These famous words ring throughout our country like the echoes of silent bells. Voices, unused in generations, can be heard today, still urging us to fight for what is good, to change what we believe. These voices created and preserved our democracy, and they resound in our memories, a symphony of noble and pure ideas. Yet, added to this is the cacophony of the past, a cacophony of voices belonging to the present: millions of people, each shouting his or her own opinions with little or no regard for anyone else’s thoughts. Amidst all this turmoil, how can my voice be heard? How can my voice make a difference?

In the many cynical, disillusioned people would tell you that it’s not worth shouting to be heard, it’s not worth standing up for what you believe. Because no one else is sacrificing. I cannot believe that. Too many problems in the past have been corrected because one person dared to speak out against them. America won its independence because one person had the courage to challenge British rule. The rallying cry of “No taxation without representation” swept a nation of diverse peoples and fractured opinions and united a majority of the population to work towards a common goal. Women won the right to vote because one voice was silent. The writings and speeches of Susan B. Anthony sparkled reforms in women’s dress, social freedoms, and ultimately, constitutional rights in a time of civil turbulence. Slavery was abolished because one person proclaimed it unjust. The accomplishments of William Lloyd Garrison and other abolitionists, such as Frederick Douglass and Sojourner Truth, resulted in the thirteenth amendment to the Constitution, which effectively outlawed slavery. Each of these controversies were important in our nation’s growth, and each of them began with a single person who persisted until another person listened . . . and another . . . and another . . . until that first person was shouting with the multitude instead of against it.

If I want my voice to be heard, I have to ignore the cynics. I have to shout against the millions. I have to call out incessantly. I have to refuse to be silent, in the hopes that one person might take note of my cry. If I influence just one other person, then my voice has been heard. If I cause that person to examine or change his or her views, then my voice has made a difference. My voice is not the voice of the millions, nor does it have an influence in democracy. But that: My voice, shouting against the crowd, so that I might be heard.

And today, there are so many more ways in which my voice can be heard. 150 years ago, communication was limited to the written word, in the form of newspapers and pamphlets. But today, as a student living in this day and age, I have the technology to reach many, many more people. On a local level, I have radio, which reaches a large percentage of the population. On a national level, I have the internet, which is growing daily, nearly impossible for an abolitionist or a suffragist to reach many, many more people. So today Mr. Speaker, I join with the people of Israel, those in my district, the Jewish Community Centers and Temples, in remembering the victims and saluting the courage of the survivors of the Holocaust.

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD Ð Extensions of Remarks

April 23, 1998

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tragedy of the loss of six million Jewish people, one and a half million of whom were children, who were murdered at the hands of the Nazis. Today is Yom HaShoah, the day in which we recognize the horrific genocide that Adolf Hitler imposed on so many.

Mr. Speaker, last year a group of young people from my district came to Washington and joined me on a visit to the Holocaust Museum. Additionally, last year, thanks to the assistance of the Jewish Federations in my district, I was fortunate enough to visit Yad Vashem in Israel. I cannot adequately express in words how moved I was to see the photographs of the victims, read the stories of so many families, and listened to the experiences that was told by the survivors. We can never forget what happened. Not only should we use these reminders every year, but we must also educate our young people and future generations about the Holocaust in order to preserve the memory of those who lost their lives, honor those who were fortunate enough to survive and to reaffirm the promise of “never again!”

Throughout this entire week, from April 19 through April 26, 1998 the United States Holocaust Memorial Council will lead the nation in civic commemorations of the victims of the Holocaust, called Days of Remembrance. Next week we will recognize the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the state of Israel.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Connecticut’s Teacher of the Year, Marianne Roche Cavanaugh. Mrs. Cavanaugh is the head teacher for mathematics, Kindergarten through 12th grade, at Gideon Welles Middle School in my home district. Since Mrs. Cavanaugh arrived in the Glastonbury public school system more than 20 years ago, her colleagues have watched in awe of her energy and ability to get students excited about mathematics. It has been said that her students have even groaned in disappointment at the end of one of “Mrs. Cav’s” lessons.

In 1994, Mrs. Cavanaugh organized the first Gideon Welles Marathon. In this academic competition, students seek sponsors who pledge as much as 5 cents for each math problem correctly solved in an hour. The truly amazing thing is that over the last four years $20,000 has been raised in the Glastonbury public school system more than 20 years ago, her colleagues have watched in awe of her energy and ability to get students excited about mathematics. It has been said that her students have even groaned in disappointment at the end of one of “Mrs. Cav’s” lessons.

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Mr. Speaker, I rise today to see a National Marathon Day during April, Math Awareness Month. Students across the country could strive to test the limits of their math skills while raising money for their communities. As a strong supporter of educational programs and initiatives throughout my career here in Congress, I stand before you in the hope that this day may soon be realized.

Outside her time in the classroom, Mrs. Cavanaugh has managed to present mathematical workshops across the nation, develop problem solving math curricula, and train other