

194 cases involving 269 U.S. children abducted to or wrongfully retained in Japan. As of March 25, 2010, OCI had 85 open cases involving over 121 American children abducted to Japan. Of these abducted children, Keisuke Collins, is the son of one of my constituents, Randy Collins.

Unfortunately, since the signing of the Treaty of Peace with Japan between the Allied Powers and the Government of Japan in 1951, the Japanese Government has never issued and enforced a legal decision to return a single abducted child to the United States. In addition, Japan has not agreed to the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, which has resulted in the continued absence of an immediate remedy that would enable the expedited return of abducted children to their custodial parent in the United States. Sadly, the Government of Japan is the only G-7 country that has not acceded to the Hague Convention.

This problem is also compounded by Japan's legal system. Because Japan's existing family law system does not recognize joint custody nor actively enforces parental access agreements for both its own citizens and foreigners, there is little hope for children to have contact with the noncustodial parent in violation of internationally recognized and protected rights. What is worse, the Government of Japan has repeatedly claimed to foreign governments that parental child abduction is not considered a crime in Japan despite the fact that Article 3 of the Japanese Penal Code does indeed make it a crime for a Japanese citizen to abduct a child and move the child across national borders.

Although Japan's current Justice Minister said upon her appointment that she is determined to show that Japan "is very proactive" in adopting international protocols and conventions that are the "international standard," child abductions to Japan continue to be a very serious and rampant problem. Consequently, is critical for the United States and Japan to work together to prevent future incidents of international parental child abduction to Japan.

As such, I call on my colleagues to support House Resolution 1326. This resolution calls on the Government of Japan to immediately address the growing problem of abduction to and retention of American children in Japan. The resolution also calls on Japan to work closely with the United States to return these children to their custodial parent in the United States and to provide left-behind parents immediate access to their children. Lastly, House Resolution 1326 calls on Japan to immediately adopt the 1980 Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction so that these abducted children can be returned to their custodial parent.

As an original cosponsor of this resolution, it is of utmost importance to not only me, but to my constituents Randy and Keisuke, that it is passed with the overwhelming support of the House of Representatives. These abducted kids—and their families—cannot wait any longer.

COMMEMORATING THE 90TH
BIRTHDAY OF ENTERTAINER
AND PHILANTHROPIST JOEY
RUSSELL

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, on the occasion of his 90th birthday, I rise to commemorate Joey Russell of Milford, Connecticut, a comedian and humanitarian who has spent a lifetime working to make the world around him a better, happier place.

Known to generations of Connecticut children as "Happy the Clown," a television staple in Hartford and my hometown of New Haven, Joey has brought laughter, good cheer, and good works to those around him for decades. In fact, Joey's wit and timing as a stand-up comic has taken him all over the world, including famed comedy venues like the Copacabana in New York and Grossinger's Hotel in the Catskills.

Throughout his career, Joey has matched his gift for entertaining with an impressive record of philanthropy and public service. The son of a rabbi who served in the United States Army, Joey has raised money for over 20 ambulances for American Red Magen David for Israel (ARMDI), formed the Golan Chapter of this international humanitarian organization, and has led over fifty tours of the Holy Land.

I congratulate Joey, his wife Josi, and their five children on reaching this impressive milestone, and I thank Joey for all the laughter over the years. With or without the "happy sticks" on hand, I know he will greet this cause for celebration with a smile.

MARGARET HOUGASIAN: A SURVIVOR'S STORY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to memorialize and record a courageous story of survival of the Armenian Genocide. The Armenian Genocide, perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire from 1915 to 1923, resulted in the death of 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children. As the U.S. Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire Henry Morgenthau documented at the time, it was a campaign of "race extermination."

The campaign to annihilate the Armenian people failed, as illustrated by the proud Armenian nation and prosperous diaspora. It is difficult if not impossible to find an Armenian family not touched by the genocide, and while there are some survivors still with us, it is imperative that we record their stories. Through the Armenian Genocide CONGRESSIONAL RECORD Project, I hope to document the harrowing stories of the survivors in an effort to preserve their accounts and to help educate the Members of Congress now and in the future of the necessity of recognizing the Armenian Genocide.

This is one of those stories:

(Submitted by Shirley Collins)

My name is Shirley Kalashian-Collins. I was born in 1951 to Armenian parents. My

mother was born in Aintab, Turkey in 1920 in the midst of the genocide of the Armenians. My mother and my grandparents narrowly made it out alive and found refuge in the U.S. My paternal grandmother also had a harrowing story. Due to the threat against the Armenians she was shipped to the U.S. at 15 years old to marry an Armenian, only to find out a few years later that her parents were killed and her younger sisters kidnapped. My mother tried hard to put all these stories down on paper so the world would know what happened to our families. After she passed away, I attempted to finish her project. After nearly 10 years and hundreds of hours of work, I put the story together.

Now I want to thank our Rep. Adam Schiff for his efforts to put these stories that are left untold in the Congressional Record. I know my mother, if she were alive, would be dancing up and down with joy. You can't imagine how exciting this is for me after all the years of work to make sure these stories are kept alive and heard so that history will be recorded accurately.

Thank you Rep. Schiff. This is such a wonderful and amazing idea.

My great-grandfather, Sarkis Kalashian, married Margaret Hougasian after my great-grandmother, Shoushan, died. Sarkis was killed in 1915 by Turkish soldiers. This left Margaret a widow with small children. My cousin, Margo Torigiants, shared with me the following story of how her grandmother escaped to France after Sarkis was killed:

After the massacre of the Armenians started, Margaret suddenly became a widow when her husband and older son were killed in 1915. According to her granddaughter, Margo, Margaret had some gold nuggets as Sarkis had been a merchant in Kharpet. Earlier pictures of Sarkis and Margaret show them happy and very well dressed.

She used these gold nuggets to get some Turkish people to help her and her children: Khoren, Hrant, Dickran, Araksi and Vartan (and maybe Agavni—daughter of Khoren) to flee. She dressed up the boys as girls to disguise them. (Boys were more likely to be killed by the Turkish military). Somehow they were able to get to Aleppo, Syria. She tried to get them in an orphanage, but since they had a parent, she could not get them in. she cooked for people and took the leftovers home for the kids to eat. They stayed there for a few years, but stayed close.

They were afraid Arabs would kidnap the kids. From there they settled in Marsielle, France.

HONORING THE HANNAH WESTON CHAPTER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Hannah Weston Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution for their care of the Burnham Tavern for 100 years.

The Chapter carries the name of Hannah Weston in honor of the 17-year-old pregnant woman who showed incredible courage in helping the patriots fight the British in the Battle of the Margarett. This was also known as the Battle of the Machias, the first naval battle of the Revolutionary War. Since 1910, the Hannah Weston Chapter has owned and maintained the Burnham Tavern, where the

people of Maine first gathered to plan the defense of their homes and our young nation.

The Tavern was built in 1770, and has a rich history dating back to the Revolutionary War. Plans to capture the armed British vessel, H.M.S. *Margaretta*, in the first naval battle of the American Revolution were made in the Tavern, and the wounded were nursed there. Many items in the Tavern are associated with that battle and the patriots who fought it. The Tavern acts as a historical landmark that welcomes visitors from around the country and the world, who seek to learn more about this important part of our nation's struggle for independence.

The Burnham Tavern is the oldest building in eastern Maine, having withstood the test of time thanks to the members of the Hannah Weston Chapter. The Tavern has been kept in excellent condition, and the Chapter has paid out of their own pockets for the upkeep of the 18th century building.

The DAR has made a substantial contribution to the community through preserving a historical landmark and educating its visitors. Their efforts are truly remarkable, and all of Maine thanks them for their dedication to our nation's history.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the Hannah Weston Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution for their work in preserving such an important part of our nation's history.

HONORING THE SAGINAW RIVER COAST GUARD STATION

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the members of the U.S. Coast Guard stationed at the Saginaw River Coast Guard Station. The Mt. Zion Lutheran Church in Bay City, Michigan will hold a program and reception on October 3rd to recognize these dedicated service members.

The United States Coast Guard established a presence in the Saginaw River in 1842 when a lighthouse was constructed. Over the years the Coast Guard has maintained a light range system and expanded to now include 8 boats, and is staffed by 27 active duty personnel and 5 reserve personnel. Its area of responsibility stretches from Point Lookout to Oak Point on the Saginaw Bay and from the mouth of the Saginaw River to Green Point in Saginaw. The station is responsible for servicing 134 aids to navigation. On the average, the station runs 110 search and rescue missions a year. The Station has been designated as the Ice Capabilities Center of Excellence, which is the formal training site for the ice rescue procedures for the United States Coast Guard. The crew is considered the specialists in ice rescue and fulfills the role of instructors in the field.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me and applaud the work for the Saginaw River Coast Guard Station. Their dedication to ensuring the safety and security of persons traveling the waters of the Saginaw Bay and Saginaw River is exemplary. I commend them for their service, enthusiasm, perseverance and I pray they will

continue to do their job in safety for many years to come.

HONORING LIBERTY CORNER FIRE COMPANY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Liberty Corner Fire Company, located in Bernards Township, Somerset County, New Jersey which is celebrating its 100th Anniversary.

The Liberty Corner Fire Company was incorporated on October 17, 1910 and spent the first 4½ years organizing and growing prior to its activation. On March 4, 1915, during a meeting that officially activated the company, 34 members joined what has become a fire company exuding bravery and rich in generosity.

After becoming active, the members needed a firehouse. In June of 1915, a lot was purchased and one month later construction began. At the time of completion, the Liberty Corner Fire Department funds ran low, but through the donation from the Bernardsville Fire Company, the Company acquired its first fire apparatus.

Over the years, the Liberty Corner Fire Company joined alongside many other departments as they battled fires. The members worked tirelessly to not only keep their own community safe, but surrounding communities as well. The company often reported to fires in other towns in an effort to provide assistance.

In 1954, it was decided that there was a need for a larger firehouse. Realizing the high cost to do so, the members dedicated 7,400 hours of manpower to expand the building. By doing so, they were able to save over half the cost of the expansion. The building was completed with a dedication ceremony on July 14, 1956. On December 10th of that same year, the Liberty Corner Fire Company received the Certificate of Perpetual Existence.

The 1980s brought about a boom of residential and commercial building in the department's primary service area. With the completion of an interstate highway and over 2,000 residential homes built, the demands of the Fire Company increased. In response, the Company purchased a command vehicle; 1982 Dodge Diplomat. However, the need also arose for a new firehouse to keep up with the new construction sizes of modern fire apparatuses.

After a long process of raising funds for a new firehouse, the groundbreaking was held in August of 1989. Over a year later, in September of 1990, the Liberty Corner Fire Company moved into its new home on a 10-acre lot purchased back in 1925. This house boasts a side bay with offices and rooms to facilitate day-to-day work at the company. On May 4, 1991, a wet down was held to celebrate the new firehouse.

In an effort to keep up with rising costs, the company began the Santa Fund Drive in 2000. In conjunction with the holidays, the company offers parents the chance to have Santa Claus arrive on a fire truck to present their child with a gift.

On March 8, 2007, the members of the Liberty Corner Fire Company were presented

with a grant from the Fireman's Fund Heritage Program to help fund safety equipment. In July of the same year, the company was invited to participate in America's Independence Day Parade in our nation's capital, Washington, DC.

In September 2009, insurance agency Lake McVicker, along with the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company, awarded the Liberty Corner Fire Company a grant for a new thermal imaging camera to replace on its new Pierce pumper.

Today, the Liberty Corner Fire Company boasts an impressive fleet of fire trucks and responds to a wide array of emergencies in and around their community. The success of volunteer fire departments such as this one is vital to the security of millions of Americans.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Liberty Corner Fire Company as they celebrate 100 years of exceptional service.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES YOUNG

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a true American Hero, Charles Milton Young, who recently passed away at the age of 91. I am honored to recognize Charlie's brave and commendable service to the United States of America. Charlie Young proudly served our Nation in World War II as a United States Marine in 1944–1945. During his service, he sustained a severe injury during the battle of Okinawa, leading to a 9-month hospitalization. In fact, he distinguished himself in combat so greatly that he was awarded the Purple Heart and the Excellence in Service medals. There is nothing nobler than answering the call to serve your country. His actions are a true testament to his patriotism. It is always sad when we lose a hero; however, it also brings us hope when we remember men of the Greatest Generation, like Charlie, who have walked among us.

Charlie was a dedicated family man, having been married to his wife Hazel for 72 years. He was also the proud father of four children, 17 grandchildren, 50 great grandchildren, and 6 great-great grandchildren. Charlie and Hazel met and married in Beeville, Texas and later moved to Corpus Christi to raise their family. In 1960 they moved permanently to their lake home in Mathis, Texas. It is an honor to remember Charlie as a courageous soldier who risked his life for the American dream but it is also an even greater honor to recognize him as an honorable Texan, dedicated citizen, and a loving father, grandfather and husband.

There is no such thing as former Marine; once Marines leave the military they are still Marines in heart and soul and patriotic zeal. It is true that once a Marine always a Marine. Charlie was proud to be a Marine, so much so that as he said his final goodbyes to family members, his last words to his son-in-law, Maj. Joseph R. Ellis (retired USMC) was "Semper Fi, my son, Semper Fi" as he shook his fist with all the strength he could muster. There is nothing like a U.S. Marine. They are a breed of their own.

On September 28, 2010 PFC Milton Young, USMC was laid to rest with Full Marine Honor