

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING ED MOODY

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, this Thursday evening in Franklin, Tennessee, our community will gather to honor an extraordinary American. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ed Moody as he receives the Community Service Award from Williamson Christian College.

Ed Moody was born and raised in Kingston Springs, Tennessee. After serving in the Pacific Theater in World War II, he joined his brother in a tire re-treading business on Main Street in Franklin. That business would eventually relocate to Columbia Avenue and become an institution in our community, Moody's Tire & Auto Service.

Not content with running a business and raising a family, Ed embraced Rotary International and its motto of "service above self." In his 56 years of membership, Ed Moody has been a living example of Rotary's principles of encouraging service, promoting ethical conduct, applying the ideal of service in personal, business, and community life, and advancing understanding, goodwill and peace.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life of Ed Moody and congratulating him and his family on this occasion. We would all do well to follow his example of leaving a small piece of the world better than we found it.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, on April 24, 1915, the Ottoman Empire set out on a campaign to exterminate the Armenian people. Between 1915 and 1923, the numbers were horrific. One and a half million Armenians were murdered and 500,000 deported from their homelands. At the end of these eight years, the Armenian population of Anatolia and Western Armenia was virtually eliminated, becoming one of the 20th century's darkest chapters.

While acknowledging the role played by the Ottoman Empire in killing Armenians, some have laid doubt to the claim of genocide, citing the subsequent deportation of the survivors as merely a movement of a people from one land to another. Henry Morgenthau, the U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire from 1913–1916, saw it much differently. In his memoirs, Morgenthau recalls that the Turks, "never had the slightest idea of reestablishing the Armenians in (a) new country" knowing that "the great majority of those would . . . either die of thirst and starvation, or be murdered by the wild Mohammedan desert tribes."

I recall Morgenthau's words here because he saw first hand the atrocities wrought on the Armenians, and he had been told by Turks that they understood quite well that they had handed down a death sentence to the Armenian people. The Turks not only knew of what they were doing, but spoke quite freely of it. Eighty years later, however, many are still unwilling to recognize the killing for what it was: genocide.

The U.S. has long been a global leader in promoting human rights around the world. On the issue of the Armenian genocide, however, we lag behind. The French, Swiss, Swedish, Germans, and even the Russian governments recognize the Armenian genocide properly. As a global leader in human rights, it is imperative for the U.S. to stand on principle and recognize the annihilation of the Armenians.

However, it is no less important today to recognize the Armenian genocide for what it is. The deafening silence that came in its wake set the stage for a century that saw genocides occur in Europe, Africa, and Asia. While the Armenian genocide was the first of the 20th century, the blind eye cast to the slaughter of Armenians was a point used by Hitler who asked his joint chiefs of staff, "Who . . . speaks today of the [their] annihilation?"

To the critics who say that we should not dwell on history, I say it's much harder to get tomorrow right if we get yesterday wrong. The world's strength to oppose killing today is made greater by accountability, for actions present, but also past. It's weakened by denial of accountability of past acts. Not recognizing the Armenian genocide, as such, does just that.

THE OCCASION OF THE 93RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Mr. McNULTY. Madam Speaker, I join today with many of my colleagues in remembering the victims of the Armenian Genocide. Today, April 24th, is the 93rd anniversary of this human tragedy.

From 1915 to 1923, the world witnessed the first genocide of the 20th Century. This was clearly one of the world's greatest tragedies—the deliberate and systematic Ottoman annihilation of 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children.

Furthermore, another 500,000 refugees fled and escaped to various points around the world—effectively eliminating the Armenian population of the Ottoman Empire.

From these ashes arose hope and promise in 1991—and I was blessed to see it. I was one of the four international observers from the United States Congress to monitor Armenia's independence referendum. I went to the communities in the northern part of Armenia,

and I watched in awe as 95 percent of the people over the age of 18 went out and voted.

The Armenian people had been denied freedom for so many years and, clearly, they were very excited about this new opportunity. Almost no one stayed home. They were all out in the streets going to the polling places. I watched in amazement as people stood in line for hours to get into these small polling places and vote.

Then, after they voted, the other interesting thing was that they did not go home. They had brought covered dishes with them, and all of these polling places had little banquets afterward to celebrate what had just happened.

What a great thrill it was to join them the next day in the streets of Yerevan when they were celebrating their great victory. Ninety-eight percent of the people who voted cast their ballots in favor of independence. It was a wonderful experience to be there with them when they danced and sang and shouted, 'Ketse azat ankakh Hayastan'—long live free and independent Armenia! That should be the cry of freedom-loving people everywhere.

EARTH DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Earth Day.

On Earth Day, we celebrate the limitless gifts of our natural world—the incredible life-giving forces that sustain us through every single day of the year. It is all too easy to take the air we breathe, the water we drink, the earth we walk for granted. Today, we pause to recognize what precious gifts these are.

We need this reminder now more than ever. Our environment is fragile, threatened by global climate change, exploding demand for resources, and other serious challenges. Our future depends upon how we respond. Congress, the President, and every nation on the globe must commit to charting a new course toward sustainable and earth-renewing lives.

Earth Day reminds us that we must act to protect our environment not just out of obligation or self-preservation, but because it is simply the right thing to do for the next generation. We owe our children and grandchildren our strongest efforts to clean up pollution, preserve our wild spaces, and reduce the human footprint on our globe.

As Americans, we also owe a unique debt to Planet Earth. Our nation is responsible for 25% of the world's energy consumption—far more than our fair share. If we continue consuming at this rate as nations like India and China increase their resource demands, our planet will change forever in ways that will seriously impact all of our lives.

The United States must lead the urgent effort to find a different path. We must find ways

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

to responsibly use the resources of our earth while simultaneously renewing our environment and making it stronger. We are more than up to the task—Americans have always been pioneers and innovators, and nature has always played a vital role in that frontier spirit. Our ancestors tamed the wilderness; now it is our challenge to sustain and preserve it.

In the 110th Congress, the House has passed historic legislation to protect our planet. We have acted to improve vehicle fuel efficiency, promote renewable sources of energy and invest in new energy-efficient technologies. In addition, we have proposed legislation to slow, stabilize and ultimately reverse greenhouse gas emissions. I urge the Bush Administration to partner with Congress and the American people to enact these bold proposals.

One of the greatest joys of my life has been sharing in the wonder of the natural world with my family, my friends, and especially my children. Whether a simple walk outside or a trek to the Alaska National Wildlife Refuge, these experiences have renewed my spirit.

Future generations deserve the same opportunity. This will only be possible if we fully embrace Earth Day's challenge to recognize the immense value of our environment and our planet. As we celebrate sprouting leaves, sunlight, spring, and all the splendor of nature, we also commit to ensuring that we can enthusiastically enjoy every Earth Day to come.

CONGRATULATING ANNA
CERVENAK AND MAX
BARTIKOWSKY, HONOREES OF
THE GREATER WILKES-BARRE
SOCIETY OF FELLOWS, ANTI-
DEFAMATION LEAGUE

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Mr. KANJORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my distinguished colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to Anna Cervenak and Max Bartikowsky, recipients of the Anti-Defamation League's Distinguished Community Service Award.

This award is presented to persons who are dedicated champions of human rights and have distinguished themselves by civic, philanthropic and other extraordinary activities.

Max Bartikowsky was born and raised in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. His celebrity began at an early age, being the impish inspiration for a shoeshine boy character called "Little Max" created by the famous cartoonist, Ham Fisher, who originated the "Joe Palooka" comic strip once syndicated in over 900 newspapers nationwide. Fisher was also a native of northeastern Pennsylvania.

Bartikowsky graduated from Wyoming Seminary after which he attended the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School and Wilkes College. He served in the U.S. Navy from 1951 to 1955. He went on to complete the Gemological Institute of America's Diamond Grading Class after which he took an active role as the third generation in the Bartikowsky family jewelry business. Today, he is president and CEO of Bartikowsky Jewelers, currently celebrating 121 years in business.

Bartikowsky has been especially active with the Jewish Community Center (JCC) where he has served as president, a member of the board of trustees and the board of directors. He is a supporter of the JCC's Fitness Center, JCC Camp, JCC Basketball Banquet and the JCC 5:30 Club.

He also serves on the board of Temple Israel where his grandfather was the first president in 1924. He is a past president of the Wilkes-Barre Lions Club and Jewish Family Services and has been a member of Masonic Lodge 655, Caldwell Consistory, and Irem Temple for 50 years. He is also a supporter of Wyoming Seminary.

Bartikowsky has been honored by the Knights of the Saber, JCC 5:30 Club, Wyoming Valley Family Service Association and the Jewish Family Service. He was also featured in articles in the Outlook and Pennsylvania Heritage magazines.

Anna Cervenak graduated from Forty Fort High School and College Misericordia where she earned a bachelor of social work degree. She went on to Marywood University where she earned a master's degree in social work. A member of Alpha Sigma Lambda, Social Work Honor Society, she was elected to Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges.

Cervenak started her career at Bell of Pennsylvania while still in high school. She worked as an operator, in engineering, employment and as the company's public speaker. When she retired from Verizon in 2007, she was Director of Community Relations/Public Affairs.

A past president of Junior Achievement, she is currently a member of its board of directors. She is also a member of the board of directors of Penn's Northeast, Great Valley Technology Alliance, Pittston Chamber of Commerce, Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Business and Industry, Athena Award Committee, Victim's Resource Center, Catholic Youth Center, Catholic Social Services, King's College President's Council, Luzerne County Community College Foundation, Penn State-Wilkes-Barre, Step-By-Step, Boy Scouts of America, Blond Association, Circle 200 and the Mountain Laurel Center for the Performing Arts. Ms. Cervenak also chaired the Blue Ribbon Committee to save Tobyhanna Army Depot, Burn Foundation and the Jewish Family Service Advisory Board.

Her awards include Athena Award, Top 50 Business Women in Pennsylvania, Top Business Women in Northeastern Pennsylvania, Arthritis Foundation Community Leader of the Year, Susan B. Roebeling Distinguished Citizen Award, Wyoming Valley Woman's Pathfinder Award, NEPA Boy Scouts Woman of the Year Award.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Bartikowsky and Ms. Cervenak. Their extraordinary community service to northeastern Pennsylvania is both legendary and inspiring. They have clearly made a significant contribution to the improvement of the regional quality of life and, for that, we are all grateful.

EARTH DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H. Res. 1117, supporting the goals and ideals of Earth Day. On this day we are reminded of the importance of protecting our environment for generations to come.

Established in 1970, Earth Day commemorates the birth of the modern environmental movement. Thirty eight years ago today, 200 million Americans from coast-to-coast took to the streets to demonstrate the importance of environmental stewardship and conservation. Their voices are still heard today, as we continue to celebrate Earth Day globally.

We must act responsibly and expediently to protect our environment by addressing global warming. Scientists worldwide agree that global warming is a reality and its consequences will be devastating and far-reaching.

Protecting our environment is not only crucial for this generation, but for the many generations to come. By implementing environmentally responsible policies today, we will ensure that our children and grandchildren will have clean water to drink and clear air to breathe.

We must focus on developing renewable energy, reducing our dependence on fossil fuels, expanding access to sustainable resources, and increasing environmental consciousness. This Congress has taken great strides to these ends, but there is still much work to be done.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting the goals and ideals of Earth Day. May we continue to make environmental issues a top priority of the 110th Congress.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF EAGER FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Eager Free Public Library, EFPL, for 100 years of service to the people of Evansville, WI. Since the doors first opened a century ago, the Eager Free Public Library has been an invaluable and vital part of the community.

During the 1890s, Wisconsinites embarked on a movement to secure free public libraries around the State. However, few were as passionate and dedicated to the cause as Mr. Almeron Eager. Eager's passion for libraries was evident when he passed away in 1902. In his will, Mr. Eager bequeathed \$10,000 to the city of Evansville to construct a free public library in his name. The library's cost would end up exceeding \$10,000 but his surviving family members contributed money to cover the remaining cost. After several years of searching for the proper site, the first construction shovel finally pierced the ground in May 1907 and the library was dedicated in June 1908. The prairie school style of the