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House of Representatives

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF EVA BLASZ EGRI AND THE MUSICAL CONCERT "ZOCHRENU LECHIM"

HON. STEVE ISRAEL
OF NEW YORK

MR. ISRAEL: Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Eva Blasz Egri, a Holocaust survivor whose spirit and strength serve as an inspiration to her family, friends, and her community.

Eva, a longtime friend of my constituent Len Romano, shared with him details of her tragic past in Auschwitz and the loss of her family during World War II. After returning to her home in Hungary after the War, Eva uncovered treasured songs that her father, Hazzan Shmuel Blasz, had given to a non-Jewish neighbor who risked his life to hide the precious music from the Nazis. Hazzan Blasz wrote these songs before the War when he served as chief cantor and musical composer for the Egr Jsr Temple in Hungary.

After uncovering these musical compositions in the basement of her home and keeping them to herself for

decades, long after she moved to the United States, she recently decided to share these documents with Len.

I am proud to stand here today to honor Len and the distinguished cantors from the New York area who have worked hard to bring these songs to life by performing them in a concert at Temple Beth Sholom in Smithtown tonight.

Eva's resilience is a lesson to us all to find the hidden beauty in apparent tragedy and commemorate the lives and contributions of those whose lives were lost.

I applaud the efforts of so many in my district who have worked to bring Eva's music to the forefront and hold this special concert called "*Zochrenu Lechim*," Remember Us Unto Life.