

early death of their mother and the total destruction by fire to their family home. As a result, Catherine was raised by her mother's relatives, the Kenefick family, and remained in Canada through her early teenage years.

As a young adult, Catherine migrated to the United States, settling in Detroit, Michigan with her brother, Albert, and his wife, Ruby, before moving to Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada to join her sister Mary. Catherine finally moved to Buffalo, New York in the mid 1920's where she continues to live her long, healthy and happy life.

Catherine Givens married Francis Rifenberg in 1930 and the two of them spent the greater part of their adult lives together in the Elmwood Avenue area of Buffalo, an area that Catherine truly loves for its excitement, diversity and warmth of the people. She has resided in the Stuyvesant Apartments for the last twenty years, where she continues to cook her own meals and be amazingly self-sufficient.

Catherine worked as a waitress for over forty-five years in Buffalo. Her genuine love of people and warm and welcoming ways made her a favorite at area restaurants; including, the renowned, historic "Kathryn Lawrence's Tea Room," "Laube's Old Spain" and "The Place Restaurant."

Catherine has kept close contact with her beloved Givens family offspring living in the United States and Canada. Her large family of nieces and nephews and extended family of three generations fondly refer to her as Aunt Kitty. Kitty has enjoyed a friendship of over sixty years with her dear friend Mary Marchese and she will happily tell the world that Dr. Jeremiah O'Sullivan has the answer to all her health care needs.

Catherine Givens Rifenberg, residing in the City of Buffalo, will be celebrating her 100th Birthday on the 16th day of October in the year 2005. I join today with her family and friends from near and far in celebrating this very special occasion.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION ON
NATIONAL LATINO AIDS AWARE-
NESS DAY

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of the 3rd National Latino Aids Awareness Day on October 15, 2005. This is a national day of awareness and prevention against HIV/AIDS in the Latino community.

The epidemic of HIV/AIDS continues to have a deleterious effect on minority communities nationwide. The Latino community has been disproportionately affected by AIDS. According to the latest data and statistics from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Latinos represent 14 percent of the population of the United States but account for 20 percent (over 164,000) of AIDS cases nationally. AIDS-related illnesses represent the fourth leading cause of death among Latinos ages 25 to 44. By the end of 2002, nearly 88,000 Latinos had died with AIDS.

Latino communities face challenges in their fight against HIV/AIDS, including cultural stig-

ma associated with HIV/AIDS, language barriers, lack of access to adequate healthcare, and high poverty levels. I want to highlight these concerns and also bring together our nation and community towards the commitment of creating new alliances, adopting culturally specific and appropriate interventions, and advocating for new funding and resources targeted to those communities most adversely affected by this horrible epidemic.

National Latino AIDS Awareness Day salutes the more than 76,000 Latino AIDS survivors in the United States and the efforts of victims, volunteers, and professionals who combat AIDS each day. It also recognizes and applauds national and community organizations for their work in promoting awareness about AIDS, providing information, and offering treatment to those who suffer from the disease. National Latino AIDS Awareness Day is a renewed commitment to ending the spread of HIV/AIDS and ensuring quality of life to those with HIV/AIDS in the Latino community. This day of observance is an important opportunity to bring the community together to focus on the current state of HIV/AIDS in Latino communities across the nation.

I encourage Latinos and all Americans to learn more about HIV/AIDS prevention, testing and treatment. I ask that we remember those who have lost their lives to AIDS, show compassion toward and support for those currently living with the disease, and pray for all families and communities whose lives have been touched in some way. This nation can no longer afford to close its eyes and avoid the impact of HIV/AIDS. Let us commit to eliminating HIV/AIDS, not only in the Latino community, but also from all communities throughout the country and the world. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting National Latino AIDS Awareness Day.

THREATENED AND ENDANGERED
SPECIES RECOVERY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 29, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill. (H.R. 3824) to amend and reauthorize the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to provide greater results conserving and recovering listed species, and for other purposes:

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of H.R. 3824, a bill to bring much-needed reforms to the outdated Endangered Species Act (ESA). While I believe Congress must work to ensure its policies protect and preserve our nation's natural resources and environment, the current interpretation of the ESA has strayed significantly from the original intent of the law and done little to protect our nation's endangered species.

While the ESA has the laudable goal of preventing the extinction of species, the fact is the law is broken and has created an adverse relationship between the government and America's farmers, ranchers, and private property owners. For example, of the 1,304 species that have been listed as endangered over the last 31 years, only 12 have been de-listed,

a one percent success rate. Although our understanding of what is required to protect and recover endangered species has grown and become more sophisticated, the ESA has remained a blunt set of mandates that do not reflect or accommodate these advancements. I firmly believe we must allow the states and the federal government to work together to ensure the true intent of the ESA, to help preserve and recover endangered species, can be accomplished.

H.R. 3824, the Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Act, repairs many of the problems inherent in the ESA by requiring the use of the best scientific data in all listing decisions, replacing the broken critical habitat program with a more integrated recovery planning process, and strengthening the role of states. In addition, this bill makes great strides to ensure regulatory certainty for private property owners by providing compensation for lands vital to species rehabilitation, increasing transparency throughout the process, and encouraging voluntary conservation efforts. These provisions will help ensure that species conservation efforts take a more collaborative and less confrontational approach to protecting endangered species.

Now is the time to modernize the ESA and move forward to update this law to bring it into the 21st century. I urge my colleagues to pass this important measure to ensure the protection and recovery of America's wildlife, while balancing the needs of the communities in which we live and work.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF GERALD K. SUMIDA

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gerald K. Sumida as he retires after serving nearly 23 years as Program Director of the Hawaii Senior Companion Program (SCP).

Gerald's career with the Hawaii state government began in July 1975, where he worked in the then Corrections Division and the Adult Services Unit of the then Department of Social Services and Housing. On March 16, 1983, he began his tenure with SCP and has dedicated his time and compassion in helping improve the lives of our beloved kupuna or elders. Under the direction of Gerald, the SCP and the Respite Companion Service Program (RCSP) have gained the recognition and respectability in the aging community.

Through Gerald's guidance the Senior Companion Program has expanded its senior companion services to include Oahu, Hawaii, Maui, Molokai, Lanai, and Kauai. Gerald's tireless efforts have provided Hawaii the opportunity to be continually blessed with two federally funded programs providing much needed services to the frail elderly population. Through Gerald's foresight, the SCP and RCSP have continued to improve the quality of life for thousands of frail elderly individuals, and the RCSP has provided hundreds of its participants the opportunity for unsubsidized employment as "older workers" in today's workforce.

Gerald's gentle and compassionate nature has given many elderly low-income individuals, with limited resources and command of

the English language, hope and encouragement to become productive seniors in the community. He will truly be missed at the Hawaii Senior Companion Program, but I believe that he will remain an active member of the community. Mahalo nui loa for all of your hard work, Gerald! Aloha and Imua!

HONORING HULET HORNBECK

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Hulet Hornbeck, a long-time friend and strong advocate for the East Bay Regional Park District in California, on the occasion of his 86th birthday and the dedication of the Hornbeck Trail at Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline.

The East Bay Regional Park District is bestowing the honor of naming a segment of the California Hiking and Riding Trail at Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline in recognition of Hulet's many and significant contributions to the East Bay Regional Park District as well as to the environmental and trails movement throughout the United States.

Hulet Hornbeck, a Contra Costa County resident, has been a leader in the grassroots citizen's movement, which resulted in the annexation of most of Contra Costa County to the East Bay Regional Park District in 1964. He served the East Bay Regional Park District as Chief of Land Acquisition from 1965 through 1985 leading land acquisition efforts during one of the Park District's greatest expansion periods. During this time the Park District grew from 8 parks totaling 13,000 acres to 46 parks encompassing 62,000 acres at his retirement in 1985.

During his tenure with the Park District and continuing over the next 20 years, Hulet was a leading force in the initiation of the East Bay Regional Park District's regional trail system as well as being an active volunteer advocate for the acquisition and development of trails locally, nationally and internationally. He has been a life-long conservationist, outdoorsman, and environmentalist who has provided leadership for such organizations as the California Conservation Council, the American Hiking Society, the National Trails Council, the Martinez Land Trust, the Trails and Greenways Foundation, American Trails, Heritage Trails Fund, Amigos de Anza, the California Recreational Trails Committee, the East Bay Area Trails Council, the American Trails Association, Solano County Farmlands and Open Space Foundation, and the San Francisco Bay Chapter of the Sierra Club.

I am pleased to have this opportunity to recognize Hulet Hornbeck for his vision and leadership in providing trails and regional parks throughout Contra Costa County and congratulate him on the occasion of his 86th birthday and the naming of the Hornbeck Trail at Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE MIKLÓS VÁSÁRHELYI, HUNGARIAN PATRIOT AND MAN OF PRINCIPLE

TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues in the Congress of the United States to join me today in paying tribute to the late Miklós Vásárhelyi, a Hungarian of great courage and integrity who played a critically important role before and during the 1956 Hungarian Revolution, and again in the 1970s and 1980s, in the struggle to transform Hungary from a one-party communist state into a multi-party democracy.

On October 14, Mr. Speaker, members of Miklós Vásárhelyi's family, friends, and admirers will gather in the city that was called Fiume, Hungary, when he was born there on October 9, 1917, and which today is Rijeka, Croatia. They will place a plaque honoring him on the wall of the very house where Mr. Vásárhelyi was born.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize his significant contributions to the cause of freedom and democracy. After university studies in Rome and Debrecen (Hungary), he became involved in anti-Fascist political activities. As a result, he spent two years in a forced labor battalion during World War II, and he joined the anti-Nazi resistance.

From 1953 to 1955, Mr. Vásárhelyi served as press secretary to Hungary's reform-minded Prime Minister, Imre Nagy. In that capacity, he successfully fought for more freedom of the press from central control. During the 1956 Hungarian Revolution, he again assumed a key role in the Imre Nagy government that was established after the uprising broke out. He was one of three high-ranking officials who convinced Prime Minister Nagy to open a dialogue with the freedom fighters.

When the Soviet Union crushed the 1956 Revolution, Mr. Vásárhelyi was one of the senior government officials who with Nagy accepted an offer of asylum at the Yugoslav embassy. They left the embassy under a guarantee of safety by the Hungarian government, but he and the others were immediately seized by Soviet troops and taken to Romania. In a secret trial he was given a five-year prison term, and he remained in prison until an amnesty in 1960.

In the 1970s and 1980s, Miklós Vásárhelyi continued the struggle against repression. Combining courage and personal charm, and maintaining a unique sense of optimism about the future, he was a leader of the democratic opposition that brought immense changes in 1989.

In the late 1980s, Mr. Vásárhelyi was the founder of the Hungarian Open Society Foundation. He was one of the leaders who laid the groundwork for a vibrant civic society in his country.

He not only worked through the Open Society Foundation in Hungary, but he became one of the leading figures in the democratic opposition that began to emerge in the late 1980s. In 1990, a grateful nation elected him to serve in Hungary's free parliament as a representative of the Association of Free Democrats.

I am pleased to add that Mr. Vásárhelyi was not only a genuine democrat but also a true

friend of the United States and of Hungarian-American cooperation.

Mr. Speaker, I welcome the commemorative event that is taking place on October 14 at the house in Rijeka/Fiume where Miklós Vásárhelyi was born. I invite my colleagues to join me in commending his family, friends, and colleagues to celebrate the memory of this quiet, persistent, and effective man who kept faith with his ideals under the most difficult of circumstances.

A RESOLUTION THAT COMMEMORATES THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF NOSTRA AETATE

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2005

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week the Jewish community in the United States and around the world celebrated Rosh Hashanah and the start of the Jewish New Year. With the new year comes a new sense of hope and optimism that anti-Semitism and religious hatred will finally be overcome. October also is the start of the Ramadan and month of fasting for Muslims around the globe.

These events remind us that we need to be accepting and tolerant of all people and their religions. We need also to celebrate our religious diversity. It is essential that we encourage cooperation and dialogue between members of all religions. Interreligious respect is vitally important in the fight against religious bigotry.

Today, I introduced a resolution that commemorates the 40th anniversary of Nostra Aetate, a landmark declaration by the Catholic Church on religious tolerance and interfaith relations. My resolution also calls for the United States to continue to condemn and combat anti-Semitism and all forms of religious hatred and racial bigotry worldwide.

On October 28, 1965, after an overwhelming vote of 2221 to 88 by the bishops of the Catholic Church, Pope Paul VI issued Nostra Aetate, officially known as the Declaration on the Relationship of the Church to Non-Christian Religions. Nostra Aetate, for the first time in 2,000 years, was an authoritative declaration on Catholic-Jewish relations and also on Catholic-interfaith relations.

Nostra Aetate, "In Our Time" in English, opened the doors for interfaith dialogue and respect between Catholics and Non-Christian religions. It originally began as a declaration on solely Catholic-Jewish relations but was expanded to include Islam, Hinduism, Buddhism, and other traditional religions. The declaration that resulted revolutionized attitudes within the Christian world towards Jews and members of the world's other religions. It was Pope John XXIII who initiated the Second Vatican Council, the event which gave birth to the "Nostra Aetate" declaration, a document that highlighted the Jewish roots of Christianity, in an attempt to repair centuries of hostilities between the two religions.

The 40th anniversary of Nostra Aetate is a time for all people to become reacquainted with its historic importance and to work for even greater religious tolerance and dialogue. In Nostra Aetate the Catholic Church for the first time condemned anti-Semitism and other