

Council, and a past member of the Whittier Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors.

Due to these outstanding achievements for the school district and beyond, Sandy has been selected as California's National Superintendent of the Year by the Association of California School Administrators.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring this extraordinary woman whose love and dedication to our students is overwhelmingly obvious. Let us congratulate her on her many accomplishments to the Whittier Union High School District and our community.

24TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
NAGORNO-KARABAKH WAR OF  
1988-1994

**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 29, 2012*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, this month marks the 24th anniversary of a dark chapter in modern history. During the Nagorno-Karabakh War of 1988 to 1994, Armenian civilians were indiscriminately attacked.

On the evening of February 27, 1988, Armenian civilians living in Sumgait, in Soviet Azerbaijan, were violently targeted in a three-day rampage. Armenian civilians were hunted down and brutally assaulted. Some were raped, and some were burned alive at the hands of rioters. Local police reportedly ignored repeated calls for help by Armenian civilians. The official figure from Soviet authorities, who prohibited journalists from entering the area, was just over 30 people dead and over 200 injured. However, it is believed that more—perhaps hundreds—were murdered by roving mobs.

The Sumgait Pogrom was, sadly, only the beginning.

Despite international condemnation of the pogrom in Sumgait, another anti-Armenian pogrom occurred later that year in Kirovabad, Azerbaijan, from November 21st to 27th. Due to the brutality, the Armenians of Kirovabad and the surrounding areas were forced to flee their homes.

Another crime against humanity occurred yet again from January 13th to the 19th, in 1990. Members of the Armenian community of Baku, the capital of Azerbaijan, were assaulted, tortured and killed again by violent mobs.

I would like to commemorate the Armenian victims of the Sumgait, Kirovabad, and Baku massacres to honor the memory of the murdered, and to stop future bloodshed. If we hope to stop future massacres, we must acknowledge these horrific events and ensure they do not happen again.

We will not forget the ethnic-cleansing of the Armenians from Azerbaijan.

But we need to do more—we need to demonstrate to Azerbaijan that the United States is committed to peace and to the protection of Artsakh from coercion.

We must urge Azerbaijan to cease all threats and acts of coercion against the Republic of Nagorno Karabakh.

In 1992, Congress prohibited aid to Azerbaijan because of its continuing blockade against Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh. Un-

fortunately, Congress in 2001 approved a waiver to this provision and administrations have used the waiver since then to provide aid to Baku. Congress should strengthen Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act by removing the President's ability to waive U.S. law prohibiting aid to Azerbaijan because of its continuing blockade against Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh.

I urge the Administration to remove all barriers to broad-based U.S.-Nagorno Karabakh governmental and civil society communication, travel, and cooperation.

We must reaffirm America's commitment to an enduring, peaceful and democratic resolution of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHNNY  
KILBANE

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 29, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and memory of Cleveland's Boxing Champion, Johnny Kilbane, on the occasion of the hundredth anniversary of his attainment of the title of World Featherweight Champion-ship.

Johnny Kilbane was born in Cleveland, Ohio on April 9th, 1889. He began his ascent into the boxing world at age eighteen with his first fight in the featherweight division. Throughout his career, Johnny fought in over 140 fights—resulting in 46 victories, 79 no decisions and only four losses. On February 22, 1912, in a 20 rounder in Vernon, California, Johnny Kilbane won his first world title in a fight against Abe Attell. The fight was for the World Featherweight Championship, a title he would hold from 1912 to 1923. Kilbane is believed to have held that title for the longest uninterrupted reign in boxing history.

A Cleveland local, Kilbane held a number of positions after he retired from the boxing world. During World War II, he worked as a boxing instructor at Camp Gordon in Georgia, Camp Sherman in Ohio, and Camp Custer in Michigan. He was also a boxing referee and instructor at local high schools. He operated a training club in Vermillion.

Johnny transitioned into politics as well, and was elected to the Ohio State Senate in 1941. He also held office as a State Representative, and was elected to the Municipal Court Clerk's Office in 1951, a role which he served until his death in 1957.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the life of Johnny Kilbane and the 100th anniversary of his achievement of the title of World Featherweight Championship.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SOM-  
ERSET COUNTY MILITARY FAM-  
ILY SUPPORT GROUP

**HON. MARK S. CRITZ**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 29, 2012*

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a military support group in my district that provides deployed members of our armed forces

and their families with material support, emotional comfort and spiritual sustenance.

Founded in 2003, the Somerset County Military Family Support Group sends deployed service members monthly packages containing food, health products, books, letters and games. The group also counsels family members of deployed military personnel, takes part in festivals and parades in order to pay homage to the sacrifices of our soldiers, gathers and distributes information about pressing issues facing members of the military and their families and holds annual candlelight vigils to honor all those who have worn our nation's colors in battle.

Because the group is comprised largely of veterans and individuals from military families, its members understand the physical and psychological strain our troops experience each day they are separated from their families, and the emotional turmoil the family members of these service members are forced to endure as a result of knowing that someone they love is in harm's way. That they chose to use their first-hand knowledge of these struggles to craft a renowned military support program speaks to their capacity to turn hardship into an outstanding gift for others.

Mr. Speaker, while all of us appreciated the valor and sacrifices of our troops, only the most talented and proactive among us are able to act on this appreciation in a way that makes an impact on thousands of lives. The Somerset County Military Family Support Group has not only accomplished this, but has done so while spreading the spirit of service throughout southwestern Pennsylvania. All of us should seek to emulate the selfless efforts of its members in our own efforts to promote the greater good.

TRIBUTE TO SUNY CANTON FIRST  
RESPONDERS

**HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 29, 2012*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the heroism of those responsible for safely controlling a fire that broke out on campus at SUNY Canton this month.

Following a fire in the chemistry lab inside Cook Hall, it was the unquestionable valor and commitment of these men and women that protected students, faculty and administrators.

These individuals acted with the utmost professionalism and courage when called to duty and protected members of their community. These first responders prevented untold amounts of injury to our friends and neighbors, and saved the school from a much worse situation.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I commend and thank these emergency personnel, agencies and individuals for their bravery, selflessness, and assistance.

AAC Contracting, Atlantic Testing, Aubertine and Currier, Canton Fire & Rescue, Canton Police Department, Clean Harbors Environmental, David Sullivan—St. Lawrence County Law Enforcement Academy, Ecology & Environment, Inc., Gouverneur Fire Department, Heuvelton Volunteer Fire Department, Morley Fire Department, Murnane Building Company, NYS Office of General Services, NYS Police

Department, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, NYS Department of Health, NYS Department of Labor—PESH, NYS Homeland Security & Emergency Services, Office of Emergency Management, NYS Homeland Security & Emergency Services, Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Fire Operations & Training Branch, NYS Homeland Security & Emergency Services, Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Inspections & Investigations Branch, NYS Homeland Security & Emergency Services, Office of Fire Prevention and Control, Special Operations Branch, NYS Police Aviation Unit, Parishville Fire Department, Pierrepont Fire Department, Potsdam Fire Department, Potsdam Police Department, Potsdam Rescue Squad, President Joseph L. Kennedy, Pyrites Fire Department, Rensselaer Falls Fire Department, RSI, Ryan-Biggs Associates, P.C., St. Lawrence University, St. Lawrence County Fire Investigation Team, St. Lawrence County Hazardous Materials Team, St. Lawrence County Office of Emergency Services, State University Construction Fund, SUNY Canton Emergency Management Team, SUNY Canton Academic Affairs, SUNY Canton Administrative Affairs, SUNY Canton Advancement Affairs, SUNY Canton Student Affairs, SUNY Office of Capital Facilities, SUNY Office of Legal Counsel, SUNY Potsdam University Police Department, West Potsdam Fire Department, West Stockholm Fire Department.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. EDWARD CRAWFORD

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 29, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Edward Crawford to acknowledge his receipt of the Walks of Life Award from the Irish American Archive Society.

Mr. Crawford was raised in Cleveland Heights, Ohio. He has since become a leader in Cleveland's business sector. Edward began his career as a salesman for Island Steel while enrolled in night school at John Carroll University. In 1962, he founded the Cleveland Steel Container, a company that produced paint cans. Just two years later, in 1964, Crawford established his own investing company, the Crawford Group. In 1992, he became the chairman and chief executive officer for Park-Ohio Industries. Mr. Crawford was named the Ohio Small Businessman of the Year by the Small Business Association in 1969.

Mr. Crawford has also served on the boards of numerous companies throughout his career including Arden Industrial Products, Continental Conveyor & Equipment Company, Continental Crushing & Conveying, Inc., Resilience Capital Partners LLC and Beech Technology Systems, Inc.

In addition to his career, Mr. Crawford has continuously served the Cleveland community. Just several years ago, he led a four year, \$400,000 renovation of the Irish Cultural Garden.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Mr. Edward Crawford as he is honored by the Irish American Archive Society.

IN CELEBRATION OF MRS. GRACE VIRGINIA RICHARDSON HUMPHREY CUTTS' 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 29, 2012*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an inspiring mentor, beloved educator, respected community leader and a trans-generational pillar in Dawson, Georgia—Mrs. Grace Virginia Richardson Humphrey Cutts. On Saturday, March 3, 2012, Mrs. Cutts will be honored at an event celebrating her 100th birthday. This highly anticipated event will be attended by Mrs. Cutts' family members, friends, former colleagues, well-wishers and former students.

Mrs. Grace Virginia Richardson Humphrey Cutts was born on March 2, 1912 in Dawson, Georgia to Walter Revenna Richardson and Clara Louise Cochran Richardson. As a 92-year member of the Adoration Temperance Obedience Charity African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church in Dawson, Georgia, Mrs. Cutts is a woman who has been guided by her strong moral convictions and Christian faith. As a tenured member of Adoration Temperance Obedience Charity AME Church, Mrs. Cutts has served as the church pianist, secretary and a stewardess.

Mrs. Cutts was raised in the rural South in the 1920s, a period in our nation's history in which most African-Americans had limited opportunities to pursue their educational dreams. Despite the numerous societal challenges that lay in her path, Mrs. Cutts would go on to graduate from Allen Normal and Industrial High School. After she obtained her high school diploma, Mrs. Cutts enrolled in Georgia Normal and Agricultural College and graduated from the institution in 1949.

Understanding the importance of a quality education, Mrs. Cutts served as a teacher for 45 years. As an instructor, Mrs. Cutts helped generations of young scholars reach their full potential and obtain excellent educations. Even in retirement, Mrs. Cutts continued to serve as a mentor and tutor for young students in her community.

Mrs. Cutts has achieved numerous successes in her life, but none of this would have been possible without the support of her late first husband Calvin Homer Humphrey; late second husband Sammie Lee Cutts; late son Calvin Walter Humphrey; grandchildren; and great-grandchildren.

George Washington Carver once said, "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong because someday in your life you will have been all of these." Mrs. Cutts has advanced far in life because she never forgot these lessons and always kept God first.

The race of life isn't given to the swift or to the strong, but to those who endure until the end. Mrs. Cutts has run the race of life with grace and dignity and God has blessed her over her lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to Mrs. Grace Virginia Richardson Humphrey Cutts as she and her family prepares to celebrate her 100th birthday.

On a personal note, I would like to not only congratulate Mrs. Cutts on becoming a distinguished centenarian but also express my profound gratitude to her for her outstanding contributions to America's education system and her principled advocacy on behalf of our nation's students.

NATIONAL KIDNEY MONTH

**HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 29, 2012*

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with more than 60 of my colleagues of the Congressional Kidney Caucus in support of the goals and ideals of National Kidney Month which begins tomorrow.

Each year, the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases as well as leading kidney care organizations recognize and celebrate March as National Kidney Month to promote public awareness, education, screening and detection throughout the nation.

Currently, more than 31 million Americans are affected by Chronic Kidney Disease (CKD) and millions more are at risk. Kidney Disease is the slow loss of kidney function over time and, if left untreated, gradually progresses to end-stage renal disease marked by the complete loss of kidney function. While there is no cure for CKD, proper lifelong treatment can slow the onset of kidney failure and help control the symptoms of this devastating disease.

Recently named the eighth leading cause of death in the United States by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, nearly 570,000 Americans currently rely on hemodialysis or a kidney transplant for their survival.

The Congressional Kidney Caucus, which was established in 2002, has partnered with a number of kidney organizations to promote policies that benefit patients with kidney disease and provide Members and their staff the most comprehensive, up-to-date information related to this disease.

Throughout the month of March, the Caucus supports the thousands of kidney advocates and groups that are expected to visit Capitol Hill to discuss their experiences and advocate for enhanced patient care, research and public education and prevention.

In the spirit of National Kidney Month, I encourage my fellow Members of Congress to participate in these events on Capitol Hill and events hosted in their districts and to consider joining the Congressional Kidney Caucus in support of these efforts. Please have your staff reach out to my office if you are interested in the schedule of events or if you are interested in joining the Caucus.

IN RECOGNITION OF SISTER KATHLEEN KILBANE

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 29, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sister Kathleen Kilbane and to