

around the world created a forceful, universalist legacy.

President Havel once wrote: “The real test of a man is not how well he plays the role he has invented for himself, but how well he plays the role that destiny has assigned to him.” Václav Havel passed that test in sharp contrast to another leader who today is failing it miserably.

Russian President Vladimir Putin came into office in 2000 with an opportunity and an obligation to help the people of his nation transition from the ills of Soviet Communism and foreign aggression to real democracy and peaceful coexistence with other nations. Sadly, over the past fourteen years he has sabotaged Russia’s democratic transition by suppressing dissent, fostering a cult of personality, and pursuing violent and aggressive actions against Russia’s neighbors.

This has been on full display over the past year in Ukraine, where one year ago courageous protesters gathered in Kiev’s Maidan Square to reject Putin’s attempts to pull their country closer into Russia’s orbit and away from greater democracy and economic opportunity. The Maidan protests and the regime’s violent response to them ushered in a new beginning for Ukrainian democracy, with free and fair elections held earlier this year. Unwilling to accept the decision the Ukrainian people have made about the future they want for their own nation, Putin’s Russia has violated Ukraine’s sovereignty by illegally annexing Crimea as well as sending troops and equipment across the border into southeastern Ukraine, much as it has done in the nation of Georgia.

Vladimir Putin could have used his leadership of Russia to meet the challenge history presented to him and his nation after the fall of Communism. Instead, he seeks to reverse the course of history through his desire to recreate an autocratic and expansionist Russian empire. Putin might have played the role destiny assigned him, but instead he crafted a character that will surely be remembered as one of the chief antagonists of our age—not only for the democratic world but for the Russian people who yearn to be part of it.

The world needs more leaders, philosophers, activists, and humble agents of positive change like Václav Havel, and not those like Vladimir Putin who subvert democracy and upend regional peace and security. I hope my colleagues will join me in paying tribute to President Havel and remembering his extraordinary contributions to his nation, to Europe, and to the world.

CONGRATULATING HAMILTON SOUTHEASTERN JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an outstanding school in my district that is being honored as a 2014 National Blue Ribbon School. It is a pleasure to congratulate Hamilton Southeastern (HSE) Junior High School in Fishers, Indiana in celebration of this special occasion.

The National Blue Ribbon designation, given by the U.S. Department of Education, is

awarded to both public and private schools across our great nation. Started by President Reagan and given annually since 1982, the award celebrates great American schools that achieve very high learning standards or are making significant improvements in the academic achievements of their students. In my district and across the country, the award recognizes the great educators, students and parents who have worked so hard to ensure Indiana’s children reach their full potential and achieve academic success.

For all of these reasons and many more, I am so proud that HSE Junior High is receiving this prestigious designation. It is a wonderful acknowledgement of the school’s commitment to providing young Hoosiers an exceptional education. While 420 schools nationwide received nominations, only 287 were chosen as National Blue Ribbon Schools, making this recognition all the more impressive.

Serving more than 1,200 students in the 7th and 8th grades, HSE is one of the largest junior high schools in Indiana’s 5th district. The high level of performance displayed by HSE students is undoubtedly a product of the community’s dedication to educational excellence.

As a member of the Education and the Workforce Committee, I also want to acknowledge how important it is to our nation’s future to encourage and raise a new generation of Americans who have the skills and knowledge to succeed both in and out of the classroom. Students like those at HSE Junior High School give me hope that we will accomplish this vital mission. Their outstanding work is an inspiration to students, educators and parents across the nation. Once again, congratulations to Hamilton Southeastern Junior High School. I am very proud of you.

CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION AND THE WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN PROGRAM

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 40th anniversary of the partnership between the Economic Opportunities Commission and the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program. WIC provides care for women with low to medium income, who are pregnant or have a child who is less than five years old.

In 1968, CBS aired a documentary titled “Hunger in America,” that shed light on widespread malnutrition across low income communities. The following year, the White House formed a council to address the issue and a recommendation stemming from the council was to focus on providing nutritional food and education to low income pregnant women and children.

When the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 was amended in 1972, the WIC was authorized as a pilot program for two years. The EOC was one of the agencies participating in the WIC as a pilot program, and they issued the first WIC vouchers in the state of California.

In 1975, the EOC established WIC as a permanent program based on the premise that

early intervention during critical times of growth and development can help prevent future medical and developmental problems. The Women, Infants, and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program is a federally-funded health and nutrition program for women who are pregnant, breastfeeding, post-partum and children under 5 years.

Throughout the years, the caseload of the EOC WIC has steadily risen to its present high of 37,500 participants. WIC consists of 72 staff members made up of Registered Dieticians, WIC Nutrition Assistants, Local Vendor Liaisons, Breastfeeding peer counselors, and administrative support staff.

The goal of WIC is to enhance the quality of life for women, infants and children by providing them with healthy food and the knowledge and opportunity to make healthy choices in an atmosphere of dignity and respect.

Women, Infants and Children has provided support for pregnant women, nursing mothers, and children under five years of age and their mothers for nearly 40 years, and they will continue to give them physical aid and knowledge to help improve the quality of their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the outstanding work of the Women, Infants, and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program in providing aid and support to mothers and children who are in need.

REMEMBERING CARL E. SANDERS

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of former Governor of Georgia and Chairman Emeritus of Troutman Sanders LLP, Carl E. Sanders, and thank him for his service to country and community.

A Georgia native, Sanders excelled in athletics and attended the University of Georgia on a football scholarship. In 1943, he enlisted in the Army Air Corps to fight in World War II and served honorably as a B-17 Flying Fortress bomber pilot. After the war he completed his degree and entered the University of Georgia Law School. In 1947, he received his LL.B. degree, was admitted to the bar, and married Betty Bird Foy. They settled in Augusta, where their two children, Betty Foy and Carl Edward, Jr., were born.

Sanders’s political career began in 1954 when he was elected to the Georgia House of Representatives, and again two years later when he advanced to the State Senate. In 1962, Sanders became the first Georgia Governor elected by popular vote. At the time, he was the youngest governor in the country at 37. He substantially expanded and advanced transportation and education, and supported the Civil Rights movement in a place and in a time where the movement wasn’t as popular.

After leaving the Governor’s office in 1967, Sanders founded the law firm now known as Troutman Sanders LLP, which has grown into an international firm with more than 600 attorneys. Sanders managed the firm for 25 years and continued to serve the firm as Chairman Emeritus and as a partner—who continued to come to the office most days until his passing.

Sanders was a role model and community leader, his colleagues and friends will always

remember Sanders as a mentor and inspiration to Georgians and Americans everywhere.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my deepest condolences to Carl E. Sanders's wife of 67 years, Betty and the rest of his surviving friends and family during this most difficult of times.

THE U.S. AND UK HAVE A UNIQUE BOND ACROSS THE POND

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the United States and Great Britain have come a long way since we overthrew the tyranny of King George and claimed independence, liberty and freedom. Today, both of our nations stand for those three words.

From the Nazis to the Soviets, throughout the 20th century our two countries have fought those who wanted to take away freedom from others.

That fight continues today. Our troops spilled blood together fighting al Qaeda and the Taliban in Afghanistan. We oppose the mullahs in Iran that want to build a nuclear weapon and use terrorism to kill Americans and Britons in Iraq. We decry the anti-semitism at the UN. We beat back the aggression of the Russian bear. We fight for the freedom of the Internet. Pick almost any conflict around the world and Great Britain has our back.

We have nuclear agreements with lots of countries, but our agreement with the UK is the most comprehensive. That is fitting. It shows how deep our relationship runs.

H.R. 5681 would extend the U.S.-UK nuclear agreement, which has to be renewed every 10 years.

I am an original cosponsor of this bill because the UK is a strong ally of the United States. It is in the interest of the American people that the U.S. and UK continue to strengthen one another.

A RESOLUTION HONORING MONSIGNOR FELIX S. DIOMARTICH

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following resolution:

Whereas Monsignor Felix S. Diomartich is the oldest priest in the City of Los Angeles and the Šibenik region of Croatia;

Whereas Monsignor Diomartich was born on November 2, 1914 in Zlarin, Croatia making him 100 years old;

Whereas Monsignor Diomartich is celebrating 77 years of service in the priesthood;

Whereas Monsignor Diomartich began his life's journey at the parish of Vodice as the Associate Pastor;

Whereas Monsignor Diomartich earned two doctorate degrees theology and church law at the Gregorian University in Rome, Italy and obtained the title of the lawyer of the Sacra Romana Rota;

Whereas after Monsignor Diomartich came to the United States and served at three par-

ishes in the Archdiocese of New York before he was invited to serve at St. Anthony Croatian Church in Los Angeles, California;

Whereas Monsignor Diomartich served for 36 years as an administrator and as a pastor at St. Anthony Croatian Church;

Whereas Monsignor Diomartich supported organizations such as the St. Ann's Altar Society for Women and the Holy Name Society for Men;

Whereas Monsignor Diomartich founded two new societies for American-born young adults called the Anthonians and the St. Anthony's Women's Guild;

Whereas Monsignor Diomartich's other accomplishments at the parish include the St. Anthony's Annual Picnic Festival, the building of a new rectory, and remodeling and expanding the original parish hall;

Whereas Pope Paul VI awarded Monsignor Diomartich the title of Monsignor in 1978;

Whereas the Croatian National Association and Foundation awarded Monsignor Diomartich with its Lifetime Achievement award in 2008;

Whereas although Monsignor Diomartich has retired from its administration, he continues to reside at the St. Anthony Croatian Church, helping with masses and confessions; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives recognizes that Monsignor Diomartich through his passion of spreading the word of God, has inspired and guided the residents of Los Angeles and has brought unity and pride to the Croatian community.

RECOGNIZING THE HOLY TRINITY ARMENIAN APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF FRESNO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church (Holy Trinity) of Fresno, California in celebration of their 100th anniversary. Holy Trinity's service and dedication to bettering the quality of life in the Fresno community deserves to be recognized.

The Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church that stands today on the corner of Ventura and "M" Street was constructed in 1914. It was the first church ever built in the tradition of Armenian Church architecture in the United States of America. The gorgeous brick church was designed by Fresno's first Armenian architect, Lawrence Karekin Cone. Upon its completion, a handful of soil delivered from the Monastery of St. Krikor the Illuminator Erzeroum, Armenia, was placed in the infrastructure. Additionally, sacred objects from St. James Monastery in Jerusalem were brought as a symbol to bridge the church with the homeland and Holy Land. Holy Trinity is the first and oldest Armenian Church in the western United States. It was added to the National Register of Historic Places on July 31, 1986.

For the past 100 years, Holy Trinity has served the spiritual needs of Fresno's Armenian community. The church has a strong history of assisting the Armenian community by providing various services to those in need.

Most notably the church was essential to the lives of immigrants fleeing from fear of genocide by the hands of the Ottoman Empire in 1915. The church continued these charitable efforts by providing aid and services to displaced persons during World War II, after the fall of the Soviet Union, and wars in the Middle East.

Holy Trinity works daily to build upon a strong community. The social hall, Sunday school building, and Fresno's first Armenian day school are all resources used by individuals to connect with one another and demonstrate their faith. Holy Trinity's goal to keep the Armenian Apostolic tradition alive through service to the Armenian and Fresno community is greatly appreciated.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Holy Trinity Armenian Apostolic Church of Fresno, California as they celebrate their 100th anniversary. Holy Trinity's outstanding history and service to the Fresno Community deserves to be honored.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, November 14, 2014 I was not present to vote on H.R. 5682, legislation approving the Keystone XL Pipeline. Had I been present for roll call No. 519, I would have voted "YES."

HONORING RAFFAELA CICARELLI ON HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ROSA L. DELAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to rise today to wish Raffaela Cicarelli a very happy 100th birthday! Rae, a cousin of my mother Luisa, has been a very special part of my family's life and today she joins my mom as a centenarian!

Rae's story is like that of many others of her generation. Born in Amalfi, Italy in November of 1914, her father left Italy for America when she was just a toddler. At the age of five, she, her mother and her uncle traveled to America to join him. Her family settled on Wooster Street in New Haven, Connecticut. Along with my grandparents, her parents ran Canestri's Pastry Shop above which both families lived.

Rae received her education at Dante and Columbus Schools in New Haven and when she was old enough to work, she was employed by Strouse Adler located in New Haven, making garment labels for brassieres and corsets. She worked at Strouse Adler for thirty-two years. And, much like my own mother, after working her day job, Rae would come home and work at the pastry shop as a sales person.

At just twenty-six years old, Rae married in St. Michael's Church in the heart of Wooster Square. After her wedding, she and her husband settled in a home on Lighthouse Road