

IN HONOR OF RICHARD CLARK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Richard Clark to acknowledge his receipt of the Walks of Life award from the Irish American Archives Society. Richard has been of immense value to the community and his achievements are certainly praiseworthy.

Mr. Clark's time spent as the principal of St. Ignatius High School marked an era of vast improvements to the school. Attendance rose annually by 300 students under his leadership. During his twelve years as principal, St. Ignatius reaped the benefits of a new intramural gym, a new 400 seat place of worship and a complete remodeling of its classrooms.

After leaving St. Ignatius High School, Richard founded an entirely new high school in Cleveland, Saint Martin de Porres. The mission of this school is "to transform urban Cleveland one student at a time." Richard can be proud of his many accomplishments. Of the 190 students who graduated from St. Martin de Porres, all were accepted into college.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, Cleveland is proud to have such a motivated and good-willed individual giving back to the community. Richard's accomplishments have improved the lives of hundreds of young individuals seeking education and opportunity.

GOLDEN HOTEL**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Golden Hotel Bridgewater Grill and owners Burt and Andria Lewis for receiving the Business of the Year award from the Golden Chamber of Commerce.

This award is given to an outstanding chamber member that has contributed substantially to the Chamber of Commerce community.

The Golden Hotel Bridgewater Grill has become a business known to travelers throughout Golden, Denver, Colorado and the Western Region. This property is the first solar powered hotel in Golden. Owners Burt and Andria Lewis state "This was an easy decision for us; we are consistently trying to enhance our green practices and what better way to do so than by going solar".

The award winning Golden business has a huge presence in participation and involvement in the Golden community. The property is also very well known for its many charitable donations.

I extend my deepest congratulations and appreciation for the Golden Hotel and Bridgewater Grill and owners Burt and Andria Lewis for this well deserved recognition by the Golden Chamber of Commerce. I have no doubt their appreciation to community has made our community a better place for all of us to live.

IN HONOR OF BARNEY F. HAJIRO'S
PASSING**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Private Barney F. Hajiro, Medal of Honor recipient. On January 21, 2011, Private Hajiro passed away in Honolulu, Hawaii at the age of 94.

Barney Hajiro was born in Hawaii in 1941 to Japanese immigrant parents. Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Barney was drafted into the U.S. Army. In 1943, he volunteered to join the 442d Regimental Combat Team composed of second-generation Japanese-Americans and was then sent to Europe to fight the Germans in Italy and France. While fighting in France, the 442d Regiment was called upon to rescue the Texas 36th Division that had been cut off and surrounded by Germans for over a week, earning its nickname the "Lost Battalion." Private Hajiro and his comrades encountered a dangerous and challenging undertaking as the German troops relentlessly fired at the American soldiers from uphill.

When ordered to attack, Barney fearlessly charged ahead up the hill, later referred to as "Suicide Hill" towards the heavily fortified enemy position, exposing himself to intense enemy fire, while constantly taking aim at multiple enemy strongholds. He fearlessly met fire with fire and single-handedly destroyed two machine gun nests and killed two enemy snipers. As a result of Private Hajiro's heroic actions, the attack was successful. Private Hajiro's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon him and the United States Army.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest and most sincere gratitude for the service of Private Barney Hajiro, and honoring the memory and lasting legacy of this brave and selfless United States soldier. May we all strive to be as bold and as dedicated servants of our country as Private Barney Hajiro.

**INTRODUCING THE VETERANS
HOME LOAN REFINANCE OPPOR-
TUNITY ACT OF 2011****HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Veterans Home Loan Refinance Opportunity Act of 2011. This bipartisan legislation improves the federal Qualified Veterans Mortgage Bonds (QVMB) program to allow eligible states to use tax-free bond proceeds to refinance the home mortgages of our military veterans.

This legislation is necessary during our troubled economic times. QVMB home loan financing was not available to newly discharged veterans returning home from Iraq and Afghanistan until passage of the Heroes Earning Assistance Relief Tax Act of 2008 (H.R. 6081) in the 110th Congress.

Prior to 2008, some veterans may have taken out adjustable-rate mortgages (ARM) to

purchase a home during the real estate boom earlier in the decade. It is only fair to them that they have the same opportunity as newly discharged veterans to take advantage of the low-interest, fixed rate mortgages available through QVMB financing.

For some veterans with a costly ARM or interest-only mortgage, this legislation could prevent a foreclosure.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, this legislation includes an inflation index to ensure the QVMB veterans home loan program remains viable in the future.

I urge passage of the Veterans Home Loan Refinance Opportunity Act.

DENNIS EGGEMEYER**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Bob List and Dennis Eggemeyer for receiving the Charlie O'Brien award from the Golden Chamber of Commerce.

This award goes to members who are well respected within the organization and are motivated by an unselfish desire to contribute to the community for the betterment of greater Golden.

Bob and Dennis were members of Mayor Jacob Smith's committee "Summit on Sustaining Golden's Retail Economy". An idea acted upon was Golden's First Friday Street Fair. The main purpose of this idea was to bring people to historic downtown Golden to see and experience a good time with hopes they will return on a regular basis.

Bob and Dennis faced several obstacles in their research but never gave up their pursuit of putting this event together. With cooperation from many groups, the obstacles were worked out and the success story can now be told.

In the summer of 2010 there were five street fairs bringing crowds estimated to be at least two thousand per event, residents having fun meeting and networking. The only negative to report is "there should be more of these street fairs throughout the year" which has been taken under advisement.

I extend my deepest congratulation and gratitude to Bob List and Dennis Eggemeyer for this well deserved recognition by the Golden Chamber of Commerce. Thank you for making our community a better place for all of us to live.

**RECOGNIZING THE 23RD ANNIVERSARY OF MASSACRES AGAINST
ARMENIANS IN SUMGAIT****HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 28, 2011

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the thousands of Armenian Americans in my congressional district, I rise to remember the evening of February 27, 1988, when a three-day rampage began against Christian Armenian civilians living in Sumgait, Soviet Azerbaijan. Armenian civilians were at the mercy of