

European holidaymakers swelled the population to more than 100,000.

The vitality and good fortune of Famagusta ended when the Turkish military subjected it to intense aerial bombardment. In the face of the Turkish air force and invading army, the Greek-speaking Cypriot population evacuated the city.

The Turkish military sealed off the Varosha section of the city and has forbidden the entry of human life there for 34 years. Varosha lays frozen in time with the shelves of its department stores stocked with the wares of the 1970s, the hotel's breakfast tables are set for the tourist who never arrived and the roads and buildings are overrun by brush and vermin.

The decline of this once proud and vibrant city has been catalogued by its inclusion on the World Monuments Fund's 2008 Watch List of the 100 Most Endangered Sites in the world.

The Turkish military's continued occupation of the city and exclusion of its lawful inhabitants has been condemned by United Nations Security Council Resolution 550/1984 that calls for the transfer of the occupied, but uninhabited city of Famagusta to the United Nations for the orderly resettlement of the city by its rightful inhabitants.

Following Turkey's illegal invasion and occupation of Cyprus, Congress enacted 22 U.S.C.A. § 2373(a)(5), which sets forth the requirement that United States foreign policy support the United Nations Secretary General's efforts to resettle the occupied, but uninhabited city of Famagusta by its rightful inhabitants.

Once again this June 2, 2008, the Report of the Secretary General on the United Nations Operation in Cyprus holds the Government of Turkey responsible for the failure to hand over Famagusta for resettlement by its rightful inhabitants.

It is on this Remembrance Day of Famagusta that I tell my fellow members of the House that it is high time for Turkey to end its senseless and cruel occupation, and allow the people of this fine city to return to their homes so that they may rebuild and restore her faded glory for the benefit of all Cypriots.

CONGRATULATING NEA CHAIRMAN
DANA GIOIA

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dana Gioia on his accomplished tenure as the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. The NEA has been significantly strengthened under his leadership, which he has recently announced will end in January when he steps down to focus on his writing.

When Mr. Gioia took the reins of the NEA in 2003, federal support for the arts had been badly damaged by decades of partisan feuds. The NEA budget had been cut in half, and many were questioning the long-term viability of the organization. Today, NEA funding has

nearly doubled from its 1990s lows and the agency is expanding its efforts. For this, Mr. Gioia deserves much of the credit.

Mr. Gioia's impressive leadership skills helped build bipartisan support for the NEA. He understands the importance of listening to different groups, from artists to politicians to average citizens, and has the savvy to address their needs in creative ways.

One of his first initiatives was Shakespeare in American Communities, a program that brings professional theater companies into schools across the nation. This program has employed nearly 2,000 actors and introduced more than 1 million students to theater. The NEA also launched Operation Homecoming under his leadership, which sends writers to military bases to work with Iraq and Afghanistan veterans.

Mr. Gioia ensured that every congressional district had an opportunity to earn an NEA grant—a move that brought the arts to many new communities and demonstrated to Congress how the NEA's work touches every corner of the country.

As a member of the Congressional Arts Caucus and the National Council on the Arts, I am grateful for Mr. Gioia's leadership. When his tenure at the NEA ends early next year, he will leave behind an organization that is much stronger than it was when he arrived in 2003. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Gioia on his leadership and his tremendous contributions to the arts.

TRIBUTE TO AUCLAIR'S MARKET
IN SOMERSET, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Auclair's Market in Somerset, MA, which is celebrating its 90th anniversary this week. The celebration also include a well-deserved "Happy 90th Birthday" to Fernand C.E. Auclair, whose father Francis started the business in 1918.

For all those years, Auclair's Market has combined the highest-quality food with excellent customer service. In an era when giant chain stores dominate the marketplace, Auclair's has remained steadfast in its dedication to the Greater Fall River area.

Things have certainly changed since the store first opened on Brightman Street in Fall River. At that time, meats were presented on cold marble slabs and the market's doors were left open in the winter to help preserve the food. Today, the store provides its customers with all the modern conveniences and several of its own specialties. Let me assure you, Madame Speaker, you haven't truly lived until you've grilled a steak with Auclair's Steakhouse marinade.

What hasn't changed is the Auclair family's commitment to the community. As Denis Auclair, third-generation owner recently told the Fall River Herald-News, "We can say it's our business, but it's our customers' store. Without them, we're nothing."

Madam Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating

Auclair's Market on their 90th Anniversary and wishing Fernand C.E. Auclair a very happy 90th birthday.

HONORING HISTORICALLY BLACK
COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
WEEK

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge and celebrate National Historically Black Colleges and Universities week, designated as September 7–13, 2008. It is a pleasure to recognize Historically Black Colleges and Universities—or HBCUs—and their successes in educating many of the nation's African American undergraduate and graduate students.

There are over 100 HBCUs, and they provide a key pathway for African Americans and other minorities to take part in higher education. Although HBCUs represent only about 2.4 percent of higher education institutions, they enroll almost 12 percent of African American students who attend college. These institutions offer degrees at various levels across many subject areas. They play a critical role in educating black students in the fields of science and engineering. Indeed, 2004 data demonstrate that, of degrees earned by African American students, HBCUs conferred 20 percent degrees in engineering, 39 percent in the physical sciences, 26 percent in computer science, 37 percent in mathematics, 36 percent in the biological sciences, 47 percent in agricultural sciences, 16 percent in social sciences, and 21 percent in psychology. This success is especially impressive given the historical financial discrimination these institutions endured from Federal and State governments.

It was an HBCU that started me on my path to become the person that I am today. Growing up in rural Arkansas, my parents were low-income sharecroppers, who raised ten children. Seven of us attended the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, which was then called Arkansas AM&N College. Subsequently, three of my nephews, a niece, as well as several of my cousins attended the same college. If it were not for the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, I strongly believe that my family members and I would not have been able to attend college. Many African American members of Congress and many of our nation's leaders have attended HBCUs—Jesse Jackson, Jr., Jesse Jackson, Sr., Alcee Hastings, Dr. Martin Luther King, W.E.B. Du Bois, and Thurgood Marshall, just to name a few.

The continued support and funding of HBCUs is essential to create more opportunities for people of color to thrive in education and become leaders of tomorrow. To this end, I advocated actively on their behalf during the recent reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. Today more than ever, professional success is linked with a higher education degree. I am pleased that the 110th Congress has demonstrated a commitment to strengthening HBCUs and other minority-serving institutions. HBCUs serve large populations of students