

sculpted on the Liberty Memorial Monument. The Commission will plan, develop, and execute programs, projects, and activities to commemorate the centennial of World War I. With Kansas City, Missouri as its official host, the Commission will be composed of twenty-four members who will work together to facilitate and coordinate activities throughout the United States to honor the Great War.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I wholeheartedly introduce this legislation to make official the historic, powerful, and unparalleled stature of the Liberty Memorial as the National World War I Memorial coupled with the establishment of the World War I Centennial Commission to properly observe the World War I centennial. We owe the Liberty Memorial's designation as the National World War I Memorial to the hundreds of thousands of people, including those who served our country in World War I, who have looked to the Liberty Memorial as the interminable symbol of sacrifice and sovereignty that continue to shape our country. The World War I Centennial Commission will further observe America's historic commitment to freedom and appropriately remember those who fought for our country in the War to End All Wars.

APPLAUDING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
OF THE TERRENCE CARDINAL
COOKE HEALTH CARE CENTER
AND THE MEMBERS OF THEIR
CRUSADE IN THE OCCASION OF
THEIR ANNUAL FLOWER BALL

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor and enthusiasm that I rise to acknowledge the contributions of The Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center and congratulate them for organizing its Annual Flower Ball Benefit Banquet on April 1, 2009. The Ball is in support of its dedicated hard working staff, team of volunteers, and most importantly, the lives of the its many patients and residents. I applaud the vitally important programs they conduct to improve access to health care for the medically needy and many under-served individuals in my congressional district.

For the past three decades the Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center has provided outstanding and compassionate care and treatment for the many community residents in my district. Since 1978, it has provided continuous comprehensive medical treatment and skilled nursing care to infants, children, and young adults who are diagnosed with developmental disabilities and demanding medical conditions. The center currently provides care and treatment for over 700 residents in my district. Additionally, more than 71,000 outpatient clinical services are provided each year.

The Cardinal Cooke Center's approach to quality medical care is what has allowed it to prosper into the 21st century of advanced technology and medicine. The Center's staff respects the dignity of every human being and recognizes each individual's potential to live as independently as possible. They provide unique approaches to the care and treatment

of our residents and patients, and serve the elderly, people with developmental disabilities, and those who live with chronic illness; people of all races, creeds, economic means and ethnic backgrounds.

This year's Ball holds a unique and special honor—His Eminence Edward Cardinal Egan will be acknowledged for his distinguished leadership and great dedication in support of compassionate and innovative care for some of the most frail and at-risk members of the New York community.

The Cooke Center will also honor The Honorable Louis J. Freeh and Barbara Boyle with their coveted Partnership Award, which recognizes outstanding community leaders whose life work reflects the mission of the Center—to reach out to the disenfranchised and give hope to those for whom others have given up hope.

Judge Louis J. Freeh has dedicated much of his life to serving others. As the former director of the FBI or through his personal efforts with local charitable institutions, Judge Freeh has consistently demonstrated his selfless commitment to those less fortunate. After 13 years of committed service, Barbara Boyle is retiring as National Executive Director and CEO of the Huntington's Disease Society of America. Ms. Boyle's honor coincides with the 20 year anniversary of the Cooke Center's own Huntington's Disease Unit.

Daniel Foxx, who serves on the Center's Community Leadership and Development Advisory Boards, will receive The Mary White Commitment Award, for his years of inspirational volunteer service. His devotion, friendship and support is an invaluable gift to the residents of the Cooke Center.

It is my honor to congratulate all the honorees, including His Eminence Edward Cardinal Egan. Each has been a significant partner in the overall improvement of the quality of life for all. I also salute the organizing committee and members of the Cooke Center's staff for its efforts in coordinating the Annual Flower Ball Benefit where many other members of their crusade will publicly be acknowledged.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating The Terence Cardinal Cooke Health Care Center for continuing to serve the residents of my district with the greatest challenges such as children with disabilities, elderly with severe medical needs, Huntington's Disease patients, HIV/AIDS, as well as those who require outpatient primary care services. Their constant dedication and commitment in providing quality health care with dignity and compassion is worthy of the highest esteem.

HONORING FRIENDS HOUSE

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a wonderful establishment in Santa Rosa, California—Friends House. Friends House, a very special continuing care retirement community, is celebrating its 25th anniversary April 24, 25, and 26.

Conceived of in the late 1970s, Friends House opened to its first residents in 1984

and has expanded over the years while retaining its family feel. It is now composed of three related programs dedicated to the health and well-being of older persons—-independent living in both houses and apartments, assisted living, and a skilled nursing facility which is also open to the public. It is operated by Friends Association of Services for the Elderly under the College Park Quarterly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends.

It has been my pleasure to meet with the residents of Friends House over the years. I have found them to be a lively and engaged group with a commitment to the progressive values we share. These caring values are evident not only in the democratically run, close-knit community but also in the activism shared by many of its members. Residents and staff are involved in volunteerism through The Art of Giving Back program. Volunteers work in over 30 nonprofit organizations, and the community hosts educational and cultural sessions for the public.

The care given to seniors by the staff at Friends House is often singled out for praise. One woman wrote movingly of her mother-in-law's passing away "in the loving care of the wonderful angels there." She then asked them to send her love and say a prayer for the comfort of another family member at the facility who was not coherent but who had all the support she needed to make her last days something beautiful and special.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to be able to salute Friends House on its 25th anniversary. I know that its residents and staff will continue to be a loving asset to our community for years to come.

TRIBUTE TO BOB BASTIAN

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to salute the service of Former Pennsylvania State Representative Bob Bastian of Friedens, Somerset County, whose meritorious service to the Boy Scouts of America has inspired multiple generations to benefit from all that Scouting has to offer.

The Bastian family has a long tradition of service to the community through scouting. Bob's father, Fred, his two sons, Scott and Tim and four of his grandchildren are all members of the Boy Scouts.

As an enthusiastic contributor to his community, Representative Bastian is active in the Penn Woods Council committee as well as a member of the district committee for the Scouts' Forbes Trail District; and while many of his efforts to better his community have been realized as a product of his tenure as State Representative from 1999 to 2009, his lifetime commitment to excellence through scouting has and will continue to inspire boys throughout Somerset.

Currently, Bastian is working to recognize the institution of scouting by chairing the Penn's Woods Council's Centennial Celebration Committee. In looking back nearly one hundred years to the inception of the Boy Scouts of America, I am confident that Mr. Bastian's sixty years of exemplary performance in scouting and in life are proof of what all boys can achieve through scouting.

CALLING FOR ACTION ON DARFUR
AND TO PREVENT GENOCIDE

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention once again to the crisis in Darfur and to thank the Genocide Prevention Project, Darfur advocates, and survivors of past genocides who have come together to mark this April as Genocide Prevention Month in order to raise critical awareness.

In April 2009, the slaughter in Darfur will enter its seventh year. During that time roughly 450,000 have been killed and more than two million displaced. It is an international disgrace that on this April anniversary of the start of the genocide, the people of Darfur are suffering more than ever. Just recently thirteen international aid organizations were expelled from the area, severing the final lifeline. It is imperative that they be allowed to return.

Along with Darfur, past civilian slaughters similarly mark anniversaries in April. These include the tragedies of the Holocaust, Rwanda, Bosnia, Cambodia, and Armenia. With this significance of April in mind, survivors of atrocity crimes have untied with advocates to observe Genocide Prevention Month this month—as a way to remind the world of its responsibility to the people of Darfur and to protect other civilian populations under threat. In April, survivors, and their descendants and supporters, will honor their dead with more than one hundred events. The plea at these events will be for protection for the people in Darfur and an effective global genocide prevention system.

To launch the month-long commemoration, more than sixty survivor and anti-genocide organizations from around the world have signed the following statement:

“Remarkably, six genocides have major anniversaries in the month of April—a tragic testament to the international community’s inexcusable failure to stop inhuman and barbarous acts.

This April, we—survivors of genocide and mass atrocities, their descendants, and anti-genocide advocates—will honor those who were lost and those who survived. And we will urge immediate action to stop the ongoing Darfur genocide.

Our collective voices will remind the international community to make its commitment to mass atrocity prevention absolute. Until we do, we are destined to repeat the most shameful chapters in human history.”

I now would like to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a copy of this statement along with a list of the organizations that have signed it. I want to thank all of those involved in this effort. Their work is critical in making sure people never forget the human suffering in Darfur and commit themselves to preventing or stopping genocide, wherever and whenever it may occur.

GENOCIDE PREVENTION MONTH STATEMENT

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Our collective voices will remind the international community to make its commitment to mass atrocity prevention absolute. Until we do, we are destined to repeat the most shameful chapters in human history.

Advocacy Project, Aegis Trust, Americans Against the Darfur Genocide, Armenian Assembly of America, American Jewish World Service, Armenian National Committee of America, Armenian National Committee of Canada, Armenian Youth Federation, Eastern USA, Awareness Unlimited, Bronfman Center for Jewish Student Life at NYU, Cambodian Americans for Human Rights and Democracy (CAHRAD), Canadians Against Slavery and Torture in Sudan, Center for Social Development (Phnom Penh, Cambodia), Colorado Coalition for Genocide Awareness and Action, Council for Prejudice Reduction, Citizens for Global Solutions, Damanga Coalition for Freedom and Democracy, Darfur Alert Coalition, Dear Sudan, Do Something, Dream for Darfur.

Educating Against Prejudices, Bosnian Library at the Conrad Sulzer Public Library of Chicago, Foundation Rwanda, FRA Nor Seround—Nouvelle Génération Arménienne, Generations of the Shoah International, Genocide Intervention Network, Genocide Prevention Project, Genocide Watch, Great Rainbow, I Stop Genocide, IBUKA, Institute for the Study of Genocide, International Association of Genocide Scholars, Investors Against Genocide, Kentuckiana Interfaith Taskforce on Darfur, Khmer Legacies, Kigali Genocide Memorial Centre, Jewish Community Relations Council of the Greater Miami Jewish Federation, Liquidnet Holdings, Massachusetts Coalition to Save Darfur, Minnesota Interfaith Darfur Coalition, Miracle Corners of the World, Mothers of Srebrenica.

New Jersey Commission on Holocaust Education, New Jersey Responds to the Crisis in Darfur Coalition, Pittsburgh Darfur Emergency Coalition, Public Interest Projects, Righteous Pictures, Save Darfur Coalition, Second Generation of Los Angeles (Children of Holocaust Survivors), Society for Threatened People, South African Holocaust Foundation, Southeast Asia Resource Action Center, Southern Sudanese Voice for Freedom, STAND, Stop Genocide Now, Survivors Fund (SURF), The Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education, The Sparks Fly Upward Foundation, Three Generations, UN Watch, Voice of Witness, Youth Initiative for Human Rights.

A TRIBUTE TO ROGER SNOBLE

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 2009

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today, along with Congresswoman LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, to celebrate the 45-year transportation career of Roger Snoble, who will retire on April 8, 2009. Roger Snoble, and his wife

Kit, reside in Pasadena, CA in the 29th Congressional District and he worked at the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority for the past eight years, located in the 34th Congressional District.

Over the past 45 years, Roger has applied tremendous skill and leadership to create better public transportation systems for all of his communities. As a result, he has distinguished himself as one of the Nation’s foremost experts and practitioners in the transportation sector. He began his transportation career in 1965 as a planner for the TriCounty Regional Planning Commission in Akron, Ohio. He then moved on to work for Akron’s Metro Transit district in 1971. And in 1973, Roger moved to California and worked his way through the ranks of planning and scheduling to be the President and General Manager of the San Diego Transit Corporation.

Always wanting to challenge himself, Roger went on to serve as President and Executive Director of the Dallas Area Rapid Transit District (DART) for seven and a half years. In 2001, Roger was appointed to serve as Chief Executive Officer for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (Metro), a multimodal transportation agency responsible for bus and rail operations, planning and construction in Los Angeles County. During his seven and a half years at Metro, Roger has guided the agency through successful openings of the Metro Gold and Orange Lines, introduced scores of popular Metro Rapid Lines, and seen Metro named “America’s best large transit agency.” He also co-founded the Mobility-21 Coalition and was instrumental in the passage of Measure R, a ½ cent sales tax that will fund a comprehensive package of new transit, street and highway improvements in Los Angeles County for the next 30 years.

Roger has won numerous awards throughout his transportation career. The American Public Transportation Association (APTA) named Snoble “Transit Manager of the Year” in 1998. Under his leadership, Metro was named by APTA as “Outstanding Public Transportation System” in 2006, and DART was cited by APTA as the “Transit Agency of the Year” in 1997.

Although we know Roger primarily through his role in transportation, Roger and his wife, Kit, are founding members of the African Conservation Fund, which assists communities in the East Africa in creating economic opportunities that result in improved wildlife management and wealthier and healthier communities. In addition, Roger has served on the boards of the San Diego Zoo, Dallas Zoological Association and the Greater Los Angeles Zoo Association. He recently joined the Living Desert Zoo and Gardens in Palm Desert, CA. Through these experiences, Roger has a vast photojournal library that will continue to expand in his retirement as he leads safaris to educate communities about the importance of conservation as well as economic development opportunities in surrounding areas. He also has extended his photojournalist editing skills to many local non-profits as another example of his passion to help others.

We extend our warm congratulations and appreciation to Roger and his wife Kit for Roger’s tireless service to the public transportation communities in Akron, OH, San Diego, CA, Dallas, Texas and Los Angeles County and wish him well in retirement.