

Marselle on his well deserved retirement, and in thanking him for his service to our country.

COMMEMORATING THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARGENTINA

HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. SIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the bicentennial of the Republic of Argentina. Two hundred years ago in Buenos Aires, a week-long series of revolutionary events took place, known as the *Revolucion de Mayo*, which set in motion events that led to Argentina's momentous declaration of independence from Spain in 1810.

Since gaining independence, Argentina has emerged as a leader in Latin America and as a valuable ally to the United States. In the western hemisphere, Argentina has always been a friend who shares our values of freedom and democracy. In the global arena, it continues to be an important economic partner, with nearly 500 U.S. companies currently operating within its borders. As a founding member of the United Nations and in its most recent position as Secretary General of the Union of South American Nations, Argentina has also proven to be a cogent diplomat.

Argentina benefits from rich natural resources, a globally competitive agricultural sector, and a diversified industrial base. Additionally, as a country that has been richly endowed with culture, varying from eloquent tangos to loyal soccer fans, Argentina remains one of the cultural epicenters of Latin America.

The positive bilateral relationship between the United States and Argentina has been based on many common strategic and ideological interests, securing Argentina's position as an important ally and friend to the United States. I commemorate this historic occasion with Argentineans in the United States and again congratulate the people of Argentina on 200 years of independence.

CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF ARGENTINA'S INDEPENDENCE

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the bicentennial of the Republic of Argentina. On May 25, 1810, the Argentine people declared their independence from Spain and since that time, their nation has become an important regional and global actor.

I feel a personal connection to the nation of Argentina. As Chairman of the Subcommittee on the Western Hemisphere, I have had the privilege to lead two official congressional delegations to Argentina. I am always welcomed with a warmth and respect that speaks to the character of the Argentine people. President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner is a distinguished leader whose service to her people is impressive. Likewise, Argentina's Ambassador to the United States Hector Timmerman and

his excellent team work hard on a daily basis to advance the Argentine cause here in the United States.

In many ways, the United States and Argentina share much more than a hemisphere; we share common values of freedom, equality and a commitment to democracy that transcend national borders. Our nations have also worked closely on issues pertaining to regional security, and Argentina has established itself as a leading voice in the areas of nuclear non-proliferation and counterterrorism. I welcome this cooperation and I look forward to our continued collaboration on these vital fronts.

I hope you will join me in commemorating the 200th anniversary of the independence of the Republic of Argentina. May our two nations grow closer and may our shared values grow ever stronger.

COMMEMORATING THE OPENING OF HARKNESS HOUSE TO PROVIDE TRANSITIONAL HOUSING FOR VETERANS

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise to applaud the opening today of Harkness House, a four-apartment Victorian in my hometown of New Haven that will provide transitional housing for Connecticut veterans, and thus help to repay those who have served in uniform and now need our help.

Thanks to the hard work of Columbus House, a local organization dedicated to helping homeless Americans, as well as financial and logistical support from the Errera Community Care Center, VA Medical Center in West Haven, and the Department of Veterans Affairs, Harkness House will give up to fourteen homeless male veterans a place to live for up to two years, as they work to get back on their feet and reintegrate themselves into the community.

This new haven for homeless veterans is just one of many very worthwhile programs by Columbus House to alleviate the crushing burdens on the homeless men, women, and children in our midst. They also provide temporary and permanent housing at a number of other facilities around our community, as well as outreach services to this and other at-risk and highly vulnerable populations.

Along with providing a crucial resource to homeless veterans, Harkness House is particularly well-named. Its namesake, Dr. Laurie Harkness, has spent a career working to foster supportive housing for Connecticut's veterans in danger of homelessness. She has played a formative role in the creation of several such residential projects all across the state, and brought both housing and hope to over 250 homeless veterans and their families. And she has been a dear personal friend to me.

I congratulate Laurie on this well-earned honor today, and I thank Columbus House and everyone else involved for their leadership and commitment to making Harkness House a reality. Because of their efforts, veterans who have sacrificed so much for our country, but have fallen on hard times, will now have a better chance at a second chance.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF NOLAN KAMITAKI

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Nolan Kamitaki, a young constituent from Hilo, Hawaii. I would also like to congratulate him on his graduation as valedictorian of Waiakea High School's Class of 2010.

From a young age, Nolan has been deeply fascinated with natural phenomenon and mathematics, and his passion for these pursuits is reflected in his many achievements. He led Waiakea High School's Math League, Math Bowl, and Science Bowl teams, and participated in Japan's International Micro Robot Maze Contest. Nolan's aptitude for science has been recognized at numerous competitions and symposiums including the 2010 International Engineering and Science Fair, where Nolan earned the first place grand award. Nolan has received prestigious recognition as a 2009 Davidson Fellow for his project, "Programming a Network Approach to Contain the Spread of Epidemic."

Nolan's outstanding achievements in academics and his exemplary leadership and community service have earned him distinction as one of two 2010 U.S. Presidential Scholars from Hawaii. He plans to pursue a career that merges biological processes and computer science.

Nolan is a rising star in the sciences and a proud product of the Hawaii public school system. I am inspired by his impressive accomplishments at such a young age, and I look forward to following the career of this future leader.

TRIBUTE TO GILL GALLO, DIRECTOR OF THE RIVERSIDE NATIONAL CEMETERY

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual from my Congressional District for his years of service to Riverside, California. Gill Gallo has served as director of the Riverside National Cemetery since May 14, 2006. And after four years, Gill Gallo is leaving this appointment to serve as the Director of the National Cemetery in San Antonio, Texas.

In his position as director, Gill was responsible for all burial, maintenance and administrative operations at the cemetery. He also trained under Steve Jorgensen, the longtime director at Riverside who helped bring hundreds of volunteers into the cemetery's community support network. Gill often speaks of the historical significance of his work, and has remarked that there is no better place to pay tribute and learn about our veterans than by visiting the headstones and commemorating the fallen in our national cemeteries.

Prior to coming to Riverside National Cemetery, Gill served as director at the Willamette National Cemetery in Oregon. He also served

as director of the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery in Illinois, assistant director of the Willamette National Cemetery, director at the Fort Bliss National Cemetery in El Paso, Texas, director at Eagle Point National Cemetery in Oregon and director at the Santa Fe National Cemetery in New Mexico. Additionally, Gill served more than 20 years in the U.S. Air Force before retiring in 1986. He received an associate's degree from the University of Maryland, European Division in 1984.

Gill and his wife, Amparo, have three children: a son in the U.S. Air Force Reserve; a daughter in San Antonio, Texas; and a son in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Gill Gallo's tireless passion for community and public service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Riverside, California. I am proud to call Gill a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many people are grateful for his service, and wish him the very best in San Antonio.

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY TO FAMILIES OF SOUTH KOREAN SEAMEN KILLED BY NORTH KOREA

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 24, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise in sympathy with the families of those killed in the sinking of the Republic of Korean ship (ROKS) Cheonan. I stand in solidarity with the people of the Republic of Korea in the aftermath of this tragic incident. However, I have serious concerns with language in H. Res. 1382. While it appropriately expresses sympathy to the families of those killed in the attack, it also appears to express support for possible military action against North Korea.

North Korea announced yesterday that it is severing all relations with South Korea, further exasperating an already contentious relationship. This resolution "urges the United States" and "its allies . . . to take appropriate actions in response to the sinking of the ROKS Cheonan and other hostile acts of North Korea." The resolution also "urges the international community to provide all necessary support to the Republic of Korea as the Government of the Republic of Korea prepares to respond to the actions committed by North Korea, which led to the sinking of the ROKS Cheonan." State Department officials, including Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, have also made public statements vowing that the attack will not go unanswered.

Congress and the Administration can better express support for the people of the Republic of Korea by recommitting to promoting dialogue between the two nations. The expression of congressional support for a possible military response to North Korea's actions can only serve to heighten the likelihood of a military confrontation. Military action in retaliation to North Korea's attack on the South Korean ship can only result in the further loss of life. I believe strongly in the power and necessity of diplomacy. The United States has a responsibility to utilize its unique role as an ally of South Korea to bring the nation closer to resolution with North Korea.

HONORING MS. ALMA GAMMAGE

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker: Whereas, in the Fourth Congressional District of Georgia, there are many individuals who are called to contribute to the needs of our community through leadership and service; and

Whereas, Ms. Alma Gammage has given of herself as an educator of E.L. Bouie, Sr., Elementary Theme school, a daughter, a mother and friend; and

Whereas, Ms. Gammage has been chosen as this year's Teacher of the Year, representing E.L. Bouie Elementary school; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents for the betterment of our community and our nation through her tireless works, motivational speeches and words of wisdom; and

Whereas, Ms. Gammage is a virtuous woman, a courageous woman and a fearless leader who has shared with the world her vision and passion to help ensure that our future, our children, receive an education that is relevant for today, but also for the future; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Alma Gammage for her leadership and service for our District;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim April 23, 2010, as Ms. Alma Gammage Day in the Fourth Congressional District.

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY TO FAMILIES OF SOUTH KOREAN SEAMEN KILLED BY NORTH KOREA

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 24, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise to convey my deepest condolences for the people of South Korea following the tragic sinking of the naval ship, Cheonan, which has severely traumatized the nation and disrupted peace and stability in the Land of the Morning Calm.

As a longtime friend of the Korean people, I fully support the resolution introduced by my colleagues, Representatives FALCOMA, VAEGA, ROS-LEHTINEN, ACKERMAN, MANZULLO, and BERMAN, that expresses sympathy to the families of the 46 sailors killed as a result of North Korea's aggression, and demonstrates our solidarity with the Republic of Korea in the aftermath of this tragedy.

For me in particular, this incident is very personal and excruciatingly painful. As a veteran who fought in the Battle of Kunuri during the Korean War, I have witnessed the anguish and the suffering inflicted on the Peninsula as a result of North Korea's invasion of the South on June 25, 1950. In fact this year marks the 60th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean War, which evidently has yet to end.

The Korean people have lived in a state of division and instability in the Peninsula for sixty years. The recent disaster is clearly a somber reminder that the United States must reaffirm our alliance with the Republic of Korea to help bring closure to the first and last conflict of the Cold War and ultimately build a path toward reconciliation between the two Koreas.

RECOGNIZING PROSPERO J.J. SANCHEZ FOR HIS DEDICATION TO NEW MEXICO BOYS STATE

HON. HARRY TEAGUE

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. TEAGUE. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize Prospero J.J. Sanchez, someone who truly loves our country and is a veteran of the Army who makes his home in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

A few years ago, after some arm twisting by his father, Prospero, Sr., a World War II Marine Veteran, he was taken for the first time 30 years ago to attend the American Legion New Mexico Boys State. After that year there was no more arm twisting involved with Prospero Sanchez attending the annual Boys' State session. This year's American Legion New Mexico Boys' State session being held at the Campus of Eastern New Mexico University will mark Prospero J.J. Sanchez's 30th consecutive session of attendance.

Prospero has held many positions throughout the American Legion New Mexico Boys' State organization which has taught thousands of New Mexico High School Seniors the rights and responsibilities of being citizens of this great country of ours. Numerous members of our society have attended an American Legion Boys State or an American Legion Auxiliary Girls State session held annually on campus across this nation.

The program's alumni has held positions as CEO's, Artists, Athletes, Newscasters, Justices on the Supreme Court, both chambers of the House and Senate and even held the Position of President of the United States. It is organizations such as the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary, who after wearing the uniform of our country, return home and continue to selflessly serve the communities to which they belong such as Prospero Sanchez has, not only as a very active member of the American Legion where he is one of the New Mexico's Past Department Commanders and the Current Alternate National Executive Committee Man.

Prospero J.J. Sanchez is commended for his dedication of many years of service to the youth of the nation at American Legion New Mexico Boys State, where he currently holds the position of President of the American Legion New Mexico Boys State Board of Directors. I thank him for his many years of service and I am honored to have the opportunity to have him recognized in the Congress today.