

me in recognizing and congratulating the Victor Alfieri Society's 100th anniversary.

HONORING REVEREND OBBIE L. BURNS

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 2, 2011*

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

Whereas, Reverend Obbie L. Burns today begins a new chapter in his life and the life of New Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church in Lithonia, Georgia; and

Whereas, Reverend Obbie L. Burns under the guidance and favor of God, will this day be installed as Pastor of the New Macedonia Baptist Church and under his leadership he will be charged to pioneer and sustain New Macedonia Baptist Church, as an instrument in our community that uplifts the spiritual, physical and mental welfare of our citizens; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the hungry and is a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, Reverend Burns is a spiritual warrior, a man of compassion, a fearless leader and a servant to all, but most of all a visionary who has shared not only with his Church, but with our District and the world his 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 Reverend Obbie L. Burns on his installation as Pastor;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim April 17, 2011 as Reverend Obbie L. Burns Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 17th day of April, 2011.

WILLIAM CHESTER HUTCHISON  
TRIBUTE

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 2, 2011*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize William Chester Hutchison of Cortez, Colorado. Mr. Hutchison was one of the area's most prominent citizens, serving his community through business, philanthropy and military service.

Before moving to his beloved hometown of Cortez, Mr. Hutchison joined the U.S. Air Force where he served his country during World War II. Following the war, Mr. Hutchison returned to his life in Colorado. He became a certified public accountant and opened his own accounting firm. Though he worked in a small town, he served on a number of national accounting committees.

His great love was interacting with the community. He was a member of Montezuma Valley Presbyterian Church, the Elks, Masons and Rotary Clubs, and was a pyrotechnic display operator. He worked hard to bring fairs, parades and light shows to the area. Among many other pursuits, Mr. Hutchison also sat on

several area boards, most notably the Hospital Board and the Citizens State Bank. He also helped institute the Roland Schneider Scholarship Fund.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize one of Cortez's foremost citizens. Colorado was greatly influenced by Mr. Hutchison's life and his legacy will continue to impact the state.

RECOGNITION OF THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 2, 2011*

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, on April 26, 1761, at the urging of Colonel William Williams, the official incorporation and names of Pittsfield and Berkshire County, Massachusetts were approved by the colonial governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Sir Francis Bernard. The name Berkshire reflected a connection with the English Berkshire, while the naming of Pittsfield reflects an admiration for William Pitt, Earl of Chatham. Pitt, dubbed the "Great Commoner," was a supporter of the colonies in America.

For 250 years the people of Pittsfield have been innovative, resourceful and resilient. The first agricultural fair was held in Pittsfield, and the first written reference to our national pastime of baseball is found in a 1791 city ordinance. William Stanley set up the transformer business in Pittsfield that eventually became the General Electric corporation.

Today, Pittsfield is once again a city on the rise. Fueled by the creative economic sector, Pittsfield is thriving by embracing diversity, art and culture.

I congratulate the citizens of Pittsfield on this occasion of their city's remarkable 250th anniversary, and I wish them the best as we embark together on a bright future.

HONORING THE 30TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF 10,000 DEGREES

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 2, 2011*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 30th anniversary of 10,000 Degrees, a unique Marin County nonprofit formed to connect low-income students with the resources necessary to make their college dreams a reality. Established on the principle that educational equity is both the foundation and the responsibility of a strong community, 10,000 Degrees has already made an invaluable contribution to the future of Marin County.

Originally known as Marin Education Fund, 10,000 Degrees targets youth of all ages to ensure that their image of a college education is one of possibility. No one should be denied the opportunity to excel in school simply because of personal or financial circumstances, and no society can afford to squander the talent and ambition of its young people simply because they are allowed to question their future.

10,000 Degrees offers programs to empower our students. For those in elementary

or middle school, it makes introductions to local college campuses and to positive role models pursuing higher education. For those in high school, it offers scholarships, financial aid training, and a number of intensive college preparation and mentorship seminars that set students on the path to college.

In keeping with its commitment to equity, 10,000 Degrees is particularly effective in targeting those students most at risk of leaving the educational system. It tailors programs to low-income and first-generation graduates, building linkages between peers struggling with the same barriers to success, and earning an enviable track record in the process. Every one of the students in its mentorship program has graduated high school, 98 percent have enrolled in college, and 84 percent have graduated.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in congratulating 10,000 Degrees on its 30th anniversary in Marin. It is organizations such as these that strengthen and enrich our county, and we are grateful to them for their passion, their expertise, and their dedication to our community.

HONORING NORA LEE ADAMS

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 2, 2011*

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

Whereas, one hundred years ago a virtuous woman of God was born in Houston County, Georgia, on April 15, 1911; and

Whereas, Mrs. Nora Lee Adams moved to Dooly County, Georgia, where she married Mr. Henry Adams and through their union was blessed with 12 children, 27 grandchildren, 29 great-grandchildren and 31 great-great grandchildren; and

Whereas, this phenomenal Proverbs 31 woman has shared her time and talents as a wife, mother and motivator, giving the citizens of Georgia a person of great worth, a fearless leader and a servant to all who wants to advance the lives of others; and

Whereas, Mrs. Adams has been blessed with a long, happy life, devoted to God and credits it all to the Will of God; and

Whereas, Mrs. Adams along with her family and friends is celebrating this day a remarkable milestone, her 100th birthday, we pause to acknowledge a woman who is a cornerstone in our community in DeKalb County, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Adams on her birthday and to wish her well and recognize her for an exemplary life which is an inspiration to all;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim April 15th, 2011 as Mrs. Nora Lee Adams Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 15th day of April, 2011.

COMMEMORATING THE 96TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 2, 2011*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, 96 years ago this month, the Ottoman Empire began a brutal campaign against its Armenian citizens, marking the beginning of the Armenian Genocide. At the end of this atrocity in 1923, more than 1.5 million Armenians had perished.

Once again, despite the absence of an official recognition on behalf of the American government, I stand to commemorate the Armenian Genocide. This injustice deserves recognition by the U.S. For years, a resolution affirming the U.S. position on Armenian Genocide has been introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives and, as a member of the House Armenian Issues Caucus, I have co-sponsored that resolution.

Over two dozen countries and 43 states, including my home state of Illinois, have affirmed the Armenian Genocide, demonstrating unwavering support for this position. As I have said before, there will never be a convenient time to officially recognize the Armenian Genocide, but we must do what is right and officially declare these atrocities as genocide.

The official commemoration of the Armenian Genocide also provides an opportunity to recognize the indomitable spirit of the Armenian people. Their daily contributions to our communities are the best testament of their kindness, strength and commitment to justice and peace. As a member of the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, I call on my colleagues in Congress and the Obama administration to join me in recognizing the 96th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide and the significant contributions of the Armenian people.

NEAL STANLEY TRIBUTE

**HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 2, 2011*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Neal Stanley of western Colorado. Mr. Stanley is the director of the Great Western Oil and Gas Company, and will receive "Wildcatter of the Year" for his work in the field of natural resources.

There are few people who possess the level of experience and knowledge that Mr. Stanley provides both his company and the state of Colorado. He has spent over 35 years working in the oil and gas industry, serving on several public and private boards. Most notably, he was president of the Independent Petroleum Association of Mountain States from 1999 to 2001 and Senior Vice President—Western Region for Forest Oil Corporation.

Mr. Stanley will join a long list of distinguished recipients of the "Wildcatter of the Year" award. His devotion to the oil and gas industry is proven by his exemplary career, and the expertise he has provided through decades of work. There is little doubt that he has contributed to the success and promi-

nence of the industry and all the companies he worked for.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Neal Stanley today. He has given years of service to a number of companies and the state of Colorado. He will be appropriately honored with the "Wildcatter of the Year" award and will continue to lead our country's charge into its wealth of natural resources.

HONORING THE LIFE OF  
MITCHELL MULAS

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 2, 2011*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with both great sadness and a sense of great honor that I rise today, along with my colleague, LYNN WOOLSEY, to honor and pay tribute to Mitchell "Mitch" Mulas, of Sonoma, California, who passed away March 31, 2011 of complications following heart surgery.

It is no exaggeration to say that Mitch Mulas was an icon in Sonoma County and a role model for generations of fire fighters, teachers and students, and farmers. He represented the best in community service and in devotion to his family.

Mitch was born in 1928 in Sonoma, California, the son of an Italian immigrant father and a mother who survived the 1906 San Francisco earthquake. He met his wife, Nilda when he was 15 and she was 13. They had their first date three years later, and three years following that, they were married. Nilda was his partner, friend and soul mate and survives him in his passing.

Mitch was a dairy farmer and a leader in the county's agricultural organizations. He joined the Farm Bureau after he graduated from high school and served as President from 1965–1967 and 1985–1986. He was inducted into the Sonoma County Farm Bureau Hall of Fame in 2002.

He took a brief hiatus from leadership positions within the Farm Bureau to serve on the Sonoma Valley Unified School Board for 12 years from 1969 to 1981. His influence stretched from the classroom to the football field, where he anchored a favorite spot in the bleachers each season. Not only did he receive the district's "Salute to Education" award but the Sonoma Valley High School Athletic Hall of Fame created the Mulas Family Recognition Award in his honor, which is presented annually to persons or businesses in the Sonoma Valley who have contributed time and resources to student athletes and coaches.

Mitch was also the "Chief," a title he wore with distinction and pride. In 1942, at the age 14, he helped his father start what later became the Shell-Vista Fire Protection District. He served first as a volunteer firefighter, was named Assistant Chief in 1955 and served in that position until he was named Chief in 1968. He served in that position until his death.

Mr. Speaker, Mitch Mulas was a farmer, educator, activist and sports enthusiast who also protected his community for 69 years as a fire fighter. But above all else, he was a devoted family man who is survived by his wife, Nilda, four children, six grandchildren and two great

grand children. An entire community mourns his passing, and it is appropriate that we honor him at this time.

HONORING THE LIFE OF  
MITCHELL MULAS

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