

"catch up" or integrate with their Russian counterparts. They continue to face widespread persecution and live under discriminatory laws. However, if these same people thrive once they come to the United States, and their children excel in school, then there is little doubt that the environment of hostility and discrimination in which they live in Russia is what is keeping them from meeting their real potential in that country.

As a result, I call on the State Department to restart the P-2 program so that those Ahiska Turks who continue to face persecution in Russia can come to the United States and rejoin their families. Ohio has benefited from their hard work, dedication, and family values. This program was a blessing for these wonderful people, and it was a good deal for the United States.

CHARLES CHURCH MCKAY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Charles Church McKay for his induction into the Jefferson County Business Hall of Fame.

Charlie is an outstanding member of the Jefferson County Business Community where he manages the development of residential and commercial real estate projects. His major ventures include the Rockwell International Training Center, the Church Ranch Corporate Center, the Smart Reservoir Expansion Project and the Candelas project in Arvada.

Additionally, Charlie serves on many community boards, offering his expertise to such organizations as the Jefferson County Economic Council board, the Northwest Metro Chamber of Commerce and Transportation Management Organization. He is the Chairman of Denver Boulder Corridor Marketing Coalition, the Historical Mandalay Community Center, Inc., the Broomfield Economic Development Council and the Founder and Chairman of Jefferson Center Metropolitan District.

Charlie and his family celebrate a rich Colorado legacy dating back to 1857, and I am pleased to see him continue a tradition of excellence. I extend my deepest congratulations to Mr. McKay for his well-deserved recognition from the Jefferson County Business Community.

RECOGNIZING THE 22ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE KHOJALY MASSACRE

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 22nd anniversary of the Khojaly massacre in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan. Khojaly, once the home to 7,000 people, was the site of the largest killing of ethnic Azerbaijani civilians in the course of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. On February 25, 1992, Armenian armed forces descended on Khojaly killing 613 people, of which 106 were

women and 83 were children. Fifty-six people were reported to have been killed with extreme cruelty and torture. In addition, 1,275 people were taken hostage, 150 went missing and 487 people became disabled. Also according to records that have been maintained, 76 of the victims were teenagers, 8 families were wiped out and 25 children lost both of their parents while 130 lost one of their parents.

The extent of the cruelty of this massacre against women, children and the elderly was unfathomable. Today, the Nagorno-Karabakh region is under Armenian occupation, and this year's anniversary serves to remind us of the need to redouble efforts to help resolve the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. As the U.S., Russia and France are co-chairs of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe's (OSCE) Minsk Group, which is charged with finding a peaceful solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, we all must work diligently to bring about a swift end to this ongoing conflict.

The United States and Azerbaijan enjoy a strong partnership based on shared strategic interests. Our countries share many values, including a vision for greater diversity and tolerance as well as respect for minorities and gender rights. We have worked together to prevent the spread of extremism and Azerbaijan's vital contribution to the U.S.-led operations in Afghanistan, Iraq and Kosovo cannot be understated. The United States, along with our European allies, also recognize Azerbaijan's leadership role in bringing stability to energy markets in the region and abroad.

Mr. Speaker, Azerbaijan is a strong ally and friend of the United States in a strategically important and complex region of the world. As Azerbaijanis around the world observe this painful chapter in their country's history and remember lost loved ones, let us remember our support of peaceful efforts to resolve the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and reforms that promote regional stability. I ask my colleagues to join me and our Azerbaijani friends in commemorating the tragedy that befell the town of Khojaly.

HONORING COMMANDER DON FINNEGAN

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Commander Don Finnegan from Muncie, Indiana.

Commander Finnegan is the State Director of Honor and Remember. This organization preserves the memory of those who have died to protect our freedom and presents personalized flags to families who have lost a loved one in service for our country.

In April of 2002, Commander Finnegan joined the Sons of American Veterans as a Chaplain at the Squadron level. Due to his participation in Sons of AMVETS, Mr. Finnegan became involved with an organization called Honor and Remember, and is now Indiana's first State Director.

In addition to Sons of AMVETS and Honor and Remember, Mr. Finnegan has served his community for the last 24 years in the volun-

teer fire services as well as the past 15 years as a member of Red Cross Disaster Services.

Commander Finnegan's character and example of service has impacted his family. Both of his sons, Shane and Ryan, have served in the Military as well as his daughter-in-law.

Men and women like Commander Finnegan deserve recognition for the service they provide to their communities and to our veterans. I am proud of the work Commander Finnegan has done for the state of Indiana.

CONGRATULATING CHRISTIAN MARTINEZ

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Christian Martinez, a senior at Katy High School, on bringing home a gold medal from the University Interscholastic League State Wrestling Championship. Christian is one of the 28 talented wrestlers from Katy, TX to qualify for the state tournament.

Christian, who took home a silver medal in 2013, captured this year's gold medal in the 132 lb. bracket after a hard-fought final match. Christian is the 10th state champion wrestler to come from Katy High School.

Texas is home to many outstanding athletes, and becoming a state champion is not an easy feat. On behalf of all residents of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I am honored to recognize Christian's accomplishment! Our community is proud of Christian Martinez.

HONORING NICOLE MICHELE HINES

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, rise to honor the memory of Nicole Michele Hines, a woman who lived more life in her 38 years than most will live in a lifetime, and is remembered for stating, "My PASSION is greater than your power!"

Her advocacy for women's rights, fatherhood, community uplift and the foundation of family were just a few of the areas she fought for. Her association with organizations such as Holy Redeemer Health System's Project Rainbow/Drueding Center and the Women's Community Revitalization Project landed her prestigious spots on their boards and various committees. She lived and fought for the educational rights of her own children, Naim and Aminah, and for a village of others.

Nicole was a tireless champion for her community, always willing to serve in whatever capacity was needed, devoting endless hours to politics at both the city and state levels. She was elected Committee Woman for the 49th Ward, 5th Division, and worked diligently to help further the community's improvement and redevelopment. She was a strong supporter of the Logan CDC, serving as an active member of their Neighborhood Advisory Committee, and was actively involved in many organizations, among them but not limited to, the