

you doing?" I will always appreciate all of the support and friendship he has given me over the years.

David is survived by his wife of 54 years, Carmen; daughter Debby Galvan; sons Jeff and Randy; grandchildren Leanne, Jason, Erick, Joshua, Lauren, and Jack; sister Mary Valdez; and brother Joseph.

Let us take the time to pay tribute to a wonderful man. Let us celebrate the life he lived and the example he led.

Although he is no longer with us, David's legacy and spirit will continue to live on through the lives of everyone he has touched.

The thoughts and prayers of my wife Barbara, my family and I are with his family at this time.

INTRODUCTION OF NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT AND ECONOMIC CONVERSION ACT OF 2007

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I am again introducing the Nuclear Disarmament and Economic Conversion Act (NDECA), as I have done since 1994, after working with the residents who were responsible for a ballot initiative passed by D.C. voters in 1993. NDECA will require the United States to disable and dismantle its nuclear weapons when all other nations possessing nuclear weapons enact laws to do the same. NDECA further provides that when U.S. nuclear weapons are dismantled, the resources for supporting nuclear weapon programs would be used for our growing human and infrastructure needs, such as housing, health care, Social Security and the environment.

Tragically, instead of nuclear disarmament, nations around the world have increased in efforts to seek or acquire nuclear capability. Last week, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 1737 (2006) under Article 41 of the Charter's Chapter VIII, imposing sanctions on Iran for failure to halt uranium enrichment and mandating that Iran cease all sensitive nuclear activities. China's acquisition of nuclear weapons particularly underscores the dangerous spread of these weapons as a potent destabilizing force in world affairs. North Korea, at least in part in response to early aggressive talk by this administration responded in a dangerously paranoid fashion by announcing that it is expanding its nuclear capabilities, and today few doubt that North Korea has acquired a nuclear device. The North Korean threat has become so serious that the Administration recently reversed course and agreed to freeze North Korea's nuclear program in exchange for 50,000 tons of heavy fuel oil. India and Pakistan have moved back from the precipice of several years ago but each remains poised with nuclear weapons.

The invasion of Iraq and the resistance of the Administration to end the war have cost the United States much of its leadership on the nuclear proliferation and other urgent international issues. This country would be non-credible in dissuading other nations who aspire to become or remain nuclear powers if we ourselves took greater initiative in dismantling

our own nuclear weapons program. We moved in the right direction when the Senate ratified the Moscow Treaty in 2003, which provides that by 2012 both the U.S. and Russia will reduce their long-range warheads two-thirds from approximately 6,000 warheads each to 2,200. However, the Administration has failed to build on this effort. According to a recent study, *Securing The Bomb: An Agenda for Action* (May, 2004; prepared by the Belfer Center, Harvard University Kennedy School of Government): Total nuclear-threat-reduction spending remains less than one quarter of one percent of the U.S. military budget. Indeed, on average, the Bush administration requests for nuclear-threat-reduction spending over FY 2002–2005 have been less, in real terms, than the last Clinton administration request, made long before the 9/11 attacks ever occurred. Instead, the Administration has moved to increase the country's nuclear capacity.

However, the problem today even more complicated than nuclear disarmament by nation states. The greatest threat today is from inadequately defended and guarded sites in many countries where there is enough material to make nuclear weapons and many opportunities for terrorists or nations without weapons to secure nuclear materials. Astonishingly, because of the absence of presidential leadership, less nuclear material was seized in the two years following the 9/11 attacks than in the 2 years immediately preceding the attacks (*Securing The Bomb: An Agenda for Action*, May 2004).

In my work on the Homeland Security Committee, I know that threats from nuclear proliferation and available nuclear material are more dangerous in the post 9/11 era than in 1994, when I first introduced the Nuclear Disarmament and Economic Conversion Act. It is more urgent than ever to begin closing down nuclear capability here and around the world.

Today our country has 45 million people still without health insurance, a long list of other urgent domestic needs put on the back burner following the invasion of Iraq and large tax cuts to wealthy people and corporations, an economy burdened with a dangerous deficit, and millions of Americans pushed back into poverty during the last four years. As the only nation that has used nuclear weapons in war and still possesses the largest arsenal, the U.S. has an obligation to begin the arduous process of leading the world in the transfer of nuclear weapons funds to urgent domestic needs.

RECOGNIZING THE COATESVILLE VARSITY MEN'S CROSS-COUNTRY TEAM FOR ITS UNDEFEATED 2006 SEASON

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the coaching staff and talented members of the varsity men's cross-country team at Coatesville High School in Coatesville, PA, on their highly successful and championship 2006 season.

The 7 varsity members of the Coatesville cross-country team won the Ches-Mont

League, the Steel City Invitational, and the Pennsylvania Division I championships. The team then went on to earn an invitation to the prestigious Nike Team Nationals in Portland, OR, where they outraced more than 39 other teams from around the country on their way to an undefeated season and a national title.

Led by Head Coach Keith Andrew and Assistant Coach Dave Lapp, the team has made the Coatesville Area School District and its communities very proud of their dedication, hard work and determination to win. The 7 members of the team deserving of recognition are: seniors Kyle Dawson, Owen Dawson, Tom Pannulla, Jason Leonard, and Sean Ward; junior Andrew Mahoney; and sophomore Chris Rosato. These terrific young men have brought great honor, respect and distinction to their school, communities and families and are most deserving of this body's recognition.

So I ask, Madam Speaker, that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Coatesville varsity men's cross-country team for their outstanding season. They worked extremely hard and deserve all that they have achieved.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF SERGEANT ALESSANDRO CARBONARO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Marine Sergeant Alessandro Carbonaro. He served his country tirelessly until his death on May 10, 2006. The loss of this young, dedicated hero is felt by not only those who knew him, but also those who have been touched by the life that he led.

Sgt. Carbonaro was raised in Bethesda, Maryland, the only child of Fulvio and Gilda Carbonaro. He was a private, headstrong, and independent child who held his family dear. Over the years, Sgt. Carbonaro developed a passion for music, history, and writing. After graduating from Sandy Spring Friends School, Sgt. Carbonaro shocked his family and friends by volunteering to join the United States Marine Corps. He told his parents that he felt a strong sense of duty to his country and wanted to live the life that he envisioned.

Sgt. Carbonaro enlisted in the Marine Corps during the summer of 1998. He initially committed himself to five years of active duty. After September 11, 2001, however, his resolve strengthened and he felt an obligation to reenlist. Sgt. Carbonaro set his sights on the elite Marines Reconnaissance Unit, a status obtained by fewer than one in five who attempts it. By September 2004, he had been deployed to Iraq with the 2nd Reconnaissance Battalion. Sgt. Carbonaro was eventually awarded the Purple Heart.

Upon completion of his first deployment, Sgt. Carbonaro returned to Maryland and married Gilda Maria Arroyo on May 28, 2005. In March 2006, he returned to Iraq and was chosen to lead a unit of younger Marines. Sgt. Carbonaro did not regard these men as soldiers, but as brothers. His moral and physical strength made him the backbone of the unit. On May 1, 2006, when his unit's vehicles hit

an explosive device, his first concerns were for his fellow Marines.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring and remembering Marine Sergeant Alessandro Carbonaro, who exemplified the ideals put forth by the Reconnaissance Creed—Honor, Perseverance, Spirit, and Heart. Please also join me in expressing my deepest condolences to his parents, his young wife, Gilda, and his extended family and friends. Although Sgt. Carbonaro will be profoundly missed, his unwavering devotion to his family and country will live on in the hearts of those who were touched by the life of this fallen hero.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JEFF HENDERSON

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jeff Henderson for his extraordinary accomplishments in the culinary field and for his success with his new book.

Jeff Henderson's life is an inspirational story of overcoming great odds and achieving one's dreams. Growing up in South Central Los Angeles and San Diego, Jeff had a run in with the law where he served almost a decade in federal prison. He did not discover his passion for cooking until doing kitchen duty. Jeff began his new found passion as a dishwasher and worked his way to the top as a Chef for restaurants such as L'Escafe and the Dining Room at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Marina Del Rey, California. He later became the Sous-Chef at the Hotel Bel-Air and at L'Ermitage Hotel.

In 2000, Jeff made history as the first African American to be named Chef de Cuisine at the Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. The American Food and Wine Tasting Federation honored him in 2001 as the "Las Vegas Chef of the Year". Black Enterprise magazine has also honored him as one of the top African-American chefs. While he is currently employed at Café Bellagio as Executive Chef, he also serves as a public speaker and motivator to provide inspiration for troubled youths.

Jeff's greatest accomplishment has come from his book entitled, "Cooked: From the Streets to the Stove, From Cocaine to Foie Gras". Since its March 2007 release, his book is now a New York Times Best Seller after just three weeks. His story has gained national attention with appearances on the Today Show and Oprah. There are even talks to star in his own reality show and to produce his life story in a motion picture starring Will Smith.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the hard work and accomplishments of Chef Jeff Henderson. He has set a fine example for everyone to achieve their dreams with dedication. I wish him luck in all his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the Chamber for rollcall No. 205 on March 28, 2007. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

REINTRODUCTION OF ENDING TAX BREAKS FOR DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 2007 AND THE FAIR PLAY-EQUAL ACCESS IN MEM- BERSHIP RESOLUTION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, today I am reintroducing a bill to end government subsidies for private clubs that discriminate against women. Ending Tax Breaks for Discrimination Act of 2007 makes it illegal to take income tax deductions for expenses at clubs with "No Women Allowed" membership policies. It is wrong for corporations to write-off big expenditures for entertainment, meetings and advertising at clubs that keep women out while they target women consumers' pocketbooks. This bill will put an end to that. With the Masters Golf Tournament coming up this Monday, April 2nd, now is the time to address these discriminatory practices.

Right now, conventions and meetings come right off corporate income tax as legitimate business deductions, including those held at private clubs that discriminate. Half the price of a business lunch is deductible. But if you're a woman, you subsidize ½ a guy's lunch with your taxes, even though you can't join the club. The whole point is that members of these clubs get financial gains—either indirectly through career opportunities and board appointments, or directly through tax deductions. Women can't get these same financial gains—just because they're women. Golf is so ingrained as a part of business success that business schools teach juniors and seniors how to make the most of country club memberships. If you can't play golf, join the "guys" after a round, and get the same elite club bonus package from your employer that your male counterparts can, you're clearly missing out.

This bill ends deductions for advertising, travel, accommodation and meals associated with these clubs. And it requires discriminatory clubs to print right on their receipts "not tax deductible".

Let me be clear, I like big business, but women must be equal players. Legitimate tax deductions should continue, but when these deductions support clubs that bar women as equal partners, equal players, equal earners—they are not legitimate. This bill is past due. The time for discrimination is over.

I am also reintroducing a resolution, the Fair Play-Equal Access in Membership Resolution, which expresses the sense of the Congress that neither the President, the Vice President, nor any Member of Congress, justice or judge of the United States, or political appointee in

the executive branch of the Government should belong to a club that discriminates on the basis of sex or race. It's common sense that our leaders and lawmakers should not belong to clubs that discriminate . . . period.

CONCERN ABOUT FARHAD ALIYEV AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN AZER- BAIJAN

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 29, 2007

Mr. ACKERMAN. Madam Speaker, I would like to call the House's attention to an important human rights case in Azerbaijan. Mr. Farhad Aliyev, the former minister of economic development and a leading pro-West reformer, has been arrested and charged with planning a coup, though I think his true crime was speaking truth to power in Azerbaijan. Too often, the United States has allowed immediate interests to blind us to the long-term risks associated with ignoring or downplaying significant human rights violations abroad. There is enormous potential in U.S.-Azeri relations, and I want to see this relationship continue to blossom. But we risk implanting a fatal flaw in this development if we are not frank about our concerns about human rights and the rule of law.

I submit a March 17, 2007, article from the Washington Times, "Ex-Azeri official held for 17 months", by Jason Motlagh, detailing Mr. Aliyev's case for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD with my remarks.

[From the Washington Times, Mar. 17, 2007]

EX-AZERI OFFICIAL HELD FOR 17 MONTHS

(By Jason Motlagh)

BAKU, AZERBAIJAN.—The view from Sabina Aliyeva's balcony commands the skyline of this reborn boomtown and the Caspian Sea beyond, but for the past 17 months one stark gray building off to the right has loomed large.

Inside, her husband, Farhad Aliyev, the former minister of economic development and a leading pro-West reformer, remains locked in solitary confinement, charged with planning a coup—though no evidence of it has been put before a court of law.

International human rights groups and U.S. lawmakers say Mr. Aliyev is a political prisoner whose rights have been violated as he awaits due process. According to Azeri law, a judge must hear his case by April or release him from pretrial detention.

The high-profile case comes amid efforts by the Bush administration to secure closer ties with the oil-rich nation, considered to be of increasing importance in a sensitive region. Critics counter that better bilateral relations must be in step with U.S. demands for democratic reform, and not allow a convenient foreign policy to obscure a grim human rights record.

Azerbaijan is a secular Muslim country on the western shore of the Caspian Sea, wedged among Iran, Armenia, Russia and Georgia. U.S. officials have stressed its value as a reliable energy supplier, citing continued Azeri oil and natural-gas deliveries to Europe as a counterweight to Russia's state-owned energy giant Gazprom.

President Ilham Aliyev—no relation to the accused—has also been a willing partner on security issues. One of the first foreign leaders to contribute troops to missions in Iraq and Afghanistan, he granted U.S. pilots overflight rights in Azeri airspace, and the Pentagon is sponsoring an upgrade of a former