

COMMEMORATING THE ARMENIAN
GENOCIDE

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, today we solemnly commemorate the 98th anniversary of the Armenian genocide. Over the course of eight years, the Armenian Christian population was systematically terrorized, murdered, and driven out of their country. In 1914, two million Armenians were living under the Ottoman Empire; by 1922, only 388,000 remained. Today we remember the victims of these atrocities and vow that their suffering will not be forgotten.

The horror of the Armenian Genocide was surpassed only by the silence that followed it. To this day, the Turkish government prohibits recognition of its predecessor's dark history, and has pressured others to adhere to the same base standard. The United States has a moral obligation to acknowledge the horrors of the past, just as we must recognize all genocides as crimes against humanity. Recognition of the Armenian Genocide is long overdue.

As a member of the Congressional Caucus on Armenian Issues, I hope that my colleagues will join me in paying solemn tribute to those who lost their lives and those who have survived such terrible atrocities. Let us stand up to governments that persecute their people, and reaffirm our commitment to the victims of injustice.

REPUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL BOYS
BASKETBALL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Republic High School Boys Basketball Team for winning the Missouri Class 4 State Championship.

Winning the state championship is a proud moment these boys achieved through team work and commitment. Members of the team include: Ty Abney, Jake Fletcher, Derric Mertes, Grant Hancock, Marcus Miller, Dylan Bekemeier, Canyon Smith, Cody Geiger, Chase Hoffmann, Dillen Ramsey, Dakota Fortner, Josh Vaughn, Jordan Kerr, Brock Yocum, and managers Tyler O'Dell and Zach McGill. Through their hard work and dedication they finished the season with an overall record of 28–4 and the Missouri Class 4 State Championship.

I also want to commend the coaching staff, which includes Head Coach Trevor Fisher, Dan Stander, and Donny Call, for a job well done. This season was Coach Fisher's first year at the program, and he certainly begins his head coaching career on a strong foundation.

The Republic Basketball Team had tremendous support throughout their season; their friends, family, and fans attended the tournaments, cheered them on throughout the basketball season and followed them to Columbia for the state championship. Over 500

fans welcomed the team home for a victory celebration.

This win is a proud moment for the team and the community, and I urge my colleagues in congratulating the team on their victory.

HONORING THE VILLAGE OF
MANLIUS, NEW YORK, ON ITS BI-
CENTENNIAL

HON. DANIEL B. MAFFEI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

Mr. MAFFEI. Mr. Speaker, I want to extend my congratulations to the Village of Manlius, New York on the occasion of its Bicentennial Celebration. I am honored to join the Central New York community in celebrating the Village of Manlius on this historic occasion.

The history of the Village is well documented and we proudly share that history with members of our community. The Village of Manlius became the first village in Onondaga County in 1813. At that time, very few communities throughout New York had been granted similar powers by the state to govern themselves. The City of Syracuse was still swamp-land in 1813 and did not come into existence until the construction of the Erie Canal in the 1820s.

Before the construction of the Erie Canal, Manlius was an important business location as people traveled along the Cherry Valley Turnpike and Seneca Turnpikes. In fact, the growing Village was defined as one of the most prominent business locations in Onondaga County. The Village continued to grow as a suburb of Syracuse, and by the 1960s, became the fastest growing village in New York State. In 1973, a portion of the Village was listed on the National Register of Historic Places as the Manlius Village Historic District.

Villages are often cited as providing the services that are closest to the residents. The Village of Manlius has offered residents high quality services and locals take pride in all their village has to offer. The Village is widely known for its picturesque Swan Pond, the Village Center, the Manlius Fire Department and the charming commercial district. The Memorial Day Parade and 4th of July celebration are annual events that bring together people from across the region to celebrate all that is good about living in a community with such rich history.

For 200 years the Village of Manlius has served as a vital part of Onondaga County and Central New York. There is so much to be proud of and I am grateful and fortunate to have such a vibrant community within the district I represent. Once again, congratulations to the Village of Manlius and good luck in the next 100 years!

TRIBUTE TO FORMER RIVERSIDE
COUNTY SHERIFF LARRY D.
SMITH

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague RAUL RUIZ to pay tribute to

a hero from our Congressional districts, Sheriff Larry D. Smith. Today, I ask that the House of Representatives honor and remember Sheriff Smith, who dedicated his life in service to our community. On Friday, April 19, 2013 Larry passed away at the age of 68 at his home in La Quinta, California after fighting a long battle with cancer and pneumonia.

Larry received a bachelor's degree in public management from Pepperdine University. His 36-year career in law enforcement began in 1966 in the small town of Blythe, California near the Colorado River, where Larry was a deputy sheriff. As he earned promotions throughout his career, he brought up many deputies through the ranks, including current Riverside County Sheriff Stan Sniff. In 1987, Smith was promoted to Chief Deputy Sheriff in Riverside County. As Chief of the Corrections Division, he oversaw the financing and construction of two modern jails, including the Southwest Detention Center in French Valley that opened in 1993.

As Larry was completing his law studies and planning on retiring to open a practice, then-Sheriff Cois Byrd encouraged him to run for Sheriff of Riverside County. He was challenged in his first term, but ran unopposed for his second. During Larry's tenure as sheriff, he presided over a department that currently has 3,000 deputies and police 17 cities, in addition to 300 square miles of unincorporated areas. He also helped the county acquire land from the federal government that eventually became the Ben Clark Training Center near March Air Reserve Base, where law enforcement officers and firefighters from throughout the state train. The county's largest jail, the Larry D. Smith Correctional Facility in Banning, bears his name. Larry was also the first man to serve as both sheriff and coroner after the two departments merged.

Larry served our community for eight years from 1994–2002, and was the 11th of 13 men to serve as sheriff in the department's 120-year history. He was succeeded by Sheriff Bob Doyle. Even after Larry had retired, he would still offer his counsel to his successors on corrections, a field in which he was considered an expert. He also mentored other sheriffs as President of the California State Sheriff's Association and strongly advocated education for his deputies.

According to his wife Toni, Larry's approach to his career was influenced by his Midwestern roots. She said, "He was a very dignified, humble man. He was an Illinois farm kid who saw good in everyone . . . He always talked about doing things for the right reason, not just in big things or in small things, but in all things."

Larry was also active in the Palm Desert Community Presbyterian Church, where he mentored pastors on running an organization, and programs for those battling addiction. A scholarship will be established in his name to help people afford to attend the Ranch Recovery Center in Desert Hot Springs, which provides treatment alternatives for drug and alcohol abuse, according to his wife.

On Saturday, May 4, 2013 a memorial service will be held at the Palm Desert Community Presbyterian Church in Palm Desert, California. Smith is survived by his wife, a daughter and two sons.

The dangers our police officers face every day often go unnoticed and without remark. Each story is unique and humbling for those of

us who, far from the dangers they have faced, live our lives in relative comfort and ease. In the case of Sheriff Smith, he was blessed to have the love and strength of his family to help him along the way. I extend my condolences to Larry's family and friends; although Larry may be gone, the light and goodness he brought to the world remain and will never be forgotten.

RECOGNIZING MICHAEELEN EARLE CROWELL

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Mrs. Michaelen Earle Crowell on her recent promotion from legislative director to chief of staff to Senator BERNIE SANDERS (I-VT). It is a well-deserved honor.

For eight years, Michaelen served as my legislative director, managed my legislative staff, and strategized successful initiatives like health care reform, the Voting Rights Act reauthorization, and the crafting of the Voter Empowerment Act. When Michaelen joined my staff in 2005, she brought balance, leadership, and practical experience to our Ways and Means Committee health care and Oversight Subcommittee work.

A native of Lowell, Massachusetts, Michaelen is a seasoned policy expert and strategist. She grew up in a family engrained in progressive politics, and Capitol Hill was a natural fit. Nearly 20 years ago, she began her congressional career as a research assistant on the Committee on Labor and Human Resources to my good friend, Senator Edward M. Kennedy.

Michaelen went on to earn undergraduate and law degrees from Boston University. She then gained first-hand experience with health care law in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, before moving to Atlanta to practice health care, business, and civil law. She also returned to her public service roots—providing counsel during the transition and inauguration of Mayor Shirley Franklin and serving as legislative director and counsel for the newly-elected Congresswoman Denise Majette (D-GA) who served the congressional district which neighbors the one I represent.

Although we miss Michaelen and her beautiful family—her husband James and children Jac and Ellie—I wish them continued success and happiness, and I congratulate her from the bottom of my heart on her recent promotion.

COMMEMORATING THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 24, 2013

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the genocide of Armenians committed by the Ottoman Empire. We have a grave obligation, in truth and justice, to acknowledge this genocide against Armenians. This House is obligated, as is the

government of the United States, and all peoples and governments around the world. That obligation is all the more grave because the Turkish government—our friend and ally—aggressively denies this genocide.

The facts surrounding the genocide are well known and established beyond any doubt whatsoever. Beginning in April 1915, following years of pogroms and other repressive measures, Ottoman authorities undertook the systematic annihilation of as many as one and a half million Armenians through shootings, mass burnings, gassing, poisoning, drowning, forced labor, or death marches into the Syrian desert. The scale and ferocity of these atrocities were unprecedented in the modern era. The Honorable United States Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire 1913–1916 Henry Morgenthau characterized the policy of the Ottoman government as a “campaign of race extermination” and was instructed by Secretary of State Robert Lansing to continue his protests along with the officials of many other countries, including allies of the Ottomans. Most tellingly, the post-World War I Turkish government indicted the top leaders involved in the “organization and execution” of the policy and in the “massacre and destruction of the Armenians.” The chief organizers were all condemned to death for their crimes, though the verdicts of the courts were not enforced.

As is well known, Raphael Lemkin did not coin the term “genocide” until 1944, almost 30 years after the Ottoman massacre of Armenians. But in his groundbreaking work on the subject, Lemkin cited the case of the Armenians as the classic example of genocide. His idea of genocide as an offense against international law was widely accepted by the international community and was one of the legal bases of the trial of Nazi leaders at Nuremberg.

Despite the overwhelming preponderance of evidence of the Ottoman government's policy of annihilation of Armenians and the virtually universal acceptance of the Armenian case as a classic example of genocide, the government of the modern state of Turkey refuses to acknowledge the crimes of the previous regime as the responsibility of the Ottoman government or as a case of genocide. Indeed, the Turkish government even has undertaken the persecution of those Turks who recognize the genocide.

One day the Turkish government will acknowledge the genocide. That will be a great day for Turkey—for the moral air of the country—and a truly patriotic gesture, a sign of spiritual strength. The sooner the better! The United States does a disservice to Turkey and its people by facilitating genocide denial by not pressing Turkey harder to acknowledge the truth.

WALNUT GROVE LADY TIGERS BASKETBALL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP

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KYLE BEDFORD

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 Kyle Bedford for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Kyle Bedford is a 12th grader at Warren Tech North and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kyle Bedford 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 Kyle Bedford for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.