

actions and called for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Cyprus. Turkey remains the only nation to recognize the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. The consensus of the world community is apparent—Turkey's control over the island's future is unjust and must end.

As we and other nations work to forge a path towards a free and unified Cyprus that fulfills the needs of all its citizens, we should give special attention to the refugees who have been yearning to return to their homes in safety. A solution must be found that respects the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of the Republic of Cyprus and provides to all Cypriots the dignity to which they are entitled. Difficult problems rarely have easy solutions—and Cyprus is no exception. Only a Cypriot state that reflects the needs and consent of all its people will be able to thrive. The international community—including Turkey—must help facilitate this transition. I hope Istanbul will find the political will and courage to at last be part of the solution.

Thirty-six years is far too long for this tragedy to continue in search of a solution we know is possible. We who live every day in a nation of different ethnic backgrounds and divergent religious beliefs know coexistence and self-governance is possible, and that pluralism is no pipedream. The citizens of Cyprus yearn for a government of, by, and for the people and deserve it as much as any of us.

HONORING GEORGE
STEINBRENNER

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of George Steinbrenner. While he is readily associated with the accomplishments of the New York Yankees under his ownership, I would like to recognize his incredible contributions to the Tampa Bay area.

In the 1970s, Mr. Steinbrenner chose to call Tampa his home, but he did much more than just reside there. While George Steinbrenner's name is apparent throughout the Tampa Bay area—prominently displayed on the Yankees spring training stadium—his generosity and contributions reach much further than the eye can see.

Much of Mr. Steinbrenner's generosity revolved around bettering the lives of youth. In 1981, he developed the Gold Shield Foundation to assist dependents of fallen law enforcement officials and firefighters both in their immediate time of need and with higher education costs.

He is also widely known for his contributions to the Boys and Girls Club, youth baseball organizations, the Pediatric Emergency Center at St. Joseph's Children's Hospital, and numerous other organizations across the region.

I had the privilege of knowing Mr. Steinbrenner, and his impact on our community is immeasurable. Through his contributions, countless lives have been changed for the better. The effects of his generosity are sweeping and the effects will likely be visible for generations to come.

It is my honor to recognize Mr. Steinbrenner before the House of Representatives for his

great generosity in building Tampa Bay communities.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOYCE
ROGERS

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant, Mrs. Joyce Rogers.

A long-time Brighton, Michigan, resident until her passing late last year, Joyce Rogers was a tireless public servant, devoting much of her time to the betterment and economic development of the Brighton community. As executive director of the Greater Brighton Area Chamber of Commerce, Joyce Rogers played an integral role in rebuilding the business organization into the area's most important political and business networking organization. Through her efforts, Brighton was able to transform into a thriving business community, attracting new residents and customers to the area. Joyce Rogers was a pioneer in Michigan, forging the way for what we know today as economic development.

In addition to her work as a small business advocate, Joyce Rogers always remembered her role as a woman leader, taking time to serve her community by acting as a mentor to Brighton business women. Joyce Rogers not only supported women in small business, but also encouraged them to become involved in public service and politics in the Brighton community.

Joyce raised 5 successful sons, was an active participant in area charities, touched countless lives and helped change our community for the better. She lived every day believing that you could make a difference through hard work, respecting others and believing if you set your mind to it you could accomplish it. She was a leader in every aspect of her life and leaves a strong legacy of accomplishment and kindness to others. She is to be commended for her contribution to her family, her community and to the State of Michigan.

LA COUNTY VETS RESOLUTION
INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce a resolution with my California colleague Representative MCKEON and members of the Los Angeles delegation to honor the service and sacrifice of Los Angeles County soldiers and their families.

In the midst of two of the longest engagements of U.S. forces in American history, our troops are enduring some of the most challenging and dangerous conditions imaginable.

More than 6,000 Angelenos are now deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq, serving with honor while enduring hardships and lengthy separations from their loved ones. Since the two wars began, more than 100 county resi-

dents have been killed in battle. More than 1,200 have suffered physical wounds, and many more suffer from PTSD.

They fight a war unlike those of their predecessors, against an enemy who targets and brutalizes its own citizens—innocent women and children—to advance its agenda.

While the enemy is cruel, our troops practice restraint. Where the enemy levels schools, clinics and businesses to demonstrate its power, our troops show even greater strength by helping to rebuild them. They do this to build trust and win the confidence of the people of Iraq and Afghanistan—the people who must ultimately stand up and fight for their own countries.

This generation of troops shows a level of bravery and discipline every day few of us possess in the face of grave danger, and they face those risks to protect their fellow Americans.

Thousands have returned home with physical and emotional wounds. Some heal, but other wounds remain with them and their families for a lifetime.

We declare our support for providing veterans and their families with the best medical care, and our support for veterans' continuing education, vocational training, and opportunities to enter new careers as civilians.

We support efforts to break the cycle of homelessness that haunts so many veterans, and to prevent more from suffering the same fate.

We encourage all Americans to show their support and enduring gratitude for our returning troops, many of whom face a difficult adjustment to a life not at war.

They answered a call for service in the midst of two brutal wars. We owe them and their families a great debt. Our resolution today is but a small testament to their dedication and valor.

HONORING THE LATE ARNOLD
FRIBERG

HON. JASON CHAFFETZ

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember and honor the late Arnold Friberg, a proud Utahn and world-renowned artist. Mr. Friberg passed away July 1, 2010 at 96 years young, just nine days following an agreement to create the Arnold Friberg Museum of Art. The Utah Cultural Arts Foundation will manage the museum and ensure the masterpieces of Mr. Friberg will be enjoyed by generations to come.

Mr. Friberg's patriotic depictions of General George Washington, his sketches for the famed "The Ten Commandments" movie, and his paintings of individuals and events from The Book of Mormon will forever be remembered in this newly created Museum.

In preparation of what became Mr. Friberg's defining artistic moment, Mr. Friberg traveled to Valley Forge, in the dead of winter, to identify with the bitter conditions General George Washington and the Continental Army experienced during the winter of 1777–1778. As Mr. Friberg put it, "Art to me is a service, to bring enrichment to people's lives. That's why I want my art to be perfectly understood. One of the

things I work for is clarity." The completed piece was released during an American bicentennial ceremony and captures the very essence of American pride and patriotism. For those of you who have seen "The Prayer at Valley Forge", the suffering, the pressure, and General Washington's faith in America is perfectly understood and visualized.

In the 1950's, Mr. Friberg partnered with Hollywood producer Cecil B. DeMille to serve as chief artist and designer for DeMille's epic motion-picture, "The Ten Commandments." Mr. Friberg's 15 paintings for "The Ten Commandments" served as the pictorial basis for the scenes, characters, and costumes of the legendary film. For his efforts, Mr. Friberg earned an Academy Award Nomination in 1956.

Other famous works include Mr. Friberg's work for his church, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Mr. Friberg painted and designed covers for the children's magazine, The Friend, and has depicted well-known scenes and moments from The Book of Mormon. These paintings are loved and celebrated by members of the LDS Church around the world.

Mr. Friberg was born in a Chicago suburb, but by the 1950's, he was an established resident of Utah. Utah Governor Gary Herbert recently called Mr. Friberg Utah's "adopted son." His Utah family will miss him, but his memory and his artwork will live on forever.

CHECHNYA A YEAR AFTER THE KILLING OF NATALYA ESTEMIROVA

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, a year ago this month Natalya Estemirova, the leading human rights defender in Chechnya was abducted near her apartment building in the capital city of Grozny by unidentified men, transported to the neighboring republic of Ingushetia, and brutally killed. She led a courageous life of denouncing corruption, calling for a fair judicial system, and standing up for human rights. For that she was cut down. While her killers may have ended her life, they will never silence the voice she brought to these issues. Ms. Estemirova's work was well known to the Helsinki Commission, which I co-chair, and colleagues there recall her 2006 visit to discuss the situation in Chechnya. Like Estemirova, all too many of her fellow human rights defenders and journalists are targeted because they have the temerity to speak out about human rights abuses.

Today, inspired by Estemirova's work, I introduce a measure expressing solidarity with human rights defenders in the Russian Federation; urging the Russian authorities to take appropriate steps to end the harassment, persecution and attacks against activists; and calling for an end to impunity for those responsible for such acts, including through the conducting of timely, transparent and thorough criminal investigations into the unresolved murders of human rights defenders, journalists, and political opposition members and the prosecution of all of those responsible for these crimes.

The Helsinki Commission has been at the forefront of drawing attention to the human rights situation in Chechnya and elsewhere in the North Caucasus region of Russia, having held numerous hearings and briefings. Notwithstanding the assertions by the powers that be in Moscow that the situation in Chechnya has returned to normal, the reality on the ground reveals otherwise. The recently released 2009 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices, issued by the Department of State, found that the Russian government's already poor human rights record in the North Caucasus worsened during the reporting period, with a marked increase in extrajudicial killings by both government and rebel forces and politically motivated disappearances in Chechnya as well as in neighboring Ingushetia and Dagestan. The Helsinki Commission remains deeply concerned over ongoing human rights abuses, legal impunity, and the permeating climate of fear in the North Caucasus.

While one cannot discount that terrorist elements are responsible for some of the rights violations in that region, many of the reported abuses are perpetrated by federal and local security forces in Chechnya, including the private militia of Chechen strongman Ramzan Kadyrov, the republic's Kremlin-backed president. While it remains unclear what, if any role Kadyrov had in Estemirova's killing, his contempt for her and other human rights defenders is palpable. Earlier this month Kadyrov publicly labeled independent journalists and rights activists as "traitors and enemies of the state." Among those targeted by the Chechen leader is the respected Russian rights organization Memorial.

Madam Speaker, as Co-Chairman of the Helsinki Commission I remain concerned over the deterioration of the human rights situation in the North Caucasus generally, and Chechnya specifically. I am not alone in this regard, as the Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly adopted a resolution late last month on the North Caucasus. The measure pointed to a series of specific concerns in Chechnya against the backdrop of what it characterized as "a climate of pervading fear" nurtured by the current authorities: recurrent disappearances of government opponents and human rights defenders still remain widely unpunished; continuing threats and reprisals, including abductions of relatives of persons suspected of belonging to illegal armed factions; and ongoing intimidation of the media and civil society, among others.

Ramzan Kadyrov's utter contempt for human rights and fundamental freedoms was again manifested recently in his reaction to paintball gun attacks against women on the streets of Grozny apparently because they were not wearing headscarves. Instead of condemning the assaults, the Chechen president reportedly praised the perpetrators. While Kadyrov has largely been given free rein in Chechnya, that does not absolve his backers in Moscow from responsibility for the deteriorating human rights situation in that part of the Russian Federation.

As a participating State of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, it is incumbent upon the Russian authorities to ensure that fundamental freedoms are respected throughout the country, including in the North Caucasus. Turning a blind eye to human rights violations is unacceptable. I urge President Medvedev and Prime Minister Putin to

take effective measures to stop the harassment, persecution and attacks against human activists and journalists in the Russian Federation and to end the impunity for those responsible for the murder of Natalya Estemirova and others. Only then will there be hope that the situation in Chechnya will return to anything approaching normal.

IN HONOR OF PENNSYLVANIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE BRYAN BARBIN AND HIS EFFORTS TO RAISE AWARENESS OF TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

Mr. CRITZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hundreds-of-thousands of U.S. service members and veterans impacted by traumatic brain injuries.

Earlier this morning, Congressman BILL PASCRELL and I welcomed Pennsylvania State Representative Bryan Barbin to the U.S. Capitol. Representative Barbin completed a seven-day motorcycle ride through seven state capitals to raise awareness of the impact of traumatic brain injuries, and to deliver the following resolution that was adopted by the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania on June 23, 2010. It reads:

Whereas, More than 1.5 million United States military personnel have deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan since the start of military operations in 2001, and military statistics show that at least 115,000 troops have suffered brain injuries related to IED explosions since the Iraq and Afghanistan wars began; and

Whereas, Brain injury has been labeled a signature injury of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and brain injuries occurring among soldiers deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan are strongly associated with post-traumatic stress disorder and physical health problems after soldiers return home; and

Whereas, Concern has been emerging about the possible long-term effects of combat-related brain injuries. Significant numbers of undiagnosed injuries and the failure by medical personnel to include such information in soldiers' permanent medical files has been identified as serious in studies prepared by medical and army experts; and

Whereas, Without diagnosis and official documentation, soldiers with head wounds have struggled to receive appropriate treatment, sometimes receiving psychotropic drugs instead of rehabilitative therapy that could help retrain their brains; and

Whereas, The Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center, DVBIC, in Johnstown has been assisting returning veterans with rehabilitative therapy since 2006; and

Whereas, In January 2009, Congress mandated DVBIC to establish an assisted living pilot program to determine the best practices to rehabilitate soldiers with mild, moderate or severe traumatic brain injuries to enable them to return to their own communities, therefore be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives designate July 7, 2010, as "Combat-Related Brain Injury and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Day" in Pennsylvania to promote public understanding and encourage all citizens to help bind the wounds of our returning soldiers.