

four different publishers. Gary's dedication to the paper was most prevalent when the Sentinel burned down in 1974. To ensure the paper was still delivered on time he drove daily to Glenwood Springs to print the paper between shifts clearing the rubble from the fire. After 14 years as a pressman, Gary moved to the camera department, preparing photos for printing. His hard work and skills helped establish the Sentinel's reputation for superb color photography.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to bring the career of Gary Thomas to the attention of this body of Congress and this Nation. I would like to congratulate him on an outstanding career. His tireless work has been crucial in ensuring the quality of the Daily Sentinel, and I would like to wish him the best in his retirement.

#### CYPRUS SETTLEMENT

#### HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2004

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for a just, lasting, and comprehensive settlement on Cyprus that protects the rights of Turkish and Greek Cypriots alike.

As the people of Cyprus head to the polls on April 24th to vote on the settlement plan put forth by United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan, I am concerned that numerous provisions in the proposal fail to uphold the fundamental rights of the Greek Cypriot community.

Since Turkey's invasion and illegal occupation of northern Cyprus in 1974, the government of Cyprus has vigorously pursued efforts to reunify the island through an equitable and viable settlement. While the Turkish Cypriot government under the leadership of Rauf Denktash has repeatedly stonewalled negotiations, the commitment of Greek Cypriots to a unified Cyprus has been unwavering.

The Annan plan, which was originally drafted by the Secretary General in November of 2002, has undergone five major revisions to accommodate the demands of Mr. Denktash. I'm concerned that the proposal sacrifices too many of the Greek Cypriots' needs in return for Mr. Denktash's acquiescence.

The Annan plan would authorize Turkish troops to remain in Cyprus indefinitely, threatening the security and stability of the island. While the number of troops would gradually decrease to 650 over a period of 14 years, their continuing presence and intervention rights would prevent Cyprus from achieving full sovereignty.

I am also concerned that the Annan plan would continue to allow Turkish settlers to illegally occupy northern Cyprus. Numerous U.N. Security Council resolutions have called for the withdrawal of all Turkish settlers from Cyprus, yet the Annan plan would permit 45,000 settlers to receive automatic citizenship rights within the United Cyprus Republic and additional settlers to remain on the island as permanent residents.

Moreover, the Annan plan imposes tough restrictions on the right of displaced Greek Cypriots to return to their homes. The agreement would prohibit Greek Cypriots from accounting for more than eighteen percent of the

population of the Turkish Cypriot Constituent State for the first nineteen years, or until Turkey accedes to the European Union, even though it is their native soil. These Greek Cypriots would not have the right to vote for representatives in the federal Senate, further denying fundamental rights to many citizens.

Finally, the Annan plan fails to adequately compensate displaced Greek Cypriots for the loss of their property. According to the plan, 90 percent of the compensation from the federal State would be paid for by Greek Cypriots, meaning that Greek Cypriot taxpayers are forced to pay for the loss of their own property.

The Annan plan is a positive starting point on the path toward a negotiated settlement, but it is not an ending point. In order for a solution to the Cyprus problem to succeed, the rights of both parties must be equally guaranteed.

#### TRIBUTE TO PATRICK J. EIDING

#### HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2004

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to highlight the accomplishments of a Philadelphia labor legend, Mr. Patrick J. Eiding. Mr. Eiding is President of the Philadelphia Council of the AFL-CIO and a representative of the working man and woman. He has effectively and consistently fought for the rights of the great citizens of Philadelphia.

Mr. Eiding rose through the ranks of leadership throughout his career, holding positions such as President of the Asbestos Workers Middle Atlantic States Conference and President of the Mechanical Trades Council in Philadelphia and New Jersey. He currently serves as an official for both the Pennsylvania and Philadelphia Building Trades Councils, as well as the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO.

Mr. Eiding represents the interests of working families through his involvement on numerous labor boards and commissions. He co-chairs the Philadelphia Area Labor Management and serves as Commissioner for the Philadelphia Housing Authority and the Philadelphia Planning Commission. He is a member of the Executive Committee for the Philadelphia Workforce Investment Board and sits on the Board of Directors for organizations such as the United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania and the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Since being elected President of the Philadelphia Council AFL-CIO, Mr. Eiding has spread the message of the working family, co-hosting the weekly "Labor to Neighbor" radio show whose goal is to educate listeners on the issues affecting the current working family and to voice the needs and opinions of the community.

I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending Mr. Patrick Eiding for his career of service and dedication to the working families of Pennsylvania's First Congressional District.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO SHAWNA VALDEZ

#### HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to recognize Shawna Valdez for her selfless dedication to the community of Dolores, Colorado, and congratulate her on being recognized by the Dolores Chamber of Commerce as their 2004 Citizen of the Year. The award is presented to an individual who has shown an outstanding commitment to the Dolores community, and Shawna could not be a more worthy recipient. It is a privilege to pay tribute to Shawna for her well-deserved award, and her ongoing efforts to better her community.

A lifelong resident of Dolores, Shawna participates in a vast array of civic functions in her community. A past president of the Dolores Chamber of Commerce, she currently serves as a member of their board of directors. She also serves on the board of the Community Center, the McPhee Lake Planning Committee, and is a member of the Dolores Library Board. Dolores is also an active member of the local Methodist Church and Dolores Rotary Club, and is a past member of the local school Accountability Committee and the Booster Club. Her enthusiasm for taking part in these organizations comes from the joy she receives in giving back to the community she loves.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the service and achievements of Shawna Valdez before this body of Congress and this Nation. Her efforts to strengthen her community are truly remarkable, and the recognition she received from the Dolores Chamber of Commerce as their 2004 Citizen of the Year is a well-deserved testament to her tireless efforts. I sincerely thank Shawna for her service, and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

#### HONORING THE 89TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

#### HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2004

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 89th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, in which 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children were brutally massacred by the Ottoman Turk regime. The Armenian Genocide was one of the darkest tragedies in human history, one that must never be forgotten.

On April 24, 1915, nearly three hundred Armenian intellectuals and political leaders were rounded up, deported and executed under the orders of the Ottoman Turk Regime, marking the beginning of the first genocide of the 20th century. Later that day, 5,000 more Armenians were slaughtered in their homes and on the streets. For 5 years, the brutal regime carried out the systematic destruction of the Armenian people through forced labor, concentration camps, and death marches, until millions were dead or exiled.

As we look back on the bloodshed and atrocities committed against the Armenian people, we must recognize the event for the genocide that it was. As Henry Morgenthau, Sr., the former Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire stated, "I am confident that the whole history of the human race contains no such horrible episode as this. The great massacres and persecutions of the past seem almost insignificant when compared to the sufferings of the Armenian race in 1915."

To lose this truth is to tarnish the memories of the millions of Armenians who lost their lives to ethnic cleansing. As a member of the Congressional Armenian Caucus, I have joined my colleagues in sending a letter to President Bush urging him to acknowledge the Armenian Genocide during his April 24th commemoration address. By drawing attention to the legacy of this genocide, we can strengthen our resolve to prevent future human tragedies of this kind.

I am proud to represent a large and vibrant Armenian community in the Fifth Congressional District of Massachusetts. Every year, survivors and their descendants make public and vivid the hidden details of the Armenian Genocide as they participate in commemoration ceremonies across the Merrimack Valley. In my hometown of Lowell, the Armenian-American Veterans Honor Guard will lead a procession to City Hall for a flag raising ceremony in recognition of the 89th anniversary of the genocide. The commemoration offers participants an opportunity to remind the world of the tragedy that befell Armenians of the Ottoman Empire.

I am honored to add my voice to those of my colleagues today in commemorating the Armenian Genocide. We will never forget the truth.

#### TRIBUTE TO MR. WILLIAM GALBRAITH

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 22, 2004*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a respected member of the Philadelphia community. Mr. William Galbraith recently turned 90 years young.

Mr. Galbraith celebrated his 90th birthday this April 14, 2004. He has led an exemplary life filled with admirable achievements. Whether it be graduating from the Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science or becoming the head of a carpet mill, Mr. Galbraith has been an exemplary figure for our great city.

This nonagenarian wisely has continued to show a real zest for life. Until recently, Mr. Galbraith remained an avid golfer, skier, and tennis player. He has traveled extensively including a trip to China to teach workers how to use mill equipment.

Married to Anna, Mr. Galbraith's family includes his nephew Clyde Galbraith and his niece Joyce Burke. I am quite sure his entire family is very proud of his numerous accomplishments.

Along with her family and friends, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. William Galbraith during his 90th birthday celebration.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO TIMOTHY LEACH

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 22, 2004*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise before you today to pay tribute to the life of Timothy Brooks Leach of Aspen, Colorado, who passed away recently from injuries sustained in a skiing accident at the age of 27. Tim was a man deeply devoted to his family, and his job as a psychotherapist. His kindness, intelligence and work ethic, along with his strong desire to help others, gained him the reputation as a respected professional. His loss at such a young age will be deeply felt by his family and the community of Aspen.

Tim, a native of Charlottesville, Virginia, earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia in 1998, and subsequently earned his master's from Virginia Commonwealth University in 2000. After earning his degree, he worked as a counselor for Commonwealth Catholic Charities in Richmond.

In 2002, Tim and his wife Amy moved to Aspen. Tim eagerly took on a variety of challenging counseling positions: opening Leach and Leach Psychotherapy with his mother Clare, taking a position on the emergency-crisis counseling team at Aspen Counseling Services, and leading DUI classes and other rehabilitative programs. Despite his workload, Tim always managed to devote time to his beloved family.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this Nation and pay tribute to the life and memory of Timothy Brooks Leach. He dedicated his life to his family, to the service of his community, and to his profession. His passing is a great loss to the town of Aspen and the State of Colorado. My thoughts are with his loved ones during this difficult time of bereavement.

#### A MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE OF CYPRUS

**HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 22, 2004*

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the upcoming elections on the Annan Plan in Cyprus to be held on Saturday April 24, 2004.

I wish to make it clear that there should be no pressure on the outcome of these elections. If the Greek or Turkish Cypriots reject the Annan Plan, then negotiations will ultimately continue. This vote will not be the last chance to have a reunited Cyprus.

The goal of the process must be to attain a just and lasting solution, not a rushed solution. I know the people of Cyprus are being made to feel that this is the only way to achieve a solution, but that is not true. This is the way to achieve a pressured solution. In the end, it may be too much to ask that concerns that have been unresolved for 30 years be effectively settled in a process that lasted less than 3 months.

I encourage each and every eligible Cypriot voter to cast a free ballot on Saturday. Please

vote for your beliefs, not the beliefs of others. The great privilege of free and fair elections is that they are just that, free and fair. Vote freely and for what you think is fair. If that is 'no', do not believe that this is the end of negotiations. They will continue, because a lasting and equitable solution for the people of Cyprus, and the goal of a united Cyprus, is too important to abandon, now or ever.

Mr. Speaker, I myself have very serious reservations about the Annan Plan that I have expressed in writing to both General Secretary Annan and Secretary Colin Powell. I ask unanimous consent that these letters be introduced into the RECORD immediately following my remarks.

Regardless of my personal reservations, it is the people of Cyprus who will vote on Saturday. I hope every Cypriot realizes that they need to vote for what they believe. They must understand that, while we are interested in the outcome, there can be no pressure on them. We will accept any outcome so long as the elections are free and fair.

Have no fear, people of Cyprus, your friends will never abandon you.

U.S. CONGRESS,

*Washington, DC, March 23, 2004.*

Hon. COLIN L. POWELL,  
Secretary of State, U.S. Department of State,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SECRETARY POWELL: We want to thank you for your active engagement in the issues and negotiations that concern the reunification of the Republic of Cyprus. As you know, negotiations between the Greek and Turkish Cypriots are currently being conducted under the framework outlined by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan on February 13, 2004.

While we applaud both Greek and Turkish Cypriots for agreeing to negotiate the important issues affecting the future of a reunited Cyprus, we believe the timeframe outlined by the Annan Plan is too compressed. Under the Annan Plan, there is a deadline for the people of Cyprus to vote on a referendum concerning the future of Cyprus on April 20, 2004.

As you know, the people of Cyprus have been struggling with issues related to the division and reunification of Cyprus for 30 years. It is difficult for us to believe that concerns that have been unresolved for 30 years can be effectively and permanently settled in negotiations that are scheduled to be completed in less than three months.

It is our belief that a solution should come through comprehensive negotiations that do not force the citizens of Cyprus to vote on a referendum that may be perceived as an ultimatum. It is also our firm belief that the people of Cyprus will not approve any plan they are pressured to accept.

It is in the best interest of a permanent, peaceful solution for Cyprus that the important negotiations between Greek and Turkish Cypriots be given an adequate amount of time to decide these issues. Mr. Secretary, we respectfully request that you use your influence to ensure that the people of Cyprus are given a longer, more appropriate, schedule in order to ensure that all issues affecting the reunification of Cyprus are settled to the satisfaction of all concerned. The reunification of Cyprus should be settled through comprehensive negotiations that do not impose an arbitrary time constraint on the affected parties.

We appreciate the support that you have provided to the efforts of the UN Secretary General in resuming the Cyprus talks and your personal commitment and involvement in the process. We urge you to continue to