

has also been one of the strongest advocates to increase funding for New Mexico's colleges and universities, especially for Northern New Mexico College.

Mr. Speaker, the New Mexico House of Representatives will not be the same without Representative Salazar who has been a fixture and an institution for over 4 decades. He is the longest-serving legislator in New Mexico's history and one of the ten longest-serving members of any legislature throughout the country. It amazes me to think about just how many lives Representative Salazar touched and improved throughout his decades of public service, and I am certain that his numerous accomplishments will be felt for generations to come. Representative Salazar's service to our state is unmatched, his integrity is second to none, and he will be sorely missed by his colleagues, constituents, and friends.

A THREAT TO LABOR UNIONS

SPEECH OF

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 29, 2018

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join my colleagues this evening to recognize the great importance of unions and speak to the danger to middle-class, working families if the Supreme Court undercuts public-sector unions in the pending *Janus v. AFSCME* case.

Mr. Speaker, we cannot forget that the story of unions is the story of America's middle class.

I know this story firsthand, because my dad was a union worker. I was able to go to college because of union support, and I'm proud of it.

We all know that union jobs continue to offer higher salaries to workers and provide quality health care, pensions for a secure retirement, and benefits that give families peace of mind, along with the ability to send their children to college or trade schools.

This is the American Dream, and unions have helped ensure that more Americans have a chance to live it.

Through collective bargaining, members of strong unions are scoring victories that help entire communities.

Collective bargaining has given workers—even those who aren't represented by a union—more access to paid holidays, paid sick leave, life insurance, medical and retirement benefits, and higher pay.

That power has closed the wage gap between women and men in the workplace. The wage gap between women and men in unions is about 9 cents, while most non-union women still earn only 78 cents for every dollar their male counterparts make. African-American women in unions earn almost \$22 per hour, while non-union women earn only \$17.

African-American union members today earn 14.7 percent more than their non-union counterparts and Latino union workers earn 21.8 percent more.

In other words, unions are the best way to fix an economy rigged in favor of the wealthy and powerful against working people.

Despite all these benefits, the Supreme Court case, *Janus v. AFSCME*, may limit the opportunity for working people to join together

to speak up for themselves, their families, and their communities.

Let's not be naïve to the fact that the special interests behind this case simply do not believe that hardworking people, like my father, should have the same freedoms and opportunities as they do: to negotiate a fair wage for their work so that they can provide for themselves and their families.

It is fitting that we are talking about public-sector unions right now, with the 50th anniversary of the start of the Memphis sanitation workers strike falling just two weeks from today, on February 12. The sanitation workers strike was Martin Luther King, Jr.'s last campaign and what brought him to Memphis where he was assassinated. It was there that Dr. King said, "Let it be known everywhere, that along with wages and all of the other securities that you are struggling for, you are also struggling for the right to organize and be recognized."

It is also fitting that we recognize Rev. Dr. Wyatt Tee Walker, Dr. King's chief of staff who died last week at the age of 88. He, too, was a tireless civil rights champion and defender of unions because he knew that there is power and recognition in numbers.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. King fought for public unions 50 years ago, and I am calling on all people, including our community and national leaders, to join me in taking up his call to work to protect our unions and their ability to negotiate for better wages and conditions of work.

RECOGNIZING EDWIN HAWKINS ON HIS PASSING

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Pleasanton resident Edwin Hawkins on the occasion of his passing on January 15, 2018.

Edwin was born and raised in Oakland, California, and began his musical performances early in life, performing on the keyboard in local church groups. In 1967, he helped co-found the Northern California State Youth Choir with his friend Betty Watson.

In 1968, as part of a fundraising effort for the Youth Choir to attend a competition in Southern California, Edwin composed, and led the Edwin Hawkins Singers in recording, *Let Us Go* into the House of the Lord, the album that included his first musical hit, "Oh, Happy Day." That song won a Grammy for Best Soul Gospel Performance in 1970, having reached a top-5 spot on both the Billboard pop and R&B charts the year before, and helped launch Edwin's national career.

Edwin would continue to compose and record gospel music, often pushing the limits of the genre by incorporating elements of other styles, including rap, into his music. "To My Father's House," "Give Me a Star," and the Grammy-winning hits "Every Man Wants to Be Free" and "Wonderful!" are among his many later works. Edwin also toured around the world, including with his late brother Wayne Hawkins, and he was voted into the Christian Music Hall of Fame in 2007.

Many artists would come to reference Edwin and his works as inspiration for their own per-

formances. "Oh, Happy Day" was recorded by numerous singers, including Aretha Franklin, Elvis Presley, and Johnny Mathis, and George Harrison said it was the inspiration for his work "My Sweet Lord." Edwin also sponsored the Edwin Hawkins Music and Arts Seminar to teach music business practices to new artists.

Services in celebration of his life will be held on February 6 and 7 at the Harbor Light Church in Fremont, California. In keeping with Edwin's altruistic legacy, the Hawkins family has asked that donations be made to the Music and Arts Seminar in lieu of flowers.

Edwin's contribution to the musical world was truly extraordinary. I want to acknowledge him for his remarkable work and pass along my condolences to his family and friends.

INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 2, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, this past Saturday, January 27, 2018, we observed International Holocaust Remembrance Day, a day in which we take time from our busy lives to remember and mourn the millions of souls lost in the Holocaust, the worst example of man's inhumanity to man in human history.

Nearly 73 years have passed since the end of World War II but for those who survived, and the descendants and relatives of those who perished, the Holocaust is not ancient history but a reminder of the evil that can be unleashed when humans give into their worst instincts and appetites.

The Holocaust's magnitude of destruction numbered more than 12 million deaths, including 6 million Jews and 1.5 million children (more than $\frac{2}{3}$ of European Jewry).

A haunting quote in the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum refers to the story of Cain and Abel:

"The Lord said, 'What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground (Genesis 4:11).'"

The Holocaust forces us to confront uncomfortable questions such as the responsibilities of citizenship and the consequences of indifference and inaction, and the importance of education and awareness.

The Holocaust is a testament to the fragility of democracy.

We must resolve to resist prejudice and intolerance in any form.

It fills me with grief to know that the leaders of nations can destroy their own, as did the Nazi regime; yet I hope that we can continue to strengthen the means by which we can pursue justice.

And I am saddened, outraged, and embarrassed that the current President of the United States could think it proper to characterize, as he did on August 15, 2017, as "very fine people," persons who adhere to the ideology of the Nazi regime and deny the existence of the defining crime of the 20th Century, the murder of 6 million persons for no reason other than they were Jews.

Before that date, never before in history had a President of the United States, the nation that led the alliance that defeated Nazism and fascism in the greatest conflict in world history,