

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had the time to recognize the dedication, accomplishments, and commitment of the late Major Robert Camina.

RECOGNIZING THE 19TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KHOJALY TRAGEDY

HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Khojaly tragedy that occurred 19 years ago in Azerbaijan. Over the night from February 25th to February 26th, an unprecedented massacre was committed against the Azerbaijani people in the town of Khojaly.

Azerbaijan has been a longtime ally and friend of the United States. On Christmas Day in 1991, President George H.W. Bush announced the recognition of Azerbaijan independence along with other former Soviet Republics. Azerbaijan has been involved in NATO's Partnership for Peace program and has participated in U.S.-led military missions in Kosovo, Afghanistan, and Iraq. During this time of unrest in the Middle East, the peaceful alliance with Azerbaijan is more important than ever.

Mr. Speaker, the tragedy of Khojaly was a grim and horrific event and I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the people of Azerbaijan on this tragic anniversary.

HONORING NEW LIFE CHURCH

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following:

Whereas, New Life Church has been and continues to be a beacon of light to our county for well over fifteen (15) years; and

Whereas, Pastor Marlin D. Harris and the members of the New Life Church family today continue to uplift and inspire those in our county and beyond; and

Whereas, New Life Church has been and continues to be a place where citizens are touched spiritually, mentally and physically through outreach ministries and community partnership to aid in building up the community; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious Church of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the needy and empowered our community by preaching the gospel, singing the gospel and living the gospel; and

Whereas, New Life Church has produced many spiritual warriors, people of compassion, people of great courage, fearless leaders and servants to all, but most of all visionaries who have shared not only with their Church, but with DeKalb County and the world their passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the New Life Church family as they dedicate their new Church Sanctuary and for continued leadership and service to our District;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim March 13, 2011 as New Life Church Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 13th day of March, 2011.

TRIBUTE TO ADRIENNE THOMAS

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Adrienne Thomas, the Deputy Archivist of the United States who is retiring after 41 years of distinguished service with the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). Ms. Thomas began her career of federal service straight out of Iowa State University as an archivist trainee in the Office of Presidential Libraries. Since then, she has held a number of important policy and administrative positions. Early in her career, she was instrumental in transforming the Archives into an institution at the forefront of a revolution in public access to records, following the enactment of the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act. During the 1980s, she served as the Director of Planning and Analysis and, in 1985, she was instrumental in putting in place the structure that allowed the Archives to operate as a newly created independent agency, no longer under the direction of the General Services Administration.

Perhaps her most celebrated contributions to this nation are the magnificent public spaces where she was intimately involved in overseeing construction and renovation during her time as NARA's head of Administration and Chief Financial Officer. Her vision has shown the world that archives don't have to be dark dusty repositories. This year alone, one million people will see her attention to detail and love of history when they visit the historic National Archives Building in Washington, DC to view the Charters of Freedom and other American milestone documents, respectfully and accessibly displayed following a building renovation in 2003. Another place where her dedication to excellence for the American people can be seen is just up the road in College Park, Maryland, home to NARA's state-of-the-art facility known as "Archives II," which opened in 1994. Ms. Thomas oversaw Archives II from concept to ribbon cutting. It stands today as the premier archival research center in the world—the gold standard—and a great source of pride in my congressional district.

From archivist trainee to Deputy Archivist of the United States, Ms. Thomas has mentored hundreds of employees and inspired millions of people who visit our National Archives buildings across the country. It is truly my honor to pay tribute today to Ms. Adrienne Thomas, a real "National Treasure" who worked for the American people for 41 years.

SAN DIEGO COUNTY REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY AND AIRPORT WORKERS: SOL PRICE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to proclaim that organized labor is often the sole force fighting for the rights of not just union members, but all workers.

This was seen this past fall when union workers at the airport stood up for the rights of all concession, parking and restaurant workers by bringing forward a worker retention policy at the San Diego Regional Airport Authority.

Up until then, workers had no job protections in the event of new contractors taking over business at the airport. If a shop or restaurant lost its lease, every employee working there could lose their job.

Led by Airport Authority chairman Robert Gleason, the agency brought workers into the search for a solution. Workers were not only given a voice in the process, but their opinions and concerns were valued as expert testimony on the importance of the Airport Authority providing a sense of job security for workers with as many as 35 years of experience.

Even when delays in the process occurred, it was due to Airport Authority commissioners believing that they could accomplish even more through their policy.

By a final vote of 7-to-1, the Airport Authority eventually passed a worker retention policy that will protect airport workers. The vote proved that all parties can win when the voices of workers are taken into consideration.

It gives me a great honor Mr. Speaker, that in light of their passage of a worker retention policy, I join with the Executive Board of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council in honoring the San Diego Regional Airport Authority and Airport Workers with the 2010–2011, "Sol Price Spirit of Cooperation Award."

A TRIBUTE TO YOLANDE NICHOLSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Yolande Nicholson.

Ms. Nicholson has been a member of the New York State Bar for more than 20 years. She earned her J.D. from Columbia University School of Law in 1989. She began her legal career practicing as a corporate finance attorney in the capital markets group at Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton, the preeminent international law firm.

As a young lawyer, Ms. Nicholson had the opportunity to work with multinational corporations, international financial institutions, sovereign governments and their agencies, as well as domestic corporations and financial institutions. At Cleary, she developed her craft as a securities lawyer. From 1997 to 2003,

Ms. Nicholson served as Vice President and Assistant General Counsel at The Chase Manhattan Bank. In 2003, as an Executive on Loan from JPMorgan, she began working with Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation (BSRC) in Brooklyn to restructure and reposition the corporation's anchor commercial real estate and public housing assets. She subsequently served in the position of Executive Vice President and General Counsel at Bedford Stuyvesant Restoration Corporation. In 2006, Ms. Nicholson returned to Wall Street practice and corporate finance as a senior attorney in the financial products group at Clifford Chance, the leading international finance law firm.

On October 1, 2010, Ms. Nicholson launched her private practice, as principal of Yolande I. Nicholson P.C., specializing in foreclosure prevention, litigation and defense. Ms. Nicholson is the author of a White Paper: "Proposal to Appropriate Funding Available under the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act ("EESA") in Keeping with The Troubled Asset Relief Program ("TARP") to Stabilize Hardest-Hit Communities, Support Selected Homeowner Families and Achieve Quantifiable Returns on Investment for Taxpayers and Main Street Communities" (copyright July 2010). With the White Paper, she lends her knowledge and voice to the proposals aimed at precluding foreclosure sales against homeowners who are hardest hit by high unemployment, predatory lending and mortgage fraud.

Ms. Nicholson was born in Grenada, W.I., into an extended family of ever-aspiring parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles that included notable school principals, teachers, nurses, musicians and entrepreneurs. She credits her father for teaching her and her siblings the value of community activism; her mother for teaching them the value of community service; and both for serving as daily examples of grace and dignity. She aims to continue applying her law license, experience and practice in a manner that is responsible and thoughtful when delivering advice and representation to clients.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Yolande Nicholson.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTOPHER CALOMIRIS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of Christopher Calomiris, who is fondly remembered by the residents of the District of Columbia and this region for a landmark business, Calomiris Fruits & Vegetables at the Eastern Market—a family owned and operated business for 62 years.

As the child of Greek immigrants, Christopher grew up on Capitol Hill and was groomed in his father's D.C. produce business, which was located in several markets before settling at Eastern Market. With Christopher Calomiris' gentle and dependable guidance, Calomiris Fruits & Vegetables thrived and continues to offer their signature friendly, high-quality customer service with the leadership of Christopher's wife, Maria, and the

Calomiris children, Tom, Leon, and Joy, all of whom helped in this classic generational business.

Christopher Calomiris' battle with cancer over the last several years did not prevent him from working on weekends to continue to support the family business. The business that Christopher Calomiris built represents the best tradition of family-centered, American-made business.

In recognizing his lifetime of hard and productive work and service to the community, I ask the House to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Christopher Calomiris of Calomiris Fruits & Vegetables in Washington, DC.

CONGRATULATING SKYLINE HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Skyline High School for 40 years of outstanding service to the Dallas community. Skyline first opened on March 1st, 1971 as our nation's first magnet school. Since then, thousands of students have graced the halls of Skyline, and many have gone on to make immense contributions to the Dallas Metroplex.

Skyline's diverse student body has excelled academically with students earning nearly \$25 million in scholarships last year. Under the leadership of Principal Harold Wright, Skyline earned a "higher performing school" rating from the National Center for Education Accountability. The motto of "Unity in Effort...Pride in Result" exemplifies the drive and achievement of Skyline's students, teachers and administrators.

Skyline has had many illustrious alumni, including: Dallas City Counsel Member, Pauline Medrano; Olympian, Michael Johnson; and Bryan Trubey, principle designer and architect of the new Dallas Cowboys stadium. These individuals continue to utilize their education at Skyline to give back to the community.

Skyline High School was the first of many outstanding magnet schools in the Dallas area, and helped revolutionize the way we approach education. They have shown with the proper resources and motivation students can and will succeed. I am proud to represent Skyline High School, and look forward to its success in the years ahead.

HONORING FIREFIGHTER HOWARD CARPENTER

HON. NAN A.S. HAYWORTH

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Ms. HAYWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Firefighter Howard Carpenter of Kent, New York for his steadfast commitment and dedication to our community as a forty-year active member of the Kent Volunteer Fire Department. Firefighter Carpenter is a founding member of the Kent Fire Department and

has remained active for the entirety of its existence. Firefighters like Mr. Carpenter have a crucial role in protecting our homes and families. It is because of committed volunteer firefighters like Mr. Carpenter that our communities have active emergency responders that come to our rescue in our times of need. Mr. Carpenter has a longstanding history of commitment to his community and his fellow firefighters. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Firefighter Howard Carpenter for his 40 years of outstanding fire service.

A TRIBUTE TO SHEILA A. DURANT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 16, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Sheila A. Durant.

Early on, Sheila Durant discovered her life's passion: educating children. She carried this passion for over 30 years and continues to do so. Sheila was born and raised in New York City, as one of five children. At an early age, her parents instilled the value of discipline, determination, and having a dream. Sheila knew her calling was to be an educator. Sheila's own education began in the New York City's public school system, a diverse and multicultural learning environment. She went on to enter the CUNY system and earned a Master's degree in special education from Hunter College. Sheila later received an Administrative Diploma in School Administration from the City College of New York.

When Sheila Durant became Assistant Principal at P.S. 69, in 2003, the State of New York designated the school, "a School in Need of Improvement." Fortunately, she worked with a principal who was an outstanding educational leader, mentor and collaborative partner. Together, they sought to build a "learning" community, dedicated to a climate of open communication, sharing, collaboration, and respect. They began reform at P.S. 69 by implementing conflict resolution platforms for teachers, students, and parents. The school is now constantly improving. Since 2003, Advocates for Children recognized P.S. 69 as both a school of choice and one of the "top 100 schools" in New York City. Today, Sheila is the Principal of P.S. 69. Her journey from Assistant Principal to Principal gave her invaluable insight into making P.S. 69 a successful child-centered educational environment.

Growing as a leader and a continual learner, Ms. Durant is involved in a number of other organizations. She is a member of the Greater Central Baptist Church, New York Academy of Public Education, New York Elementary School Principal Association, Schools That Can, Harvard's Wide World, CEI-PEA, North American Reggio Emilia Alliance, and Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. She is also the Executive Board member for Council School Consortium and serves as a board member of 500 men.

A guiding principle influenced Sheila's career: "Good teachers move mountains for their students, great teachers show their students how to move mountains for themselves." Sheila's goal is to prepare her students with