

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 spirit. 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

Guard detail with a 21-gun salute and taps. I am honored to remember the life and memory of a Texas hero. He will forever remain a hero in the eyes of his family, his friends, his community, and his country. Semper Fi, Charlie Young. Semper Fi.

And that's just the way it is.

CONGRATULATING THE SOCIETY OF KASTORIANS “OMONOIA” OF NEW YORK ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. ACKERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Society of the Kastorians “OMONOIA” of New York, located in Whitestone.

The first Kastorian immigrants, hailing from Kastoria, a North-Western Province in Greece, have deep roots in New York City. After their arrival in 1887, the community quickly grew. These new Americans organized a philanthropic group that has done charitable work and donated resources both in Greece and here in the United States.

Founded on August 7, 1910, the Society first began sending aid back to its members' homeland, Kastoria. The first donations supported a girls' school, a pharmacy, and earthquake-recovery efforts. During both World Wars, the Society was active in providing assistance to Greece's infrastructure and its defenses. During those turbulent times, the Society's efforts helped Greece construct a warship, a power plant and a water supply distribution system, as well as providing shipments of flour to Greek refugees.

Through the years, the Society's generosity has not been limited to Greece; it has supported many initiatives in New York and throughout the United States. In 1941, the Kastorians purchased \$16,000 in U.S. Savings Bonds, and an aircraft was named *The Kastorian Spirit* in their honor. They have donated to the American Red Cross and have annually given over \$50,000 for scholarships. The Kastorians donated to the World Trade Center Fund after the 9/11 attacks, and to Columbia University for its Hellenic Studies and Ancient History program. They also purchased a two-building complex in Whitestone that the Society uses as its headquarters, where cultural lectures and celebrations are hosted.

Madam Speaker, for the last hundred years, the Society's members have been able to maintain their heritage and devotion to Greece, while at the same time dedicating themselves to their home in the United States. I look forward to seeing the Society of Kastorians “OMONOIA” of New York's future efforts in improving the lives of not only Greek-Americans, but also all Americans, for many more years to come.

I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives join me, and rise in recognition of the Society of Kastorians, its President, Dr. Elias Panides, its Vice President, Vasili E. Zisis, and all its members, on their centennial anniversary.

A GENOCIDE SURVIVOR STORY:  
ARAM DEMERJIAN'S FATHER

**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 Aram Demerjian):

My father, born in Diarbekir in 1901, told me about the real events as I was growing up. His experiences of what happened to his father and how he made to escape death were not pleasant for me to hear. I was born in Lebanon. I would like give you some of the accounts related to me.

My grand-father was an iron smith. He made hand-cuffs for the prison inmates. His own hand-cuffs clamped his own hands by the Turks. He was taken away from his home for questioning and his family never saw him again.

I consider my father a very talented man. For instance, he could play musical instruments, he could sing with a vibrant voice. He was not fanatic about his religious practice. On his way to exile, he stopped at many villages for few days or for few months. Some religious man (sheikh) gave him shelter during one stop. This host noticed that he has a good voice. So he invited my father to sing in the mosque. Of course, having nothing to support himself, he could not refuse Sheikh's request. I forgot to mention that my Dad also spoke Kurdish.

Three months later, my father who is also a good horse rider, left the village at night time. Not knowing anything about his destiny. At this time, I have not many details about how he made to Aleppo (Syria).

Someday, I shall sit down to write many other events regarding his brothers and his mother whom survived this genocide and how my Dad was able to meet them again in Lebanon. His older sister was forcefully taken away by a Turkish soldier.

I also have some recollections told to me by my mother's side whose family was also exiled from the town of Konia.

On my mother's side, the story is different. Her father (Sarkis) was a merchant. Sarkis owned some wealth. He converted his assets into gold coins. But he did not make the exile with his family made of 3 girls, one boy and his wife (my grand-mother). Sarkis was taken away one morning and never came back. The gold coins were hidden inside underwear of the women. A local Turk helped

them ride the train out of Konia to Tarousse against a certain amount of monetary payment.

SECURING AMERICA'S VETERANS INSURANCE NEEDS AND GOALS ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

**HON. DEBORAH L. HALVORSON**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mrs. HALVORSON. Mr. Speaker, the intent of H.R. 5993, the Securing America's Veterans Insurance Needs and Goals (SAVINGS) Act is to increase transparency and disclosure of the Servicemembers Group Life Insurance (SGLI) program. The intent is to increase financial counseling for beneficiaries and to allow Congress to play a better role in providing oversight and access of the program.

It is not the intent of H.R. 5993 to have Congress weigh in on the legal question of whether or not the Department of Veterans Affairs has the authority to allow 'retained asset accounts'. The language in H.R. 5993 is not intended to validate in any manner whether 'retained asset accounts' are authorized in section 1970(d) of title 38, United States Code.

PEDIATRIC RESEARCH CONSORTIA ESTABLISHMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. PETER T. KING**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 758, the Pediatric Research Consortia Establishment Act.

This legislation is an important step towards understanding and eradicating diseases in children. The consortia will lead to new insights to the major disorders that affect children and will empower researchers to discover innovative strategies for diagnosis and treatment.

Pediatric research and care is currently underfunded despite the fact that children comprise 20 percent of our nation's population. Enrolling and evaluating a sufficiently large group of children is the most effective way of understanding these disorders and to monitor how they manifest in adults. By having Pediatric research institutions collaborate and share information in a methodical way, we can speed up breakthroughs and treatments to fight diseases that affect children.

This investment in research is an important step in speeding up the development of therapies to combat devastating diseases in children. I am proud to support this legislation.

HONORING FRÉDÉRIC CHOPIN'S 200TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 200th anniversary of the birth of