

job search and employment orientation process. Its active and extensive network of corporate partners in both the public and private sectors has resulted in this unprecedented job placement rate in a variety of positions in hospitality and customer service.

A cost-benefit analysis conducted by the State University of New York at Buffalo concluded that the "benefits of training blind and physically disabled persons for employment in the hospitality industry far outweigh the costs." The analysis found that "Statler Center graduates have employment rates significantly higher than national averages for persons with disabilities" with a return on investment for training the disabled found to be as high as \$51 for every \$1 invested.

A member institution of the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus, The National Statler Center for Careers in Hospitality Service is located within this exciting 1200 acre world-class location in downtown Buffalo, New York where the focus is on clinical care, research, education and entrepreneurship.

On Thursday, July 29, 2010, the generous support of the center's contributing national and local foundation, community partners, staff, faculty, and most of all our dedicated students will be deservedly recognized as the 10th Anniversary of the Statler Center is celebrated. The festivities will begin with the graduation of the 34th Statler Class. These graduates will then join the more than 340 alumnae who are working in an array of jobs including: front desk clerks and managers in New York, night auditors in Michigan, PBX operators in California, customer service agents in Florida and a proprietor of a new hotel in Costa Rica opened by a truly entrepreneurial graduate.

The Statler Center's job-readiness training and follow-up advisement helps students become, and remain productive, valued employees and it is my honor to pay tribute to this outstanding program for ten years of exemplary service to individuals and their families. The efforts of this organization continue to make a difference in people's lives and are deserving of the highest recognition.

ON THE 36TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE TURKISH INVASION AND  
SUBSEQUENT OCCUPATION OF  
CYPRUS

### HON. NIKI TSONGAS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 20, 2010*

Ms. TSONGAS. Madam Speaker, today marks the thirty-sixth anniversary of the Turkish invasion and subsequent occupation of Cyprus. Since the late 1970s, the UN, with US support, has promoted negotiations aimed at reunifying the island. Despite high hopes for reconciliation in 2008, and despite some progress in that direction, the normalization process appears stalled.

We have a moral and ethical obligation to stand with Cypriots to reunify their island as a single sovereignty, with a single citizenship based on human rights, democracy and fundamental freedoms. It is time to acknowledge and rectify abuses against Greek Cypriots whose rights have been ignored or violated over these many years. It is time to find com-

mon ground and help Cyprus build a unified economy. According to the Peace Research Institute in Oslo, a successful federalist settlement could lead to an additional ten percent GDP growth within seven years.

I have spoken out on this issue before, and will continue to press for the day in which we have a reunified and prosperous Cyprus where Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots can live together in peace, security and stability, free from foreign aggression and intervention.

HONORING PRIVATE FIRST CLASS  
RICHARD M. DAWSON, USA

### HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 20, 2010*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a fallen hero. Private First Class Richard M. Dawson of the United States Army served this country proudly and with the highest level of honor. He gave the ultimate sacrifice to this nation by paying with his life while fighting for freedom in one of this country's most trying conflicts, World War II.

PFC Dawson grew up on a farm in Haynesville in Richmond County, known affectionately by his family as "Norris". He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1938 and was one of a select few chosen to join the Allied effort to regain control of Burma from the Japanese. In 1944, his Army Air Force unit was stationed in Dinjan, India, flying transport missions over "the Hump" of the Himalaya Mountains to supply American, British and Chinese forces fighting the Japanese in China and Burma. Despite reported bad weather conditions, his aircraft commander demonstrated extreme courage and elected to carry out its vital cargo-drop mission in the northern most portion of Burma. The Army reported the twin-engine C-47 Skytrain and its crew of seven took off to drop ammunition at Myitkyina in the mountains of northern Burma. Tragically, the aircraft never reached the drop zone and all seven crewmembers perished. Efforts to find the cargo plane were unsuccessful until late 2002 when a missionary provided U.S. officials with a data plate from a C-47 crash site approximately 31 miles northwest of Myitkyina. A Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command team excavated the crash site in 2003 and 2004, recovering additional remains and crew-related equipment which included an identification tag for Dawson.

The remains of the Richmond County airman were buried July 15, 2010 in Arlington National Cemetery with full military honors.

PFC Dawson is survived by his 78 year-old sister Christine King, who remembers the day in 1944 that a telegram arrived to tell the Dawson family that their son and brother was missing. He was 25 years old at the time. Dawson was a loving son who wrote frequent letters to his mother, beginning each one imploring her not to worry about him. This is a prime example of Dawson's selflessness which was exemplified throughout the duration of his service.

I extend to PFC Dawson's relatives my sincere condolences and deep appreciation for his service to our nation. We are forever ap-

preciative of the sacrifice he made to further the cause of freedom. We hope that his remaining family will find comfort in knowing he will rest in peace among America's finest who answered our nation's call to duty and who did so with bravery and valor.

HONORING JAMES R. WALKER,  
CRNA, DNP, PRESIDENT OF THE  
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF  
NURSE ANESTHETISTS

### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 20, 2010*

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, today I pay tribute to James R. Walker, CRNA, DNP, of Pearland, Texas, in my congressional district. Dr. Walker will soon complete his year as national president of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists (AANA). I am very pleased that a fellow Texan was elected by his colleagues as the 2009–2010 President of this prestigious national organization.

Founded in 1931 and celebrating its 79th anniversary, the AANA is the professional organization that represents more than 40,000 practicing Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs) and nurse anesthesia students nationwide. As you may know, CRNAs are advanced practice nurses who administer more than 32 million anesthetics in the United States each year. CRNAs practice in every setting in which anesthesia is delivered: traditional hospital surgical suites and obstetrical delivery rooms; critical access hospitals; ambulatory surgical centers; the offices of dentists, podiatrists, ophthalmologists, plastic surgeons; in the U.S. military, Public Health Service, and in Department of Veterans Affairs healthcare facilities. CRNAs also specialize in the management of pain. CRNAs provide anesthesia for all types of surgical cases and in some States are the sole anesthesia providers in the vast majority of rural hospitals, affording these medical facilities obstetrical, surgical and trauma stabilization services.

Dr. Walker was educated in the art and science of Nurse Anesthesia, at the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) degree from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. In addition, Dr. Walker holds a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) from Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, Texas, and he is currently working on a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Nursing at the Texas Women's University in Houston, Texas. Currently, he is the Director of the Graduate Program in Nurse Anesthesia at the Baylor College of Medicine, where he also serves as an Associate Professor of Anesthesiology.

Dr. Walker has held numerous leadership positions in the AANA as Regional Director and President-elect before becoming the National President of the AANA in August 2009. In addition, he has served terms as President, President-Elect, Vice-President, and Federal Political Director, for the Texas Association of Nurse Anesthetists (TANA).

While at the Baylor College of Medicine, he was awarded the J. David Holcomb Achievement Award for Allied Health Sciences Education, Research, Faculty Development, and