

a homemaker and took care of her family Mary had a knack for sewing, making all of her and her daughter's clothing as well as ties for George.

Besides her family, Mary's devotion was to the Fresno Veterans Hospital. She volunteered at the hospital for 60 years and gave over 30,000 hours of service. She was a 63-year life time member of the American Legion Auxiliary and served as their State Hospital Representative to the Veterans Hospital for 40 years. She served as president in the Auxiliary at the Unit and District level.

Mary will be greatly missed by her daughter, Gloria Jean Sinopoli; son, Sam Sinopoli; grandchildren, Anthony, Michael, Julia and Lauren; her sister, Palmira Smith and her husband Don; brother, Americo Frediani Jr. and his wife, Patricia; sister-in-law, Louise Petrucelli, cousins, nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to honor the life of Mary Sinopoli, a standup American citizen. Her presence will undoubtedly be missed, but the impact she made on our community will never be forgotten.

#### RECOGNIZING OFFICER FERNANDO SANCHEZ

#### HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 18, 2014*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Officer Fernando Sanchez for his 40 years of dedicated service to law enforcement and for his commitment to Webb County and the state of Texas.

Officer Sanchez is a remarkable and highly respected citizen who has dedicated his career to the safety of his community. First serving in 1974, Officer Sanchez worked as a detention officer for Webb County. He then attended Laredo Jr. College, where he worked diligently toward his Basic Texas Peace Officer's Certification which he received in the fall of 1975.

It was then that Officer Sanchez was transferred to the Civil Division, where he began his service as a Bailiff of the first County Court at Law under Judge Antonio Zardenetta. When Judge Zardenetta was elected to the 111th Judicial District Court, Officer Sanchez was appointed as the bailiff of the court from 1979 to 1982. In 1982, he relocated to Victoria, Texas, where he served as a Sergeant in the Sheriff's Department before returning to Laredo to continue his service to the 111th Judicial District Court as a Bailiff.

After serving as the Bailiff for the 111th Court for a combined fourteen years, Officer Sanchez worked as an investigator for the Webb County Attorney's Office from 1997 to 2004. In 2005 he was appointed as Chief Deputy for the Webb County Sheriff's Department, and within the same year was promoted to Senior Lieutenant until 2008. In August of 2009, Officer Sanchez was hired as a criminal investigator for the Webb County Public Defender's Office. He was then appointed the Bailiff and Interpreter for the 406th Judicial District Court under Judge Oscar J. Hale, Jr. from August of 2010 until his retirement in August of this year.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored and pleased to have had this time to recognize Officer Fernando Sanchez not only on his career, but on his loyal service to his community. His willingness to work in various roles where he is most needed is admirable, and has helped to create a better Laredo and Webb County. I thank you for your time.

#### RUSSIA'S CONTINUING DISREGARD FOR THE RULE OF LAW

#### HON. MATT SALMON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 18, 2014*

Mr. SALMON. Mr. Speaker, I want to bring to my colleagues' attention a September 8, 2014 article by David Clark, printed in the Huffington Post UK, entitled, "The Unacceptable Face of Putinism". In this troubling article, Mr. Clark comments on Russia's continued efforts to ignore, and in fact undermine, the rule of law. At the heart of this most recent demonstration is Putin crony, Igor Sechin, a former KGB operative-turned-Rosneft CEO, who, reportedly, upon losing an arbitration case at The Hague under the Energy Charter Treaty and being required to pay \$50 billion in compensation to the majority shareholder of YUKOS Oil, threatened the plaintiff, Mr. Leonid Nevzlin.

The lawsuit stems from the Kremlin's act of taking over YUKOS Oil and imprisoning the company's top executives. As we watch Russia violate Ukraine's sovereignty through its annexation of Crimea and flout the international community's warnings about their actions in Eastern Ukraine, it is important to note that President Putin's government continues to violate the rule of law and must be held accountable. Russia must be required to live up to their international obligations, which includes compliance with rulings by The Hague as prescribed in the Energy Charter Treaty. The international community must ensure that Russia is held accountable for their actions and meets their responsibilities under the law. I hope my colleagues will take the time to read this article.

[From the Huffington Post, UK, Sept. 8, 2014]

#### THE UNACCEPTABLE FACE OF PUTINISM

(By David Clark)

There isn't a better weathervane of Kremlin opinion than Igor Sechin. The 53 year old former KGB operative has been Vladimir Putin's most loyal and influential lieutenant since they worked together for the Mayor of St. Petersburg in the 1990s. Officially he has served as Deputy Head of the Presidential Administration, Deputy Prime Minister and now Chairman of Rosneft, the state oil company. Unofficially he has long been leader of the Kremlin's hardline siloviki faction; the group of senior intelligence and security officers who provide the muscle that makes Putin's leadership possible. So when Sechin publicly threatens the life of an exiled Russian businessman, as he did recently, it's worth paying attention. Russia's behaviour could be about to take another turn for the worse.

Sechin's outburst came at the end of a bad period for Russia. Already facing escalating international sanctions and a setback to its covert military intervention in Eastern Ukraine, an international tribunal in The Hague at the end of July found the Russian

government guilty of illegally expropriating Yukos Oil a decade ago and ordered it to compensate the company's former majority shareholders to the tune of \$50bn. This was a particularly bitter blow to Sechin who has been accused of personally orchestrated the destruction of Yukos and who's company, Rosneft, subsequently acquired its main production assets. Indeed, Rosneft stands to lose directly if its assets outside Russia are seized to facilitate payment of the award. Incensed by the loss of face and the possible loss of business, Sechin raged about the unfairness of the ruling before turing his remarks directly to Leonid Nevzlin, the largest former shareholder. Nevzlin, he warned, "should take care of himself."

It's hard to interpret this as anything other than a direct physical threat. Given Sechin's status and connections, it certainly deserves to be treated as more than a throw-away remark. Putin's Russia has a long history of using targeted assassination as a tool of policy, both inside Russia and abroad. Outside Russia the targets have usually been armed Chechen separatists. Investigating authorities in both Qatar and Turkey have accused the Russian intelligence agencies of murdering Chechen exiles on their territory.

Russia is hardly alone in carrying out the targeted assassination of those it deems to be terrorists. But it is also now one of the few countries that appears ready to use the same method against non-violent opponents. Rather than a shocking exception, the 2006 murder in London of former Russian intelligence officer Alexander Litvinenko may prove to be an ominous foretaste of what the Kremlin is capable of. Now the subject of a public inquiry, British officials long ago concluded that there was Russian state involvement in the crime.

Yet even in the Litvinenko case the motive was related to national security, or at least the Kremlin's interpretation of it. If Leonid Nevzlin has now been added to a hit list it marks a further escalation of Moscow's willingness to resort to violence beyond its border. After all, the offence that seems to have made him a target was to do nothing more than exercise his legal rights in a court of law.

In the context of the ongoing violence in Eastern Ukraine, it might be tempting for Western governments to treat Sechin's indiscretion as a matter of comparatively little importance. That would be a mistake. If Russia is allowed, in effect, to announce its willingness to resort to state terrorism, there is no way of knowing what consequences may follow. The Kremlin is strongly suspected of involvement in the dioxin poisoning that almost killed Victor Yushchenko shortly before he became President of Ukraine in 2004. Without a clear signal of international condemnation it might consider doing something similar today to President Poroshenko or Prime Minister Yatsenyuk. The message therefore needs to be sent that murder for political ends would put Russia outside the community of civilised nations.

The first step should be for the European Union to follow U.S. policy in putting Igor Sechin on the sanctions list of individuals subject to travel bans and asset freezes. The U.S. included Sechin on its list because of the immense influence he has exerted during Russia's lurch towards authoritarian nationalism. Perversely, the EU chose to exclude him from its own list for precisely the same reason. He is considered too important to be signalled out for punishment because of his involvement in the strategically vital energy sector where Europe's dependence on Russian imports has all but paralysed its capacity to act. That will need to change if the EU wants to challenge the impunity of the Russian elite.

A second step should be for Western governments to issue a formal démarche and put Russia's leaders on notice that the country will be designated a state sponsor of terrorism if any attempt is made to follow through on the threat against Nevzlin or anyone else legitimately standing up to the Kremlin. Difficult as this may be, the lessons of the recent past have to be learned. Every time the West has shied away from tough action in the face of Russian lawlessness the result has been to encourage its leaders to greater and more dangerous policy excess. It's time to draw a line.

TRIBUTE TO ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL  
OF CHARLESTON, S.C.

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 18, 2014*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a church that has been a beacon of hope and a helping people and helping hand to people in Charleston, South Carolina since the 1800's. In 1839, St. John's Chapel opened its doors to welcome people to a spiritual environment and I join them today in celebrating a monumental milestone.

On October 11th St. John's will begin celebrating their 175th anniversary of creating spiritual, social and economic opportunity and advancement for families residing on Charleston's eastside and communities across the peninsula. Their activities include the re-dedication of their historically significant building and its service to the honor and glory of God.

The Charleston community has always seen this Chapel as a place of religious refuge. Their mission is to seek and encourage members to be participants in society through collaboration and empowerment. They attempt to do this in a setting where diversity is cultivated and celebrated. They also try to create an environment and community that are conducive to peaceful interactions of its residents by strengthening ethics and morality, reducing poverty and injustice and promoting community involvement.

The Reverend Dr. Dallas H. Wilson, Jr., Vicar, has served St. John's Chapel and the Charleston community with grace and dignity. He and his staff have spent their tenure at St. John's continuing to grow its mission and pursue goals through scripture, Sacraments and service through uncomplicated worship and wholesome community activities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in congratulating St. John's Chapel for its 175 years of compassionate service to the Eastside and Charleston communities. As the church grows, I look forward to the services they will offer to the people of that area. I also hope they continue their mission furthering the cultivation of diversity. I offer best wishes and Godspeed on the occasion of this celebration, and hope they will continue their good work for many years to come.

SUTTER DAVIS HOSPITAL'S 2013  
BALDRIGE NATIONAL QUALITY  
AWARD

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 18, 2014*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Sutter Davis Hospital (SDH) was one of three organizations in the country to receive the 2013 Baldrige National Quality Award, the nation's highest Presidential honor for performance excellence through innovation, improvement, and visionary leadership; and

Whereas, Sutter Davis Hospital was selected from a field of 22 applicants that were rigorously evaluated by an independent board of examiners in seven areas defined by the Baldrige Criteria: leadership; strategic planning; customer focus; measurement, analysis and knowledge management; workforce focus; operations focus; and results. An organization may compete for the award in one of six categories: manufacturing, service, small business, health care, education and nonprofit; and

Whereas, Since 1988, only 102 Baldrige awards have been presented to 96 organizations. To date, more than 1,500 U.S. organizations have applied for the Baldrige Award, and internationally, the program has served as a model for nearly 100 excellence programs; and

Whereas, Thousands of organizations worldwide use the Baldrige Criteria to guide their operations, improve performance and achieve sustainable results. This improvement and innovation framework offers organizations an integrated approach to key management areas. The criteria are regularly updated to reflect the leading edge of validated management practice; and

Whereas, Sutter Davis Hospital has been on a long quality journey to excellence and over the years has made significant improvements. This journey has placed SDH among the best hospitals in the nation, and has now distinguished SDH as a Baldrige winner as a result of the work accomplished by all employees, physicians and volunteers working together; and

Whereas, Sutter Davis Hospital is dedicated to a patient care mission, which aims to enhance the health and well-being of people in the communities it serves, through a not-for-profit commitment to compassion and excellence in health care services; and

Whereas, The community of Davis, and Yolo County as a whole, is proud of Sutter Davis Hospital for serving as a national role model for small hospitals and leading the transformation of health care to achieve the highest levels of quality, accessibility, and affordability; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI expresses his sincere appreciation and gratitude for the vision, leadership and organization shown by Janet Wagner, CEO, and her team of employees, physicians and volunteers at Sutter Davis Hospital, for bringing a national presidential honor to Yolo County, providing quality care to all patients and serving as a steadfast community partner.

TAIWAN'S 103RD NATIONAL DAY

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 18, 2014*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as we join in congratulating our friends in Taiwan on the occasion of their 103rd National Day, I think the best way to celebrate the tremendous progress Taiwan has achieved over the past decades, and its contributions to the world, is through the continuation of our efforts to support Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations.

Twenty years ago, in the 1994 Taiwan Policy Review, the Clinton Administration declared that it would support such participation, a pledge which successive Administrations have upheld.

Ten years ago, the House passed legislation in support of Taiwan's efforts to gain observer status in the World Health Organization. Last year, this House passed bipartisan legislation to secure observer status for Taiwan at the International Civil Aviation Organization, or ICAO.

Taiwan has enjoyed observer status at the World Health Assembly every year since 2009, and was invited last year to be a guest at the ICAO triennial Assembly by the ICAO Council President.

As Taiwan is a key security and trading partner of this country, it is vital for the House to continue its support of Taiwan by bolstering its standing and meaningful participation in international bodies. Taiwan is a democracy of 23 million people who are highly educated, and highly skilled. It is to the benefit of all the world's peoples that experts from Taiwan engage with their colleagues in the international forums that seek to tackle the challenges of the 21st century.

I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support Taiwan and its people on this issue, and on the other issues vital to our shared values, security, and prosperity. Meanwhile, I also wish the people of Taiwan a happy Double Ten Day and continued success and prosperity.

RECOGNIZING MRS. VIRGINIA  
CANNINGTON FOR 31 YEARS OF  
CONTINUOUS SERVICE TO OUR  
COUNTRY

**HON. AUSTIN SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 18, 2014*

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of her retirement from the civil service with the United States Government, I want to recognize Mrs. Virginia (Ginger) Cannington for her 31 years of continuous service to our country. In her most recent position, Mrs. Cannington was an analyst for Medical Officer Special Programs in the Office of the Command Surgeon, Air Force Reserve Command, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia, where she served as the single point of contact for commissioning medical professionals into the Air Force Reserve.

Mrs. Cannington began her career with the United States Government in 1983 working for