

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY, TEMA
POSALSKA BAUER

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Tema Posalska Bauer, on the occasion of her upcoming 100th birthday. Her birthday is especially notable in light of her miraculous survival through the horrors she endured during World War II.

At the time that the Nazis invaded Poland in September of 1939, Tema was a young woman of 23 living with her elderly parents and her next oldest sister, Sarah, in the City of Lodz, a city that was home at the time to the second largest Jewish population in Poland. At the time, she had seven other older brothers and sisters who were married with children and living in smaller towns near Lodz.

With the occupation by the Nazis, the siblings feared for the safety of their elderly parents and decided that it would be safer for the parents to move to the smaller town where one sister, Guacia, was living with her husband and three sons. Sarah accompanied them on the trip, and Tema was to close the house and follow after the winter.

However, before the winter ended, the Nazis created a Jewish ghetto in Lodz in which all Jews had to reside and from which no Jews could leave. Tema never saw her parents or her sister Sarah again.

She worked in the Ghetto for four years until she was deported in December of 1943 to a slave labor camp at Skarzysko-Kamienna. Normally a two-hour train ride from Lodz to Skarzysko-Kamienna, the trip actually took three full days. The women were packed into the freight train cars so tightly that there was no room to sit, no water, no food and no bathroom facilities.

With the Russians approaching from the west, Skarzysko-Kamienna was liquidated in August of 1944 and the women were sent by freight trains to a slave labor camp in Leipzig, Germany. During an Allied bombing of the camp in February of 1945, Tema was injured—her right arm being severed at the elbow. Though antibiotics were unavailable, she had great luck and strength and survived. Two months later, the camp was liquidated, and she began what turned out to be a six-day death march, that she again miraculously survived.

After liberation, she made her way back to Lodz where she found out that of her parents, eight brothers and sisters, their seven spouses and her eighteen nieces and nephews, all had been murdered by the Nazis, most of them gassed to death in the extermination camp at Chelmno—their bodies reduced to ash and bones in the crematoria.

She eventually encountered a man she had known in the Ghetto, Morris Bauer. He told her that she need not be worried about the future because he would always take care of her. And, for the rest of his life, he did until he was no longer able to take care of himself.

They married and then spent almost four years in a displaced persons camp waiting to emigrate to the United States. They arrived in the United States on October 1, 1949 and settled in Chicago.

Tema's beloved husband, Morris, passed away in 1995 shortly before their 50th wed-

ding anniversary from complications from Alzheimer's. She has lived to enjoy her expanding family of two sons, three grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. She remains mentally sharp with an amazing memory and with a keen interest in current events and politics.

Tema's 100th birthday is May 5th—the same day the world will observe Holocaust Remembrance Day. As Tema gathers with her family that day to remember and mourn the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust, including her and Morris' parents, siblings, nieces and nephews, her family also will celebrate the miraculous life and remarkable courage and luck of their family's matriarch, Tema Posalska Bauer. Her life is a blessing and an inspiration to her family and to all who know her.

HONORING CURTIS HILL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a goal oriented student, Mr. Curtis Hill.

Curtis Hill is the proud son of parents, Olivia Hill and Curtis Robinson; He has one, as he states, "nerve racking little sibling" that he loves dearly, Curshivia Robinson.

Curtis Hill is entering his senior year at Holmes County Central High School (2015–2016) and has been a Youth Organizer with Nollie Jenkins Family Center, a grassroots community-based organization, for the past four years. With the help of his high school Curtis has been in position to receive numerous scholarships, most recently, he received the American Legion Scholarship, sponsored by Oratorical Competition in which he placed 2nd in the Area Competition; and Boys State, where he put his leadership skills to a test by role playing as if he was campaigning in a fictional state called Magnolia for the prestigious office of Lt. Governor.

Curtis has also been chosen by the Electric Power Association, Yazoo Valley Electric Power Association, as one of two leaders to compete for scholarships and travel to Washington, D.C. Although, his school has provided him with these opportunities, the ground work was fertile laid as a result of his community organizing work with the Nollie Jenkins Family Center.

Through his work as a Youth Organizer, Curtis has developed career ready skills: public speaking, campaign development, facilitation, writing/creating resumes, and peer mediation. These skills proved to be of value when Curtis was chosen as a recipient of the Marguerite Casey Foundation's Sargent Shriver Youth Warriors Against Poverty Award.

In contrast to all of his scholarly achievements, Curtis holds nothing closer to his heart than his ministry in mime, for this heart warmer and barrier breaker is a way for Curtis to feel closer and at one with his King, Jehovah God.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Curtis Hill who gives back to his community, encourages others to do more than what's common and makes a difference in his community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on April 26, 2016, I was unavoidably detained and missed roll call votes 164 and 165. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on roll call 164, the Combating Terrorist Recruitment Act, and "yes" on roll call 165, the Investor Clarity and Bank Parity Act.

Despite missing the vote, I remain strongly opposed to H.R. 4820, the Combating Terrorist Recruitment Act. As a former Homeland Security official and a Member of the House Intelligence Committee, I understand the importance of a complete intelligence picture to counterterrorism operations. As this bill indicates, part of understanding threats to our homeland is receiving testimony from reformed terrorists. Responsible collection would involve looking at threats from every angle, including Islamic, right wing, environmental and other types of extremism. This bill fails in that regard, choosing instead to focus on those associated with foreign terrorist organizations.

This bill also plays into a disturbing narrative that Muslims are the sole source of terrorism in the United States. The reality, supported by academic research and federal agency testimony, is that the threat from right wing extremism is even more pervasive. While the attacks in Chattanooga and San Bernardino were carried out by Muslim extremists, the attacks at a church in Charleston and a Sikh temple in Wisconsin were by right wing extremists. Extremism, regardless of ideological basis, is dangerous and must be countered. Further perpetrating a false narrative about the outsized threat posed by Muslims does nothing but promote fear of American Muslims and ostracize them in communities across our country.

It is important for us to remember that an attack by a sovereign citizen or racial supremacist is just as devastating as an attack by a Muslim terrorist. If Congress hopes to strengthen our national security apparatus, rather than stoke fear, we should be looking for every possible opportunity to balance our counterterrorism efforts. We need to look at all threats, both foreign and domestic.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, during the votes held on April 26th, 2016, I was inescapably detained and away handling important matters related to my District and the State of Alabama. If I had been present, I would have voted:

Yes on H.R. 4096—Investor Clarity and Bank Parity Act, and Yes on H.R. 4820—Combating Terrorist Recruitment Act of 2016.

IN RECOGNITION OF STRATFORD
PORTUGUESE HALL

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Stratford Portuguese Hall Association on its 100th anniversary of service to our community.

The Stratford Portuguese Hall Association was founded in December 1915, when a group of Portuguese immigrants from the Azores Islands assembled to join the Brotherhood of the Divine Holy Spirit in the community of Stratford, California. In 2010, several Portuguese fraternal organizations, including the Brotherhood of the Divine Holy Spirit, consolidated to form the Portuguese Fraternal Society of America.

Stratford Portuguese Hall brought the “Festa” weekend traditions of serving sopas, dancing, and parades to Stratford for the first time in 1916. The celebrations can be traced back to medieval Portugal when Queen Isabel made offerings of food and festival to the people in 1296. Since 1916, these Portuguese traditions have been shared with the community of Stratford. The goal of the “Festa” is to honor the past, celebrate the present, and encourage the future, while celebrating the Portuguese culture.

To reach a 100-year milestone is a remarkable achievement, and Stratford Portuguese Hall Association has had to overcome many challenges to reach this point, including a devastating fire that destroyed the Hall in 2003. However, the Hall was able to meet the challenges it was presented with, and continues to serve our community today. As the son of Portuguese immigrants, I am proud of this incredible achievement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Stratford Portuguese Hall on their 100th anniversary and wishing them a happy “Festa” this year.

IN HONOR OF COACH DAVID
POLLARD

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man of purpose, sincerity, and high character, Coach David Pollard. Sadly and tragically, Coach Pollard passed away on April 18, 2016, as a result of a senseless accident. His funeral services were held on Sunday, April 24, 2016 at 3 pm at Cascade Hills Church in Columbus, Georgia.

Coach Pollard was born on March 28, 1980 in Columbus, Georgia to the union of Terry and Sandra Pollard Render. He was a 1998 graduate of Shaw High School and 2002 graduate of Albany State University with a Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology. He was pursuing a Master’s Degree in Psychology from Columbus State University.

He was a highly respected educator and coach with stops as a community coach at Jordan Vocational High School and he was

serving as a teacher and the Head Baseball Coach at George Washington Carver High School at the time of his passing.

George Washington Carver once said, “How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these.” Coach David Pollard understood these lessons very well.

He dedicated his life to helping others—especially our most precious resources—young people. He used the season of his life to help others to reach their full potential. He was dedicated to his craft as both a teacher and a coach. His engaging personality and steadfast faith in God as a member of Central Baptist Church made him a person that was admired and respected by all that came in contact with him. Coach Pollard was universally respected by his peers in the baseball coaching fraternity. He was loved by his players, students and colleagues. But, he knew that his life would be measured not by wins and losses on a sports field but by the difference he made in the lives of his students and players.

We all can learn so much from the life of Coach David Pollard. We must live everyday as if it were our last. Treat all people with dignity and respect and make a difference in the lives of others.

His greatest role in life was that of a dedicated husband and father. Just as he demonstrated a great love for people, he demonstrated an even greater love for his family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian and me, along with more than 730,000 people of the Second Congressional District in extending condolences to his wife, Adrienne, his daughter Joy and his entire family. “To God Be the Glory” for the life of Coach David Pollard for his contributions to the betterment of humankind.

TRIBUTE TO JACQUES ‘JACK’
YEAGER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to the remarkable Jacques ‘Jack’ Yeager who passed away in California on Wednesday, April 20, 2016. Jack was a pillar of the community in Riverside, California, and he will be deeply missed.

Born in Riverside in 1921, Jack went to local schools and graduated from Poly High School in 1939. While attending college at UC Berkeley, Jack left school to join the U.S. Navy Seabees and eventually helped build airports throughout the South Pacific during World War II. Jack eventually returned home to join the family construction business, E. L. Yeager Construction Company, which was founded by his father. At Yeager Construction, Jack worked alongside his brothers, Dick and Gene, and played an important role in the growth and success of the company. Yeager Construction was responsible for building many significant highway and other construction projects in Southern California and around the country. I had the privilege of working together with Jack on a number of projects and

causes over the years, and felt fortunate to see his passion and dedication to improving our community first-hand.

In 1948, Jack Yeager married Mary Barbara Gibbs and the couple had two sons and three daughters. Mary passed away in 1990. Later, Jack would marry Helen Hays, who died in 2009. As an active member of his community, Jack participated in a number of organizations, often in a leadership role, including: Co-founder and member of the Monday Morning Group, Board Member of the Riverside Community Hospital Foundation, Board Member of the UC Riverside Citizens University Committee, member of the Riverside County Transportation Commission, Board Member of the March Field Museum Foundation, and Board Member of the UC Board of Regents.

The way in which Jack lived his life should serve as reminder that the power of an individual with drive, perseverance and a strong work ethic can do great things. His dedication to his work, family, and community are a testament to a life well lived and a legacy that will continue. I was proud to call Jack my friend and I will deeply miss him. I extend my condolences to Jack’s family and friends; although Jack may be gone, the many incredible contributions he made to our region and the country remain and will never be forgotten.

REMEMBERING THE ARMENIAN
GENOCIDE

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember the Armenian Genocide, which began 101 years ago this month.

In nearly a decade of terror that followed, the leaders of the Ottoman Empire systematically exposed the Armenian people to torture, starvation, abduction, deportation, and mass killing. More than 1.5 million innocent Armenian children, women, and men were murdered. And millions more were expelled from their historic homeland.

All nations and peoples have a responsibility to recognize this tragedy and the reverberations it has caused for succeeding generations. Unfortunately, the historic fact of the Armenian Genocide has all too often been obscured, downplayed, or simply rejected.

As an international community, we must properly account for this historic crime, move towards peace and reconciliation in the region, and help those who carry the scars of this atrocity to heal.

The United States owes a responsibility to the victims and their descendants to publicly call the events of 101 years ago genocide. And our government should demand that Turkey—our NATO ally—acknowledge its historic responsibility for this crime.

On this somber occasion, we should remember and pray for the victims, those who survived, and the Armenian community around the world that honors its ancestors by doggedly pursuing the truth. And, as Americans, we must once against reaffirm our resolve to prevent genocide.