the past two decades delivering the news about agriculture to his vast farming audience, as well as the non-farm consumers in the Chicago area. Armstrong has been the recipient of numerous awards of excellence in journalism.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me commending Wally Laird for his outstanding service to Rensselaer and neighboring Northwest Indiana communities. His family and friends should be proud of his efforts, as his leadership has served as a beacon of hope throughout the area. Wally Laird's longstanding commitment to improving the quality of life for the people of Northwest Indiana is truly inspirational and should be recognized and commended.

TRIBUTE TO THE REVEREND DR.
DAVID PAUL NEELY**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2002

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate The Reverend Dr. David Paul Neely, Sr., Pastor of Greater Harvest Baptist Church, on the celebration of the anniversary of his 64 years in the ministry commemorating on September 27, 2002. After serving a number of churches throughout the country, Rev. Neely founded the Greater Harvest Baptist Church in 1968. For over 33 years he has Preached the Gospel from the pulpit of this house of worship located in my Congressional District.

The Reverend Dr. D. P. Neely was born on May 10, 1922 in Smyrna, South Carolina, to the late Reverend Dr. C. S. Neely and Dora Sanders-Neely. He was the fourteenth of sixteen children and received his primary education in the Smyrna, South Carolina public school system. He completed his secondary education at the Jefferson High School in York, South Carolina. At the age of sixteen, Rev. Neely was called to preach the gospel and was ordained six months later by the late Reverend Dr. H. Gray, as Reverend Dr. Neely continued to grow in Christianity, he enrolled in the Hanover Theological Seminary and later in the Martha's Vineyard Theological Seminary. He is the recipient of two Doctor of Divinity Degrees received in 1950 and 1997 respectively.

Reverend Neely is one of four family members to be ordained to minister, preach, and teach the Word of God. They include his father the Reverend Dr. C.S. Neely, his brother The Reverend J. O. Neely, both of whom are deceased, and his youngest son, the Reverend S. D. Neely, Sr., currently Pastor of the Enon Baptist Church of Philadelphia.

In 1941 Reverend Neely enlisted in the United States Airforce. He received an Honorable Discharge in 1946. As before, during and after his military service, Reverend Neely continued to preach the Word of God and maintain his profession as a Barber. In 1955 Reverend Neely moved to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and joined the Oakgrove Baptist Church. He later met and married Ms. Cleveland Ann Jowers-Neely.