

As a nation we must lead by honoring the memory of those that perished so the Armenian people and the international community can move forward toward a brighter tomorrow. The U.S. has officially recognized other such tragic events and 21 other countries have recognized the Armenian Genocide. I call on my colleagues in Congress and the Obama administration to join me in recognizing the 97th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide and urge enactment of H. Res. 304.

HONORING GERALD MICHAEL
PACE, SR.

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks in honor of Gerald Michael Pace, Sr., a devoted public servant to the people of Salem and the Greater Roanoke Valley, who passed away suddenly on Wednesday, April 18, 2012.

Born and raised in Pulaski, Jerry attended Pulaski High School, and graduated from Hampden-Sydney College. A committed student himself, Jerry was truly passionate about education. He was instrumental in helping to establish the Community College Access Program—a partnership between the Virginia Western Community College (VWCC), Salem Public Schools, and Roanoke City Public Schools, which allows high school graduates to attend VWCC without paying tuition. He was a scholar of the writings of the Apostle Paul and the Dead Sea Scrolls. And, he taught Sunday school classes on these topics at First United Methodist Church in Salem, and to civic and other community groups.

Jerry served on the Salem School Board for 15 years and one term on the Salem City Council. He was a very proud, active member of the Board of Trustees of Virginia Intermont College in Bristol and of the Board of Directors of the Virginia Western Community College Foundation. A true go-getter, Jerry even spent time working as an adjunct professor at Virginia Western Community College, where he taught sales and marketing, industrial safety, algebra, and manufacturing processes.

I am honored to pay tribute to his many contributions to the community. A husband, father, grandfather, businessman, community servant, educator, cancer survivor, friend to me and so many others, and storyteller to all, Jerry will be greatly missed. My thoughts and prayers go out to Jerry's family and friends. His legacy and influence will be long remembered across the Roanoke Valley and throughout Southwest Virginia.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF REV. EVERETT KELLEY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a personal friend of mine, Reverend Everett Kelley, upon his retirement

from the Anniston Army Depot and the Federal Government.

Mr. Kelley was born on February 24, 1957, in Goodwater, Alabama. In 1971, his family moved to Sylacauga, Alabama, where he graduated from Sylacauga High School in 1975. Later he enlisted in the United States Army and served three years at Fort Campbell in Kentucky.

In 1981, Everett began working at the Anniston Army Depot and on March 2, 2012, retired from Federal services with 34 years of service. While employed with the Anniston Army Depot, Everett was Program Specialist for the High School Co-Op Program and President of the AFGE Local 1945 for nine years. During his career he also held positions of Shop Steward, Chief Steward and Vice President of AFGE Local 1945.

During his career, Everett has served as Senior Pastor at St. Mary Missionary Baptist Church for the past 25 years.

Upon his retirement, Rev. Kelley will continue assisting Federal employees as National Vice President of AFGE District 5.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations to Reverend Everett Kelley and thank him for his outstanding service to our community and our nation.

RECOGNIZING THE SUSTAINABLE
AND GREEN INITIATIVES OF
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia, on its recent commendation by the 2012 version of The Princeton Review Guide to 322 Green Colleges and to congratulate GMU on its strong and exemplary commitment to sustainability.

Over the past several years, George Mason has taken a multilateral approach to creating a climate neutral campus. The university has compiled annual greenhouse gas inventories since 2006, designing its first Climate Action Plan in January 2010. In an effort to transition to environmentally sound construction, Mason has committed all new buildings to seek a LEED Silver designation, with six registered projects currently seeking certification. Additionally, all equipment on campus much be Energy Star-rated.

A central component of the university's strategy to reduce campus-based greenhouse gas emissions has been the development of the scope, appeal, and accessibility of public and alternative transportation to accommodate the ever-increasing student population.

Mason students also have played an important role in developing the sustainability and environmental responsibility of the University. Student organizations like the Environmental Awareness Group, the Patriot Green Fund, and the student-run organic vegetable garden facilitate opportunities for discussions, student research, and exposure of University initiatives to the local community. Students also can focus their academic careers through the Environmental Science, Environmental and Sustainability Studies majors, the Sustainability and Renewable Energy minors, or one of the

first Energy and Sustainability Master's degree concentrations in the nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating all members of the George Mason University community for their success in creating a responsible and sustainable academic community. By infusing sustainability principles into every aspect of higher education, George Mason University is training the next generation of leaders to put green ideas into practice today.

BALUCHISTAN

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Baluchistan is one of four provinces in Pakistan. It is the largest of the four provinces in terms of area (44 percent of the country's land area), but the smallest in terms of population (5 percent of the country's total). Within Baluchistan is the Baluch people group. They have their own language, culture, and history.

This distinct group of people, who once held autonomous status, was deprived of their freedom without consideration when the British Empire invaded the area. When the British took control over the area they divided the Baluchistan land into three separate parts, giving part of the land to Persia in 1896 while retaining the largest portion for India. The third and final division of the land by the British occurred in 1894 that gave part of Baluchistan to Afghanistan.

Once the British relinquished control and India and Pakistan separated, the majority of Baluchistan was forcefully annexed to Pakistan in 1948. The Baluch people never had any say—they were never asked if they wanted to be part of Pakistan.

Since then, the government of Pakistan has neglected them. Look at almost any indicator and the Baluch people are worse off than other Pakistanis. Life expectancy, school enrollment, and adult literacy are all particularly low amongst the Baluch people. This is ironic when you look at all the large reserves of gas, oil, gold, copper, silver, platinum, aluminum, and uranium it has. The Baluch people have the resources to take care of themselves, but the government of Pakistan takes the resources and either puts tight constraints on the profit that goes back to the Baluchs or gives the profit away to its friends. For example, the government has historically required Baluchistan to sell gas at a lower rate than the other provinces. Baluchistan receives a mere \$0.29 per thousand cubic feet for its gas, while nearby Sindh gets \$1.65 and Punjab receives \$2.35. Pakistan gave the exploration rights to the Saindak copper mine to the Chinese, so the Chinese will get most of the profit and the Pakistan profit the rest.

It is not just neglect of the Baluch people but also outright persecution. Since 2005, Pakistani human rights organizations have recorded numerous serious human rights violations by security forces, including extrajudicial executions, torture, enforced disappearances, forced displacement, and excessive use of force. According to the Geneva-based Internal Displacement Monitoring Center, violence in 2005 around Dera Bugti district alone displaced around 6,000 people and killed scores.

Over 2009 and 2010, Human Rights Watch detailed 45 cases of alleged forced disappearances.

Pakistan decided to respond to complaints over how they rule with brutal force. Instead, they should give the Baluch people a voice in how they will be governed. They should not only listen to their complaints, but answer them with positive steps. Should the government of Pakistan continue to not only neglect but persecute the Baluch people, it is hard to argue with Baluchs who demand self-determination. In the end, a government is only legitimate as long as it has the support of its people. The government of Pakistan is dangerously close to that line.

Apparently, the Baluch people have been reading Thomas Jefferson's comments when he said in the Declaration in the Independence, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness. That to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed, That whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the Right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government." History recorded what happened to the British when they forgot these truths. And that's just the way it is.

APRIL IS MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize April as the "Month of the Military Child."

In 1986, Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger established April as the Month of the Military Child. Since then, the communities that surround our military families have had the month of April as a time to focus on recognizing the important roles that military children play.

There is no doubt that we owe a great debt and gratitude to our military for the unparalleled freedom and opportunity we enjoy in this country. But, we need to pause and remember that this is also made possible through the dedication and sacrifices made by their families and children as well. While I understand it is important to show our support for the military and their loved ones every day of the year, I welcome the emphasis placed on the children of service members in the month of April.

As a way to offer my continued support and gratitude, I recently introduced H.R. 4341, TRICARE for Kids, which would help the Department of Defense and its TRICARE program develop and encourage health care practices and policies that are designed to address the specific health care needs of military children and families. The Department of Defense estimates there are approximately 1.9 million military children, and I believe we all need to work to ensure they have access to the resources and support that best meets their needs—including health care.

Without the selfless contributions our military and their families have made throughout history, our great nation would not have the freedom that it does today. Military children are a special part of that aspect of our history, as they are the young, brave, and often unnoticed heroes who have stood strong alongside their parents who have risked their lives and fought for our country and way of life. I thank every one of them for what they do, and I would like to ask every Member of Congress to join me in offering support throughout this Month of the Military Child.

HONORING DICK WYLIE

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Dick Wylie for his 25 years of service as President of Endicott College in Beverly, Massachusetts.

Receiving a bachelor's degree from Plymouth State College and a master's and doctorate from Boston University, Dr. Wylie has led by example as a professor and administrator at several notable institutions, including the University of Connecticut, Temple University, the University of Colorado, and Lesley University.

Thanks in part to Dr. Wylie's leadership and dedication to higher education, Endicott College grew from a small, two-year women's college into the esteemed four-year coeducational institution it is today. Specifically, when Dr. Wylie arrived in spring of 1987, Endicott College had an enrollment of fewer than 600 students. Its campus consisted of 28 buildings on 140 acres; the College's operating budget was \$7.7 million; and its endowment was \$3.9 million dollars. Today—25 years later—almost 5,000 students are enrolled at Endicott College, which now has 51 buildings on 235 acres of land. The College's operating budget is now over \$85 million, and its endowment is more than ten times what it was in 1987.

In 1996, Dr. Wylie helped found the Van Loan School of Graduate and Professional Studies, which currently offers Master of Business Administration, Master of Science in Technology and Nursing (M.S.), Master of Arts, Master of Fine Arts, and Master of Education degrees as well as accelerated bachelor's degrees for adult learners. In December 2011, the College received approval to offer its first doctoral program, a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership, which is reportedly the first approved doctoral program on the North Shore of Massachusetts.

Throughout his tenure at Endicott College, Dr. Wylie has never lost sight of the school's philanthropic duty to give back to its community. Mr. Speaker, it is worth noting that, just this past year, Endicott College's study body put in 15,000 hours of community service, an achievement which earned them recognition from the White House.

Dr. Wylie also established Endicott Colleges "Keys to Degrees" program. This forward-thinking program seeks to provide young, single parents the opportunity to receive a college education. Providing an environment that supports not only their needs but their children's as well, the Keys to Degrees program

allows our young parents to have a better life and in turn offer a better life to their children.

Dr. Wylie's vision for providing single parents the services they need and deserve did not begin and end with the "Keys to Degrees" program, but it continues with a variety of educational services including internships and mentoring programs as well as weekend retreats on campus for both the students and their children. His stewardship in intergenerational education has recently earned him the distinct honor of being named a fellow at the Aspen Institute.

On May 5, Endicott College will be formally celebrating Dr. Wylie's remarkable 25 years as president. I look forward to being with him and his colleagues that night. In the meantime, I wanted to take this opportunity to recognize and congratulate Dr. Wylie as well as thank him for his efforts to educate and provide opportunities for students of all ages.

IN RECOGNITION OF EARTHFEST 2012

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the Earth Day Coalition of Cleveland, as they celebrate EarthFest 2012 on April 22, 2012—a date that also commemorates the 23rd annual celebration of EarthFest in Cleveland, Ohio.

Cleveland's Earth Day Coalition was formed in 1990 to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of Earth Day in Ohio. EarthFest is now Ohio's largest environmental educational event and the longest running Earth Day celebration in the nation. I stand in recognition of the staff and volunteers of the Earth Day Coalition for all their effort and dedication in creating such an innovative, exciting and educational event for the Greater Cleveland community to enjoy. This year, EarthFest's theme is "Year of Local and Sustainable Food." Over 175 environmental exhibits are expected from environmental and community organizations, government entities and businesses. EarthFest is just one of Earth Day Coalition's many nationally-recognized programs and promises once again to be a significant aspect of the world celebration of Earth Day.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the staff, volunteers, and members of the Earth Day Coalition as we celebrate EarthFest 2012 on April 22, 2012 at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo and The RainForest. EarthFest 2012 promises to educate, inspire and motivate all of us to join together as a community and work toward a more healthy Earth for future generations.

HONORING DR. ROBERT AGRELLA

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Rep. MIKE THOMPSON, to honor the career of Dr. Robert Agrella, who formally retires from his position as president