

whether or not it aids the Nation's recovery. Senate Democrats either fail to understand our economic problems or have, as troubling as it may be, chosen to ignore them.

THE HOLOCAUST

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks on the topic of my 1-minute.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

Mr. COHEN. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Today, there was a Yom HaShoah service held in the United States Capitol, and they were held in State Capitals throughout the Nation. It's the remembrance of the Holocaust that occurred in Europe. Six million lives were lost.

What the Yom HaShoah program is about is never to forget the Holocaust and never to forget what caused it to occur, to remember the outstanding military and people that helped Jews survive, the military that liberated the camps and the hundreds of thousands of righteous gentiles who helped and risked their own lives to save Jews. I wear a button for Raoul Wallenberg. The Swedish Government sent people over here, and he was a diplomat that saved 100,000 Jews, and they participated today.

There was testimony about how Treasury Secretary Morgenthau and two people in his administration, Mr. Pehle and Mr. DuBois, implored the President to help rescue Jews, and they did so. Many, many were lost because we didn't get involved soon enough. Never be silent to evil and remember the victims of the Holocaust.

I urge you to visit the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with people in the U.S., in Israel and around the world in recognition of International Holocaust Remembrance Day. On this day we honor the memory of the six million Jews and the many millions of others who perished during the Holocaust and we celebrate the strength and perseverance of the survivors. By stopping each year to recognize the significance of this day, we also rededicate ourselves to the principles of individual freedom and to a just society and we renew our pledge to Never Forget.

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Yom Hashoah, or Holocaust Remembrance Day, which is the official Israeli Day of Remembrance for victims of the Holocaust. During the Holocaust, six million European Jews were systematically annihilated by the Nazi Regime. Today, I rise to pay tribute to those whose lives were irreparably affected by the Holocaust and to reaffirm my commitment to human rights.

The extermination of the Jewish people during World War II is greatest crime against humanity committed by a nation state in the history of the world. The Holocaust was initiated by members of the National Socialist (Nazi) Party, led by Adolf Hitler, who took control of Germany in 1933 and began increasing assaults on the rights and properties of German Jewish citizens.

During World War II, the Nazi party went even further and implemented their "Final Solution" which sought to eliminate the entire Jewish people. Of the nine million Jews who had resided in Europe before the Holocaust, approximately two-thirds perished. In particular, over one million Jewish children were killed in the Holocaust.

Holocaust Remembrance Day, observed on the 27th day of Nisan on the Hebrew Calendar is observed internationally by the Jewish community. This day of remembrance was established in 1953, by a law signed by the Prime Minister of Israel, David Ben-Gurion, and the President of Israel, Yitzhak Ben-Zvi. Although the date was established by the Israeli government, it has become a day observed by Jewish communities and individuals worldwide. Today, many commemorate Yom Hashoah with candle lighting, speakers, poems, prayers, and singing. Often, six candles are lighted to represent the six million lives lost.

Holocaust Remembrance Day is a day of public observance and education. Public observance is important because it serves as tribute to those who perished. It is up to us to learn and share their stories on their behalf.

Further, the Holocaust was the ultimate disregard for human rights. Education is the best way to prevent these human rights abuses in the future. By encouraging educational programs about the Holocaust, we can help prevent future acts of genocide.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in observing Yom Hashoah and in doing all we can to teach our children and future generations to work together to prevent bigotry, hatred, and prejudice. Let us commit ourselves to combating intolerance wherever it might exist.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the six million European Jews murdered by the Nazi regime during the Holocaust. Today, we join together to remember the victims who perished. We stand in solidarity with the people of Israel and around the world to honor Holocaust Remembrance Day, Yom Hashoah.

Six million Jews were killed at the hands of the Nazis as a part of the "Final Solution" to eradicate all of Europe's Jews, and countless others were brutalized, raped, dehumanized, and robbed. It is essential to listen and learn from the stories of the past, and to ensure that the experiences of the Holocaust are preserved as a permanent part of our history.

Too many times in history, people have stood by and allowed the targeting, brutalization, and massacre of an innocent civilian population. The 2012 theme of these Days of Remembrance, Choosing to Act: Stories of Rescue, highlights the actions of several witnesses who risked severe punishment to help Jews to safety. These actions serve to remind us of the amazing power of individual choice to act in the face of injustice. The principle "Never Forget, Never Again." is a commitment to fighting hatred, intolerance, and brutality through education, dialogue, and determina-

tion. We can honor those who died in the Holocaust by countering similar atrocities in the future.

Holocaust remembrance is even more crucial today, given recent events in the Middle East and around the world. In the past year, there has been an increase in statements of Holocaust denial throughout Europe, Asia, South America and the Middle East. The world has also witnessed an alarming increase in anti-Semitic attacks, coupled with harsh criticism of Israel that is tinged with anti-Semitism. As tensions escalate in the Middle East, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has alluded to the goal of the annihilation of Israel. It is continuously important to strengthen the U.S.-Israel relationship, and to focus on the goal of achieving lasting peace in the Middle East.

The annual Days of Remembrance are particularly meaningful to my community and to me, as a Jew. My district, the 9th Congressional District of Illinois, is home to one of the largest concentrations of Holocaust survivors in the country. Skokie, located in my district, attracted many Jewish families in the wake of WWII, and remains a vibrant Jewish community today. There are currently 1,000–2,000 Holocaust survivors living in Skokie, and this community understands the importance of preserving memories and honoring history.

In 2009, the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center in Skokie opened in Skokie, assisted by active involvement of the community, and welcomes over 250,000 visitors annually. The Holocaust Memorial Foundation of Illinois has been educating school and community groups since 1981, and due largely to these efforts, Illinois was the first state to make Holocaust education mandatory. This center for education and preservation of history was made possible by the hard work and dedication of the community, and its commitment to combating intolerance.

Later this month, I will have the pleasure to visit with the remarkable students from McCracken Middle School in Skokie, who founded a student group to help prevent child labor around the world, Aiding Children Together, or A.C.T. On March 22, 2012, McCracken students involved in A.C.T. had the opportunity to visit the Illinois Holocaust Museum for their Student Leadership Day. The day included discussions, a chance to explore the museum, and then students were able to sit with survivors of the Holocaust at lunch and hear their stories. Students were deeply affected by guest speaker Nadja Halibegovich, and her account of living through the Bosnian War and genocide as a child. One student reflected, "Just seeing all of the people who were killed in his horrible time just really made me want to push through, and make sure this would never happen again". Another student mentioned, "We should never forget what happened. I want to help and change the future; I won't be a bystander!"

Throughout these days of remembrance, we look back on the atrocities of the Holocaust, and we honor and mourn those who perished. It is equally important to remember the survivors and to learn from their experiences. As we move forward, it is imperative to preserve the past and to continue teaching the history of the Holocaust. We must commit today to fighting hatred and indifference in a world where genocide is an ever-present problem.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, today is Yom Hashoah U'Gvurah. It is a day to remember

the Holocaust heroes and martyrs—those who fought and those who resisted; those who survived and those who perished.

In Israel, the day is marked with the piercing wail of sirens that stops traffic and calls the nation to attention. Those sirens evoke the cries of loss, the cries of families torn asunder, the cries for vibrant Jewish communities reduced to memories and the cries of resolve that the State of Israel exists today as haven for Jews fleeing persecution.

In the United States, Yom Hashoah is observed with events in cities and states around the country. This week, the L.A. Museum of the Holocaust held a Walk of Remembrance and a day of activities at its memorial in Pan Pacific Park.

In Washington, DC, Yom Hashoah is commemorated as part of the Days of Remembrance sponsored by U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC.

This year, the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's events have the theme, "Choosing to Act: Stories of Rescue." It is especially appropriate as we mark the 100th birthday of Raoul Wallenberg, a Swedish Diplomat who used his post to save as many as 100,000 Hungarian Jews. His legacy is profound and this nation is proud to have made him an honorary citizen of the United States. With the Raoul Wallenberg Centennial Celebration Act that passed the House this week, he is also one of the next awardees of the Congressional Gold Medal of Honor.

Jewish tradition teaches that for one who saves a life, it is as if they have saved the whole world.

People like Wallenberg, Irena Sendler, Miep Gies and the thousands of others recognized by Yad Vashem as "Righteous Among the Nation" risked their lives over and over again for the Jewish people they saved. In doing so, they restored humanity in a place where there was no value for human life. They brought dignity to a time in history that is measured in shame. They helped save the world from being eclipsed by the evil of Nazism.

It is an honor to rise and pay tribute to the survivors of the Holocaust, the rescuers, and the liberators. At a time when fewer and fewer survivors are alive to tell their stories, we must all bear witness to their tremendous legacy.

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to solemnly recognize Holocaust Remembrance Day—Yom Hashoah. This date marks the anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising, when thousands of Polish Jews, faced with deportation and certain death, launched the first urban-uprising in Nazi-occupied Europe.

Surprised by the makeshift, yet effective, resistance they encountered, German troops systematically leveled the ghetto building-by-building and killed or deported to death camps tens of thousands of innocent men, women and children. We look back with sadness at the terror and despair these victims must have felt and with admiration at the courage and strength they summoned. And from their heroics, we are called to remember how much we lost, as well as what we gained, from this unprecedented tragedy.

The Nazi killing machine slaughtered millions of people—law-abiding and productive members of society—because they were Jewish. We will never know what scientific discoveries these people or their children would have made, what businesses they would have started, what books they would have written,

what music they would have composed and what trophies they would have won. Their loss has left a void not only in Europe, but throughout the world, and our lives are diminished because of it.

Let us honor the memory of those who perished in the Holocaust by remembering their suffering and bravery, standing by our friend and ally Israel, and fighting for justice and peace.

ANTIETAM NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD MEMORIAL ILLUMINATION

(Mr. BARTLETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT. Mr. Speaker, Baltimore, Maryland, was site of the first blood that was shed in our Civil War on April 19, 1861. The next year, on September 17, 1862, the bloodiest one-day military battle in America's history took place on farms along Antietam Creek near the small town of Sharpsburg in Washington County, Maryland.

The 24th Antietam National Battlefield Memorial Illumination will take place on Saturday, December 1, 2012. At twilight, 23,110 luminaries prepared by 1,400 volunteers will be lit, one for each soldier who fell there. Twenty thousand people will personally witness 23,110 individual lights not divided into camps, one Union, the other Confederate, but one unbroken formation across peaceful, rolling farmland on a silent winter night.

The first illumination in 1988 was spearheaded by Georgene Charles, the event's founder, who continues each year to coordinate this monumental effort. Local Girl and Boy Scouts, the Hagerstown-Washington County Convention and Visitors Bureau, and others take pride in preparing North America's largest memorial illumination.

I highly recommend you make time to attend the 24th Antietam National Battlefield Memorial Illumination on December 1, 2012. It powerfully reminds us of the true costs of war and the sacrifices by generations of the members of our military and their families. It is a truly moving event. Please come.

□ 1430

TRIBUTE TO "HUMAN EVENTS"

(Mr. ROKITA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend a publication that has played a central role in shaping the ideas that have powered the conservative movement for decades.

Launched in 1944, Human Events is the Nation's oldest conservative newsweekly. In 1961, a rising star by the name of Ronald Reagan began reading Human Events. He enjoyed it so much that throughout his Presidency he would receive the very first issue each week hot off the presses.

Back in 1992, I was honored to serve as an intern for Human Events, where I worked closely with political editor John Gizzi, whom I consider a good friend. This week, Human Events relaunched its print edition with a new format and expanded Washington coverage.

Conservatives have long depended upon Human Events to carry out its mission, which is to analyze events through the eyes that favor limited constitutional government, local self-government, free enterprise, and individual freedom. That is a mission I wholeheartedly support.

I commend Human Events to you, Mr. Speaker, and to this entire body.

SMALL BUSINESS TAX CUT ACT

(Mr. MCCLINTOCK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, the House just passed H.R. 9, purporting to give a temporary tax cut to small businesses. I say "purporting" because it doesn't cut spending at the same time, and thus it merely shifts current taxes into the future. Once a dollar has been spent, it has already become a tax, taken either from today or from tomorrow to pay off deficits.

Nor does H.R. 9 do much to promote economic growth because it does little to reward new productivity at the margin. At best, it produces a 1-year sugar high until the bills come due.

Tax cuts without either spending reductions or real economic growth are an illusion. Real tax reform would permanently reduce the marginal tax rate for all businesses and cut government spending concurrently. This would encourage and reward growth, shift investment decisions from politicians to entrepreneurs, and not rob our economy of its future. I hope before the end of this session that we will do so.

PROGRESSIVE CAUCUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 5, 2011, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. ELLISON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, my name is KEITH ELLISON, and I will claim the time on behalf of the Progressive Caucus. This is the Progressive Caucus' moment where we come together and talk about our ideals, our values, the things that are critically important, we believe, to all Americans.

This week, I'm joined by two outstanding leaders in the Progressive Caucus and in the Congress and in America, HANK JOHNSON of Georgia and LYNN WOOLSEY of California. I want to invite both of my colleagues to jump in as they feel inspired to do so, but let me just set the groundwork a little bit.

This week, we saw a number of things occur. One of the things that we saw this week is the Buffett rule that