

MARIA HERNANDEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Maria Hernandez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Maria Hernandez is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Maria Hernandez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Maria Hernandez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

**COMMEMORATING THE ARMENIAN
GENOCIDE**
HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Armenian Genocide, one of the bloodiest, most tragic occurrences of the twentieth century.

In 1915, the Ottoman Empire began implementing a program to systematically exterminate its Armenian population. Committing crimes so vast that they nearly defy belief, the Ottomans resorted to death marches, human burnings, mass starvation, extermination camps, and other outrages that still shock the human conscience. More than a million people were slaughtered in the carnage.

It is hard to imagine anyone today visiting Armenia's Tzitzemagapert, the genocide monument and memorial, without being shaken by the experience, as I was. The site is a permanent reminder of the horrifying depravity mankind is capable of when unshackled from any notion of mercy or compassion.

That the Armenian people could recover from such a tragedy, and recover from the ensuing decades of Soviet rule, to establish an independent state in which they control their own destiny, is a tribute to the amazing resiliency and love of freedom harbored by the Armenian nation.

On this anniversary of the beginning of the Genocide, let us remember and honor the victims of this terrible crime.

**IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE
JAMES EDWARD SHEFFIELD**
HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the Honorable

James Edward Sheffield—husband, father, trailblazer, airman, judge, lawyer, law professor, community leader, humanitarian and friend. Judge Sheffield left this world on March 28, 2013, at age 80. He is survived by his wife of 56 years, Patricia Allen Sheffield, two daughters, Joi Elisa Sheffield and Shari Leta Sheffield, both lawyers, and a host of family members and friends.

Born during the Great Depression in Hot Springs, Ark., he was one of nine children of a railroad Pullman porter's family. He worked his way through junior college and three other college-level schools, including the University of Illinois, where he earned a bachelor's degree in political science in 1955. He served 3½ years in the Air Force and was honorably discharged in 1959.

He was a district executive with the Frederick Douglass District of the Robert E. Lee Council, Boy Scouts of America, in Richmond from 1959 to 1963, responsible for providing the Scouting program to the African-American community. While also an honor law student at Howard University, he clerked for the chief counsel of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights in Washington, D.C. He also clerked for Spottswood Robinson, the first African American judge on the U.S. Court of Appeals for Washington, D.C., and Dean of the Howard Law School.

In 1963, Judge Sheffield earned a law degree from the Howard University Law School. From 1963 to 1965, he worked in U.S. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy's Honor Program at the U.S. Department of Justice, Court of Claims Section, in Washington, D.D. representing the federal government in litigation brought against it. Following his tenure there, he returned to Richmond and set up a law practice. And from September 1964 to late 1966, he was a full-time law professor at the Howard University Law School. Thereafter, he returned to Richmond to resume the practice of law.

In 1974, he became the first African-American Judge in Virginia. He was appointed by then Governor Mills E. Godwin, Jr., to the Richmond Circuit Court to fill an un-expired term created by an appointment from that court to the Virginia Supreme Court. He was subsequently elected by the Virginia General Assembly to a full-term on the Circuit Court and was later elected Chief Judge of the Court by his 7 peers.

Judge Sheffield was a member of the Virginia State Bar and the District of Columbia Bar, and served as President of the Old Dominion Bar Association. He also served as an assistant professor of law at the University of Richmond's T.C. Williams School of Law and as lecturer at the University of Virginia School of Law.

In 1980, President Jimmy Carter nominated him for a federal judgeship for the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia. However, due to the strength of racism still affecting our Senate representatives at that time, he was not confirmed.

In 1984, Judge Sheffield resigned from the Circuit Court to return to the practice of law. Shortly thereafter, he became a partner in the law firm of Little, Parsley & Myelitis, PC, in Richmond, and in later years returned to solo practice in the Jackson Ward section of Richmond.

Judge Sheffield was very active in civic affairs in the Richmond community and beyond.

A member of the Ebenezer Baptist Church, he was chairman of the church's Board of Trustees and Chairman of its Building Council. He was also on the Board of Directors of Chippenham Hospital and Children's Hospital in Richmond, was a 32nd degree Mason, a member of the Downtown Club of Richmond, the Focus Club, The Guardsmen, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, the N.A.A.C.P., the Richmond First Club, the Richmond Urban League, the Richmond Urban Forum and was the 1982-83 Regional Sire Archon of the Southeast Region of Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity (Alpha Beta Boule). He was also a member of the Board of Visitors of Virginia Commonwealth University and a member of the Board of Trustees for St. Paul's College.

Judge Sheffield was the recipient of numerous honors and awards, some of which include: the Citizenship Award, Astoria Beneficial Club, 1974; Citizenship and Service Award, King Solomon Lodge No. 27, Free and Accepted Masons, 1974; Citizen of the Year Award, Phi Phi Chapter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, 1975; Model Judiciary Program Participation Award, YMCA, 1977; Citizenship Award, Lynchburg Chapter of the N.A.A.C.P., 1979; John Mercer Langston Outstanding Alumnus Award for 1980, Howard University School of Law Student Bar Association; and the Kenneth David Kaunda Award for Humanism, at the United Nations, from Zambia, 1981. At the request of the Nigerian government, Judge Sheffield delivered a paper to Nigerian judges comparing that nation's constitution to that of the U.S., and was a member of a delegation of constitutional experts and jurists invited to help Nigeria transition from military rule to the rule of law under a constitution.

Judge Sheffield will be missed, not only by family and friends, but also by the many people who benefitted from his legal expertise on the bench, in the private practice of law, as a law professor, and by his good works in the Richmond community and beyond. In accomplishments as well as contributions, he was a giant among us.

HONORING SKYLER EVAN THOMAS
HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Skyler Evan Thomas. Skyler is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 81, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Skyler has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Skyler has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Skyler has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Skyler did painting and remodeling work at Macon Diversified Industries, the home of the local sheltered workshop for those with developmental disabilities, in Macon, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Skyler Evan Thomas for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

WILL ROARK SENECA HIGH
SCHOOL WRESTLING

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Will Roark for winning the Missouri Class 1 State wrestling championship in the 120 pound division.

The win capped off a commanding season for Will, a sophomore who went 54–1 this season. His record after two seasons stands at 109–4, a truly impressive record. Will reached this level of success through hard work and dedication. In his off-season and regular season matches, he would often choose to wrestle opponents in higher weight categories, accepting the challenge as a way to improve.

Will was also voted District 2 Class 1 Wrestler of the Year.

Will's hard work also extends to the classroom, and the results show: he is a two-time Academic All-State scholar.

This win is a vindication of his efforts. His work to improve on the mat and in the classroom is truly commendable, and I urge my colleagues in congratulating Will on his championship win.

STEERING THROUGH A SEA OF
CHANGE

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, on April 16, 2013 Taiwan's President Ma Ying-jeou took part in a video conference with the Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law at Stanford University in my Congressional District. The event was chaired by former U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, and featured a panel including the Center's Director Dr. Larry Diamond, Dr. Francis Fukuyama, and retired Admiral Gary Roughead. After opening greetings by Secretary Rice, President Ma delivered an address entitled "Steering through a Sea of Change" which follows.

Steering through a Sea of Change—Speech by President Ma Ying-jeou, Republic of China (Taiwan), Video Conference With Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law, Stanford University—April 16, 2013

I. OPENING REMARKS

Professor (Condoleezza) Rice, Professor (Larry) Diamond, Professor (Francis) Fukuyama, Admiral (Gary) Roughead, distinguished guests, faculty members and students of Stanford University, ladies and gentlemen: Good evening!

It's your evening now, but it's our morning here in Taipei. Before I start, I want to pay my deep condolences to the victims of the explosion that happened at the Boston Marathon on Monday. My prayers and thoughts

are with their family members. In the meantime, I also strongly condemn the violence on behalf of the government of the Republic of China (Taiwan). Let's start.

It is a great pleasure to address my friends at Stanford University this evening. Stanford University has long been a distinguished center of learning. Under the guidance of Professor Diamond, the Center on Democracy, Development, and the Rule of Law, through the Journal of Democracy, has made incomparable contributions to the study of democracy. Since Taiwan represents a shining example of how democracy can take root in the Chinese-speaking world, it is only fitting to join you today for this video-conference.

II. CHANGES IN EAST ASIA

Since I took office as President of the Republic of China in 2008, the geopolitical situation in East Asia has undergone tremendous change. Five years ago, there were two flash points: the Korean Peninsula and the Taiwan Strait. Today, the Korean Peninsula is at an unprecedented level of tension: North Korea has conducted a third nuclear test explosion, and in the aftermath of the resulting UN sanctions continues its saber rattling, even claiming that it has abrogated the 1953 Armistice Agreement that ended Korean War fighting 60 years ago. In contrast, tensions in the Taiwan Strait have been greatly reduced, and relations between Taiwan and mainland China continue to advance toward peace and prosperity.

This does not necessarily mean, however, that only one potential source of instability remains in East Asia. Geopolitical competition in both the East China Sea and the South China Sea is growing more intense even as the drive toward regional economic integration continues. In addition, three of the major players in East Asia—mainland China, South Korea and Japan—have changed leadership in the last eight months, while here in Taiwan, I was elected to a second term of office early last year.

Thus, amidst the uncertainty resulting from such changes, the Republic of China on Taiwan remains firmly committed to fostering peace and stability, and is a strong proponent of the liberal values cherished by democracies worldwide. It is against this backdrop that I would like to discuss how my administration has steered Taiwan through this sea of change.

III. HOW CROSS-STRAIT RAPPROCHEMENT WAS
ACHIEVED

I decided to seek rapprochement with mainland China long before I took office in 2008. To ensure peace in the Taiwan Strait after some sixty tumultuous years, my administration had to meet both the challenges of establishing mutual trust between the two sides of the Taiwan Strait and of rebuilding Taiwan's strength so that peace could be guaranteed.

From the start, the "1992 Consensus" was a critical anchoring point for Taiwan and mainland China to find common ground on the otherwise intractable issue of "one China." The consensus, reached between the two sides in 1992, established a common understanding of "one China with respective interpretations". With this understanding as the foundation, my administration designed a number of modus operandi that broadly defined how Taiwan would pursue peace and prosperity with mainland China. These included iteration of the "Three No's"—"No Unification, No Independence, and No Use of Force"—under the framework of the Republic of China Constitution. This formulation, grounded de jure in the 1947 Constitution of the Republic of China, sets clear parameters for how both parties can work to move the relationship forward in a positive direction

without misunderstandings or hidden agendas, so as to build mutual trust and achieve mutual benefit for the people on either side of the Taiwan Strait.

"Beating swords into ploughshares" requires pragmatism and the wisdom to remain focused on what can be accomplished in spite of past differences. So we then called for "mutual non-recognition of sovereignty, mutual non-denial of governing authority" allowing both sides to pursue substantive exchanges without being derailed by disagreements over sovereignty issues.

We also spelled out clearly to the other side, as well as to the Taiwan public, how we intended to proceed with the cross-strait dialogue. The priority of issues for the two sides to address would be "pressing matters before less pressing ones, easy matters before difficult ones, and economic matters before political ones". My administration firmly believed in setting a clear agenda from the start, to prevent the cross-strait dialogue being bogged down by intractable issues when we could see that agreement might be found on many others. The goal is to build mutual trust which is fundamental for long-term progress in developing a peaceful cross-strait relationship. I firmly believe that this "building-blocks" approach is the only way to achieve lasting peace in the Taiwan Strait.

The result of this is 18 agreements concluded between Taiwan and mainland China over the past five years, covering such issues as direct flights, tourism, economic cooperation, intellectual property rights, nuclear safety, and mutual judicial assistance. Let me just give you an example of how things stand now. Five years ago, there were no scheduled flights between Taiwan and the mainland. Now there are 616 scheduled flights per week. Five years ago, 274,000 mainland people visited Taiwan. In 2012, there were 2.5 million people. When the SARS epidemic first broke out in 2003, mainland China completely ignored Taiwan's needs and concerns. But when the H7N9 avian flu struck recently, public health experts from both sides began working together to check its spread.

Over the next three years, the two sides are expected to complete negotiations on trade in services and trade in goods under the 2010 Economic Cooperation Framework Agreement (ECFA). Both sides will also greatly expand the level of educational and cultural exchanges. For example, the number of students from mainland China studying in Taiwan, which currently is 17,000 a year, is expected to rise, and there will be more cross-strait cultural cooperation. Each side also intends to set up offices in major cities on the other side to take better care of the 7 million people and over 160 billion US dollars' worth of goods and services that moved across the Taiwan Strait last year alone. As a result, cross-strait relations are now the most stable and peaceful that they have been in over 60 years.

IV. TAIWAN'S ENHANCED INTERNATIONAL
PRESENCE

As cross-strait relations continue to develop peacefully, Taiwan is gaining an enhanced international presence. The clear parameters articulated by my administration as we began resumption of the cross-strait dialogue counter any mistaken attempt to link Taiwan's greater international participation to an agenda of "two Chinas," "one China, one Taiwan," or "Taiwan Independence." Taiwan today strives to conduct itself as a responsible stakeholder, that is, as a facilitator of peace, a provider of humanitarian aid, a promoter of cultural exchanges, a creator of new technology and business opportunity, and the standard bearer of Chinese culture.