

HONORING THE LIFE OF
HAYGANOUSH MARKARIAN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise with sadness and respect today, along with Congresswoman LYNN C. WOOLSEY, to honor Hayganoush Markarian, a resident of the San Francisco Bay Area, who passed away recently at the age of 105. Hayganoush was one of the few survivors of the Armenian Genocide of the early 20th century, so it further saddens me that she died without the government of Turkey, from where she fled, or the government of the United States, where she found refuge, officially recognizing that Genocide.

Much has been said about the facts and numbers and statistics. We know that in Turkey between 1915 and 1921, 1.5 million Armenians died—80 percent of the population. But it is women like Hayganoush who put a human face on the Armenian Genocide and remind us that we are talking about actual people whose lives were lost or whose homes and families were destroyed.

Hayganoush Markarian was born on January 24, 1902, in the historic Armenian city of Kharpert, which suffered huge losses in the Armenian Genocide. She lived with her parents, older brother, and four sisters.

When the Turks came after her father and brother, both went into hiding—her brother dressed as a girl in order to safely cross dangerous areas and her father initially hid in the well at their home and later with Kurdish friends.

Her mother somehow saved the family from the deportations and massacres and re-united with her husband briefly after World War I, before he died as a result of the damp conditions in the wells he had hidden in for such long periods.

In 1923, the remainder of the family made their way to Syria, where Hayganoush married Markar Markarian in 1925. The Markarians later moved to Lebanon and eventually the United States. In both Syria and Lebanon, Hayganoush was an active member of the Armenian Relief Society, the oldest Armenian women's organization operating in the world.

Hayganoush resided in Oakland until her death in March of this year at the age of 105. She had prayed she would live to see the day when she and other victims of the Armenian Genocide would see the Genocide officially recognized both here and in Turkey.

Madam Speaker, although Hayganoush's prayer was not granted, she did see such a resolution pass the Committee on Foreign Affairs in the House of Representatives last fall. I am proud to be a cosponsor of that resolution, and I look forward to the day when the U.S. government officially recognizes the Genocide. Hayganoush Markarian's story will serve as a reminder to us of the sanctity of human life in Armenia and around the world.

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ELIJAH QUINTANILLA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Elijah Quintanilla who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Elijah Quintanilla is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Elijah Quintanilla is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Elijah Quintanilla for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character to all his future accomplishments.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING JESSICA STUTZMAN FOR WINNING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Jessica Stutzman showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Jessica Stutzman was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Jessica Stutzman always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Jessica Stutzman on winning the Girls' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship she has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

HONORING WILLIAM CROOKS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize William Crooks, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

William has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years William has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending William Crooks for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast votes on the following legislative measures on March 31, 2008. If I were present for rollcall votes, I would have voted "yea" on each of the following bills:

Roll No. 147, March 31, 2008: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended: H.R. 3352, To reauthorize and amend the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act, and for other purposes.

Roll No. 148, March 31, 2008: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended: H.R. 2675, To provide for the conveyance of approximately 140 acres of land in the Ouachita National Forest in Oklahoma to the Indian Nations Council, Inc., of the Boy Scouts of America, and for other purposes.

Roll No. 149, March 31, 2008: On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree: H. Con. Res. 302, Supporting the observance of Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, and for other purposes.

HONORING ANNA ETHEL LOUISE MOORE PORTER AND CORDEN PORTER

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, on April 8, 2008, Anna Ethel Louise Moore Porter will celebrate her 100th birthday. I would like to not only recognize this incredible milestone in Mrs. Porter's life, but also reflect upon all that she and her late husband, Corden Porter, have accomplished in their lives. Mr. and Mrs. Porter have given so much to the Jeffersonville community, and for that, I am eternally grateful.

The young Porter couple moved to Jeffersonville, Indiana, in 1928. Corden Porter's daughter described his life as "spent trying to overcome poverty and racial segregation." And, Mrs. Porter was always at his side, always supporting this mission.

Mr. Porter had a distinguished career as a long-time educator at Taylor High School in Jeffersonville. First a teacher, then a principal, Mr. Porter worked at Taylor High School from 1928–1952. Because of his position at the high school and well-regarded intellect, most of the Porter's friends and neighbors referred to him as "Doc Porter." He was an unparalleled leader in the African-American community of Jeffersonville. Unfortunately, his life was cut much too short when he passed away in 1963.

Mrs. Porter was also a presence at Taylor High School, often serving as a substitute teacher. When not teaching, Mrs. Porter was known to collect donations for the local Red

Cross and give piano lessons. She and her husband were very active in their church—Wesley Memorial Methodist Church. Mrs. Porter has been awarded two Guiding Light Awards as an outstanding person in the Jeffersonville African-American community. What she most often speaks about, however, is her family. The Porters have five children, 16 grandchildren, 27 great grandchildren and nine great-great grandchildren.

Happy birthday Mrs. Porter and thank you for giving so much back to the Southern Indiana community during your 100 years.

TRIBUTE TO THIRD DISTRICT CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNSEL

SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, last fall I invited high school students living in the Third Congressional District to join the Congressional Youth Advisory Counsel. The goal of the CYAC is to foster civic involvement and to encourage students to unleash their passions for America. Each meeting, they exceed my expectations and make me hopeful for the future.

The students who serve on the CYAC represent the best and the brightest in North Texas. Students are leaders, athletes, musicians, volunteers, and activists. They are the voice of their generation to Congress. They make a difference at each meeting and I'm proud of them.

For this year's community project, students interviewed a veteran and wrote an essay. The summary of each submitted essay follows.

It is my hope that some day the Congressional Youth Advisory Council will be associated with excellence and one of our highest standards of civic pride for young people in North Texas. I commend the students for volunteering their time on the Congressional Youth Advisory Council. Without a doubt, every student will continue to play an important role in our community for decades to come, and that America and North Texas, will continue to benefit from their dedication, smarts, and service.

To the members of the 2007–2008 Congressional Youth Advisory Council . . . Thank you. I salute you; God Bless You and God Bless America.

A twenty-six year old when the Korean War began, Seung Sik Kim was already a member of the armed forces. He had received education at the PoByungGamBoo Artillery School, from which he graduated as Class President. When the Korean War began, Kim was a Second Lieutenant who served in the field artillery service branch, and he was eventually promoted to the rank of Captain. His instructors consisted of General Kim Suk Won, Commander Shin In Gyoon, and Commander Kim Kae Won, who would later become a Secretary on the South Korean President's Cabinet. Kim and his unit played major roles in the incident at Ohdae Mountain in North Korea, where he starved for three days, and in the fight against the Chinese in the city Dukchun of the North Korean state Pyongnamdo. Although his unit was pushed back at first, he and his fel-

low soldiers participated actively in strategically combating the North Koreans. This experience of interviewing a veteran and collecting and preserving his story has opened my eyes to and greatly increased my respect for the honorary members of our community who served for a cause and acted for remoter ends, for higher good, and for interests other than their own.—Susie Choi

The purpose of the Veterans History Project is to collect and archive the personal recollections of U.S. military veterans, which is a way of honoring their service and sharing their stories with current and future generations. Veterans of the United States military have demonstrated tremendous courage and heroism and made untold sacrifices in the service of our country to preserve freedom. Each veteran has a story that is unique, and of historical significance. The legacy of these men and women must be preserved. As I interviewed U.S. Army veteran: Specialist Joe White, I realized that veteran's stories must be told and preserved. I have gained the knowledge that the history of our veterans is vanishing rapidly. I have learnt the more eyes and ears we have around our country meeting with veterans, the more of this priceless information we are going to save. Sharing stories and gathering reminiscences had an immediate impact on me and the interviewee. Specialist White took away a sense of pride in his contribution to preserving freedom around the world. His accomplishments while in the U.S. Army will forever be archived in the annals of U.S. history. Like most military veterans, Specialist White may have not been in combat, won a battle or firefight; but his contribution to freedom throughout the world has been immeasurable and lasting.—Derek Guckes

I met Mr. James Marberry through a friend of my father. Previously, I had been taking flight lessons for nearly seven years, and just recently needed a more schedule friendly instructor, and we found Mr. Marberry as the best answer. So, for the past 2½ months, Mr. Marberry has been my flight instructor. I began in Mid-December taking lessons from a laid-back, thorough man that I knew hardly anything about. As time progressed, and he told me stories of experiences he's had in his over forty years of flying, I continually became more intrigued. When I received this project from the Congressional Youth Advisory Council, I could think of only a few individuals that I was truly interested in interviewing and Mr. Marberry was one of them.

This interview is the first time that he and I had a conversation in whose subject was not about flying. He mentioned to me how he thoroughly enjoyed bringing back those old memories, and I likewise was elated to hear of his experiences. Many of the interview questions that one might ask if interviewing a combat seen veteran didn't apply here, but I can personally assure that even the men such as Mr. (Private) Marberry who never saw combat will forever remember their times serving our great nation. Military service is an unforgettable part of one's life and we should continue to hold the men and women of our military in the highest honor, respect, and esteem.—Brandon Maso

Mr. Ridgell M. McKinney was living prosperous. He had an amazing wife, owned and lived on his own chicken farm and had a great job managing McKinney's downtown general store. He had all he wanted or needed. Then World War II came about, and in 1942 Mr. McKinney gave up his more than satisfactory life to go fight for our country. Mr. McKinney voluntarily joined the United States Air Force as a private and fought for three honorable years on a B-24 Liberator. Mr. McKinney trained all over the United States to be part of the ten man crew that