

Saturday at 3 p.m. The celebration of the borough's centennial will continue with a variety of community events throughout the rest of the year.

Mr. Speaker, 100 years ago, in April 1897, the Borough of Allenhurst had the first meeting of its board of commissioners. Of course, this was not the beginning of the history of life in the area as we now call Allenhurst. A Scotsman named Gawen Drummond bought the land for native Americans. The land was for many years part of the Allen Farm, and there were two hotels, the Allen Hotel and the Crow's Nest. In 1896 the Coast Land Office was built at the corner of Page and Corlies Avenues, and in the next 20 months 58 cottages were constructed. The Coast Land Company placed ads in New York and Philadelphia newspapers extolling the borough's wise exclusiveness. The following year, the borough was incorporated.

Mr. Speaker, a lot has changed in Allenhurst, NJ, and America since the founding of Allenhurst. One hundred years ago, Grover Cleveland was President, San Francisco had a massive earthquake, the Spanish-American War was being fought, the first World Series was held and construction of the Panama Canal began. But much has remained the same: The beauty of the ocean and beaches of the Jersey Shore and the deep sense of community pride felt by the residents of Allenhurst.

On April 26 at 3 p.m., the minutes of the original meeting will be read. Mayor Coyne and Commissioners Ruocco and McCarthy will be dressed in 1896-style costumes. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the borough officials and all the residents of this beautiful oceanfront community on this historic occasion and look forward to working with them to make the next 100 years every bit as good as the first century.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 23, 1997

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, as we approach a new millennium we cannot forget the launching of the April 24, 1915 pogrom of some 200 Armenian religious, political and intellectual leaders from Constantinople [Istanbul]. For 8 years, 1.5 million Armenians suffered grave repudiation by the government of the "Young Turk Committee." This unfortunate history must be memorialized and remembered such that the world can understand that this tragedy represents the first example of genocide in the 20th century. This observation is not made lightly; but the facts about the destruction of the Armenian people cannot be ignored.

As Armenians and people of conscience throughout the world commemorate April 24, we must accurately depict history to ensure that it is never repeated. Continuing to deny the truth about an important part of world history creates the view that it was just an "unfortunate incident" and nothing else. This inaccuracy can be nothing further from the truth and allows for similar atrocities to occur.

Mr. Chairman, on this day I urge all of my colleagues to remember the horrible events

that occurred in the early part of this century. May they never be repeated again.

LEE HIGH SCHOOL'S SINGING LANCERS TOP THE CHARTS IN ATLANTA COMPETITION

HON. HENRY J. HYDE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, the spotlight at the April Fiesta-Val Music competition held in Atlanta, GA was focused on the Choirs of Lee High School.

The performance given by the 20-member Madrigal Choir earned them a superior rating by the judges, placing Lee first in their division. Achieving a superior rating over their 15 competitors, the Fiesta-Val Champion Trophy was presented to Lee Madrigals for reaching the highest numerical score of any choir in their division.

The next group to be called into the winners' spotlight was Lee's Ladies' Chamber Choir. The chamber choir gave another outstanding performance before the panel of judges who rated this choir superior. The Concert Choir was the next to be honored with an excellent rating for their performance.

Noteworthy is the selection of Lee's Singing Lancers as the Fiesta-Val's recipient of the 1997 Grand Champion trophy. To receive this distinctive recognition as overall champions, the Singing Lancers marked the highest combined scores of all choirs competing in the festival.

The awards cited above have become a tradition for Lee's choral program through the hard work and dedication of its director, Mr. Lindsey Florence. Were it not for this outstanding director, the students may never have reached this plateau in their high school music experience. This remarkable contribution was recognized when the festival sponsors presented Mr. Lindsey Florence with the coveted Award of Distinction in recognition of his notable contribution to musical excellence.

Congratulations to the director, Mr. Florence, and his wonderful students: Shely Abbott, Matt Aberant, Denise Absher, Karen Albers, Jessica Alonzo, Alex Arndt, Mary Assad, Nicki Baugher, Ashley Bush, Nicki Clark, Amy Cole, Cindy Craig, Elizabeth Crego, Rachel Cully, Abigail Dosch, Kelly Drier, Mary Fitzgerald, Heather Flemming, John Goff, Craig Goheen, Brian Gresham, Rachel Griffin, Kristen Hampton, James Hare, Brandon Henrich, April Holloman, J.P. Javier Wong, Erlend Johnson, Kim Johnson, Mary Kim, Peter Laver, Mike Lazear, Corrine Leahey, Darcie Lee, Dan Lee, Ruth Leeds, Christina Lewis, Anna Lipari, Courtney Mallon, Tara McCabe, Caroline McClaugherty, Heather McDonald, Darin McMillion, Dave McMullin, Abby Meyer, Jamie Michaud, Michelle Montvai, Carrie Moore, Shawn Newman, Ty Oxley, Vanessa Pannell, Alicia Peretti, Corey Perrine, Jessica Piansky, Sara Poh, Alicia Powell, Anna Ramdeo, David Reynolds, Terri Richards, Miranda Romero, Julie Saholsky, Beth Silvola, Leslie Simpson, Justin Smallwood, Julie Stoops, J.R. Stratton, Damara Thompson, Nhien To, Kristin Unger, Melissa Wilkerson, and Audrey Wright.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, April 23, 1997, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall votes Nos. 86 and 87. Had I been present and voting, I would have voted "yes" on each of the amendments to H.R. 400 as offered by Mr. CAMPBELL of California.

RETIREMENT OF CAPT. CHARLES CONNOR, U.S. NAVY

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 1997

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, over the past 25 years, Capt. Charles D. Connor has been a leading force in the Navy's public affairs community. His efforts, through a wide variety of assignments, played an integral role in articulating the Navy story, and ensuring public support for our policies and programs.

His early public affairs assignments, including U.S.S. *John F. Kennedy*, Armed Forces Bicentennial Program, Navy Recruiting Region Pacific Northwest, Navy Public Affairs Office Midwest, and Navy Recruiting Command laid the groundwork for stellar performance in the most challenging and influential billets in the PAO community.

In the late 1980's, Captain Connor went on to lead the public affairs efforts of the U.S. Third Fleet, following that success with 3 years at U.S. Space Command. His most recent assignments put him truly at the top of his field, where his broad professional expertise has been of incalculable benefit to the U.S. Navy.

As public affairs director of U.S. Navy European Headquarters, 1992-1994, Captain Connor, created, planned and executed the commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Normandy Invasion, the centerpiece of which was the globally televised Presidential embarkation aboard Navy ships. This special event successfully underlined the fact that American power projection relies on a forward-based Navy, a vital communication objective which was brilliantly conceived and implemented. His efforts were personally commended by the White House.

As the Deputy Chief of Information, 1994-1995, Captain Connor directed national and international Navy public affairs programs, managing global day-to-day media, community and internal relations operations involving hundreds of people and a multimillion dollar budget. He also created the first standardized manual on the operation of nine regional public affairs offices and introduced digital photography transmission to media, producing significant savings in processing costs.

Captain Connor's outstanding public affairs acumen culminated in his assignment as public affairs officer for the Secretary of the Navy in 1995. During a time of great change and volatility due to downsizing, he spearheaded the Secretary's communications program targeting both internal and external audiences. His efforts resulted in a greater understanding