

THE COMMEMORATION OF THE
ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Mr. MARKEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 93rd anniversary of the Armenian genocide.

In September of 1919, President Woodrow Wilson spoke of his vision of a future Armenia. He said, "Armenia is to be redeemed . . . So that at last this great people, struggling through night after night of terror, knowing not when they may come out into a time when they can enjoy their rights as free people that they never dreamed they would be able to exercise."

The Armenian people finally have the ability to enjoy the rights that President Wilson hoped they would have so many years ago, and for that we are all thankful.

The nights of terror that President Wilson spoke about, the Armenian genocide, was the first genocide of the 20th century. It was the opening chapter of what was arguably the most violent period of human history. In the decades following this initial genocide, the world witnessed genocidal acts against the Jews and against the Roma in World War II, and subsequently in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and in too many wars to list here. Today, the world is witnessing genocide yet again in Darfur.

There is no more important way to commit ourselves to preventing the genocides of the future than to commemorate and never forget the genocides of the past. As such, I would like to note my continuing support for House finally passage of H. Res. 106, the Affirmation of the United States Record on the Armenian Genocide Resolution. In my view, it is long past time for the United States to officially recognize the massacre of one and a half million Armenians in early in the 20th century for what it undeniably was: a genocide.

Countries all around the world have adopted similar resolutions to ensure that the atrocities committed against the Armenian people are properly recognized as genocide. Canada, France, Switzerland, Greece, and Poland have passed resolutions affirming the recognition of the Armenian genocide. Properly recognizing the Armenian genocide here in America is essential to ensure that all past genocides are never forgotten and all future atrocities are never permitted. This House must afford the proper recognition to the Armenian genocide. We must do so not only because of our solemn obligation to recognize those that were lost, but also because of our duty to those that can still be saved.

A STUDENT'S THOUGHTFUL ESSAY

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, every present and former college student knows that writing a solid essay or research paper is not easy.

So, I think it's appropriate to recognize the careful effort displayed by Theresa Snyder in

an essay published last month in the Pueblo Chieftain newspaper.

Ms. Snyder is a student at Colorado College in Colorado Springs. Her topic is a proposed water-delivery project called the Southern Delivery System, which would pipe water to that city from the Pueblo Reservoir—part of the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project—with return flows back to the Arkansas River via Fountain Creek.

Because of the complexity of the project, I joined others in asking the Bureau of Reclamation to provide additional time for comment on it—a request that I am happy to say has been granted.

I think Ms. Snyder's essay, written in connection with a class in Western Water Policy, reflects well on her and on the quality of instruction at Colorado College.

For the benefit of all our colleagues, here is the full text of her essay:

[From the Pueblo Chieftain, Mar. 16, 2008]
SPRINGS NEEDS TO CORRECT FOUNTAIN CREEK PROBLEMS

(By Theresa Snyder, Colorado College Student)

First things first . . .

In a time when water is becoming increasingly scarce, Colorado Springs has failed to explore its many options for responsible water use. The Springs, which has experienced rapid population growth in the past 40 years, is expected to grow by an additional 250,000 people by 2025.

To supplement water supply for this urban development, a \$1 billion project known as the Southern Delivery System has been proposed by Colorado Springs Utilities. The project includes storing water in Lake Pueblo and running a 43-mile long pipeline from Pueblo Dam to Colorado Springs.

The city, while possessing all the required water rights to use the additional 78 million gallons a day from Lake Pueblo, currently is completing an Environmental Impact Statement as required by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. Drafts of the statement led the citizens of Pueblo to wonder about their future as downstream water users.

The focus of Pueblo's concern is Fountain Creek. This watershed begins as Monument Creek in Colorado Springs, flows south and joins Fountain Creek, continues to Pueblo and eventually joins the Arkansas River in Pueblo.

The creek has long been used to channel return flow wastewater from Colorado Springs. As a result of the Southern Delivery System, return flows from the city into Fountain Creek would greatly increase.

Anyone who walks along the creek can see the obvious problems with erosion, sedimentation and water quality already present in the creekbed. Current return flows from Colorado Springs have altered this previously intermittent stream to a year-round flow, and are to blame for the multitude of other problems in Fountain Creek.

Increased sedimentation along the creek bed produces stretches of dirt with no trace of vegetation. Other sections of the river have channelized as severely as 20 feet below previous flow lines. The result is a creek that looks sprawled in some areas and like a small canyon with steep, abrupt walls in others.

The Southern Delivery System would only increase average flows and consequently the sedimentation and erosion that results in an unappealing creek with muddy water. Where does all of this poor-quality, heavy-sediment water go? Downstream to Pueblo.

As Colorado Springs Utilities officials prepare to launch a \$1 billion project, they have

failed to address a serious issue that will only worsen upon completion of the project. Clean-up of Fountain Creek should be first on the list of projects to tackle. Colorado Springs brings in the majority of its water from the Western Slope of Colorado. Seventy percent actually comes from Fryingpan-Arkansas water storage projects across the Great Divide. This means fresh, crisp mountain water. Yet the city passes on poor-quality water and disregards the negative effects the flows have on a natural ecosystem and downstream municipality.

Pueblo has begun to speak up and demands that Colorado Springs dam Fountain Creek to control the overall flow of the creek. A dam would control flooding as well as mitigate the negative effects from erosion and sedimentation.

Yet Colorado Springs Utilities has cited cost as the primary reason for not damming the creek. How is cost an object when the utility is prepared to shovel out \$1.1 billion for more water? It seems selfish and unfair of a municipality to not only ignore a problem such as Fountain Creek but to propose a huge project that only worsens the situation.

Colorado Springs is considered the "big bully" in this ongoing water issue. It's time for them to take a step back.

First things first: Colorado Springs officials should address the issues at hand such as Fountain Creek. They should become responsible water users before they gain access to more of the precious commodity.

Though they may have the legal rights to follow through with the Southern Delivery System, it's unfair and irresponsible to ignore the current mess and follow through with a project that brings more detrimental effects.

NATIONAL MINORITY CANCER
AWARENESS WEEK

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Ms. CASTOR. Madam Speaker, I would like to express my strong support of National Minority Cancer Awareness Week. This week increases awareness about the effects of cancer in minority communities and is dedicated to emphasizing the importance of early cancer detection.

Today, minorities are more likely to be diagnosed and die from cancer in comparison to the rest of the United States population. According to the American Cancer Society, African American men have a 37 percent higher cancer death rate than white men, and death rates for African American women are about 17 percent higher than rates for white women, despite the fact that African American women have lower cancer incidence rates than white women.

Disparities in breast cancer for minority women are among the most common. Studies have highlighted that African American women are 1.9 times more likely to be diagnosed with an advanced stage of breast cancer than white women. Hispanic women are 1.4 times more likely to be diagnosed with an advanced stage of breast cancer than white women. It is clear that, although there have been efforts to eliminate disparities in breast cancer related care, substantial disparities remain.

Today, in accordance with National Minority Cancer Awareness Week, I introduce, the Eliminating Disparities in Breast Cancer Treatment Act of 2008. This legislation will promote the implementation of standardized health care practices for breast cancer patients and help to eliminate inequities based on race, education, income, and health insurance status.

In order to eliminate unacceptable gaps in treatment quality, it is necessary that we create real incentives and requirements for doctors to provide the best care. All patients should receive the best treatment for their conditions. Quality care should be provided for everyone, not just patients that know to ask for it.

TRIBUTE TO THE MOUNT CARMEL
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. NANCY E. BOYDA

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church of Topeka, Kansas on its one-hundredth anniversary.

Mount Carmel is a fixture in the city of Topeka. It has thrived within the Capital City of Kansas throughout many adversities, both national and local. The past 100 years has offered our Midwestern State many challenges. The Great Depression, two World Wars and a Dustbowl to name a few. We have needed a place of refuge when things seemed their worst. Whatever the cause for prayer happened to be, Mount Carmel's doors have always been open to Kansans in need. They have been a provider of faith, hope and comfort . . . three products which come free and can never be overproduced.

I would be remiss to not mention the happiness born within this church as well. Babies have been baptized in recognition of life's beginnings. Countless weddings and social gatherings have taken place within its walls. Friends and loved ones have gathered around to say 'goodbye.'

It has been a meeting point for good community members. It has been a rallying point for those who make up the backbone of our Kansas communities.

I offer my sincerest congratulations to Mount Carmel Missionary Baptist Church and I truly hope they are there to serve the good people of Kansas for another hundred years.

HONORING MANAMI KITAZAWA

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Mr. DOYLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the artistic ability of a young woman from my Congressional District, Manami Kitazawa of Woodland Hills High School.

Manami is the winner of the 2008 14th Congressional District of Pennsylvania's High School Art Competition, "An Artistic Discovery." Manami's artwork, an intricately detailed charcoal drawing, was selected from a

number of outstanding entries to this year's competition. Fifty works from ten different high schools were submitted to our panel of respected local artists.

Manami is an exchange student from Japan who is spending a year attending high school in my district in Pennsylvania. I am certain that her family in Japan and her host family here in the United States are both proud of her artistic talents as well as this accomplishment.

Manami's artwork will represent the 14th Congressional District of Pennsylvania in the national exhibit of high school students' artwork that will be displayed in the United States Capitol over the coming year. I am certain Manami had no idea that one of her drawings would hang in the U.S. Capitol when she applied to study in the United States.

I encourage my colleagues as well as any visitor to Capitol Hill to view Manami's artwork, along with all of the other winning artwork that will be on display in the Capitol tunnel. It is amazing to walk through this corridor and see the interpretation of life through the eyes of these young artists from all across our country—and in Manami's case, from across the globe.

I would like to recognize all of the participants in this year's 14th Congressional District High School Art Competition, "An Artistic Discovery." I would like to thank these impressive young artists for allowing us to share and celebrate their talents, imagination, and creativity. The efforts of these students in expressing themselves in a powerful and positive manner are no less than spectacular. I hope that all of these individuals continue to utilize their artistic talents, and I wish them all the best of luck in their future endeavors.

IN MEMORY OF PAUL MOLÉ

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Paul Molé, a family man, a Marine, an entrepreneur and a long-time friend to my wife, Janice, and I, as well as our children, who died too young this week at age 60.

I met Paul more than 30 years ago while I was mayor of Simi Valley, California. A retired Marine and Purple Heart-decorated Vietnam War veteran, Paul served as the Marine bugler at Veterans Day and other veteran community events in Simi Valley and elsewhere throughout Ventura County. He founded the Marine Corps League Ventura County Detachment 597 to help active and retired Marines.

The restaurant he and his wife, Roseann, purchased from Roseann's parents in 1974 and which they renamed Paul's Italian Villa, became a mainstay of community activity. Not only was it a meeting place—official and unofficial—for the Marine Corps League, it served as the collection site for the annual Toys for Tots campaign for disadvantaged children, which Paul helped organize every year.

In addition, the Royal High School football team carbed down on spaghetti at the restaurant and were treated to Marine cheers from Paul before every game. Like many in Simi Valley, my tie to the restaurant is also personal—my daughter, Shannon, was one of the many Simi Valley teens and young adults

who found work at the restaurant. Once you became part of Paul's and Roseann's extended family, you never left.

In addition to the restaurant, Paul was building a business repairing musical instruments, which grew out of his 1940s-style swing band, Paul Molé's Late Night Big Band. Paul played trumpet with 19 other professional musicians at community events and professional venues.

Paul Molé's a man with a huge heart accented by a lively sense of humor and a love of life. He is survived by Roseann, his wife of 38 years; two grown sons, Peter and Paul; two grandchildren; and too many friends to count. Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me offering our condolences to Roseann, Peter, Paul and the rest of the Molé family, and all who knew him and called him a friend.

Godspeed, Paul.

HONORING MERCY HEALTH SYSTEMS FOR RECEIPT OF THE 2007 MALCOLM BALDRIDGE NATIONAL QUALITY AWARD

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 24, 2008

Mr. MANZULLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mercy Health System for receiving the highly prestigious Malcolm Baldrige Award yesterday at a special White House ceremony with the President. This award was created by Congress in 1987 in honor of former Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige who had a passion for instilling quality and excellence in U.S. products and services. The award recognizes those in the private sector that help improve quality and productivity. It honors U.S. companies and non-profits for organizational innovation and performance excellence.

Mercy Health System started 18 years ago as a stand-alone hospital and transformed into a vertically integrated health system with 63 facilities serving 24 communities throughout southern Wisconsin and northern Illinois. Mercy now sees over 1 million patients annually, and employs 3,856 partners, 285 of whom are employed physicians. Mercy has added nearly \$1.1 billion in industry economic sales, which has created an additional indirect 1,200 jobs in their service area. In the 16th District of Illinois, Mercy has a 77-bed acute-care hospital in Harvard, Illinois, along with 17 health care clinics in McHenry County, Illinois.

It is obvious that Mercy Health System did not reach these achievements by resting on its laurels. They have met the challenge of growth by developing a holistic approach to quality and a commitment to organizational excellence. Their actions back up their Four Pillars of Excellence: Quality, Service, Partnering, and Cost. I am impressed by their servant-leadership model as exemplified by Javon Bea, President and CEO of Mercy Health System.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to represent the employees and the patients of the Mercy Health System. They richly deserve to share in the high honor of the Malcolm Baldrige Award.