

# HONORING JOHN H. WELSH ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

## HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 28, 2011*

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Welsh, who will retire this year after four decades of service in hospital administration. Since obtaining his Master of Health Administration from the University of Missouri in 1971, John has been committed to ensuring the strength of the health institutions he has worked at and to providing the highest level quality of care for patients.

John has most recently served as the President of Rumford Hospital in Rumford, Maine. Rumford is a small mill town of just under 5,000. Under John's leadership, Rumford Hospital has provided top quality health care and other services to the residents of Rumford and beyond.

The Rumford Hospital is a vital part of the community. Not only does the hospital provide quality healthcare to Rumford and many of the surrounding rural towns, but it also is the leading job creator for the area. Under John's leadership, the Rumford Hospital has been able to offer many services that had formerly been unavailable to the citizens of the region. These services include LifeFlight Helicopter service and an Oncology Suite.

Recently, Rumford Hospital named their new building in honor of John as thanks for his many years of service. The building includes a new operating room and nursing unit with up-to-date equipment and furnishings. It is incredibly important for the rural communities of the Rumford area to know that they have access to quality care so close to home. This assurance would not be possible without John Welsh.

John has also gone beyond his work at Rumford Hospital and played an important role in the State's health care system. John's many contributions include serving as Chairman of the Maine Hospital Association Board and as the Maine American College of Health Care Executives Regent.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in thanking John Welsh for his tremendous contributions and service to the people of Rumford and the State of Maine.

IN HONOR OF RICHARD F. COYNE

## HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 28, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Richard F. Coyne to acknowledge his receipt of the Walks of Life Award from the Irish American Archive Society.

Richard is a valuable asset to the Cleveland community. Without him, Cleveland would not have one its most prestigious landmarks: the Great Lakes Science Center. Richard was chosen specifically to spearhead the construction of the Science Center twenty years ago. As a result of his know-how and expertise, the project was completed both on time and under budget. The Great Lakes Science Center is

one of the largest interactive science museums in the country.

Now retired from management duties at the Science Center, Richard continues to assist and advise other enterprises. He is an active member of the leadership board at the Cleveland Clinic's Glickman Urological and Kidney Institute and has been chairman of the endowment board at St. Ann Catholic Church.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, Cleveland, Ohio is blessed to have such an honorable and hardworking man as a member of its community. His dedication has vastly improved Cleveland and the city will forever be in Richard's debt.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 28, 2011*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, during consideration of H.R. 1, I voted "yea" on rollcall No. 101 when it was my intent to vote "nay." I am writing to request that this position be noted in the RECORD.

In addition, I wish the RECORD to reflect that I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 81.

## KHOJALY TRAGEDY

### HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 28, 2011*

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a tragedy that occurred 19 years ago in Azerbaijan.

Between February 25–26, 1992, hundreds of innocent civilians were killed in what's known as the Khojaly Tragedy. During this tragedy, "... it is widely accepted that 200 Azeris were murdered, as many as 500–1,000 may have died," according to a report released by Human Rights Watch in 1993.

Azerbaijan is a strong ally of the U.S., especially during this time of uncertainty in the Middle East. We grieve with its people as we remember the victims of the Khojaly Tragedy.

## 64TH COMMEMORATION OF TAIWAN'S "2-28" MASSACRE

### HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 28, 2011*

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to observe the 64th commemoration of Taiwan's "2-28" Massacre. The massacre was an anti-government uprising in Taiwan that began on February 28, 1947 and was violently suppressed by the Chinese Nationalist government over the following weeks. Estimates of the number of deaths vary from ten thousand to thirty thousand.

The massacre began when Taiwanese citizens confronted Chinese Nationalist troops that had beaten and arrested an elderly woman. In the weeks that followed, the Republic of China sent soldiers to capture and

execute unarmed civilians—innocent doctors, lawyers, and students that were guilty of only wanting a more free and independent government. Over the following four decades, the Chinese Nationalists continued to rule Taiwan with an iron fist under Martial Law that was not lifted until 1987.

However, through this daunting experience, a bigger and brighter Taiwan is beginning to emerge. In the over half-century since these events, we have seen a Taiwan that struggled for independence under an authoritarian regime, now have a thriving and pluralistic democracy. While they are still fighting for sovereignty from China, since 2000 the Taiwanese have made strides to control their own destiny, and have transitioned between ruling parties based on the will of its citizens on multiple occasions.

Mr. Speaker, I urge other Members to join me today in commemorating this important historical event.

## HONORING DETECTIVE ROGER CASTILLO

### HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 28, 2011*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart as I mourn the loss of Detective Roger Castillo, an officer with the Miami-Dade Police. Detective Castillo was a patriot dedicated to upholding and defending the rule of law. He was a man of great courage, conviction, and passion who lived a wonderfully fulfilling life surrounded by a loving family, close friends and admiring colleagues.

Detective Castillo was born on September 29, 1969 in Miami Beach, Florida. He graduated from Southwest High School in 1987 and began his law enforcement career with the Miami-Dade Police Department as a Public Service Aide in 1989. In 1992, he graduated from the police academy and was assigned to the North Operations Division serving the Miami Lakes and Northside Districts. In 1995, Detective Castillo was assigned to the Police Operations Bureau (POB). After a short time in POB, he joined the Court Services Bureau until his transfer to the Warrants Bureau, Felony Apprehension Unit in 2004.

In an effort to keep our community safe, in 2007, Detective Castillo transferred to the Strategic and Specialized Investigations Bureau, Career Criminal Section. He always displayed a positive attitude towards the Miami-Dade Police Department and a level of professionalism like no other.

I mourn alongside the loving family of Detective Castillo, and honor his wife Debbie and children Anthony, Michael, and Bryan. During this difficult time, we will pray for the well-being of the Castillo family.

Detective Castillo's death does not represent an end to his legacy, for his spirit and good deeds live on. His colleagues, friends, and family cherish his legacy as a brave defender of our community.

IN HONOR OF RICHARD CLARK

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 28, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Richard Clark to acknowledge his receipt of the Walks of Life award from the Irish American Archives Society. Richard has been of immense value to the community and his achievements are certainly praiseworthy.

Mr. Clark's time spent as the principal of St. Ignatius High School marked an era of vast improvements to the school. Attendance rose annually by 300 students under his leadership. During his twelve years as principal, St. Ignatius reaped the benefits of a new intramural gym, a new 400 seat place of worship and a complete remodeling of its classrooms.

After leaving St. Ignatius High School, Richard founded an entirely new high school in Cleveland, Saint Martin de Porres. The mission of this school is "to transform urban Cleveland one student at a time." Richard can be proud of his many accomplishments. Of the 190 students who graduated from St. Martin de Porres, all were accepted into college.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, Cleveland is proud to have such a motivated and good-willed individual giving back to the community. Richard's accomplishments have improved the lives of hundreds of young individuals seeking education and opportunity.

**GOLDEN HOTEL****HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 28, 2011*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Golden Hotel Bridgewater Grill and owners Burt and Andria Lewis for receiving the Business of the Year award from the Golden Chamber of Commerce.

This award is given to an outstanding chamber member that has contributed substantially to the Chamber of Commerce community.

The Golden Hotel Bridgewater Grill has become a business known to travelers throughout Golden, Denver, Colorado and the Western Region. This property is the first solar powered hotel in Golden. Owners Burt and Andria Lewis state "This was an easy decision for us; we are consistently trying to enhance our green practices and what better way to do so than by going solar".

The award winning Golden business has a huge presence in participation and involvement in the Golden community. The property is also very well known for its many charitable donations.

I extend my deepest congratulations and appreciation for the Golden Hotel and Bridgewater Grill and owners Burt and Andria Lewis for this well deserved recognition by the Golden Chamber of Commerce. I have no doubt their appreciation to community has made our community a better place for all of us to live.

IN HONOR OF BARNEY F. HAJIRO'S PASSING

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 28, 2011*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Private Barney F. Hajiro, Medal of Honor recipient. On January 21, 2011, Private Hajiro passed away in Honolulu, Hawaii at the age of 94.

Barney Hajiro was born in Hawaii in 1941 to Japanese immigrant parents. Shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Barney was drafted into the U.S. Army. In 1943, he volunteered to join the 442d Regimental Combat Team composed of second-generation Japanese-Americans and was then sent to Europe to fight the Germans in Italy and France. While fighting in France, the 442d Regiment was called upon to rescue the Texas 36th Division that had been cut off and surrounded by Germans for over a week, earning its nickname the "Lost Battalion." Private Hajiro and his comrades encountered a dangerous and challenging undertaking as the German troops relentlessly fired at the American soldiers from uphill.

When ordered to attack, Barney fearlessly charged ahead up the hill, later referred to as "Suicide Hill" towards the heavily fortified enemy position, exposing himself to intense enemy fire, while constantly taking aim at multiple enemy strongholds. He fearlessly met fire with fire and single-handedly destroyed two machine gun nests and killed two enemy snipers. As a result of Private Hajiro's heroic actions, the attack was successful. Private Hajiro's extraordinary heroism and devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon him and the United States Army.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest and most sincere gratitude for the service of Private Barney Hajiro, and honoring the memory and lasting legacy of this brave and selfless United States soldier. May we all strive to be as bold and as dedicated servants of our country as Private Barney Hajiro.

**INTRODUCING THE VETERANS HOME LOAN REFINANCE OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 2011****HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 28, 2011*

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Veterans Home Loan Refinance Opportunity Act of 2011. This bipartisan legislation improves the federal Qualified Veterans Mortgage Bonds (QVMB) program to allow eligible states to use tax-free bond proceeds to refinance the home mortgages of our military veterans.

This legislation is necessary during our troubled economic times. QVMB home loan financing was not available to newly discharged veterans returning home from Iraq and Afghanistan until passage of the Heroes Earning Assistance Relief Tax Act of 2008 (H.R. 6081) in the 110th Congress.

Prior to 2008, some veterans may have taken out adjustable-rate mortgages (ARM) to

purchase a home during the real estate boom earlier in the decade. It is only fair to them that they have the same opportunity as newly discharged veterans to take advantage of the low-interest, fixed rate mortgages available through QVMB financing.

For some veterans with a costly ARM or interest-only mortgage, this legislation could prevent a foreclosure.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, this legislation includes an inflation index to ensure the QVMB veterans home loan program remains viable in the future.

I urge passage of the Veterans Home Loan Refinance Opportunity Act.

**DENNIS EGGEMEYER****HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 28, 2011*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Bob List and Dennis Eggemeyer for receiving the Charlie O'Brien award from the Golden Chamber of Commerce.

This award goes to members who are well respected within the organization and are motivated by an unselfish desire to contribute to the community for the betterment of greater Golden.

Bob and Dennis were members of Mayor Jacob Smith's committee "Summit on Sustaining Golden's Retail Economy". An idea acted upon was Golden's First Friday Street Fair. The main purpose of this idea was to bring people to historic downtown Golden to see and experience a good time with hopes they will return on a regular basis.

Bob and Dennis faced several obstacles in their research but never gave up their pursuit of putting this event together. With cooperation from many groups, the obstacles were worked out and the success story can now be told.

In the summer of 2010 there were five street fairs bringing crowds estimated to be at least two thousand per event, residents having fun meeting and networking. The only negative to report is "there should be more of these street fairs throughout the year" which has been taken under advisement.

I extend my deepest congratulation and gratitude to Bob List and Dennis Eggemeyer for this well deserved recognition by the Golden Chamber of Commerce. Thank you for making our community a better place for all of us to live.

**RECOGNIZING THE 23RD ANNIVERSARY OF MASSACRES AGAINST ARMENIANS IN SUMGAIT****HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 28, 2011*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the thousands of Armenian Americans in my congressional district, I rise to remember the evening of February 27, 1988, when a three-day rampage began against Christian Armenian civilians living in Sumgait, Soviet Azerbaijan. Armenian civilians were at the mercy of