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 evil that gave rise to the Holocaust and, more recently, to the events in Darfur. May our consciences prevent us always from being bystanders in times and places where the presence of justice, the justice that was denied to so many during the dark days of World War II, would never seek out this type of recognition but 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.

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 receive congressional support for membership organizations that serve the public interest. A Charter also will enable some state-level MOAA affiliates to receive congressional support for membership organizations that serve the public interest. A Charter also will enable some state-level MOAA affiliates to receive congressional support for membership organizations that serve the public interest. A Charter also will enable some state-level MOAA affiliates to receive congressional support for membership organizations that serve the public interest.

The 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