

former Yugoslavia to Darfur. As early as 1897, a French Jew named Bernard Lazare reflected on the massacres of Armenians that had already taken place and speculated that the Jew-haters of Europe might one day turn to an "Armenian solution" of their own. Four decades later—the Holocaust.

At the same time, the Armenian Genocide reminds us of our collective responsibility in the face of such crimes. In fact, it was in a statement from the Allied Powers denouncing the massacres that the phrase "crime against humanity" first appeared. The Armenian Genocide helped set a precedent that a murderous crime against a minority is a crime against us all—that there is a collective responsibility to prevent genocide.

That precedent and that responsibility came too late to save 1.5 million Armenians—along with all those killed in genocides that stopped too late. We have lived up to the responsibility first formulated in the wake of the Armenian Genocide all too imperfectly. But may this commemoration remind us of that responsibility—as the United Nations Genocide Convention tells us, a responsibility not only to address genocide after the fact, but to prevent it. We have a responsibility for action, not apathy: action to end crimes against humanity and punish the perpetrators.

We share the same goal: seeing the truth of the Armenian Genocide recognized by Congress. I hope to see a bill recognizing the genocide pass, and I wish that had happened in December. Unfortunately, by our count, the votes were not there—and in our opinion, a loss would have been a set-back cheered by genocide deniers. But I applaud the work you to do preserve the memory and the lessons of this historic truth. And I believe the day will come when Congress recognizes that truth, as well. You can count on my vote.

The evil of the first recognized crime against humanity can never be undone, and the dead cannot be restored to their families and their homeland. But may the memory of their lives inspire us to speak out and take action against crimes against humanity in our own time, and to pursue the justice that was denied to those 1.5 million.

REMEMBERING ROBERT W.
WELLER

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise with great sadness to honor the passing of a dear friend, Bob Weller.

Bob was a retired certified public accountant who was a managing partner of the George S. Olive & Company's Richmond office in my district. Bob began his distinguished career with George S. Olive, now BKD LLC CPAs and Advisors, in Indianapolis in 1950, and he later moved to Richmond with his wife, Margie, and their young family to open a new office. He went on to serve as the managing partner there for thirty years.

But Bob was more than just a working man; he was a community man. He gave freely of his time and resources to benefit those around him. Bob served as President of the Wayne County Chamber of Commerce, President of

the Boys Club, and President of Green Acres (now Achieva). During his time at the Chamber, he was instrumental in leading efforts to rebuild Richmond, Indiana, following a devastating double explosion in 1968.

Some of Bob's other involvements included the Forest Hills Country Club, Kiwanis International, Reid Memorial Presbyterian Church, Central United Methodist Church, and the Indiana University Alumni Association. Like many Hoosiers, Bob was an avid Indiana University basketball and football fan, and he greatly enjoyed fishing, hunting, traveling, and spending time with his family.

I give my sincere condolences to Bob's loving wife of 62 years, Margie Walraven Weller; his sister Laverne; his three children Marcia Enslin, Robert Weller Jr., Mark Weller and their spouses; and his seven grandchildren. May I offer the Lord's comfort that we find in the Good Book that "Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail."

HONORING MR. ABRAHAM
BREEHEY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life of my friend Abraham Breehey, who passed away yesterday at the young age of 35.

Abe was a champion for working men and women throughout his career. As Legislative Director for the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Abe was a leader among his colleagues representing the building and construction trades. He fought for labor and economic policies that would promote a fairer economy, and was an early leader in making the case that an energy policy to combat climate change would also be economically beneficial to those who, like boilermakers, are engaged in energy production.

I got to know Abe before coming to Congress. We served together in Albany, where I was a Member of the New York State Assembly and Abe was a legislative aide to my Western New York colleague Sam Hoyt. We bonded over our shared love of music, and Abe gave me my first lessons on the guitar, a fact he never grew tired of reminding me about.

Abe's life was tragically cut short, a victim of brain cancer. He leaves behind a wife and daughter. He had much more left to give the people he fought for, but he had already given so much. His advocacy will be missed by the labor movement, and his warm heart will be missed by his friends.

For my part, I will honor Abe by drawing inspiration from his work on behalf of those working in the building trades, and by redoubling my commitment to support cancer research.

Abe was a gentleman, a professional, an optimist and a good, kind friend. He is missed.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CREATING
REAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR
PROSPERITY (CROP) ACT

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss an issue that greatly affects agricultural employment in my district and across the country. Against the backdrop of a beleaguered economy still recovering from the recession many small community banks have been unable to extend loans to farmers. Credit is needed to hire new employees, purchase seed, fertilizer, and fuel, all of which creates economic opportunity and subsequently produces jobs. The Farm Service Administration in the United States Department of Agriculture makes direct loans and loan guarantees to farmers who cannot qualify for regular credit. These loans allow farmers to continue growing rural economies and producing a safe and secure food supply.

The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 1992 provided banking institutions to extend credit to farmers for a 15 year period. During the 111th Congress, the extension of term limits was allowed to expire on December 31, 2010, leaving family farmers without the ability to receive much needed operating loans to run the farm and hire employees. That is a why I am proud to introduce the Creating Real Opportunities for Prosperity Act, otherwise known as the CROP Act, which suspends the term limits and extends the period for guaranteed credit to December 13, 2013. This will provide much needed access to loans for farmers.

Farm operating loan term limits will be addressed by the next Farm Bill and this suspension of term limits will allow the members of the House Committee on Agriculture to determine what solution or changes need to be made while providing the security for community banks and farmers.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the House (and Senate) to support me in passing the CROP Act and bring stability to rural economies.

THE PROPOSED ELIMINATION OF
LEARN AND SERVE

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to the proposed elimination of Learn and Serve America, the only Federal program dedicated to investing in service-learning in local schools and communities, in this budget. This decision is reckless and short-sighted, and I do not believe it reflects our values as a nation.

We live in a world full of challenges that require the collective attention and action of citizens of all ages. Through service-learning, young people across the country learn to apply knowledge and skills they pick up in the classroom to address these challenges in their community. Thanks to Learn and Serve, students have conducted energy audits in their

schools and homes, preserved the histories of their towns, tested the quality of water in local streams, refurbished homes of the elderly, confronted bullying and teen violence, promoted financial literacy, and helped communities prepare for disasters.

By getting involved in the community in this manner, students not only learn valuable citizenship skills, they learn to succeed. Research has shown that service-learning increased academic engagement and civic engagement. It prepares young men and women for the transition to adulthood and gives them the skills they need to succeed in the careers of their choosing.

Service, citizenship, community, opportunity—these are all values we treasure as a Nation, and values our budget should work to promote. That is one of the many reasons why I have been a longtime supporter of the Summer of Service, which works to increase the number of intensive summer service-learning programs for middle school youth. And yet, this budget resolution eliminates support for service-learning, and abolishes a clear pathway for youth under age 16 to engage as participants in national service.

As a result of this short-sighted cut, nearly 1 million students will lose the opportunity to take part in service-learning. At a time when State and local budgets are shrinking, nearly 600 individual schools, 450 school districts, 985 community colleges, and 240 colleges and universities—as well as 35,000 of our nation's most innovative K–12 teachers and higher education faculty—will lose desperately needed funding. Almost 16,000 community-based organizations will lose more than 14 million volunteer service hours provided by students engaged in service-learning, diminishing their capacity to deliver urgently needed health and human services to those most in need. And towns and cities across the country will lose access to student volunteers, who contribute services valued at up to \$310 million.

In short, this cut is penny-wise and pound-f foolish. I urge the administration to encourage the Corporation for National and Community Service to identify cost savings and provide a competitive innovation fund for high impact service-learning programs. Our students cannot afford to lose these opportunities. Our schools cannot afford to ignore their civic mission. Our local communities cannot afford to lose the critical support. And our future as a nation cannot afford to lose these values of citizenship.

HONORING THE LIFE OF WAYNE GRISHAM

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, Wayne Grisham was a business leader and a public servant who spent a lifetime enriching the communities of the San Gabriel Valley and the Gateway Cities. As a La Mirada city councilman, a California assemblyman and a U.S. Congressman, he brought civility and good humor to his public service. As a small businessman, he contributed to the entrepreneurial spirit that forms the backbone of the Southern California

economy. He is greatly missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing him and serving with him.

In the 1982 Congressional election, Wayne and I had the misfortune of finding our districts drawn together. No elected representative hopes to face one of his own colleagues in a primary election, but I will never forget the civility with which Wayne conducted himself when we found ourselves in those unexpected circumstances. While we engaged in a very rigorous campaign, Wayne was always a true gentleman. That election exemplified the strength of character for which Wayne has always been known.

Before Wayne served his community as an elected representative, he served his country in World War II with honor and distinction. As a fighter pilot his plane was shot down over Germany, where he became a prisoner of war. When he returned home, he was recognized with a Purple Heart.

Wayne continued to serve his country not only through elected office, but as director of the Peace Corps in Kenya. He was appointed by President Reagan to this post in 1983.

I was very saddened by the news of his passing, but I count it a privilege to have served with him and I join his family and friends to honor the life of Wayne Grisham.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE WOMEN'S RESOURCE CENTER DURING SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Women's Resource Center at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) for highlighting Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

It is reported that worldwide, one out of every three women will be physically abused during her lifetime. In the United States, nearly two million women are assaulted each year, and more than half of all women will be physically assaulted during their lifetime. Last year in Texas, there were over 15,000 pending cases involving sexual assault or indecency with a child. In El Paso alone, there were over 850 pending cases reported.

These numbers indicate the severity of a widespread problem that can have devastating social and health-related consequences. To highlight the problem of violence against women and to support the survivors of sexual violence, the Women's Resource Center at UTEP, in collaboration with the Take Back the Night Foundation, will be one of ten partners throughout the nation that will participate in the second annual 10 Points of Light to Take Back the Night initiative on April 28th. This national initiative has assembled community organizers, campus advocates, and student leaders to illuminate the darkness of abuse, domestic violence, and sexual assault.

Take Back the Night is a powerful movement that started in the 1970s to combat sexual violence and abuse on campuses and in communities around the world. The UTEP Women's Resource Center provides supportive services for students, faculty, staff, and administrators at the university.

Today, I am proud to recognize the Women's Resource Center at UTEP, the Take Back the Night Foundation, and everyone who is helping with this important initiative. As a husband, father, and grandfather, I am proud to lend my voice to this effort. I encourage all Americans to raise awareness of sexual assault in our nation and help empower individuals to "end the silence and stop the violence."

COMMEMORATING NISEI FARMERS LEAGUE'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of myself and my colleagues the Majority Whip (Mr. MCCARTHY) and the Gentleman from California (Mr. DENHAM), to extend my congratulations to Nisei Farmers League as they celebrate their 40th anniversary on April 16, 2011.

Farming in the San Joaquin Valley witnessed dramatic changes in the 1960s and 1970s. A small group of Japanese-American growers met near Fresno to discuss the need to unify growers and establish a robust network to protect their rights and property. As more growers joined the group, the Nisei Farmers League was established, taking its name "Nisei" from the term for second-generation Japanese-Americans.

Today, the Nisei Farmers League works to keep its members informed on important issues and is a strong voice for valley growers. Together with my colleagues, I recognize the commitment the Nisei Farmers League has provided to its members for 40 years.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION WELCOMING THE NEW STATE OF SOUTHERN SUDAN, ENCOURAGING SUDAN AND SOUTHERN SUDAN TO RESOLVE SEPARATION ISSUES AND THE FUTURE OF THE ABYEI REGION, AND URGING THE GOVERNMENTS OF SUDAN AND SOUTHERN SUDAN TO ABIDE BY THE PRINCIPLES OF PEACE, DEMOCRACY, AND HUMAN RIGHTS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution welcoming the new state of Southern Sudan, encouraging Sudan and Southern Sudan to resolve separation issues and the future of the Abyei region, and urging the Governments of Sudan and Southern Sudan to abide by the principles of peace, democracy, and human rights.

Sudan is geographically the largest country in Africa and one of the least developed regions of the world. Sudan has been ravaged by civil war intermittently for four decades and ethnic, religious, and economic conflicts have ensued between the Muslim north and Christian-animist south. These past twenty years,