that, with the fall of the Nazis, racism would be abolished from the earth. They were mistaken. Fifty years after the fall of Hitler, his successors have arisen in various corners of the world.

Today is a time for reflection, but it is not enough to simply remember. We must continue to fight hatred and intolerance wherever it exists, for human freedom depends on the presence of justice, the justice that was denied to so many during the dark days of World War II. To ignore that lesson is unforgivable.

Today in the Darfur region of Sudan, genocide is taking place. This conflict has engulfed millions of people and cost hundreds of thousands of lives. Innocent people are being murdered, starved, and driven from their homes simply because of the color of their skin.

As we commemorate Yom HaShoah, it is my hope that all people will banish the sort of dark hatred that gave rise to the Holocaust and, more recently, to the events in Darfur.

And, more recently, to the events in Darfur. Dark hatred that gave rise to the Holocaust when the worldview of one tiny nation could change the world for many. And though Chris would never seek out this type of recognition for her amazing work, everyone at Baton Rouge General believes she earns the right and privilege to be named Louisiana's Nurse of the Year.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Chris Gatlin for being named Louisiana's Nurse of the Year. This truly amazing and selfless individual has proven that one person can change the world for many.

CONGRATULATING CHRIS GATLIN,
2009 LOUISIANA NURSE OF THE YEAR

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER
OF LOUISIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, today I rise today to congratulate Chris Gatlin, RN, OCN, MHA, a nursing director at the Baton Rouge General, for being named 2009 Nurse of the Year by the Louisiana State Nurses Association.

Chris is a long-time nurse at the Baton Rouge General, and her colleagues and friends state that she is representative of a true leader. From her work as an oncology nurse, to her service to those well beyond the hospital walls, Chris demonstrates the art and caring as a nurse by her promotion of this profession through example and participation.

In addition to being one of the most compassionate caregivers, Chris is involved with many programs, projects, and initiatives related to oncology nursing. From promoting her profession through college classroom visits and national speaking engagements, to teaching classes to help nurses at the Baton Rouge General receive the highest certifications in oncology nursing, Chris is a constant advocate for the profession and a mentor to many.

But one of Chris’ most important and meaningful achievements is spearheading an initiative to increase awareness about the management of pain for cancer patients. As an oncology nurse, Chris saw how pain affected the daily lives of those suffering with this terminal disease. With a simple commitment to help her patients, she shepherd resources and stakeholders—creating the Louisiana Pain Initiative. Through this group, she secured grant money from the Pain Foundation to conduct the first Survey on Pain in Louisiana. She was also able to gain support around the state and participate in countless interviews for the “Power Over Pain Louisiana Campaign.” Chris continues to work closely with the group, making a difference in the lives of many in our state.

Chris is also highly involved with the American Cancer Society (ACS). She participates annually, usually as a team leader, in the Relay for Life event and serves as a member of ACS’s board of directors. She is also active in the community by promoting skin and prostate cancer screenings, breast self-exams, lung cancer awareness, and smoking cessation education.

Anyone who knows Chris quickly learns of her excitement and enthusiasm for nursing and zest for life. Colleagues at the Baton Rouge General look to Chris as an example of how the power of one dedicated person can change the world for many. And though Chris would never seek out this type of recognition for her amazing work, everyone at Baton Rouge General believes she earns the right and privilege to be named Louisiana’s Nurse of the Year.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Chris Gatlin for being named Louisiana’s Nurse of the Year.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MILITARY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION FEDERAL CHARTER ACT

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN
OF MARYLAND
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, today I rise to introduce, along with my colleague WALTER JONES, a bill to grant a federal charter to the Military Officers Association of America. The MOAA is an independent, non-profit, non-partisan organization that plays an active role in military personnel matters while working with Congress to propose legislation affecting our active duty, National Guard and Reserve forces, the retired community, veterans and survivors of the uniformed services.

The MOAA is the largest professional association for military officers and the fourth largest veterans group in the nation with nearly 370,000 members. Nonetheless, MOAA remains the only major veterans organization in the country without a Congressional Charter. Although a Federal Charter does not confer any specific rights or benefits, it provides public recognition to membership organizations that serve the public interest. A Charter also will enable some state-level MOAA affiliates to represent veterans on Governor-level veterans advisory councils from which they are presently excluded.

MOAA has established a distinguished 80-year history of service to the military community, veterans, survivors and their families by offering career transition assistance, military benefits counseling, and educational assistance to children of military families.

I am proud to stand in support of MOAA with my colleague Representative JONES and with our Senate colleagues BILL NELSON and SUSAN COLLINS, who introduced the bi-partisan companion bill.

After eight decades of service to our men and women in uniform, the MOAA richly deserves congressional support for a federal charter—not only for their benefit but for the benefit of those whom they serve and represent.

RECOGNIZING JOHN M. CONNALLY, JR.

HON. RALPH M. HALL
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, April 21, 2009

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of John M. Connally, Jr., who recently was honored for his contributions to the insurance and financial services industry.

The National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors-Dallas named John the 2007 Advisor of the Year at their awards ceremony last June. This organization encourages...