

science, to other fields of study, and the practical applications of technology that regular space travel have made possible. With the perspective that only orbiting the Earth can provide a man, Willie McCool was inspired to dream of a borderless world of peace. That dream makes me proud. And achieving this dream should be the foundation upon which future manned spaceflight is based.

Let us renew our commitment to space exploration and manned space flight on the occasion of the anniversary of this mission and the loss of the *Columbia* crew. We also honor the memory of the *Challenger*, Mission STS 51-L, and the *Apollo 1* crews, and all pioneers who have lost their lives in the mission to explore space.

HONORING A NATIONAL LEADER
IN CHILD SAFETY: DR. ROBERT
SANDERS

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of our nation's most important voices in the fight to protect our children: Dr. Robert Sanders.

Today it is almost impossible to imagine but, as recently as the late 1970s, there were no laws requiring that young children be buckled into safety seats while traveling in a vehicle. Dr. Sanders, a soft-spoken pediatrician from my home state of Tennessee, had seen what happens to children in an automobile accident when they are not protected. He knew that so many of those injuries and deaths were preventable. And Dr. Sanders decided then and there that someone had to speak out on behalf of children and their safety.

Starting with the Tennessee General Assembly, Dr. Sanders and his wife Pat spent countless hours presenting medical data. Their facts and their passion overcame initial doubts. In 1977, thanks to the vision and determination shown by Dr. and Mrs. Sanders, Tennessee became the first state in the nation to adopt a law mandating that all children under the age of 4 must ride in a safety seat. State by state, the rest of the nation followed. Today all 50 states require this protection for young children.

Dr. Sanders passed away on January 19th after a long illness. He leaves behind his wife, Patricia Pelot Sanders, and two children. And he leaves behind a legacy of fighting for the needs of others. Even after he had won the battle for child safety seats, he continued to speak out on issues such as the need for seat belt laws, health care reform and environmental protections. His work earned him the love and appreciation of his community and citizens across the state of Tennessee, as well as awards from groups including the Tennessee Medical Association, the Tennessee Public Health Association and the Tennessee Pediatric Society.

Dr. Robert Sanders believed that each citizen had a responsibility to help others whenever possible. Dr. Sanders lived his life doing that every day. In addition to his public policy work, he served as chief physician and director of the Rutherford County Health Department from 1969 until his retirement in 1991.

Dr. Robert Sanders will be missed in Middle Tennessee. He will be missed by many who, like me, had the privilege of working alongside him as he fought for better health care policies. And he will be missed by all of us who were fortunate to know him as a neighbor, a friend and an inspiration.

TREATY OF GUADALUPE HIDALGO

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow is an important date in America's history. On February 2, 1848, the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was signed, ending the Mexican-American war. I ask that my colleagues in Congress and all New Mexicans join me in commemorating this significant date.

In 2000, New Mexico's Senators BINGAMAN and DOMENICI requested a study by the General Accounting Office to investigate whether the United States fulfilled its obligations under the Treaty with regard to community land grants made by Spain and Mexico in what is now the State of New Mexico. I was proud to join in their effort because of the importance of this issue to many of my constituents.

In June of 2004 the General Accounting Office issued its final report in response to the requested investigation. The GAO also identified for consideration by Congress a range of possible options in response to community land grant concerns. Additionally, last month, a group of land grant community leaders submitted its own ambitious proposal to resolve this situation. I want to thank them for their efforts in drafting this plan, and I look forward to working with the New Mexico delegation and the land grant communities to consider all possible approaches.

Regardless of any individual's personal thoughts on celebrating the anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, February 2nd is a significant event in the history of the New Mexico and the United States. The Treaty is a living document in much the same way that the U.S. Constitution is. Many believe, however, that our Federal Government has failed to honor the commitments it made in the Treaty of 1848 in respect to the property rights of community grants. Many Mexicans who became American citizens as a result of the Treaty lost all right and title to much of their lands.

During the 107th Congress, I introduced H.R. 1823, the Guadalupe Hidalgo Treaty Land Claims Act, which would have established a Presidential commission to determine and evaluate the validity of certain land claims arising out of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo of 1848 involving the descendants of persons who were Mexican citizens at the time of the Treaty. The GAO also recommended such a commission as one of their options for consideration by Congress.

For 158 years, descendants have been fighting to get the Federal Government to look into this matter. I am very proud to be part of the effort to bring justice to this issue. In order to move on, we need to close this sad chapter in our Nation's history. We have an obligation to do no less.

REMEMBERING THE HOLOCAUST
WHILE FIGHTING ANTI-SEMITISM

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, the anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau death camps is often selected as the day to honor those murdered at the hands of the Nazis and their collaborators. More than one million people were killed at Auschwitz before the survivors were liberated on January 27, 1945. Appropriately, each January 27, individuals and governments around the world pause to remember those individuals murdered by the Nazis during the Holocaust. Also known as the Sho'ah, Hebrew for "calamity," the Holocaust witnessed the death of six million Jews by the Nazi killing machine, many of them in concentration camps or elsewhere in a web that stretched throughout the heart of Europe. Millions of individuals—political dissidents, Jehovah's Witnesses, those with disabilities, and others including entire Romani families—also perished at the hands of the Nazis.

Holocaust Remembrance Day also celebrates those brave souls who faced unimaginable horrors and lived to tell of their experiences. In a historic first, late last year the United Nations designated January 27 as International Holocaust Remembrance Day. Initial drafters of the resolution—Australia, Canada, Israel, Russia and the United States—were joined by 100 nations in sponsoring the resolution in the General Assembly. Other international organizations, like the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), have done much to ensure the lessons of the Holocaust are taught in schools across Europe, including the former Soviet Union. In addition, the Belgian Chair-in-Office of the OSCE held a commemorative event for Holocaust victims on January 27 in Brussels.

Unfortunately, while the Holocaust is rightly remembered, its lessons have yet to be fully learned. Early on, the world said "Never Again" to genocide, only to allow genocide to happen again in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Rwanda in the 1990s, and in Darfur today. The establishment of international tribunals to seek justice in response to these crimes may indicate some progress, but the best way to honor the lives of those who died during the Holocaust or in subsequent genocides would be to have the resolve to take decisive action to try to stop the crime in the first place.

Some heads of state refuse to recognize even the existence of the Holocaust. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the President of Iran, made the outrageous claim on December 14 that Europeans had "created a myth in the name of Holocaust." Showing his virulent anti-Semitic nature, two months earlier in October, he said Israel is "a disgraceful blot" that should be "wiped off the map." While Ahmadinejad's anti-Semitic hate is shocking, other hate mongers have physically attacked Jews. In early January, a knife-wielding skinhead shouting "I will kill Jews" and "Heil Hitler" burst into a Moscow synagogue and stabbed at least eight worshippers. A copycat attack followed in Rostov-on-Don, with the attacker thankfully being stopped inside the synagogue before anyone was hurt.