

**MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2019**

**2:31 P.M.**

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The House will come to order.

Rabbi Butman will offer a prayer.

RABBI SHMUEL M. BUTMAN: (Speaking in Hebrew). Our Heavenly Father, please bestow Your blessings on the members of the New York State Assembly, especially when they are standing today before passing a great resolution honoring the Lubavitcher Rebbe with 117 days of education, which will take place this afternoon. It is generally not the custom to honor or to celebrate a birthday of an individual who is no longer with us, but it's different in the case of the Rebbe. The Rebbe today has 5,000 institutions throughout the world, in 1,000 cities, in 102 countries, in every state of the -- of the Union, in every state of the United States. And when

the Rebbe speaks about education, he doesn't only speak about the education of the Jewish child; he speaks about the education of the Jewish child, the African child, the Indian child, the European child, the Asian child. All the children of the world. The Rebbe said many times that he wants the children to know that there is an eye that sees, an ear that hears and that the world is not a jungle. New York State has been the seat of the Lubavitch Movement for the last 79 years and, therefore, it is a great privilege for us to be here now when we are celebrating also the Rebbe's 117th birthday.

In 1991, I went to Washington to open the United States Senate. Before I went to Washington, I went to see the Rebbe. And the Rebbe said that while I'm in Washington during the prayer, doing the prayer, I should take a Tzedakah Pushkah with me -- a Tzedakah box with me, and I should give a dollar in Tzedakah, in the -- in the charity box, and everybody should see what I am doing, and let them know what money should be used for. When we are through with the service, we're going to ask you to participate with one dollar. And don't be afraid. This is not a fundraising campaign. Because if it would be, we would ask you for much more than a dollar. We want your participation in -- in doing another act of goodness and kindness. A correspondent for CNN went over to the Rebbe and he asked the Rebbe a question -- and this is not fake news. This is a correspondent on CNN asking the Rebbe a question, and the Rebbe answered. The question he asked was, *What is your message to the world?* And the Rebbe said that the redemption is coming and that we can bring it

closer by doing more acts of goodness and kindness which we are going to ask you to do in a moment. And now I'm going to give a dollar in which it said, *In God -- In God We Trust*. In this Pushkah, hopefully you will join me later. I want to tell you in conclusion that in our prayers every Saturday, we say a special prayer for you. We say (speaking Hebrew). That all those who serve the public faithfully, as you do, we ask for a special prayer for your welfare, for your personal welfare and for the welfare of your families.

May God bless you with health, with long life, with success in all your endeavors. And let us say together, Amen.

MEMBERS: Amen.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Visitors are invited to join the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Whereupon, Acting Speaker Aubry led visitors and members in the Pledge of Allegiance.)

A quorum being present, the Clerk will read the Journal of Sunday, April 7th.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, I move that we dispense with the further reading of the Journal of Sunday, April the 7th and that the same stand approved.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Without objection, so ordered.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, if I could

just take a moment of my colleagues, staff and guests that are in the Chambers, a moment of their time to share with them the quote for the day. As you know, Mr. Speaker, we have posted on the Assembly website a section where citizens throughout the State of New York can share with us a quote that they would like to have shared on the floor of the Legislature. Today, Mr. Speaker, we have a quote from a young lady who happens to be a resident of our colleague, Mr. O'Donnell's [sic] district. Her name is Alyssa Donnelly. She's 12 years old. And she's apparently a big fan of Harry Potter, because her quote is from a Harry Potter book. And it says, "Happiness can be found, even in the darkest of times, if one remembers to turn on the light." We thank you so much, Miss Alyssa, for sharing your quote with us today.

With that, Mr. Speaker, the members have on their desks a main Calendar with five new bills, beginning with Calendar No. 169. After any introductions and/or housekeeping, we will take up resolutions on page 3 and then we will begin to consent bills on page 4. That is a general outline of where we're at at the moment, Mr. Speaker, so if there are any introductions and/or housekeeping, now would be the appropriate time.

**ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY:** Certainly, Mrs. Peoples-Stokes. We do have introductions.

Mr. Mosley for the first introduction.

**MR. MOSLEY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know he just gave our opening prayers, but I would like to acknowledge the presence of Rabbi Shmuel Menachem Butman, someone who is

revered in the Crown Heights Community, a portion of my district in North Crown Heights. He is a Chabad Rabbi in the Crown Heights community in Brooklyn. He is the Director of the Lubavitch Youth Organization, and he has served for many years as the Director of the *L'Chaim* weekly magazine. As we celebrate the Hebrew calendar year, 5779, we are doubly-blessed by his presence and God's grace -- and for God's judgment to bring him each and every year. We thank him, we thank all those who are affiliated with him. And, more importantly, we understand that he has been a stalwart leader amongst leaders; someone who has brought together many of the communities that live in Crown Heights, and someone who was a keen negotiator on the post-1991 Crown Heights riots.

So on behalf of myself, Assemblymember David Weprin and Assemblymember Helene Weinstein, can you extend the cordialities of the House for this extraordinary human being, this extraordinary Crown Heights resident, and this extraordinary New Yorker?

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf Mr. Mosley, Mr. Weprin, Ms. Weinstein, Mr. Eichenstein, the Speaker and all the members, Rabbi Butman, we thank you again for coming and sharing this day with us, sharing this on an annual basis. We are pleased and honored that you choose us to share that day with. Thank so very much.

RABBI BUTMAN: A pleasure. Thank you very much. Thank you. Thank you.

(Applause)

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Weprin.

MR. WEPRIN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In a few minutes we will be adopting a resolution commemorating 117 days of education in New York State in commemoration corresponding to the Lubavitcher Rebbe's 117th birthday. As Rabbi Butman mentioned, the Lubavitch Movement has -- is international. It's worldwide, with thousands and thousands of followers and Chabad houses in every city throughout the world. Education is a priority, educating everyone. And it's very appropriate that we celebrate 117 days of education in honor of the Lubavitcher Rebbe's birthday. And it always comes out, as you may recall, before the holiday of Passover, and -- and we're about on the holiday of Passover. But once again, I want to thank Rabbi Shmuel Butman, who has been leading the Lubavitch Youth Organization for many, many years; someone that's been affiliated with my family, with my late father, my late uncle for many years. And certainly, we all -- probably almost every member in this House, I think, has some form of local affiliation with the Chabad Lubavitch Movement, because they're all over New York State, but they're really all over the world.

So, once again, I urge my colleagues to vote in the affirmative on the resolution, asking the Governor to name 117 days of education in New York State in commemoration of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson's 117th birthday.

RABBI BUTMAN: Thank you very much.

MR. WEPRIN: Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Ms. Woerner for an introduction.

MS. WOERNER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to interrupt our proceedings for the purpose of an introduction. We're joined in the Chamber today by Deborah DePasquale. Deborah is a constituent of mine and the owner of TOGA Heritage in Saratoga Springs. Ms. Pasquale [sic] is one of the -- one of those people who has grown up in Upstate New York, who left after college to go make her way in the great State of Texas, and lo and behold, has come back to Upstate New York to start her business and make her life here in Upstate New York. Deb came into my office a couple of weeks ago to present to me a new product line that she's developed around Tartans, and to ask that -- I -- I do a resolution in honor of Tartan Day. So she has spent time creating and launching a line of Tartans inspired by Scottish heritage and the lifestyle of Saratoga Springs. For those of you who are not familiar with Tartan, it's a pattern of criss-crossed, horizontal and vertical bands in multiple colors, woven into a fabric. Typically, these represent a specific clan or family and are unique to those families. Around the world, Tartan is recognized as the cultural icon of Scotland. For months, Ms. DePasquale worked closely with a Scotland-based consultant who specializes in Tartan weaving to create a fabric that celebrates and honors the spirit of the Spa City. The culmination of those months of hard work designing and editing Tartans resulted in the Toga Heritage

Tartan registration with the Scottish Register of Tartans, and a woven sample received by the Scottish Tartans Authority for permanent preservation in the National Records of Scotland.

I want to congratulate Deborah on this wonderful achievement and celebration of our Scottish community. The pride you have for your Scottish heritage and your home in Saratoga Springs is an admirable quality that is clearly evident in the great Tartan that you have created. I'm honored to share your celebration of Toga Heritage Tartan, National Tartan Day and the Scottish culture.

And, Mr. Speaker, I'd ask that you offer her the cordialities of the House. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of Ms. Woerner, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome you here to the New York State Assembly, extend to you the privileges of the floor, and wish you continued success in your endeavors. Thank you very much.

(Applause)

Mr. Blankenbush.

MR. BLANKENBUSH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I know one of your favorite things is basketball, and today I'd like to welcome the State Champion Harrisville Boys Basketball team to Albany.

(Applause)

The team -- the team is coached by Brian Coloney, Tom Coloney and -- who are here. Some of the coaches can't make it



-- Rick Chartrand and Ed Jenack. They had an impressive overall record of 21 and 6. They will -- bring the State Championship to Louis County. I believe it's only the second one from Section 10 to win the Boys State Championship. They won their score by 67 to 54. The team has been to the State "Final Four" three straight years -- three straight years. The first two years, of course, they -- they got beat, and this year they finally pulled it together and won their championship.

So, it's my privilege and honor to welcome the team here to Albany and its coaches. The roster is: Nathan Schmitt -- raise your -- Nathan Schmitt, Mathias Duut, Bill Monira, Nolan Parow, Nikola Granolic, Jason -- or Jadon Sullivan, Dalton Church, and -- wait until you hear this name for a basketball player -- Adam Slam -- Szlamczyski -- if I got it. But the first word is "Slam."

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: I got it.

(Laughter)

MR. BLANKENBUSH: And I -- I guess he can do it. Nathan Woodward, Matt Allen, Peyton Schmitt, Scott Roberts, Foster Neeley, Christian Butler. And, Mr. Speaker, Peyton Schmitt was also named the Most Valuable Player of the tournament.

So, I want you to welcome them to Albany and the cordialities of the House. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf Mr. Blankenbush, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome this extraordinary team, champions, here to the New York State Assembly,

extend to you the privileges of the floor, hope that your trip here has been beneficial. And I have but one question: Was the Auburn game won on a double dribble? Is that -- did you watch that game?

(Laughter)

I need a -- I need an expert opinion. I'm too old to remember, but I always thought that when you kicked the ball off your foot, that was it. You couldn't pick it up and go running anymore. But..... you know, it's a new day.

So, congratulations, gentlemen. I hope that if you are seniors, that you're going on to college and that you will use the success that you've had in your academic and your athletic careers here in high school as a springboard for a great college career. Thank you so very much.

(Applause)

Ms. Jaffee for an introduction.

MS. JAFFEE: Thank you. As we celebrate Women's History Month in New York State, it is with great pleasure that I will be recognizing 10 remarkable Rockland County women from the 2019 New York State Assembly Women of Distinction Awards. These awards honor women who are making a difference in New York State, their communities and in the lives of others. They are women who have overcome obstacles, gone above and beyond to enact positive change, to do what's right and to inspire those around them. The 2019 Women of Distinction Awards are an important opportunity to pay tribute to these women whose strength, vision, hard work and

compassion are lifting up others, strengthening our communities and our economy and improving our quality of life.

I want to begin with Jean Fields, retired principal of Ramapo High School, an educator. Jean has committed a professional career to educating New York's youth and motivating them to become independent thinkers. Though retired, Jean remains an active member of the NAACP Education Committee, advocating for equal access to quality education for all students.

I'd also like to recognize next Sabrina Hosang, CEO of Caribbean Food Delights. Sabrina has been recognized for her commitment and philanthropy and community engagement. Her company dedication to corporate social responsibility has improved the lives of many families, especially the young people who she believes are the epitome of our future.

Next, Hilda Kolgut, an adjunct instructor in criminal justice, Chair of CUPON Chestnut Ridge. Students who have had the pleasure of taking any of the criminal justice classes in Dominican College with Hilda, a former FBI agent, know how much she loves teaching and sharing her 25 years of experience in law enforcement. She also educates and encourages village residents to take part and be informed about the issues affecting the neighborhood and quality of life.

Sister Cecilia is -- is joining us. OP Director, Cecilia La Pietra, One to One Learning. Sister Cecilia is being recognized for the wonderful work she does with her agency. She believes that

connecting immigrants to their new communities leads to lasting community and intercultural connections.

And of course, Michelle Paraison. Michelle is a retired registered nurse. She is being recognized for her commitment to educate and empower Rockland residents to develop a healthier lifestyle. Michelle is active in her church, a dynamic woman, she is always there supporting good community cause.

Laurie Seeman. Laurie is an educator, a naturalist and a water resource advocate who has strongly supported sustainable efforts to protect and preserve the environment in her community in the lower Hudson Valley. Laurie teaches and lectures to various organizations, uniting the community in support of environmental sustainability. She is the founder of the Strawtown Studio.

And Susan Shapiro, environmental attorney. Susan has been one of Rockland's most dedicated environmental advocates. As a practicing environmental lawyer, she has played a significant role in fighting to protect and preserve our environment in Rockland County.

Ouida Foster Toutedon, Executive Director of the Head Start of Rockland. Under Ouida's leadership, Head Start of Rockland has been the leading provider of high-quality and affordable preschool and early childhood education for low-income children and families in the County. What an extraordinary job she has done that's so essential.

We have two honorees who are not here today: Dr.

Gail Golden, who is a champion for social justice including the LGBTQ community and immigrant rights. As a clinical social worker, Gail has dedicated her entire profession to ensuring that clinicians are culturally-competent and that mental health and wellness programs and services are culturally- and linguistically-appropriate to meet the needs of racial and ethnic minorities.

And one other who's not here with us today, Martha Robles, who is the Executive Director of Catholic Charities Community Services of Rockland. Though retired, Martha remains involved in many community collaborations, lending her voice and passion to the betterment of underserved in our County.

Extraordinary women leading the way, doing what needs to be done. They have been good friends for so many years. They have inspired me year after year.

Mr. Speaker, please, I ask you to extend the privileges of the floor and the cordialities of the House today for these extraordinary women.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of Ms. Jaffee, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome this extraordinary group of women here to the New York State Assembly. We extend to you the privileges of the floor. Our congratulations on your individual work in so many fields. We hope that you will enjoy this time, and that the Capitol is always going to be your Capitol. Thank you so very much.

(Applause)

Ms. De La Rosa for an introduction.

MS. DE LA ROSA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. In a few moments we will hear a resolution on Russian American History Month, and we've been joined by an esteemed delegation who I want to introduce to all my colleagues. We've been joined by Oxana Adler, who is the Director of inter -- an International Counsel for the New York-based American Russian Law Institute. Yulia Artemenko, who is the Project Director at RACH-C; Geo Artemenko, who currently works as a lead software engineer at Consumer Reports; Leon Bruk, who is a world-class musician; Olga Filyurskaya, who is joining us here today; Julio Rodriguez, who is the former Executive Director of the Institute for Puerto Rican and Urban Studies, and is the co-founder of RACH-C; Mark Rashkov, who is the Chancellor of Patriarchal Parishes of the Russian Orthodox Church in the U.S.A.; Irina Zagornova, who is a graduate from the Saratov Philharmonic and is considered the best Russian folk singer in America, she regularly performs throughout the country; and Dr. Olga Zatsepina, who is the co-founder and president of the Russian American Cultural Heritage Center, and who led this delegation here today and has ensured that our Chamber continues the tradition of honoring Russian American and Russian-speaking Americans here.

Please welcome them and give them the privileges and cordialities of the House.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Certainly. On behalf of Ms. De La Rosa, the Speaker and all the members, we welcome this

distinguished group of Russian Americans here to the New York State Assembly, extend to you the privileges of the floor. This is the People's House. You are always welcome here. We hope that you will continue having this tradition in the future so that we may all recognize the contribution of Russian Americans to this country.

Thank you so very much. Pleased to have you.

(Applause)

Page 3, resolutions. The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 228, Mrs. Barrett.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 2019, as Lyme Disease Awareness Month in the State of New York.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mrs. Barrett on the resolution.

MRS. BARRETT: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I just want to point out that this year we are asking that -- that Lyme Disease Awareness Month be moved up a month in deference to the increase in the number of ticks out earlier because of climate change, because of warmer weather. It's a -- a longer season, and we are seeing increasing numbers of ticks and increasing cases of Lyme and tick-borne disease in New York State. The Department of Health estimates that about 22,000 or more, though the CDC says that could be ten times as much. Having said that, there was basically no funding in our New York State budget for Lyme and tick-borne disease

prevention, education or research. And I hope that as we go forward with the Capital Budget, that we find some money because this is an increasing public health crisis throughout our country from the Adirondacks through Central New York through the Hudson Valley and on to Long Island that will impact tourism, it will impact our economy, it will impact real estate prices, and we need to start taking it as seriously as it is impacting our communities.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you.

On the resolution, all those in favor signify by saying aye; opposed, no. The resolution is adopted.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. 246, Ms. Walker.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 2, 2019, as Equal Pay Day in the State of New York.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Ms. Walker on the resolution.

MS. WALKER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. One of our State's guiding principles is to provide equal opportunities for every New Yorker. Since the passage of the Federal Equal Pay Act in 1963, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act in 1964 and New York's Equal Pay Act in 1966, women, especially minority women, continue to suffer the consequences of unequal pay. Women make up more than half of this nation's workforce, with 74.4 million women employed or seeking employment in the year 2016, which is a significant increase



from 18.4 million in 1950. According to the United States Census, the national annual salary for women working full-time in 2016 was 82 percent of what men earned, highlighting the vast inequities which still exist today. For New York, women of color over a 40-year career, today's wage disparity is greater as an African-American woman's salary would be \$857,480 less. A Latina's salary would be \$1,000,094,680 less. An Asian-American woman's salary would be \$426,520 less, and a Native American woman's salary would be \$965,720 less compared to a Caucasian man. The wealth gap black families experience can be traced back to historic injustices such as slavery, segregation and redlining. Unequal access to government programs like the GI Bill and ongoing institutionalized and systematic discrimination. The disparity in wealth expands generations and perpetuates unequal pay and diminished opportunities, as well as decreasing the amount of resources black families can devote to education and career advancement. In addition to being over-represented at the low-paying end of the spectrum, black women are underrepresented at the top. Black women make up a scant 1 percent of high-paying engineering workforce and 3 percent of computing. And these, unfortunately, are the fields where the gender gap pay is the smallest. Among the few black women who do break these career -- who do break into these careers, discriminatory pay and promotion practices generally drop many out. Research shows that women are key to the economic growth of our societies. Pay us equitably and watch how our economy flourishes. Closing the wage gap for black

women means less families living in poverty, more spending money to stimulate the economy, and for companies that offer equal pay, workplaces that are able to attract and retain valuable employees.

On April 2, 2019, this symbolizes the time and the year in which the full-time wages paid to American women catch up to the full-time wages paid to men from the previous year. Fair pay equity policies should be implemented in both the public and the private sectors. Today is -- it is my honor to have this legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 2, 2019 as Equal Pay Day in the State of New York, recognizing the full value of women's skills and significant contributions to the labor force, and to further encourage businesses to conduct an internal pay evaluation to ensure that women are paid fairly.

Thank you very much, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Ms. Bichotte.

MS. BICHOTTE: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to speak on this resolution. I am -- I would like to thank the sponsor for introducing this resolution on equal pay for the same job. Even though we have passed some form of legislation to make it unlawful employment to discriminate base -- to discriminate against sex, race or national origin by paying different wages for the same job, we are still seeing disparities in our ability to move economically equitably. As it stands today, you heard black women earn 61 cents for every dollar earned by their white male counterparts.

Native-American women earn 58 cents to every dollar. Latino women earn 53 cents, while white women and Asian women earn 77 cents and 85 cents, respectively. As the Chair of the Minority- and Women Business Enterprise Subcommittee, it is very important that we work together in bringing equity in the wage gap and closing the wage gap.

Thank you so much, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you.

Ms. Raynor.

MS. RAYNOR: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to speak on the resolution. Thank you, Assemblyman -- excuse me, Assemblywoman Walker for introducing this. I had the privilege to serve on a panel hosted by our incredible Nassau County Comptroller recently, discussing the findings of his office's report on black economic inequity in Nassau County. The report states that the average annual income for a white Nassau household is \$107,465, compared with \$88,107 in black households. The report also notes that residents of communities with high concentrations of black residents, including all of Westbury, Freeport and Uniondale, have trouble with access to credit or have a high revolving credit balance. The report indicates that Long Island's economy could have been \$24 billion stronger in 2014 if the racial gap income were eliminated. Black residents in Nassau are more likely to experience unemployment and be underpaid. The report also states that black resident are less likely to own a home, attain a bachelor's degree, and participate in the county procurement process. My belief is that companies have

historically paid blacks less in part because blacks sometimes aren't confident negotiating a higher salary. That is a mindset that we have to change. A lot of times we just accept what we're given because we're thankful to be given an employment opportunity. We feel like, *Oh, you think I'm worthy enough?* But no. Everyone in this room is worthy, and everyone in this State and beyond deserves to be equally compensated for their contributions to organizations. I'm committed to doing everything in my power to ensure this is the case in New York State.

Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Buchwald.

MR. BUCHWALD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, I don't usually speak on resolutions on this floor. They are a very important part of our business, but I'm usually content to let them simply pass without my particular remarks. But I think it's particularly important to have a resolution like this because, unfortunately, too many Americans, many of them men, are in denial about the fact that there is a pay gap. And it is crucial that we have resolutions like this to remind people that there is real work to be done. And though we can be proud of the fact that the pay gap tends to be smaller in New York than it is in other states, is by no means non-existent. It is very real, and has a real effect on the lives of New Yorkers and their families here in New York State. And so, I just want to commend the sponsor of this legislation, and the entire House presumably will be adopting this resolution shortly.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for making sure that as many New Yorkers as possible hear loudly the voice of this resolution. Thank you.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On the resolution, all those in favor signify by saying aye; opposed, no. The resolution is adopted.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 247, Ms. Woerner.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 6, 2019, as Tartan Day in the State of New York.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On the resolution, Ms. Woerner.

MS. WOERNER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. National Tartan Day, designated on April 6th, was first adopted -- adopted in 1998 to recognize the outstanding achievements and contributions made by Scottish Americans to the United States. In New York, we are proud to have a strong Scottish American community who have contributed significantly to their State and country. This past Saturday in New York City, National Tartan Day was celebrated with a Tartan Day Parade led by Sir Billy Connolly and observed by nearly 30,000 spectators. New York is proud to be home to many Scottish Americans of note, including former President Theodore Roosevelt; Lord Sterling, a Scottish American Major General in the American Revolutionary War; the authors J.D. Salinger and Herman Melville,

among others. And the City of Albany where we sit today, itself, is named for the Scottish Duke of Albany whose title comes from the Gaelic name for Scotland, Alba. As a descendent of Scottish ancestors myself, I was happy to introduce a resolution to recognize Tartan Day in New York State when one of my constituents, Deborah DePasquale, came to my office to teach me more about this great celebration of heritage and culture. I would like to thank my colleagues for supporting this resolution, and Ms. DePasquale for her commendable commitment to her community.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On the resolution, all in favor signify by saying aye; opposed, no. The resolution is adopted.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 248, Mr. Ryan.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 11, 2019, as Library Assistance Day in the State of New York.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On the resolution, all those in favor signify by saying aye; opposed, no. The resolution is adopted.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 249, Ms. Joyner.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 11-17, 2019, as Black Maternal Health Week in the State of New York.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On the resolution, all those in favor signify by saying aye; opposed, no. The resolution is adopted.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. 250, Ms. De La Rosa. Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 2019, as Russian American History Month in the State of New York.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On the resolution, Ms. De La Rosa.

MS. DE LA ROSA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm delighted to join my colleagues in introducing this resolution to declare April Russian American History Month. To say "Russian American" covers an umbrella of over 100 ethnic groups, the world's largest religions, and dozens of nationalities. There are many accomplished individuals in our history that many do not know are even Russian Americans; like -- like Ivan Turchaninov, Union Army Brigadier General; Igor -- Igor Sikorsky, inventor of the helicopter and the multi-engine airplane; Sergei Rachmaninoff and Igor Stravinsky, composers; Vladimir Zworykin, engineer and pioneer of television technology. And more recently, we know Sergey Brin, co-founder and head of Google Corporation; and Irving Berlin, author of the song "God Bless America." One of the most noted and visible Russian American communities in the U.S. exists in our very own State, in the Borough of Brooklyn. Brighton Beach has become a visible and dynamic metropolis of Russian culture. In Manhattan's Spanish

Harlem, just blocks away from my district, the Russian American Orthodox Church established its national headquarters in 1902 and built St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Cathedral, which is still there. Many legislators in this hall have at least some Russian American and Russian-speaking residents in their district. In my own district, the 72nd Assembly District, there has been much regard with the Russian American community for generations. This resolution was born in my district when are now-Congressman Adriano Espaillat first introduced it to this august Body. Today we highlight the rich and complex history of Russian Americans. Dr. Olga Zatsepina, President of RACH-C, the Russian American Heritage Center in Washington Heights and Inwood, initiated Russian American history in 2012, and has a broad delegation of organizations and individuals who we were already introduced to, here to Albany, each of them to witness the passing of this resolution.

I would like for you all to join us as we celebrate the passage of Russian American and Russian-speaking History Month here in the Assembly.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Thank you.

On the resolution, all those in favor -- oh, I'm sorry.

Ms. Frontus.

MS. FRONTUS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm delighted to stand here and join my colleagues in cosponsoring this resolution to declare April as Russian American History Month. Mr.



Speaker, as you may know, New York State leads the nation in terms of Russian-speaking immigrants. In the Tri-State area alone, there are over 1.6 million Russian-speaking Americans. As the Assemblymember for District 46, I am very proud to represent the iconic Southern Brooklyn communities of Coney Island and Brighton Beach, which are home to over tens of thousands of Russian-speaking immigrants, the Majority of whom are Russian Jews.

For this reason, Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand here today and recognize the heritage and culture of Southern Brooklyn's Russian-speaking community. Their vibrant culture has fused together with all of the rich customs that have historically become part of the makeup of our City. We continue to be leading the Metropolitan Gateway for Russian-speaking immigrants into the United States, and we are very proud of that. I would be remiss if I didn't mention that Southern Brooklyn boasts an array of media and cultural institutions. We have *Russkaya Reklama*, the largest Russian weekly publication in the United States. We have Davidson Radio on WSNR 620 AM, the largest Russian language radio station outside of Russia. We also have RTN, the Russian Television Network of America, where well-known Russian-speaking community leader and TV host Ari Kagan has a show called "Here In America," which draws some 300,000 viewers nationwide. In Brighton Beach, we have the Master Theater, a treasured cultural venue for the Russian immigrant community, and not to mention the Brighton Ballet Theater, which is the school for Russian American Brighton Ballet.

We are so fortunate to have these cultural institutions right in our backyard in Southern Brooklyn, and community leaders like Bella Gubenko, the President of the Association of East European Jewry; and Sophia Labova, President of the Haber House Senior Center, both of whom I had the honor of just recognizing yesterday at my Women of Distinction Awards ceremony.

Mr. Speaker, Southern Brooklyn is so lucky to be home for so many Russian-speaking immigrants who truly enhance the vibrancy of our community. And to all of my Russian-speaking friends and neighbors, I would like to say Spasibo.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: On the resolution, all those in favor signify by saying aye; opposed, no. The resolution is adopted.

THE CLERK: Assembly Resolution No. 251, Mr. Zebrowski.

Legislative Resolution memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim April 2019, as Financial Literacy Month in the State of New York.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: All those in favor of the resolution signify by saying aye; opposed, no. The resolution is adopted.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. If we could now go to page 4 -- actually, it's page 5 on this Calendar, and we're going to start with Calendar No. 169 by Ms.

Solages.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will read.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A02947, Calendar No. 169, Solages, D'Urso, Dickens, Ramos, Cahill, Barron, Lavine, McDonough, Lawrence, Jean-Pierre, Otis, Thiele. An act to amend the General Municipal Law and the Public Authorities Law, in relation to requiring notice and confirmation of such notice by affected local taxing jurisdictions and school districts prior to approval of projects by industrial development agencies.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect January 1st.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, and my colleagues in the Chamber in and around, this is our first vote of today. So if members are around, please come in and cast your vote. First vote of today.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: First vote of the day, members. If you are in the sound of our voice, please come into the Chamber and vote. If you are in your seat, please vote now. Thank you very much.

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A05839-A, Calendar No. 170, Paulin, Abinanti, Buchwald, Galef, Otis, Pretlow, Sayegh. An act to amend the Westchester County Administrative Code, in relation to the lease or sale of real property for park purposes.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Home rule message is at the desk.

The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A05840-A, Calendar No. 171, Pretlow, Sayegh, Otis. An act to amend the Tax Law, in relation to authorizing the County of Westchester to impose an additional rate of sales and compensating use tax; and to amend Chapter 272 of the Laws of 1991, amending the Tax Law relating to the method of disposition of sales and compensating use tax revenue in Westchester County and enacting the Westchester County Spending Limitation Act, in relation to extending the expiration thereof.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Home rule message is at the desk.

The bill is laid aside.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A06870, Calendar No. 172, Hunter. An act to amend the Not-for-Profit Corporation Law, in relation to exempting East Syracuse Fire Department from the requirement that the percentage of non-resident fire department members not exceed 45 percent of the membership.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect immediately.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

THE CLERK: Assembly No. A06962-A, Calendar No. 173, Joyner, Gottfried. An act to amend the Public Health Law, in relation to the establishment of obstetric hemorrhage protocols.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Read the last section.

THE CLERK: This act shall take effect on the 180th day.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Clerk will record the vote.

(The Clerk recorded the vote.)

Are there any other votes? Announce the results.

(The Clerk announced the results.)

The bill is passed.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, could you recognize Mr. Otis for an announcement?

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Mr. Otis for the purposes of an announcement.

MR. OTIS: Good afternoon. After the rigorous day

today, we're going to have a Democratic conference immediately following Session in the Speaker's Conference Room.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: Democratic conference, Speaker's Conference Room following Session.

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: Mr. Speaker, do we have any further housekeeping or resolutions?

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: We have numerous resolutions, fine as they are. We will take them up with one vote.

On the resolutions, all those in favor signify by saying aye; opposed, no. The resolutions are adopted.

(Whereupon, Assembly Resolution Nos. 252-265 were unanimously adopted.)

Mrs. Peoples-Stokes.

MRS. PEOPLES-STOKES: I now -- I now move that the Assembly stand adjourned until 2:15 p.m., Tuesday, April the 9th, tomorrow being a Session day, Mr. Speaker.

ACTING SPEAKER AUBRY: The Assembly stands adjourned.

(Whereupon, at 3:37 p.m., the House stood adjourned until Tuesday, April 9th at 2:15 p.m., that being a Session day.)