

prominent fixture in the community for many years, and many students have benefited from the excellent education and outstanding guidance it has offered.

In the fall of 1911 Father Joseph Byrne took the first steps to open a Catholic school in Napa when he invited the Dominican Sisters of San Rafael to staff a new school to be founded in Napa. When the school was opened the next spring, it served 120 students from the location on Franklin Street. Today that same building is used by the Napa Community Thrifts Project. That building remained in use for 15 years until the school moved to the current location on Main and Napa Streets in January, 1927. It has remained in its current location for more than 80 years.

St. John the Baptist School currently enrolls almost 300 students, and is well served by its current pastor Father Gordon Kalil, and Principal Nancy Jordan. The school now enrolls students from pre-kindergarten through 8th grade, and this has allowed the school to develop programs for children of many different ages. The school has also taken the important step of involving parents in children's education, and indeed has made this one of the core missions. By making parents into educators and encouraging children to reach out and participate in their greater community, St. John's and Father Kalil have reinforced that civic-mindedness is one of the key characteristics of a well-rounded young person.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in acknowledging the 95th anniversary of St. John the Baptist Catholic School in Napa, California. St. John's has been an important fixture in the education of young men and women in Napa, and has laid an important intellectual and spiritual foundation for generations of young people. In the years to come, this excellent tradition will continue to be of the greatest benefit to the Napa community and a credit to the parish of the St. John's Catholic Church.

NINETY-SECOND COMMEMORATION OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 23, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, as a proud member of the Congressional Caucus on Armenian Issues, and the representative of a large and vibrant community of Armenian Americans, I rise to join my colleagues in the sad commemoration of the Armenian Genocide.

Today we declare to people living in every corner of our globe that the Turkish and American governments must finally acknowledge what we have long understood: that the unimaginable horror committed on Turkish soil in the aftermath of World War I was, and is, an act of genocide. The tragic events that began on April 24, 1915, which are well known to all of us, should be part of the history curriculum in every Turkish and American school. On that dark April day, more than 200 of Armenia's religious, political and intellectual leaders were arrested in Constantinople and killed. Ultimately, more than 1.5 million Armenians were systematically murdered at the hands of the

Young Turks, and more than 500,000 more were exiled from their native land.

On this 92nd anniversary of the beginning of the genocide, I join with the chorus of voices that grows louder with each passing year. We simply will not allow ice planned elimination of an entire people to remain in the shadows of history. The Armenian Genocide must be acknowledged, studied, and never, ever allowed to happen again.

Last year I joined with my colleagues in the Caucus in urging PBS not to give a platform to the deniers of the genocide by canceling a planned broadcast of a panel which included two scholars who deny the Armenian Genocide. This panel was to follow the airing of a documentary about the Armenian Genocide. Representative Anthony Weiner and I led a successful effort to convince Channel Thirteen in New York City to pull the plug on these genocide deniers. The parliaments of Canada, France, and Switzerland have all passed resolutions affirming that the Armenian people were indeed subjected to genocide. The United States must do the same. I will not stop fighting until long overdue legislation acknowledging the Armenian Genocide finally passes. I am hopeful that this resolution will make it to the Floor for a vote before the full House of Representatives this Congress.

An acknowledgment of the genocide is not our only objective. I remain committed to ensuring that the U.S. government continues to provide direct financial assistance to Armenia. Over the years, this aid has played a critical role in the economic and political advancement of the Armenian people. I have joined with my colleagues in requesting military parity between Armenia and Azerbaijan in the FY08 Foreign Operations Appropriations bill.

We also have requested an adequate level of economic assistance for Armenia and assistance to Nagorno-Karabakh. Legislation passed in the 109th Congress and signed into law to reauthorize the Export-Import Bank included important language prohibiting the Bank from funding railroad projects in the South Caucasus region that deliberately exclude Armenia. American tax dollars should not be used to support efforts to isolate Armenia, and these provisions would prevent that by ensuring that U.S. funds are not used to support the construction of a new railway that bypasses Armenia. A railway already exists that connects the nations of Turkey, Georgia, and Azerbaijan, but because it crosses Armenia, an expensive and unnecessary new railway had been proposed. Allowing the exclusion of Armenia from important transportation routes would stymie the emergence of this region as an important East-West trade corridor. It is in our economic and security interests to ensure that the aggression against Armenia comes to an end.

On this solemn day, our message is clear: the world remembers the Armenian genocide, and the governments of Turkey and the United States must declare—once and for all—that they do, too.

TRIBUTE TO ROBLEY REX

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct honor to recognize Mr. Robley Rex of

Louisville, Kentucky. Mr. Rex was born in Christian County, Kentucky, on May 2, 1901. He is the only surviving World War I veteran in Kentucky. Robley Rex has faithfully served his country since entering the United States Army in 1919. He has worked as a mail clerk with the railroad. He was ordained as a Methodist minister. He joined the Veterans of Foreign War (VFW) service organization in 1924.

Rex Robley began volunteering through the VFW at the age of 86, logging over 13,000 hours of service. He has served his fellow veterans at the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Louisville. By his count, he has served veterans for 75 years. He has been honored by the VFW as a National Volunteer of the Year.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Robley Rex embodies the spirit, commitment and sacrifice that we all should strive for in our daily lives. I extend my thanks to him for his efforts, and I am proud to bring his accomplishments to the attention of this House.

TRIBUTE TO MS. KAREN BROWN

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate Ms. Karen Brown, an outstanding school teacher from Littleton, Colorado. Ms. Brown, who teaches at Coronado Elementary School, was recently named a recipient of the 2006 Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award. The award program is one of the most prominent in the United States.

Honoring teachers, principals and specialists from across the nation, recipients are chosen based on such criteria as effective instructional practices, student learning results and educational accomplishments as well as their potential for leadership within the field. Ms. Brown joins a network of more than 2,200 Milken Educators who have been honored by the program since 1985.

In addition to a \$25,000 individual award, Ms. Brown also attended the annual Milken National Education Conference in Los Angeles, California from the 21st to 24th of April.

Ms. Brown should be commended for her commitment to community and her contributions to education in Colorado. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

IN APPRECIATION OF BRUCE GOURLEY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark the retirement of Bruce Gourley, who has been a member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers for 30 years. During this time, he has served the group in a number of capacities, and has brought the voice of Local 180 to a variety of forums throughout the State.

Mr. Gourley was born in St. Petersburg, Florida, but completed high school in Denver before joining the Navy. He served until 1970,

and when he left the service he decided to remain in the Vallejo area with his family. He received his business degree from Solano Community College in 1973.

Mr. Gourley joined the IBEW Local 180 in 1978 while he was working as a construction electrician. Even as he continued to work, he pursued a teaching credential from the University of California at Berkeley. He became credentialed in 1983, and has taught classes through an apprenticeship program for many years.

In 1988, Mr. Gourley was elected to the executive board of Local 180, and has since served 3 terms while taking on a variety of other responsibilities on behalf of numerous local and State labor interests. Within Local 180, he has served 3 terms as the Business Manager Financial Secretary, helping to guide the financial activity of the group.

Mr. Gourley has also served with numerous other organizations, including the California Electricians Public Relations Committee, the Vallejo Unified School District, and beginning in 2001 he was tapped to use his teaching experience with the California Electrical Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee. He has also been extensively involved with the committees of the Northern California Sound and Communication workers. In 2003 he was appointed to assist and lead the very important work of the Council on Industrial Relations.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we thank Bruce Gourley for his many years of service to the labor community. His extensive efforts to educate future generations of electrical workers, and his determination to foster a productive negotiating environment in northern California have been extremely valuable.

HONORING WOMEN IN SERVICE AND ENTERPRISE

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, for the past six years, the greater Mesquite area has embraced the opportunity to honor many exceptional women in the community through the Women in Service and Enterprise (WISE) Award Luncheon and Style Show. Today I would like to honor this year's award recipient, Dr. Linda Henrie, who is an example of strong, capable and dedicated leadership. I would also like to recognize honorees Patti Hawkins, Pat Ogles and Marjorie Seward for their valuable service and commitment to their community.

Dr. Henrie is the Superintendent of the Mesquite Independent School District (MISD) where she oversees more than 34,000 students and more than 4,000 professional and auxiliary staff. She has served in this position with distinction since 2001.

Dr. Henrie has served on numerous boards in the greater Mesquite community including: The Board of Directors for Mesquite Social Services, the Board of Directors for the Mesquite Symphonic Band and as President of the Mesquite Education Association. Dr. Henrie also serves as President of the Texas Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development and the Dallas County Workforce De-

velopment Board. In addition to being active in the community and holding multiple leadership roles, Dr. Henrie has been recognized for the Association of Texas Professional Educators' Administrator of the Year Award in 2002 and was named one of the 100 Heroes of MISD.

Past WISE Award winners have served in a variety of ways, but they are united by the long-lasting impact they have made on their community. Their service, community involvement and dedication to enterprise continue to inspire younger generations.

Today, I would like to recognize all of the WISE honorees for their outstanding service and congratulate them on their awards. Thank you, ladies, for helping make our community and country a better place.

OFFERING HEARTFELT CONDO- LENCES TO THE VICTIMS AND THEIR FAMILIES REGARDING THE HORRIFIC VIOLENCE AT VIRGINIA TECH AND TO STU- DENTS, FACULTY, ADMINISTRA- TION AND STAFF AND THEIR FAMILIES WHO HAVE BEEN AF- FECTED

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I recognize the tragic deaths of the 32 victims in the shootings at Virginia Tech this past Monday.

These 32 individuals did nothing to deserve this awful fate and should never have had their lives prematurely ended by the horrific actions of one disturbed individual. One of the shooting's victims, Ryan Clark, served as a volunteer counselor at a camp for mentally impaired children. Ryan was described by the camp's administrator as "one of the kindest, most compassionate people" whom she had ever met. Another victim, Henry Lee, graduated second in his high school class, despite having immigrated from China and having had to learn English as his second language. And Liviu Librescu, a Holocaust survivor, displayed heroism all the way to the end by sacrificing his own life by barricading the door to his classroom to give many of his students enough time to escape through the classroom window.

In the lives of these 32 innocent individuals we find countless examples such as these, of kindness, compassion and determination. I would like to extend my warmest sympathies to the families and friends of these individuals, as well as to the entire Virginia Tech community.

Unfortunately, we have seen tragedies like this one numerous times in our Nation's history. In my own home state of Texas, we lost 15 of our citizens in a similar rampage four decades ago at the University of Texas at Austin.

I believe that, in this time of tragedy, we must honor the shooting's victims, offer the people of Blacksburg our utmost condolences and support, and, most of all, renew our commitment as a country to doing everything in our power to helping communities prevent similar tragedies from taking place in the future.

I commend my colleague, the gentleman from Virginia, Mr. BOUCHER for introducing this resolution.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE WITH RESPECT TO RAISING AWARENESS AND ENCOURAGING PREVENTION OF SEXUAL AS- SAULT

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 23, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 289, which expresses the "sense of the House of Representatives with respect to raising awareness and encouraging prevention of sexual assault in the United States and supporting the goals and ideals of National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

I was the lead Democratic sponsor of the original legislation, introduced by former Representative Mark Green and signed into law in 2003, that designated April as National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.

While we are taking the time today to highlight this important issue, it is important that we remember that preventing sexual assault should be a top priority during each month of the year. We must also remember that violence against women is not just a women's issue, it is a men's issue, too.

Every 2½ minutes, someone in the United States is sexually assaulted. I have long been a champion of increased efforts to prevent violence against women and in 2004, legislation that I first introduced, "The Debbie Smith Act," was signed into law. Through this landmark act, we have the ability to protect our daughters, our sisters, and our friends by putting rapists behind bars through DNA evidence. We know that DNA evidence is better than a fresh set of fingerprints. And we know that it is often better than eyewitness testimony. With "The Debbie Smith Act," the hundreds of thousands of rape kits that were gathering dust across the country are finally being processed.

It is vitally important that we support the Violence Against Women Act by fully funding the important programs that will help women escape abusive and dangerous situations and begin new lives that are free from violence and fear. The organizations, shelters, and counseling centers that are on the front lines of this problem need our steadfast commitment that they will have the resources to continue their important work.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

HONORING THE UKIAH MAIN STREET PROGRAM FOR 20 YEARS OF SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Ukiah