

working in our state and across the country for years.

RECOGNIZING THE 29TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KHOJALY MASSACRE

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, this past week marks the 29th anniversary of the massacre of hundreds of people in the town of Khojaly, Azerbaijan. This was the largest killing of ethnic Azerbaijani civilians during the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. Khojaly, which is in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan, was once home to 7,000 people. On February 26, 1992, Armenian armed forces massacred over 600 unarmed people—including 106 women and 83 children—and left less than 2,000 survivors. Hundreds more became disabled due to their injuries. More than 100 children lost a parent and 25 children lost both parents. At least 8 families were all killed. This is a devastating tragedy.

A cease-fire was negotiated in 1994, but the conflict remains unresolved. In the wake of the 2020 fighting between Azerbaijan and Armenia in the Nagorno-Karabakh, it is my hope that Armenia and Azerbaijan can finally come to the table and find peace. Long-term peace, security, and regional cooperation are in the best interests of the entire region of the South Caucasus and the world.

Azerbaijan has been a strong partner of the United States and its allies. This cooperation has included: playing a leadership role in non-proliferation issues; providing troops to serve shoulder-to-shoulder with U.S. forces in Kosovo, Iraq, and Afghanistan; allowing transit of non-lethal equipment used by coalition forces through Azerbaijan to Afghanistan; construction of the Southern Gas Corridor from the Caspian Sea to Italy, thereby providing Europe with an alternative to Russian energy sources; and supplying 40 percent of Israel's oil. Azerbaijan also has a thriving Jewish community and has outstanding relations with Israel. As Azerbaijanis throughout the world commemorate the massacre and continue to grieve the loss of loved ones, I hope they can find peace amidst this tragedy.

HONORING THE FAITHFUL SERVICE OF ARMY MAJOR GENERAL BRIAN E. WINSKI

HON. MARK E. GREEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Army Major General Brian Winski for his distinguished and remarkable service to this nation. Major General Winski joined the Army in 1989 and was commissioned as an officer through the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's ROTC program.

His tenacious spirit and tireless work ethic propelled his swift rise through the ranks. Within a few short years, he saw duty as a Rifle Platoon Leader during Desert Storm, and

he served in Iraq as Chief of Operations for the famed 101st Airborne Division, Squadron Commander in the 61st Cavalry Regiment, and Brigade Combat Team Commander for the 1st Cavalry Division. Major General Winski proceeded to serve as Chief Legislative Liaison for the Office of the Secretary of the Army before assuming his duties as the Commanding General of the 101st Airborne Division and Fort Campbell.

Throughout his nearly four decades of service, Major General Winski has been a constant example of the Army's core principles of duty, honor, and courage. In 2006 he was awarded the Bronze Star for Valor for his gallant leadership under enemy fire in a fierce 90-minute firefight. When approaching his mission objective, a contingent of insurgents opened fire on his squad, crippling one of their vehicles. Major General Winski took decisive action and led the men under his command to dispatch 11 enemy combatants, driving the remaining insurgents to retreat.

Major General Winski's leadership extends far beyond the battlefield. Under his leadership, Fort Campbell has been a model Army base, earning the top ranking in the U.S. Army Installation Management Command for the most intergovernmental support agreements. Furthermore, Major General Winski was instrumental in facilitating the construction of a local middle school, which will serve the needs of the families stationed at Fort Campbell. Although Fort Campbell faced unprecedented challenges during the pandemic, Major General Winski's leadership ensured that the base was able to maintain readiness in uncertain circumstances. Under his guidance, Fort Campbell was able to provide critical medical assistance to cities stricken the hardest by the pandemic.

Without question, Major General Winski is a true patriot and has repeatedly gone above and beyond the call of duty. In his command of soldiers both stateside and across the world, he has led with honor and integrity. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest gratitude for his faithful service and commitment to the defense of our nation.

HONORING MAYOR HAZELLE P. ROGERS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished Hazelle P. Rogers. On the eve of 25 years of life in public service, Mrs. Rogers has demonstrated her commitment to her friends and family, her community, and the state of Florida. Along the way, she has made history. Mrs. Rogers' first election in 1996 made her the first person from the Caribbean American community to be elected to office in the southeastern United States. Furthermore, she became the first Jamaican to be elected to the Florida House of Representatives.

Mrs. Rogers has dedicated herself to the public and continues to give back to her community in the humblest of ways. In 2014, former Representative Rogers was a strong advocate for in-state tuition for undocumented students which earned her the Broward Col-

lege 2014 Award for support of the 'Florida Dreamers' Legislation. The communities Mrs. Rogers has led have always admired her leadership and commitment as she is also the recipient of honorable community awards such as the Florida Association of Counties' Champion Award; the Jamaican American Bar Association Legislative Award; and the Florida League of Cities' Legislative Appreciation Award for four consecutive years.

In November, the city of Lauderdale Lakes elevated her to an outstanding victory with a 66 percent vote to the office of Mayor. As Mayor, economic empowerment and economic development for the underprivileged in her community are her passion and fortitude. Mayor Rogers continues to build consensus around issues and support programs that are lifting community members out of poverty and into financial stability.

Madam Speaker, I extend my best wishes and regards to not only Mayor Rogers, but also to Mrs. Rogers' husband, Mr. Clifton Rogers; and the rest of her family and friends for an outstanding and wonderful life in public service.

NATIONAL GUN VIOLENCE RESEARCH ACT

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the National Gun Violence Research Act.

As Chairwoman of the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, I am committed to elevating the voice of science in the consequential deliberations taking place in this body. In our efforts to develop fair, effective, and sustainable policy solutions to the challenges facing the American people, we must ensure we are drawing from a strong base of evidence. My fellow Committee Members and I are dedicated to ensuring that the U.S. scientific enterprise is equipped with the resources it needs to derive that evidence. As the COVID-19 crisis has clearly demonstrated, there are enormous benefits to having a thriving research ecosystem in place that is poised to respond when called upon.

Gun violence is a threat to our national welfare. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) released a report reviewing the latest gun mortality data last month entitled A Public Health Crisis Decades in the Making. And the numbers are stark. For the past three years in a row, nearly 40,000 people were killed by guns in the United States. The vast majority of these deaths, 86 percent, were males. Tragically, one in ten were children and teens. Put another way, guns were the leading cause of deaths for Americans age 1 to 24. After years of slow, but steady decline, gun homicides are on the rise, accounting for one third of gun deaths in 2019. Black men are more than 20 times as likely as White men to be victims of firearm homicide. The majority of firearm deaths are suicides. The rate of suicide fatalities has steadily increased over the past decade, with white men more than twice as likely to die by firearm suicide than non-white men.

And the stressors associated with the COVID-19 crisis have not helped. Early research suggests that the rate of gun violence