

SUPPORTING DESIGNATION OF A  
NATIONAL VETERANS HISTORY  
PROJECT WEEK

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY SUTTON**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 30, 2010*

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1644. This resolution expresses support for the designation of a National Veterans History Project week, recognizing a truly incredible program that honors our veterans.

The National Veterans History project collects the personal narratives and mementos of our veterans, in order to preserve a rich history of the brave men and women who have so honorably served our country. The project—administered by the American Folklife Center of the Library of Congress—allows veterans and interested parties to register and acquire a free field kit to participate.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of a project that has already collected more than 70,000 oral histories—ensuring the preservation of these stories for generations to come. This educational project provides people of all ages the opportunity to learn an important history of the meanings of service, sacrifice, and democracy—directly from many of those who have honored those values.

I am honored that so many veterans of the 13th district of Ohio have shared their incredible stories with me—all of which are deserving of being shared with the world. Our support for the National Veterans History project will help make that happen.

A TRIBUTE TO DEREK PHILLIPS

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2010*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Derek Phillips.

Derek Phillips received his Master's Degree in African American Studies from the State University at Albany, NY and later received another Master's Degree in School Building Leadership from Mercy College. He completed his undergraduate studies at the State University at New Paltz.

An Educator by profession, Derek taught History at Park West High School for one year. He went on to teach Math and History for eight years at the New York City Public School Repertory Company, a school for "under-credited" high school students. While at PSRC, he also served as the college advisor. Derek taught at the Eight Plus Learning Academy for region ten at Wadleigh High School in Harlem, NY for four years. The Eight Plus Program was a school for "at-risk" eighth graders who failed to fulfill the necessary requirements for promotion to high school. While at Eight Plus, he served as Math teacher, Dean and Site Coordinator. He also taught Social Studies and Global History at the Choir Academy in Harlem. Currently, he is an Assistant Principal at Queens Academy High School, a school for under-credited and over-aged young people.

In addition to being an educational leader, Derek is the Founder and Executive Director

of the Real Dads Network—an organization that is committed to educating, supporting and empowering Black fathers. The Real Dads Network received national recognition in Ebony magazine, June 2010 as one of the top ten resources for dads. Additionally, Derek serves as a spokesperson for fatherhood in several ways: by appearing as a guest on radio such as 98.7 Kiss FM's Open Line and Al Sharpton's Hour of Power, as a guest on the BET Special, Black Men the Truth, and as a panelist at the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference on Fatherhood. Derek was also featured in the New York Daily News' "Spotlight on Great People," and created the Daddy Daughter Valentine's Dance, which has been adopted in other major cities. He contributed to the best-selling book I Got Your Back: A Father and Son Keep It Real About Love, Fatherhood, Family and Friendship, by Eddie Levert Sr. and Gerald Levert with Lyah Beth leFlore and co-directed and produced the award-winning documentary "Black Men on Fatherhood" with commentary by the late Ossie Davis.

Derek is an active member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. and through his works, words and actions, he is committed to educating, uplifting, and empowering our youth. His motto is "if everyone does a part, then no one is left doing the whole thing." He resides in Peekskill, NY with Maria, his loving wife, and Jordyn and Maya, his two beautiful daughters.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Derek Phillips.

RECOGNIZING FARRELLI'S WOOD  
FIRE PIZZA FOR WINNING THE  
NATIONAL RESTAURANT ASSO-  
CIATION'S 2010 RESTAURANT  
NEIGHBOR AWARD

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2010*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Farrelli's Wood Fire Pizza in Tacoma, Washington, for receiving the National Restaurant Association's 2010 Restaurant Neighbor Award.

The National Restaurant Association is a nonprofit organization that represents thousands of restaurants across the nation. The Restaurant Neighbor Award was created through a collaboration with the National Restaurant Association and American Express to celebrate the philanthropic spirit of the restaurant industry, to raise awareness about the restaurant industry's contributions to local communities across the country, and to inspire other restaurant operators and owners to make even greater contributions to their communities.

Established in 1995, Farrelli's has grown to five Washington State pizzerias and the Irish-Inspired McNamara's Pub & Eatery. Located near Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Farrelli's has become a staple among soldiers and their families. Farrelli's Wood Fire Pizza gives back to our troops by sending signs, uniforms, and other Farrelli's memorabilia to soldiers stationed in Iraq, allowing them to transform their overseas break area into a satellite Farrelli's

of their own. The restaurant also offers their Washington-based soldiers weekly discounts, farewell events, and welcome back parties.

Farrelli's customers also have a hand in community involvement by voting on which cause the restaurant should take up next. Recently, Farrelli's created a campaign to fight diabetes by joining the Dining for Diabetes fundraiser for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and incorporated a wholegrain pizza to their menu named after Elliott, a regular customer who was recently diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes and who was in search of a healthier dining option. The restaurant has also raised more than \$150,000 for organizations such as the Muscular Dystrophy Association, Susan G. Komen Foundation, and the local Boys and Girls Club.

The National Restaurant Association recognized Farrelli's Wood Fire Pizza in Tacoma with the 2010 Restaurant Neighbor Award in the mid-size business category. Farrelli's owner Jacques Farrell was flown to Washington, DC, to receive the award and a \$5,000 donation during a National Restaurant Association ceremony held in September 2010.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Farrelli's Wood Fire Pizza for receiving the 2010 Restaurant Neighbor Award.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF  
LOU XIONG

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2010*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievement of Lou Xiong on the occasion of receiving the 2010 Milken Educator Award from the Milken Family Foundation. The Milken Family Foundation's Milken Educator Award seeks to celebrate, elevate, and activate exemplary K–12 educators and has been hailed as the "Oscars of Teaching." Ms. Xiong was one of 55 educators across our Nation, and one of only three in the State of California, to be honored this year.

Lou was born in Laos as the fifth of 12 children to Chong Sue Xiong and Khou Moua. In 1980, Lou and her family immigrated to the United States from Laos in search of a better life. After attending high school in the Fresno area, Lou enrolled at California State University, Fresno, and graduated in 1999 with a Bachelors of Arts degree in Liberal Studies. Upon graduation, Lou joined the staff at Balderas Elementary School in Fresno, California, to follow her dream of becoming a teacher.

Over the last 11 years at Balderas Elementary School, Ms. Xiong has taught a variety of subjects to students in the fourth, fifth and sixth grades and contributed immensely to both her students and the school. In addition to her teaching duties, Lou has volunteered her time in school site responsibilities serving as Grade Level Chair, participating in the Leadership Team, serving on the School Site Building Committee and acting as Coordinator of the Hmong New Year Celebration. Outside of the classroom, Lou has served as a Math Coach for the Fresno Unified School District, helping fellow teachers and assisting in creating a pacing guideline program which is now used throughout the district.

Lou has also been actively involved in Fresno Unified School District's Superintendent's English Learner Task Force to ensure that language barriers do not keep students from succeeding in school. Lou's life story serves as a positive example for her students, demonstrating that despite the obstacles she has had to overcome as an immigrant, anything is possible with hard work and determination. The community of Fresno is very fortunate to have such a dedicated individual who continues to inspire students to believe they can achieve anything.

Lou is married to her husband Shue Vue, a civil engineer for the State of California Department of Transportation. Lou and Shue Vue have three children together and hope that the success they have achieved in their chosen professions provides inspiration for their children to achieve their own personal success in life and give back to their communities.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the achievement of Lou Xiong in the field of education as she is recognized as one of a select few top educators in our country by the Milken Family Foundation.

HONORING OPERATION IRAQI  
FREEDOM SCOUT SNIPER AND  
SOUTH EL MONTE NATIVE USMC  
SGT. ERIC B. SANDOVAL

**HON. JUDY CHU**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2010*

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great loss to our community, United States Marine Corps Sgt. Eric B. Sandoval, who passed away on Nov. 12, 2010, at the young age of 30. My heart goes out to his wife, Sandy; his stepson, Isaiah Salcedo; his parents, Roberto and Gloria; his brothers and sisters, Robert, Danny, Gabby, Alejandra, Jonathan and Steven; and the rest of his family and friends.

Born in Los Angeles, Eric spent nearly all of his life in South El Monte and later Covina, attending Dean L. Shively Middle School and later South El Monte and Pomona high schools. A patriot who loved his country, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps right out of high school at just 17 years of age, and spent the next 8 years as a scout sniper, serving in our nation's conflict in Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Within days of his arrival in Iraq, Eric's platoon came under attack. The attack was so brutal that Eric was the only one of his group to survive, and had to undergo extensive surgery to repair his damaged eye and ear.

Sergeant Sandoval received numerous awards and commendations for his bravery in the face of terrible odds, including the Navy & Marine Achievement Medal; Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal; Afghanistan Campaign Medal; Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Humanitarian Service Medal; Sea Service Deployment Award; Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation; and Good Conduct Medal, among others.

After recovering from his injuries, Sergeant Sandoval's undying patriotism led him to return to Iraq, this time as a contractor for the government, helping to support his former

comrades at arms until the time of his passing. And despite the hardships and difficulties presented by his war injuries, Eric still managed to attend college and graduate with a bachelor's degree in accounting and a master of arts degree in business administration, with honors.

Eric B. Sandoval's generosity and kindness are an inspiration to his family and our entire community, and he lived his life with integrity and bravery. Our nation owes him a debt of gratitude that cannot be repaid. So I urge all my House colleagues to join me in honoring our community hero, Sgt. Eric B. Sandoval, for his remarkable service and contributions to our country.

A TRIBUTE TO DONNA R.  
DICKERSON

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 7, 2010*

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ms. Donna R. Dickerson.

Ms. Dickerson is the Education Director for the Genesis Academy, where she has worked since 1997. The Genesis Academy is one of the leading after-school programs in the Brownsville community of Brooklyn, New York. The institution's goal is to academically, socially and culturally enrich the community's youth. Over the years, Ms. Dickerson has emerged as a leader in youth development, implementing programs for children in the Genesis Academy and the community at large.

At the age of sixteen, Ms. Dickerson took an opportunity to work at a daycare center. Facing her own childhood adversity, at this job she realized her destiny: to work with children. The joy of the classroom inspired Ms. Dickerson to work at this daycare center for longer than she had initially intended.

In 1991, a fire devastated Ms. Dickerson and her family. Within a three month span, they were living in a shelter and dealing with the death of six family members. The situation became more than Ms. Dickerson could handle and she had no idea where to turn next; adapting to this new way of life taught Ms. Dickerson how to survive.

In the heart of East New York, there is a place called Genesis Homes. Here, new beginnings are possible, all you have to do is believe and go get it. A program was offered, called T.E.P.P., where a participant would get paid to work. Ms. Dickerson was offered a position as a recreation aide and accepted it. She worked with every age group over the years, leaving a positive mark on all the children she interacted with. During this time, Ms. Dickerson realized that she was a role model and needed to always act as such. She was no longer responsible for just her own children, but for thousands of children who, at times, appeared to depend on her more than their own family.

Ms. Dickerson is grateful for several important people in her life. Her parents, for teaching her and her siblings to love one another, respect all and treat people like they would want to be treated. Her sisters, for always being there, no matter the time of day she called on them. Most importantly, Ms.

Dickerson is grateful for her children: Brandon, Corey and Charisma.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the achievements of Ms. Donna R. Dickerson.

CALLING FOR DIGNITY, COMFORT,  
AND SUPPORT FOR HOLOCAUST  
SURVIVORS

SPEECH OF

**HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 30, 2010*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, there are not many Holocaust survivors left in the world. Each year as the number dwindles, we worry about how people will remember the evils of the Holocaust when there are no longer eyewitnesses to give their personal accounts. We promote remembrance and teach tolerance. We fight Holocaust deniers and those who grotesquely glorify the Holocaust and denigrate the memory of the six million.

But while we focus intently on ensuring awareness of the tragedy of the past we are losing sight of a tragedy in our midst: Many Holocaust survivors are living their final days in poverty.

According to the Jewish Federations of North America, more than half of the 127,000 Holocaust survivors living in the United States fall beneath 200 percent of the federal poverty threshold, meaning they live on less than \$21,660 per year. Holocaust survivors are five times more likely to be living below the poverty line than the general senior population.

In Los Angeles, one in six survivors requires community assistance. In the past year, the LA Jewish Federation has seen the number of survivors needing emergency assistance for basic housing, food, medical, dental and transportation needs rise by 20 percent.

The vast majority of these survivors are now in their 80's and 90's and two-thirds of them live alone. Very few have any family support network, which is not surprising considering that so few had family that survived the war. As a result, many are forced into institutional care because they cannot afford to receive care in their homes.

While institutionalized care settings are beneficial for many older adults, Holocaust survivors react poorly and can be prone to emotional suffering and physical deterioration from sights, sounds and routines that may resurrect Holocaust experiences. Research indicates that survivors, in particular, benefit tremendously from access to social service programs that allow them to age in place in their current residences. It is a solution that is both cost-effective and humane.

As one of the original sponsors of the U.S. Administration on Aging grant program now known as the Community Innovations In Aging In Place, I am hopeful that we can find the resources to help these survivors in their time of need.

I urge my colleagues to support H. Con. Res. 323 and I look forward to working with them to achieve its goal of ensuring that all Holocaust survivors in the United States are able to live with dignity, comfort, and security in their remaining years.