

copper miner and a mother who was a well-trusted midwife, it would have been easy for him to get lost in the shuffle of such a large family that had to scratch a living from the ground to survive, but early on, he recognized the value of setting goals and not giving up until they are met. Based on that determination, he parlayed his natural athleticism and keen mind in high school into a scholarship to Arizona State Teacher's College.

While no stranger to racism and discrimination when he graduated from college and become a naturalized citizen in 1939, he still had not anticipated the rejection he would experience when applying for teaching positions because school districts were unwilling to hire an Hispanic teacher. Discouraged, but not defeated, he traveled America for several years until he landed a civil service job as a foreign-service clerk for the U.S. State Department in Sonora, Mexico. Many would have been satisfied with a secure position in the Federal Government, but he was determined to further his station in life, becoming a Spanish instructor at the University of Arizona so that he might attend the institution's law school. Passing the Arizona State Bar in 1949, he established an enviable career over the next five decades that took him from Pima County Attorney through the appointment by two United States Presidents to three ambassadorships, in addition to becoming Arizona's first Hispanic governor. Throughout this process, he never lost sight of the importance of an education and his mother's mantra that he could accomplish whatever he set his mind to. As a result, when he did accomplish more than many ever hoped for, he didn't forget the 4 miles he and his Hispanic friends had to walk to school while the buses filled with Anglo children passed them by, and he worked tirelessly to rectify these kinds of incomprehensible bigotry.

For example, as a judge he presided over a full-schedule of cases, but was particularly disturbed by the vulnerable at-risk youngsters in the juvenile court system who were being shoved under the rug by society. This inspired him to take time every Monday to check attendance records at the local high schools. In the evenings, he would visit with families of students exhibiting high rates of absenteeism in an effort to get their support in encouraging the students to stay in school and make the most of that experience. This concern for improving society continued throughout his career. Sometimes limited to simply seeing Hispanic children given equal access to the YMCA, to concentrating on improving human rights abroad while serving as an ambassador, he never lost sight of using his opportunities to make a difference.

Throughout our history it has been proven that immigrants are far more than just an inexpensive work force. They are in fact a valuable asset to this country and Raul H. Castro is an outstanding example of one such person. Therefore, in light of today's divisive view of immigration, his story should be noted as a symbol of how the United States has benefited from those who value this country so much, and that after moving here to build a better life for their families, they remain dedicated to making sure that they improve our Nation for future generations.

HONORING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF SCHOOLCRAFT MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital as it celebrates its 60th anniversary serving residents in Schoolcraft County and across Michigan's Upper Peninsula. Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital is known both for the quality of care it provides and its leadership role in keeping the community active and healthy.

Located along Lake Michigan's northern shores in Manistique, Michigan, Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital is a 25-bed progressive critical access hospital, offering comprehensive medical and surgical care, health care in 30 specialties including cardiology and neurology, a 24-hour physician staffed emergency room, a walk-in clinic, physical and occupational therapy, cardiac rehabilitation and a wide range of diagnostic services. It has also opened a number of clinics throughout Schoolcraft County, as well as a fitness center to increase access to health care services and improve health and wellness in the community and surrounding areas.

Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital's excellence has been widely recognized. The hospital received the Michigan Center for Rural Health's 2009 Michigan Rural Health Quality Improvement Award—Award for Excellence for its work to improve care processes in the treatment of heart failure and pneumonia and emergency room transfers. It also was named a 2008 "Hero for the Uninsured" by the Upper Peninsula Health Access Coalition. These awards highlight Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital's commitment to continuously improving the care it provides and its dedication to serving the community.

However, the physicians, staff and administrators of Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital are not known to rest on their laurels. Rather, they are steadfast in looking ahead to the hospital's future growth and improvements. Whether it's the acquisition of new rehab equipment, like the "omnicycle," converting electronic medical records to email to save money and space; upgrading current facilities to include a new CT scan room, triage room and emergency room treatment room; or working towards the development and construction of a brand new replacement facility, Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital strives to provide its patients with the most positive experience and effective treatment possible.

Madam Speaker, Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital provides its patients with hometown familiarity combined with state-of-the-art services. Over the years, it has continued to innovate, grow and provide critical health care services to Schoolcraft County. Therefore, I ask Madam Speaker, that you, and the entire U.S. House of Representatives, join me in recognizing Schoolcraft Memorial Hospital on its 60th anniversary.

EASTERN RANDOLPH SOFTBALL TEAM WINS IT ALL

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we wish to extend our congratulations to the Eastern Randolph softball team for winning the North Carolina High School Athletic Association 2-A state softball championship. There is no doubt that the level of athleticism and fortitude these young women possess is without reproach.

Eastern Randolph's journey to the state title was one of a remarkable comeback. After being placed in the loser's bracket early in the competition after their first encounter with Central Davidson the team was disappointed, but even more determined. Having successfully defeated South Lenior, the Eastern Wildcats faced Central once again in the championship game.

Led by pitcher and Most Valuable Player Jessica Gordan, the Wildcats defeated the Central Spartans 9–2. After pitching three games during the tournament, Gordan tossed a three-hitter with only two walks and three strikeouts. The entire team exhibited superior athletic ability and are well-deserving of their first state title in Eastern's school history.

Team members include: Rachel Burgess, Jana Cheek, Liza Elliott, Jessica Gordon, Dallas Heaton, Kailey Hill, Olivia Millikan, Codie Rhodes, Gina Ritter, Brittainy Rush, Kayla Saliga, Kaitlyn Scheuering. The team was led by Head Coach Randall Myers and his assistants Richard Thomas, Gary Heaton and Tony Hill. Also contributing were team managers Leslie Honeycutt and Chesley Honeycutt.

Again, on behalf of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we would like to congratulate the Eastern Randolph softball team, the faculty, staff, students, and fans for an outstanding season.

COMMENDING ELKS LODGE IN FOREST GROVE, OREGON, FOR CELEBRATING FLAG DAY

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, as Flag Day approaches, I rise to pay tribute to our Nation and to commend the Elks Lodge in Forest Grove, Oregon, for celebrating Flag Day in my district.

The United States flag is a hallmark of the enduring character of America. In 1818, Congress passed legislation that provided the basic design of our flag, with 13 stripes honoring the 13 original colonies and one star per state.

Throughout our history citizens have honored the flag and the principles for which it stands, but we did not have an official day honoring our flag until President Woodrow Wilson issued a presidential proclamation in 1916 establishing Flag Day. In 1949, congressional legislation designating June 14 as national Flag Day was signed into law by President Harry Truman.

I am pleased to offer my thanks and support to the Elks Lodge of Forest Grove, Oregon, which has organized a Flag Day celebration to educate the community about our flag and its history. The Order of the Elks promotes American principles of individual freedom, opportunity, and dignity, consistent with the principles that the U.S. flag represents.

I am honored to provide the Elks Lodge of Forest Grove with a flag flown over the U.S. Capitol for their celebration, and I thank them for their service to our community and Nation.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FRIENDS OF THE PARKS AND TRAILS OF ST. PAUL AND RAMSEY COUNTY

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the Friends of the Parks and Trails of St. Paul and Ramsey County, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the organization. Since it was established in 1985, this group has been dedicated to serving and promoting parks and green spaces in St. Paul, Minnesota, and surrounding communities.

Executive Director Peggy Lynch has been there every step of the way, first leading a group of citizens to found the organization to keep a massive high-rise development out of Hidden Fall/Crosby Regional Park in order to preserve green space for everyone in our community. The Friends of the Parks and trails has since developed into a broad, membership-supported nonprofit group.

The Friends of the Parks has proven their commitment to St. Paul and Ramsey County parks by promoting open space preservation, protection, improvement, and development of new parks. And as a vital member of the community the Friends of the Parks have successfully laid the foundation for lasting change by working with St. Paul and Ramsey County to require no "net loss" of parkland in any deals the city or county makes, and also helped to create city and county park commissions.

Parks are essential to Minnesotans. They not only provide recreational opportunities and a connection to the natural world, they also provide employment, economic development and increase property values. For 25 years, the Friends of the Parks and Trails have been serving my community, ensuring that all Minnesotans have the opportunity to benefit from the positive resources provided by parks. This deserves our thanks, support and commendation.

Madam Speaker, please join me in rising to honor the 25th anniversary of the Friends of the Parks and Trails of St. Paul and Ramsey County, Peggy Lynch, and all its members and volunteers for their hard work and constant dedication to ensuring parks and green space are available for all to enjoy.

OSCE REPRESENTATIVE CITES
THREATS TO FREE MEDIA

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, as Co-Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I wish to draw the attention of colleagues to the timely and informative testimony of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Dunja Mijatovic, who testified earlier today at a Commission hearing on "Threats to Free Media in the OSCE Region." She focused on various threats to journalists and independent media outlets, including physical attacks and adoption of repressive laws on the media as well as other forms of harassment. Most troubling is the murder of journalists because of their professional activities. According to the U.S.-based Committee to Protect Journalists, 52 journalists have been killed in Russia alone since 1992, many reporting on corruption or human rights violations. Ms. Mijatovic also flagged particular concern over existing and emerging threats to freedom on the Internet and other communications technologies. She also voiced concern over the use of criminal statutes on defamation, libel and insult which are used by some OSCE countries to silence journalists or force the closure of media outlets. With respect to the situation in the United States, she urged adoption of a shield law at the federal level to create a journalists' privilege for federal proceedings. Such a provision was part of the Free Flow of Information Act of 2009, which passed the House early in the Congress and awaits consideration by the full Senate.

As one who has worked to promote democracy, human rights and the rule of law in the 56 countries that comprise the OSCE, I share many of the concerns raised by Ms. Mijatovic in her testimony and commend them to them to colleagues.

ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE REPRESENTATIVE ON FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA

(By Dunja Mijatovic)

[From the Helsinki Commission Hearing on the Threats to Free Media in the OSCE Region, June 9, 2010]

Dear Chairmen, Distinguished Commissioners, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am honored to be invited to this hearing before the Helsinki Commission at the very beginning of my mandate. I feel privileged to speak before you today. The Helsinki Commission's welcoming statement issued on the day of my appointment is a clear manifestation of the strong support you continuously show toward the work of this unique Office, and I assure you, distinguished Commissioners, that this fact is very much appreciated.

It will be three months tomorrow since I took office as the new Representative on Freedom of the Media to the OSCE. Even though three months may sound short, it has proved more than enough to gain a deep insight, and unfortunately also voice concerns, about the decline of media freedom in many of the 56 countries that today constitute the OSCE.

Although the challenges and dangers that journalists face in our countries may differ from region to region, one sad fact holds true everywhere: The freedom to express ourselves is questioned and challenged from

many sides. Some of these challenges are blatant, others concealed; some of them follow traditional methods to silence free speech and critical voices, some use new technologies to suppress and restrict the free flow of information and media pluralism; and far too many result in physical harassment and deadly violence against journalists.

Today, I would like to draw your attention to the constant struggle of so many institutions and NGOs around the world, including your Commission and my Institution, to combat and ultimately stop violence against journalists. I would also like to address several other challenges that I want to place in the center of my professional activities, each of which I intend to improve by relentlessly using the public voice I am now given at the OSCE.

Let me first start with violence against journalists.

Ever since it was created in 1997, my Office has been raising attention to the alarming increase of violent attacks against journalists. Not only is the high number of violent attacks against journalists a cause for concern. Equally alarming is the authorities' far too prevalent willingness to classify many of the murders as unrelated to the journalists' professional activities. We also see that more and more often critical speech is being punished with questionable charges brought against the journalists.

Impunity of perpetrators and the responsible authorities' passivity in investigating and failing to publicly condemn these murders breeds further violence. There are numerous cases that need to be raised over and over again. We need to continue to loudly repeat the names of these courageous individuals who lost their lives for the words they have written. I am sorry for all those whom I will not mention today; but the names that follow are on the list that I call "the Hall of Shame" of those governments that still have not brought to justice the perpetrators of the horrifying murders that happened in their countries.

The most recent murder of a journalist in the OSCE area is the one of the Kyrgyz opposition journalist Gennady Pavlyuk (Bely Parokhod), who was killed in Kazakhstan in December last year. It gives me hope that the new Interim Government of Kyrgyzstan has announced to save no efforts to bring the perpetrators to justice, as well as those involved in the 2007 murder of Alisher Saipov (Siyosat).

The Russian Federation remains the OSCE participating State where most members of the media are killed. Paul Klebnikov (Forbes, Russia), Anna Politkovskaya (Novaya Gazeta), Anastasia Baburova (Novaya Gazeta), are the most reported about, but let us also remember Magomed Yevloyev (Ingushetiya), Ivan Safronov (Kommersant), Yury Shchekochikhin (Novaya Gazeta), Igor Domnikov (Novaya Gazeta), Vladislav Listyev (ORT), Dmitry Kholodov (Moskovsky Komsomolets) and many others.

We also should not forget the brutal murders of the following journalists, some remain unresolved today:

Hrant Dink (Agos) Armenian Turkish journalist was shot in 2007 in Turkey.

Elmar Huseynov (Monitor) was murdered in 2005 in Azerbaijan.

Georgy Gongadze (Ukrainskaya Pravda) was killed in 2000 in Ukraine.

In Serbia, Slavko Curuvija (Dnevni Telegraf) was murdered in 1999, and Milan Pantic (Vecernje Novosti) was killed in 2001. In Montenegro, Dusko Jovanovic (Dan), was shot dead in 2004.

In Croatia, Ivo Pukanic (Nacional) and his marketing director, Niko Franjic, were killed by a car bomb in 2008.