

ago and endeavor to ease the pain of their descendants not only out of sympathy for what they have experienced, but to remind ourselves that we must never allow it to happen again.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. IRENE DUPLESSIS

**HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2012*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Mrs. Irene Duplessis of Worcester, Massachusetts who turns 100 years old on May 1, 2012. Irene is an active woman who enjoys spending time with her family, playing bingo, and participating in Elder Summit Care. Today, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in wishing Mrs. Irene Duplessis a Happy 100th Birthday!

APRIL 23 INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY

**HON. VIRGINIA FOXX**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2012*

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, Turkish-Americans and Turkish people throughout the world are commemorating April 23 as National Sovereignty and Children's Day and I happily join them.

On April 23, 1920, during the War of Independence, the Grand National Assembly met in Ankara to lay the foundation of a new, independent, and secular Republic, born from the ashes of the Ottoman Empire. President Mustafa Kemal Atatürk openly declared that it was absolutely necessary to form a government that would be the "destiny of the country" governed "by the determination and will of the Turkish nation as expressed in the Grand National Assembly."

President Atatürk dedicated April 23 to the children of the country to emphasize that they are the future of the new nation.

Following the victory over invading forces and the signing of the Treaty of Lausanne on July 24, 1923, Atatürk began to create the first predominantly Muslim secular, pluralistic, and westward-looking democracy. Over the next eight years, Atatürk embarked on ambitious and sweeping reforms in education, women's rights, and the judicial system. Today, Turkey stands as a model for other countries looking to shed their past and join the international community of democratic countries.

Every year, the children in Turkey celebrate this National Sovereignty and Children's Day as a national holiday. Schools participate in week-long ceremonies marked by performances in all fields in large stadiums watched by the entire nation. Among the activities included on this day is one in which the children send their peer representatives to work with state officials and high ranking bureaucrats in their offices. The President, the Prime Minister, the Cabinet Ministers, and provincial governors all work with children in their offices. These children, in turn, sign executive

orders relating to educational and environmental policies. On this day, the children also replace the parliamentarians in the Grand National Assembly and hold a special session to discuss matters concerning children's issues.

The importance of April 23 as a special day for children has spread to the international community. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) decided to recognize this important day as International Children's Day.

Congratulations to the country of Turkey on the occasion of National Sovereignty and Children's Day.

COMMEMORATING THE 97TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

**HON. SANDER M. LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2012*

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in commemorating the 97th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

Ninety-seven years ago, the government of the Ottoman Empire started a ruthless and systematic campaign of genocide against the Armenian people. Beginning with the targeted execution of 300 Armenian leaders, this intentional attempt at extermination ultimately claimed the lives of over 1.5 million people and forcibly exiled another 500,000.

And despite these chilling numbers and a clear historical record of fact, there remains a failure to acknowledge this vast human tragedy for what it truly is: genocide. That is why it is essential that we continue to speak out and solemnly commemorate the Armenian Genocide. Accordingly, I am proud to support a resolution this session of Congress that affirms the U.S. record on the Armenian Genocide and honors its victims and survivors.

By acknowledging this dark chapter of human history, we help protect against the possible creation of a violent culture of impunity. We cannot allow past acts of evil to be erased from our collective consciousness if we are to prevent similar tragedies from occurring in the future.

In closing, I encourage all my colleagues to take time today to remember and honor the victims and survivors of the Armenian Genocide.

IN RECOGNITION OF STEVEN DANA CHAN, D.D.S

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2012*

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Steven Chan. Dr. Chan was recently installed, on March 30, 2012, as the 38th President of the California Society of Pediatric Dentistry. Dr. Chan is a Pediatric Dental Specialist and has practiced in Fremont, California for over twenty-eight years. With a patient base of thousands, he has helped two generations of patients grow up with healthy, beautiful smiles.

The mission of the California Society of Pediatric Dentistry is to serve the membership

and the public by advocating for the optimal oral health of infants, children, and adolescents. Dr. Chan is well suited to lead the California Society of Pediatric Dentistry. His education, professional expertise, experience, academic positions, hospital appointments, professional honors, professional association memberships, leadership skills, and community service are outstanding.

Dr. Chan's professional honors include Fellowships in the American College of Dentists, Academy of Dentistry International, American Academy of Pediatric Dentists, Pierre Fauchard Academy, and the International College of Dentists.

He received the Citizen of the Year Award from Citizens for a Better Community and the Southern Alameda County Dental Society's Douglas R. Franklin Distinguished Service Award. Dr. Chan has served in numerous leadership positions within the California Dental Association and the American Dental Association. He holds significant professional association memberships related to dentistry and is also a member of the American Society of Association Executives.

Dr. Chan has not only distinguished himself in his profession but also continues to be a prominent force in community service. He has served in leadership positions in the South Bay Chinese Club Scholarship Foundation, Citizens for a Better Community, Fremont Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Foundation, Fremont Library Commission, Washington Hospital Foundation, Ohlone Community College and has engaged in numerous civic activities to support the City of Fremont.

Dr. Chan has truly been a leader of Organized Dentistry—having served as President of the California Dental Association and now as President of his specialty, Pediatric Dentistry. He has worked to improve the quality and access to oral health for all individuals as well as advocating for the dental profession.

I am confident Dr. Chan will be a dynamic leader of the California Society of Pediatric Dentistry and I offer my congratulations and best wishes to him.

TRIBUTE TO TELACU FOR ITS COMMITMENT TO THE ADVANCEMENT AND EMPOWERMENT OF LATINOS

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2012*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today and ask Congress to recognize June 8th as TELACU Scholars Day.

The TELACU Education Foundation was established by TELACU in 1983 to respond to crisis-level dropout rates for Latino Students. As the largest community and economic development corporation in the United States, TELACU is a pioneering institution committed to service, empowerment, advancement and the creation of self-sufficiency within the Latino community.

Realizing the high dropout rates for Latino students, the TELACU Education Foundation responded by investing in our youth through education to create a strong future for our country. TELACU began its efforts to reverse high dropout rates among Latino students by

providing monetary support and counseling for first generation and low income students. The TELACU Scholarship Program is an exemplary program that helps students realize their dream of a college education by providing scholarships and supplemental support.

Although TELACU understands that financial assistance is a vital component for college students to achieve academic success, it also recognizes the underlying challenges many young adults face including socioeconomic factors, family responsibilities, cultural identity, and financial solvency. Students who are the first member of their families to pursue a college degree often must make their own academic support system in order to achieve their dreams. TELACU understands these challenges.

For nearly three decades, the Education Foundation has worked to remove the formidable barriers that often prevent Latino youth from achieving academic success and providing them with professional role models and academic support. The TELACU Scholarship Program provides its youth not only with monetary assistance, but with the counseling, leadership training, and time management training necessary to help students achieve their dreams.

I am proud of the way the TELACU Education Foundation has contributed to the development of our future Latino leaders. Each year, TELACU supports 500 Latino college students and 1,500 middle and high school students. In each program, 100% of the students graduate.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor TELACU, the TELACU Education Foundation and scholarship programs like this one, for believing in the dream of higher education for all of America's next generation of leaders. I extend my congratulations to the TELACU scholars and the people who make their dreams a reality as they celebrate the 29th Annual TELACU Education Foundation Scholarship Awards Dinner, Building the Dream, on Friday, June 8th, 2012.

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#### HONORING DAVID GRABILL

### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2012*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor David Grabill, a lawyer in Santa Rosa, CA, who is receiving the Jack Green Civil Liberties Award from the Sonoma County Chapter of the Northern California American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). This award is presented annually to a leader who has advanced the cause of social justice in the community.

During his 45 years of practice, David Grabill has represented individuals and groups in civil rights cases not only in our community, but in places like Gary, Indiana; Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota; Charleston, West Virginia; and Delano and Escondido, California. He assisted in Robert Kennedy's presidential campaign, represented members of the Black Panther Party in Los Angeles, and worked with the United Farm Workers on union rights. He has also extended his practice to welfare and reproductive rights, Native American legal services, black lung, labor matters, and others, giving his time and expertise to those in need of legal services.

Mr. Grabill grew up in Washington, DC, and attended Yale University and the University of Pennsylvania law school. He met his wife, Dorothy Battenfeld in West Virginia, and, in 1981, settled with his family in Santa Rosa. He served for 14 years as directing attorney for California Rural Legal Assistance (CRLA), working on behalf of California's rural poor.

He soon joined with other attorneys during the Reagan administration to obtain an injunction prohibiting the federal government from detaining any individual merely to investigate her/his immigration status unless they had reasonable grounds to believe the person was not legally in the Country. He also served for many years on the Board of the Sonoma County ACLU Chapter where he provided significant pro bono legal support on various issues.

Today David Grabill specializes locally in cases involving affordable housing and housing discrimination. With the Housing Advocacy Group (HAG) that he started with friends in 1998, he focuses his efforts on creating more affordable housing and combating discrimination against lower income, mostly Latino and African American, residents.

Mr. Speaker, David Grabill has dedicated his life to the advancement of social justice and human rights. Please join me in congratulating him on the Sonoma ACLU's Jack Green Civil Liberties Award.

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#### HONORING THE VETERANS OF THE APRIL 24, 2012, QUAD CITIES HONOR FLIGHT

### HON. DAVID LOESACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2012*

Mr. LOESACK. Mr. Speaker, today I have the great honor of welcoming veterans of the Greatest Generation to our nation's capital. Accompanied by volunteer guardians, these veterans from the Quad Cities have travelled to Washington, DC from Iowa and Illinois to visit the monument that was built in their honor.

For many of these veterans, today will be the first time they have seen the National World War II Memorial. I am deeply honored to have been invited to join them when they see their memorial for the first time and to have the opportunity to personally thank these heroes.

I am proud to have a piece of marble from the quarry that supplied the stone that built the World War II Memorial in my office. Like the memorial that it built, that piece of marble reminds me of the sacrifices of a generation of Americans. When our country was threatened, they rose to defend not just our nation but the freedoms, democracy, and values that make our country the greatest nation on earth. They did so as one people and one country. Their sacrifices and determination in the face of great threats to our way of life are still humbling and inspiring today.

The sheer magnitude of what the Greatest Generation accomplished, not just in war but in the peace that followed, continues to inspire us today. They did not seek to be tested both abroad by a war that fundamentally challenged our way of life and at home by the Great Depression and the rebuilding of our

economy that followed. But, when called upon to do so, they defended and then rebuilt our country. Their patriotism, service, and great sacrifice not only defined their generation—they stand as a testament to the fortitude of our nation.

I am tremendously proud to welcome the veterans on the Quad City Honor Flight to our nation's capital today. On behalf of every Iowan I represent, I thank them for their service to our country.

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#### RECOGNIZING REVEREND OLDER- SHAW'S 50 YEARS OF SERVICE

### HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2012*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a man who has spent 50 years serving our local community with great distinction: Reverend Robert H. Oldershaw. Father Oldershaw is a native of Evanston, Illinois, and that is where he continues to make his mark even today.

After being ordained a Catholic priest in 1962, Father Oldershaw worked hard in parishes across Chicago—serving communities in Hyde Park, downtown Chicago and Lincoln Park before landing back at St. Nicholas Parish in his hometown in 1988. Evanston has benefited from his outreach ever since. Father Oldershaw retired in 2006, after almost 20 years in our City. He continues to serve as pastor emeritus at St. Nicholas, and I am happy to say he is a constant and welcome figure in our neighborhood.

Father Oldershaw has made significant contributions to the Catholic Church. For a number of years while working in Chicago he served as the Associate Director for Music of the Archdiocesan Office for Divine Worship. In this role he worked to help parishes across the Chicago area adapt to the then-recent changes stemming from the Second Vatican Council. He has also written a number of articles and pieces of music over the years, and serves as the liturgical editor of *Worship—Third Edition* (GIA Publications)—a hymnal used in Catholic churches across the country.

In 1999 Father Oldershaw was featured in a documentary entitled *A Justice That Heals*. This documentary tells the story of how he brought together and fostered forgiveness between the family of a murder victim and the individual who killed their son. Activities such as these were commonplace for a man who has devoted his life to serving his parish and the community as a whole.

In addition to his parish duties, Father Oldershaw was (and remains) extremely active in the Evanston community. He is involved in a large number of organizations furthering the public good. He served as co-president of the Evanston Ecumenical Action Council (now known as Interfaith Action of Evanston), as a member of the board of directors of St. Francis Hospital, and has spent over a decade as a chaplain with the Evanston Police Department. Each of these roles has left an indelible impact on our local community and we are lucky to have had him working among us for so long.

Father Oldershaw also deserves praise for his social justice work. He is an active member of Priests for Justice for Immigrants, and