

# HONORING DOMINIC PALUMBO FOR A LIFETIME OF SERVICE

## HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2009*

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join the North Haven Democratic Town Committee as well as the many family, friends, and community leaders who have gathered to pay tribute to an outstanding member of our community and a man I am honored to call my friend, Dominic Palumbo. Entrepreneur, community leader, mentor, and friend, Dom has left an indelible mark on our community.

Dom has dedicated a lifetime of service to the town of North Haven, the State of Connecticut and our nation. Born and raised in New Haven, Connecticut, Dom joined the Merchant Marines and later the armed forces where he fought in both World War II and the Korean War. Upon his return from military service, Dom and his family settled in North Haven where he began a successful business, North Haven Ceramic & Tile, and soon became an institution in town.

There are few who demonstrate the depth of commitment to their community as Dom has over the years. When he made North Haven his home, he quickly became involved in local issues and is perhaps best known in town for his enduring presence on the Planning and Zoning Commission. The Planning and Zoning Commission is one of those local boards which have a significant impact on the town as its responsibilities include the oversight of the overall development of a community—balancing the often competing demands of expansion and the quality of life for its residents. Dom served on that board for more than thirty years, at least ten of which as its Chairman, and in doing so helped to shape the very character of his community as it has grown.

Dom's contributions stretch far beyond the town of North Haven. Over the course of his life he has been involved in countless service and civic organizations which include serving as Director of the Quinnipiac Council of the Boy Scouts of America, a supporter of the Special Olympics, a sponsor of several Little League and Midget Football teams, as well as a founding member of the North Haven High School Sports Hall of Fame. The myriad of awards, commendations, and honors that he has received from groups ranging from the Knights of Columbus to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society are a testament to the difference that he has made.

Dom has long been a political leader in the North Haven community. As a founding member of the town's Democratic Town Committee, Dom has spent long hours advising and supporting candidates as they seek elected office—in North Haven and across the state, at every level of government. As a long-time member of the Connecticut Democratic State Central Committee, he has also helped to shape Connecticut's Democratic Party. His commitment to public service and to improving his community has been an inspiration to candidates as they sought his guidance and direction.

I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to extend my sincerest thanks to Dom for his many years of special friendship.

Today along with his wife, Judith; his four children, Richard, Robert, Ronald and Raymond; and his four granddaughters, we pay tribute to Dominic Palumbo—a remarkable individual whose innumerable contributions have set an example of community service to which we should all strive.

## HONORING MICHAEL ANGELO HARTER

## HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2009*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Michael Angelo Harter 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 145, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Michael has been very active with his troop participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Michael 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 Michael Angelo Harter for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

## HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

## HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2009*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker. Today, I wish to join with my friends, family, and colleagues as we remember the murder of more than 6 million Jews and others killed during the Holocaust. Their memory must be preserved and the atrocities committed by the Nazis and their accomplices must be noted in order to ensure that such crimes against humanity will never be repeated.

We should also take time to remember the millions of others systematically murdered by the Nazis, including Gypsies, Poles, the handicapped, homosexuals, Jehovah's witnesses, political dissidents and prisoners of war.

This year, we recognize in particular the one and a half million children who perished during the Holocaust. It is estimated that mere thousands survived. Many of the survivors still with us today were children during the Second World War and lost many friends and relatives. Decades later, the horrors of the Holocaust are still etched in their memory and they serve as a reminder of the vulnerability of children in times of war. We must ensure that we protect those in every corner of the world that cannot defend themselves.

More than 60 years have passed since the Holocaust, yet racism and anti-Semitism still exist in the world. The troubling events from this past week's United Nations Summit on Racism in Geneva reinforce even more the need to mark this day. Iranian President Ahmadinejad's remarks remind us that we

need to remain vigilant about hate and misinformation. He has repeatedly distorted facts and denied that the Holocaust even existed. As citizens of the world, we remain alert and ensure that dictators and despots are never again able to commit genocide against any people in any corner of the globe.

In honor of their memory and to protect generations to come, we must never forget.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE SOUTH- EAST ALASKA NATIVE LAND EN- TITLEMENT FINALIZATION ACT

## HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2009*

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, today I, along with my distinguished colleagues, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. BOREN and Mr. SHULER introduce the Southeast Alaska Native Land Entitlement Finalization Act. This legislation will redress the inequitable treatment of the Native Regional Corporation for Southeast Alaska, Sealaska Corporation, by allowing it to select its remaining land entitlement under Section 14 of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, ANCSA, from designated Federal land in Southeast Alaska.

In 1971, Congress enacted ANCSA to recognize and settle the aboriginal claims of Alaska Natives. ANCSA allocated 44 million acres and nearly \$1 billion to Alaska's Native people, to be managed by the 12 Regional Corporations, including Sealaska, and more than 200 Village Corporations. While Sealaska is one of the Regional Corporations with the largest number of Native shareholders, with 21 percent of all original Native shareholders, Sealaska received the smallest Regional Corporation land settlement, which was less than 1 percent of the total of all ANCSA lands. Now, nearly four decades since ANCSA's passage, Sealaska is still without their full land entitlement.

It remains critical that Sealaska complete its remaining land entitlement under ANCSA to continue to meet the economic, social and cultural needs of its Native shareholders, and of the Native community throughout Alaska.

The Bureau of Land Management projects that Sealaska is entitled to receive between 355,000 and 375,000 acres pursuant to ANCSA. To date, over 35 years after ANCSA's enactment, Sealaska has secured conveyance of 290,000 acres. Accordingly, there are up to 85,000 acres remaining to be conveyed. However, ANCSA limits Sealaska land selections to withdrawal areas surrounding certain Native villages in Southeast Alaska. The problem is that there are no lands remaining in these withdrawal areas that meet Sealaska's traditional, cultural, historic, or socioeconomic needs, and certain portions of those lands should more appropriately remain in public ownership.

The selection limitations preclude Sealaska from using any of its remaining ANCSA land settlement to select places of sacred, cultural, traditional, and historic significance located outside the withdrawal areas that are critical to facilitate the perpetuation and preservation of Alaska Native culture and history. Moreover,

selection from the withdrawal areas would not allow Sealaska to meet the purposes of ANCSA, which is to create continued economic opportunities for the Native people of Southeast Alaska. Further, more than 40 percent of the original withdrawal areas are salt water and, therefore, not available for selection.

Despite the small land base in comparison to all other Regional Corporations, Sealaska has provided significant economic benefits to not only Sealaska Native shareholders, but also to the other Native Corporations throughout Alaska. Pursuant to a revenue sharing provision in ANCSA, Sealaska distributes considerable revenues derived from its timber development—more than \$315 million between 1971 and 2007—to the other Native Corporations. Unless it is allowed to select land outside of the designated withdrawal areas, Sealaska will not be able to select land that would allow it to maintain its existing resource development and management operations, or provide continued economic opportunities for the Native people of Southeast Alaska and economic benefits to the broader Alaska Native community through the revenue sharing requirements under ANCSA.

The legislation presents a solution that would allow Sealaska to complete the conveyance of its land entitlement and enable the Federal Government to complete its statutory obligation to the Natives of Southeast Alaska, as promised under ANCSA. I thank my colleagues and urge your support for this important legislation for the Native people of Southeast Alaska.

#### TRIBUTE TO BOY SCOUT TROOP 127

##### HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2009*

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Boy Scout Troop 127 as it celebrates its 90th anniversary on April 18, 2009. Troop 127 has played a crucial role in developing the character of over 1,000 boys, and continues to do so today with thirty-six Scouts.

Troop 127 was founded in 1919 (originally as Troop 7) with the Presbyterian Church of Falling Spring as its sponsoring organization. The Reverend William L. Mudge was the first Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 7, which began with 19 Scouts and grew to 46 by 1925. Troop 127 has a long history of more than 60 years of continued summer camping and service support to Keystone Area Council's Hidden Valley Scout Reservation in Loysville, Pennsylvania. Their outdoor hiking tradition includes extended trips across the country, including, Mt. Katandin, Mt. Washington, and Pisgah National Forest. These outdoor adventures, which span the Eastern United States but also include excursions as far away as Alaska and Florida, serve to educate and develop character amongst participants.

Boy Scout Troop 127 is currently led by The Reverend Wayne Lowe, Jr., Charles Q. Smith, and Scoutmaster Donn Schoonover. The leadership of these gentlemen and those that led the Troop in the past has inspired more than 125 youth to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout.

Troop 127's contribution to the community and to Pennsylvania as a whole is without question. Troop 127's proud tradition of 90 years of Scouting service to the Greater Chambersburg and Franklin County Communities embodies the spirit of Scouting and serves to encourage Pennsylvania's boys to work hard and give back to their community. I congratulate Troop 127 in their celebration of the 90th anniversary of such a wonderful organization, as it has brought a greater appreciation to our area and has surely been an asset to the community.

#### HONORING GARRISON WESLEY PRIDDLE

##### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2009*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Garrison Wesley Priddle 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 145, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Garrison has been very active with his troop participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Garrison 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 Garrison Wesley Priddle for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### THE INTRODUCTION OF THE SIMON WIESENTHAL HOLOCAUST EDUCATION ACT

##### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2009*

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, today, I am pleased to re-introduce the Simon Wiesenthal Holocaust Education Act, along with Representatives ACKERMAN, BERMAN, and HIGGINS. Named after a survivor of the Nazi death camps who dedicated his life to documenting the crimes of the Holocaust, the legislation would provide federal grants to Holocaust organizations to teach today's students about the Holocaust. I thank my friend Senator MENENDEZ for introducing the Senate companion bill this week as we commemorate Holocaust Remembrance Day.

I also want to take this opportunity to remember our dear friend and colleague Chairman Tom Lantos, who passed away last year. The only Holocaust survivor elected to Congress, Tom translated his horrific experience into a lifetime commitment to Holocaust education and the fight against anti-Semitism.

As the generations who survived the Holocaust pass away, we must make sure that new generations know the horrors of that terrible time. We must also make sure that those who would deny the existence of the Holocaust do not have the ability to rewrite history.

Unfortunately, many young people around the country have not learned about the Holocaust because their schools do not have the funds or tools to teach about this tragic event in world history. We need programs in our schools that allow students to learn about the consequences of intolerance and hate.

The most effective way to counter prejudice, hate crimes and violence is through education: the best investment a society can make towards ensuring tolerance.

The Simon Wiesenthal Holocaust Education Assistance Act is a positive step toward that end.

#### ON THE NINETY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

##### HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 23, 2009*

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 94th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, and to call, once again, for the immediate passage of the Affirmation of the United States Record on the Armenian Genocide Resolution.

Between 1915 and 1923, a campaign conceived and executed by the Ottoman Empire forcibly deported nearly 2 million Armenians from their homes, resulting in the deaths of perhaps one and a half million innocents. While the target of this genocide was the Armenian people, it was indeed a crime against all of humanity. Today, I would like to ask this House to remember this great crime, and to commit ourselves once again to the absolute abolishment of genocide wherever it is committed.

The history surrounding this issue is clear. Genocide did occur, and ushered in what was to become possibly the most war-torn century of human history.

This House has had before it, for many years now, a resolution which properly affirms the United States record on the Armenian Genocide. I have been a strong supporter and cosponsor of this resolution every Congress, and I remain so today. It is long past time for this Congress to pass this resolution, which in the 111th Congress has been introduced as H. Res. 252.

The term "genocide" had not yet been coined in 1915, when the first Armenians were driven from their homes. The definition of this most profound crime against humanity came in 1944 from Raphael Lemkin, a Polish Jew who survived the Holocaust by fleeing to America after the fall of Warsaw to the Nazis. In the wake of World War Two, in which most of his family was lost in Hitler's genocide against the Jews, Lemkin led the international community to establish the United Nations Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Genocide. Lemkin's definitive example of genocide? The crimes against the Armenians.

April is Genocide Prevention Month, and it is only right that we have set aside a period of time every year to reflect upon the horrors of the crime of genocide and to rededicate ourselves to ridding the earth of this scourge. And even as we commemorate the Armenian Genocide, we must also recognize the other crimes being committed today, and redouble