the legacy of this couple and their school by offering financial assistance to needy, college bound students.

Institutions of this nature played an important role in our nation's history, and the work of educators like the Smotherses was integral in advancing the civil rights movement. They worked diligently to make sure that every child had the opportunity to learn and succeed, and they felt that it was vital to ensure these youths had the ability to make a lasting contribution to society.

The placement of this historical marker will take place on May 2, 2009, and I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in recognizing St. Paul Industrial Training School and its founders, Mr. J. W. Smothers and Mrs. Alice 0. Smothers.

HONORING THE ROSELLE LIONS CLUB

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Roselle Lions Club in my Congressional District. On April 26, 2009, the Roselle Lions will mark more than 75 years of dedicated community service.

Through the years, the Lions Club has been instrumental in aiding those with hearing and vision impairments by providing members of the local community in need with hearing aids, glasses, and support groups.

With local events like The Lions Carnival, National Night Out, and the Children's Christmas Party, the Lions Club has raised funds for these worthy causes and provided a fun and safe environment for families to spend time together. The extent of the Roselle Lions' dedication and generosity can be seen in the countless library, school, and civic projects they have supported financially, and with their time and energy.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, the Roselle Lions Club has worked tirelessly to make their local community a better place to live, work and raise a family. They have brought compassion to those in need and been a tremendous asset to the citizens of Roselle.

Please join me in recognizing the impressive work of the Roselle Lions Club, and wishing them every success in their next 75 years of fellowship and service.

IN HONOR OF STEPHEN VANCE

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an invaluable member of the Santa Cruz community, and his humanitarian efforts all over the world. After decades of service and devotion to aiding developing countries, Stephen Vance lost his life serving the people and countries for whom he always cared.

After graduating from the University of California at Santa Cruz, Stephen became immersed in work for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). In his role at USAID, Stephen spent more than twenty years working the issues of developing countries. He held numerous Country Director and Chief of Party assignments with USAID contractors and directed the USAID Mission experience. He served as the Senior Economic Development Advisor for USAID in Timor-Leste, where he managed USAID's economic growth team. Earlier, he served two years as the Executive Director of the Soros Foundation in Mongolia. While there, he spearheaded the foundation's transformation from a grant-making organization with more than 20 programs and 500 projects to an independent, non-partisan center for policy research and analysis and a platform for citizen participation and advocacy. Stephen designed and developed new projects in enterprise development, trade diversification, foreign investment promotion, rural and agricultural finance and agricultural development.

Stephen's years of work reflected his desire to improve living situations and stimulate economic growth and self-sufficiency in developing countries. Though he sought to create a more perfect, peaceful world, Stephen's life was lost at the hands of gunmen in Pakistan. At the time of his assassination, he was working for Cooperative Housing Federation International. There he directed ''Livelihoods Project'' in the FATA region, a program intended to infuse $750 million in economic development into the area.

Stephen was loved by many; his upbeat and optimistic attitude, as well as his zealous and vivacious approach to dealing with situations made him always a pleasure to be around. His humanitarian efforts gained him the respect and friendship of people all over the world; his zest for life and creative nature made him a person who will not soon be forgotten.

The City of Santa Cruz and the rest of the world will miss Stephen's vision and leadership, but there is no doubt that he has left us a better place than when he first arrived.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States of Congress, I would like to honor the many accomplishments of Stephen Vance and express sincere gratitude for his contributions locally and internationally.

PREVENTION, AWARENESS, AND RESEARCH AUTOIMMUNE DISEASE (PARAID) ACT

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, today, I am introducing along with my colleague Representative CLIFF STEARNS, the Prevention, Awareness, and Research Autoimmune Disease (PARAID) Act.

I am introducing this legislation to address the critical issue of autoimmune diseases in our population. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) estimates that between 14 and 23.5 million Americans have an autoimmune disease and the prevalence is rising. Seventy-five percent of those afflicted are women with most cases occurring during the childbearing years. The chronic nature of these diseases accounts for its incredible cost to the individual and staggering drain on our nation's healthcare resources. The National Institutes of Health estimates that annual direct health care costs for autoimmune disease are in the range of $100 billion.

Autoimmune diseases encompass more than 100 interrelated diseases, such as lupus, multiple sclerosis, rheumatoid arthritis, Sjogren's syndrome, polymyositis, pemphigus, myasthenia gravis, Wegener's granulomatosis, psoriasis, celiac disease, autoimmune platelet disorders, scleroderma, alopecia areata, vitiligo, autoimmune thyroid disease, and sarcoidosis. Basic research into the mechanism that drives the autoimmune response is the fundamental knowledge needed to cure many of these diseases.

This legislation will increase awareness of autoimmune diseases, increase research on environmental triggers of autoimmune diseases, enhance education on the relationship between autoimmune and mental illness, and provide loan repayment for physician research on autoimmune disease. This support will help alleviate the suffering of millions of Americans, who suffer every day with the symptoms of these diseases, many times unable to fully participate in their work and family life as a result.

For these reasons, I urge you to give full consideration of this bill as quickly s possible.

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. TIMOTHY J. WALZ

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Mr. WALZ. I rise in sadness today and also in hope, as we commemorate the Armenian genocide that happened in the second decade of the twentieth century.

There is nothing easier than to forget the victims of history, and nothing more tragic, and for those very reasons, there is nothing more important than to remember them. And that is what we are here for.

The genocide of the Armenian people is a fact of history. It is a sad fact of history.

But the very fact that we are here, together in the U.S. House of Representatives addressing the issue is reason for hope. Armenians' determination to carry on, and in the United States' historic support for them, and in our joined determination to make sure that we recognize the facts of history—there is great humanity and hope.

I remain committed to the public recognition of the fact of the Armenian genocide. It is the only way to make sure we are forever vigilant to prevent genocide in the future.

I have hope, that we can all move forward, not in an exercise in collective guilt, but in the simple recognition of what happened, that a genocide was perpetrated upon the Armenian people, and that such a thing, quite simply, never should have happened and must never happen again.

HONORING BOY SCOUT TROOP 457 OF MIAMI, FL

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate and commend Troop 457 of Boy Scouts of America in my district of South Florida. On Saturday, April 25, 2009, the troop will conduct their Court of Honor, honoring 13 of their own with the most prestigious rank of Eagle Scout.

Boy Scouts of America is a tremendous organization that my husband, Dexter, and I have continuously supported. With Dexter being a Eagle Scout, and me previously serving as a Girl Scout Troop Leader, we fully understand and appreciate all of the hard work and dedication invested into achieving the highest rank of Eagle Scout.

These 13 young men have distinguished themselves in the South Florida community as leaders of tomorrow through their countless hours of service toward improving South Florida. It is with great honor that I ask that the names of these 13 individuals be submitted into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

William David Cochran, Kenneth Lewis Baer, James Phillip Baer, Joshua Rothenberg, Michael Thomas Dannelly, Leo Benjamin Kaplowitz, Wade Morgan Judy, Timothy Young Hunter, David Benjamin Shapiro, Alexander Pergakis, Jonathan A. Muench, Jonathan O. Lopez, Gabriel Cespedes.

OBSERVANCE OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, I rise in sorrow and in solidarity with Armenians, with our fellow citizens of Armenian descent, and with all men and women of good will to recall the atrocities Armenians suffered in the early years of the last century. Contemporary accounts leave no doubt that indiscriminate massacres took place.

I understand that this topic evokes painful memories and raises difficult issues of national identity for persons of both Armenian and Turkish ancestry. Nonetheless, I believe that we must call genocide by its proper name and acknowledge it when it has occurred so that we may better learn to recognize and resist its horrors in the future. That includes recognizing the policies of the Ottoman Empire during World War I and its aftermath as genocidal.

International response to genocide has historically been inadequate at best, and we must do all we can to strengthen our resolve to prevent and punish such atrocities. Moreover, I believe that nations can move forward in fellowship when the past is confronted with honesty and courage. I hope to see the republics of Armenia and Turkey cooperate and jointly contribute to the stability of their troubled region.

IN HONOR OF THE MONTEREY MUSEUM OF ART

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Monterey Museum of Art for their fifty years of service dedicated to the stewardship and celebration of the artistic legacy of the Monterey Peninsula. On behalf of the whole House, I am honored to extend to the Monterey Museum of Art the gratitude of the Congress and the American people for their past and future service.

Monterey County, in Central California, is a region that has inspired artists since the late 1800s. Artists flocked to the area, which was then and still is a region of pristine beauty. They brought with them the tradition of plein air painting, still in evidence today with artists painting the land and seascapes of ''the greatest meeting of land and sea.''

The Monterey Museum of Art was founded in 1959 in Carmel as a Chapter of the American Federation of the Arts by a group of civic minded individuals who sought to create an arts space for that seminal arts colony. In addition to celebrating pioneers of early California art such as Armin Hansen, the museum collects and exhibits contemporary photography by such renowned artists as Ansel Adams, Edward Weston, and Imogen Cunningham, contemporary artists working locally, in California and nationally.

Now comprising two locations, after the bequest of an historic adobe in the early 1980's by Frank Work, the museum serves nearly 40,000 visitors annually from around the world, including thousands of local schoolchildren. The museum is reaching out to families and children with new activities and programs geared to inspire a passion for the visual arts in accordance with their mission.

The mission of the Monterey Museum of Art is to collect, preserve, and interpret the art of California from the nineteenth century to the present day, within a national and international context. In this way, they expand the appreciation of their evolving artistic legacy and inspire a passion for the visual arts. We look forward to the next fifty years of their endeavors in this area.

Madam Speaker, I want to hold up the Monterey Museum of Art as a model museum and cultural institution, an expression of what makes our nation a worldwide leader in arts unique to our land. May their continued success inspire many more generations to celebrate our nation's artistic heritage and participate in its future.

ST. PETERSBURG TIMES EARNS TWO PULITZER PRIZES FOR JOURNALISM

HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 2009

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, The St. Petersburg Times earned a rare honor Monday by collecting multiple Pulitzer Prizes for journalism excellence.

Washington Bureau Chief Bill Adair and his team won the only Pulitzer Prize awarded this year by Columbia University for content created for the web. They earned the honor in the National Reporting category for PolitiFact, a website at www.politifact.com conceived by Bill Adair to test the validity of political statements.

Times Staff Writer Lane DeGregory won the second Pulitzer Prize for Feature Writing for her story ''The Girl in the Window'', which is about a Plant City child who was locked in her room by her adoptive parents.

This is a great honor for Paul Tash, the Editor, Chairman, and Chief Executive Officer of The St. Petersburg Times and his team of writers, editors, and support staff in this the newspaper's 125th year.

Madam Speaker, following my remarks, I will include for the benefit of my colleagues a story from the Times by Stephen Nohlgren with more background on these awards and the six Pulitzer Prizes earned previously by St. Petersburg Times reporters and editors.

The creation of PolitiFact will be of special interest to our colleagues in the House. The PolitiFact team, led by Bill Adair, included editors Scott Montgomery and Amy Hollyfield, reporter and researcher Angie Drobnic Holan, reporters Robert Farley and Alexander Lane, news technologist Matthew Waite and designer Martin Frobisher.

Together they searched through political ads, speeches and debates and determined the accuracy of political statements by presidential candidates and candidates for other offices. The information is accessible and searchable on the internet and is also published in the Times. PolitiFact became such a valuable source of information during last fall's campaign season that it was quoted regularly by national news organizations.

Madam Speaker, Please join me in congratulating Lane DeGregory, Bill Adair, and his team for a job well done in earning journalism's highest honor this week. They have set the standard for human interest and political reporting as judged by the peers in their field of work.

[From the St. Petersburg Times, Apr. 21, 2009]

TIMES WINS 2 PULITZERS

(By Stephen Nohlgren), The St. Petersburg Times, April 21, 2009

For the first time in its 125-year history, the St. Petersburg Times has won two Pulitzer Prizes in a single year.

Staff writer Lane DeGregory, 42, captured the feature writing category for ''The Girl in the Window,'' a moving account of a Plant City child whose mother kept her locked in a filthy room, and the adoptive family who worked to overcome her feral beginnings.

The Times staff won the national reporting prize for PolitiFact, a Web site, database and ''Truth-O-Meter'' that tests the validity of political statements.

That award reflected the growing influence of online media in public affairs. PolitiFact was designed for the Web at politifact.com, though its content also appears regularly in the Times' print edition.

The two awards are ''so representative of our organization as a team, of the skill we bring to work every day,'' Executive Editor Neil Brown told the newsroom staff Monday amid cheers and popping champagne corks.

Like newspapers all over the country, the Times is navigating tough economic times, Brown said, but ''this is old-fashioned journalism, great reporting and great writing.