

people were taken hostage, 150 went missing and 487 people became disabled. Also in the records maintained, 76 of the victims were teenagers, 8 families were wiped out and 25 children lost both of their parents while 130 lost one of their parents. According to Human Rights Watch and other international observers, the Armenian Armed forces were reportedly aided by the Russian 366th Motor Rifle Regiment.

At the time, Newsweek magazine reported: "Azerbaijan was a charnel house again last week: a place of mourning refugees and dozens of mangled corpses dragged to a makeshift morgue behind the mosque. They were ordinary Azerbaijani men, women and children of Khojaly, a small village in war-torn Nagorno-Karabakh overrun by Armenian forces on 25–26 February. Many were killed at close range while trying to flee; some had their faces mutilated, others were scalped."

As part of the Khojaly population that tried to escape, they encountered violent ambushes that led to abuses, torture, mutilation and death. The Russian organization, Memorial, stated that 200 Azerbaijani corpses were brought from Khojaly to Agdam within four days.

Time magazine published the following description: "While the details are argued, this much is plain: something grim and unconscionable happened in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly 2 weeks ago. So far, some 200 dead Azerbaijanis, many of them mutilated, have been transported out of the town tucked inside the Armenian-dominated enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh for burial in neighboring Azerbaijan. The total number of deaths—the Azerbaijanis claim 1,324 civilians have been slaughtered, most of them women and children—is unknown."

The extent of the cruelty of this massacre against women, children and the elderly was unfathomable. This anniversary reminds us of the need to redouble efforts to help resolve the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. The United States as a Co-Chair of the OSCE Minsk Group should intensify its efforts to reach a resolution of this protracted conflict.

Mr. Speaker, Azerbaijan is a strong ally of the United States in a strategically important and complex region of the world. I ask my colleagues to join me and our Azerbaijani friends in commemorating the tragedy that occurred in the town of Khojaly as well as Black January.

A TRIBUTE TO ED JOHNSON

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Ed Johnson for being named a 2013 Hero of the Heartland by the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa.

Each year, the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa recognizes Heroes of the Heartland by selecting everyday Iowans who have done extraordinary things to help their neighbors and communities. The Iowans honored with this prestigious award displayed selflessness in a variety of courageous, charitable and thoughtful acts. The Heroes of the Heartland program not only showcases the heroes

among us, but also helps raise crucial funds to ensure that the American Red Cross is prepared and equipped to assist those that need food, shelter, and comfort during emergencies and difficult times.

As principal of Whittier Elementary School in Indianola, Ed Johnson works to improve children's lives every day. But to fifth grader Logan Major, Principal Johnson is truly a lifesaver. During a typical lunch period, Logan was eating a carrot that, without warning, obstructed his air supply. Upon seeing this student in distress, Ed wasted no time successfully performing the Heimlich maneuver to avert the life-threatening situation. While Principal Johnson may just see his actions as part of another day on the job, his quick thinking and professional response left an entire community grateful for his commitment to schoolchildren and their safety. Principal Johnson is an example of leadership that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Johnson's actions that earned him the title a "Hero of the Heartland" are a testament to the humble, hardworking and helpful people who make up the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Ed on a job well done, thanking the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa for their life changing efforts, and wishing all of those involved in the Heroes of the Heartland program continued success for years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I inadvertently missed one of the three rollcall votes on Wednesday, April 24, 2013. Had I been present, I would have voted in this manner:

Rollcall vote No. 122—On agreeing to the Rule Resolution, H. Res. 175, Providing for consideration of H.R. 1549, Helping Sick Americans Now Act—"no."

HONORING THE VETERANS OF THE HONOR FLIGHT OF THE QUAD CITIES

HON. DAVID LOEBSACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, today, over ninety Iowa veterans of World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War will travel to our nation's capital. Together, they will visit the monuments that were built in their honor by a grateful nation.

We owe these heroes a debt of gratitude. For many, today will be the first time they will see the National World War II Memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial. I can think of no greater honor than to be able to greet them and thank Iowa's—and our nation's—heroes for their service to our country.

That is why I am deeply honored to join them for their visit to the National World War II Memorial to personally thank these heroes

for their service to our nation and to pay tribute to the incredible sacrifice they made for our country.

Today's Honor Flight brings together three generations of veterans who will travel together and support one another throughout their trip. It brings together members of the Greatest Generation who defended and then rebuilt our nation to make it even stronger. It also brings together veterans who were never given the homecoming they deserved. Many of the Vietnam Veterans travelling on the Honor Flight will act as volunteer guardians for their fellow veterans—truly bringing together generations of those who have served our nation.

This trip demonstrates that we as a state and as a country will never forget the debt we owe those who have worn our nation's uniform. Iowa's veterans will be able to visit their monuments because their fellow Iowans refused to let their service go unrecognized. Their generosity is truly humbling and should inspire us all to continue to work each and every day on behalf of those who serve our nation.

I am tremendously proud to welcome the Honor Flight of the Quad Cities and Iowa's veterans of the Second World War, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War to our nation's capital today. On behalf of every Iowan I represent, I thank them for their service to our country.

CONGRATULATING DOCTOR KEN ELMASSIAN

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Doctor Ken Elmassian on his new position as President of the Michigan State Medical Society.

Doctor Elmassian is truly one of the great medical professionals and a leader in his community. After graduating from the Michigan State University College of Osteopathic Medicine in 1976, Doctor Elmassian completed a residency program in anesthesiology. His impressive career then began in Flint as an attending anesthesiologist at Flint Osteopathic Hospital. After returning to Lansing, he served as the Director of Cardiac Anesthesiology at McLaren Greater Lansing where he held many leadership positions including the chair of the Credentials Committee, member of the Critical Care Committee, vice-chair of the Department of Anesthesia, Medical Staff Secretary, and Chief of Staff as well as a member of the Board of Trustees.

These prestigious positions and titles do not take away Doctor Elmassian's focus and understanding of how patient health and professional development interact within the broader context of our state and local communities. He has held numerous leadership positions in the Ingham County Medical Society (ICMS) as delegate to the Michigan State Medical Society, chair of the Legislative Committee, past treasurer, and past president and continues to serve the ICMS as a member of its Board of Directors.

As an active member of the Michigan State Medical Society, Doctor Elmassian has served

on the Board of Directors and on both the Legislative and Financial Committees of the Board. He also enthusiastically participated for many years on the Committee on State Legislation and Regulations, as well as the MDPAC Board, the Committee on Federal Legislation, as well as other committees and task forces.

Doctor Elmassian's philosophy of engagement puts patients before politics. He believes that organizational relationships, ongoing interaction with state and federal policymakers, and coalition building are integral to developing sound health policy. It is Doctor Elmassian's philosophy that together we will achieve better outcomes for patients and providers.

As a licensed commercial pilot, Doctor Elmassian enjoys vacationing in Glen Arbor in the summer, reading biographies, the opera, mountain treks in New Hampshire, and exercising, all of which he enjoys most with his family, which includes his wife, Georgina and their sons, Joshua and Zachary.

I ask that the House of Representatives join me in thanking Doctor Elmassian for his exemplary service to his community and congratulating him on his installation as President of the Michigan State Medical Society.

A TRIBUTE TO ANNE MURR

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Anne Murr for being named a 2013 Hero of the Heartland by the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa.

Each year, the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa recognizes Heroes of the Heartland by selecting everyday Iowans who have done extraordinary things to help their neighbors and communities. The Iowans honored with this prestigious award displayed selflessness in a variety of courageous, charitable and thoughtful acts. The Heroes of the Heartland program not only showcases the heroes among us, but also helps raise crucial funds to ensure that the American Red Cross is prepared and equipped to assist those that need food, shelter, and comfort during emergencies and difficult times.

Anne Murr was named a Hero of the Heartland through her efforts as Drake University's Coordinator of the Adult Literacy Center. For more than 20 years, Anne has continued to do everything she can to change lives at the center, from playing support roles to educating and coordinating activities. Outside of her office hours, Anne also plans community-wide events to connect students, tutors and community members. Anne's work as a teacher and a leader has enriched lives and the world around her. She is truly an example our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Murr's actions that earned her the title a "Hero of the Heartland" are a testament to the humble, hardworking and helpful people who make up the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Anne on a job well done, thanking the American Red Cross serving Greater Iowa for their life changing efforts, and wishing all of those involved in the Heroes

of the Heartland program continued success for years to come.

SALUTE TO COAST GUARD STATION, PORT CANAVERAL FOR SERVICE IN SUPPORT OF AMERICA'S SPACE SHUTTLE PROGRAM

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the brave men and women of the Coast Guard Station, Port Canaveral on their reunion which is set to take place on May 4, 2013. I rise to commend the meritorious service and commitment of Coast Guard Station Port Canaveral Active Duty, Reserve, and Auxiliary personnel who supported National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) Space Shuttle missions. Their service was critical to the safety of the public and the Shuttle missions. A special thanks, also, to retired Admiral G. Robert Merrilees, who has kept a watchful eye on the Space Coast and played a significant role in this celebration of service.

On April 12, 1981, the Coast Guard Station, Port Canaveral began their service in support of NASA's Space Transportation Program (STS) program and provided that support for 135 manned space flight missions. Responsible for over 550 square miles surrounding the Kennedy Space Center, the Port Canaveral station managed STS recovery and safety missions for 30 years. These resolute men and women successfully carried out their mission to ensure the safety not only of the Shuttle, but also for over 200,000 viewers per Shuttle mission.

This dedication and mission accountability would not be possible without the contributions and calculated efforts of over 100 personnel that supported each launch.

Coast Guard Station Port Canaveral personnel played a substantial role as first responders to the Space Shuttle *Challenger* tragedy on January 28, 1986. Contributing 1,300 hours surveying 150,000 square miles of ocean surface throughout an 11 day mission and recovery operation, Station Port Canaveral deserves recognition for its stamina, professionalism, and commitment to mission execution. Their service was exemplary throughout their 30-year space shuttle support mission.

I offer my sincere gratitude and thanks to Coast Guard Station Port Canaveral and the men and women who served active duty, reserve and auxiliary roles in support of our Space Shuttle program between April 12, 1981 and February 24, 2011. May the Space Coast and our nation always remember the service of these brave men and women.

THE DAIRY FREEDOM ACT

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2013

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Dairy Freedom Act with my colleague, the gentleman from Georgia, DAVID SCOTT.

This legislation will ensure that the American public will not run into another "DAIRY CLIFF." Last Congress, we did not get to vote on a Farm Bill because, among other things, there was a major problem with the dairy policy section.

Every member that represents a Congressional District with dairy farmers is acutely aware of how our current programs failed dairy farmers and the hardship these families experienced. There is no single farm district member who disagrees on the need for fundamental reform of our dairy program. We all agree on the need to reform and improve our current dairy policies—and our bill would do just that. However, our bill would strike the proposed "dairy market stabilization program." This highly controversial piece would attempt to manage the U.S. milk supply, and in the process penalize both consumers of dairy products, and dairy farmers who expand their operations. This program was proposed to be included in the extension of the 2008 Farm Bill—but it was resoundingly rejected by the House and Senate leadership. Do we really want to run into this wall again? I don't think so if we want to get a Farm Bill done this year.

I would ask Chairman LUCAS and Ranking Member PETERSON to include the Dairy Freedom Act, what we consider to be the compromise, in the Chairman's Mark of the Farm Bill. Our bill is largely based on the Dairy Security Act offered last Congress by Ranking Member COLLIN PETERSON (D-MN) and is anticipated to be included again in the underlying Farm Bill. The only fundamental difference is that it would exclude the supply management program, and require more fiscally responsible risk management insurance premium levels for large farmers.

Supply management runs contrary to the goals of limited government and economic growth. A supply control program that will directly intervene in markets and increase milk prices will ultimately hurt producers as well as dairy food manufacturers by stifling industry growth. A national dairy policy that allows the market to determine prices paid—with the addition of a new risk management tool such as Margin Protection Insurance—will help dairy producers withstand unforeseen market conditions. This is no different than how other commodities are treated in the Farm Bill.

Our bill also represents a true compromise on dairy policy. We agree that our dairy programs need to be reformed and we have accepted over 80% of the proposals that have been made by Ranking Member COLLIN PETERSON. We agree a strong safety net is needed for dairy farmers. What we reject is the idea that government also needs to intervene in dairy markets by controlling milk production, and ultimately milk prices.

Many have labeled the disagreement about supply management as a fight between dairy producers and dairy processors. The truth, however, is that because supply management programs are designed to have government artificially manipulate prices, they are opposed by a wide variety of groups. Consumer advocates point out that increased dairy prices mean families will be forced to stretch their food budgets further, and perhaps purchase less nutritious products than dairy. Food manufacturers, retailers and restaurants know that increased dairy prices will hurt their businesses as well. And, finally, all of our major,