

University, Boston University, Boston College, Tufts University, and UMass-Amherst. Turley Publications has been printing the Daily Collegian, the UMass Amherst student newspaper, since that publication went daily in 1967. It also prints other newspapers, including the Worcester Business Journal and its sister publications Hartford Business Journal, and MaineBiz, as well as the Holden Landmark.

Today, Turley Publications remains locally owned and operated by Patrick Turley and his sons Keith and Doug. They are responsible for nearly 250 employees working in various locations. The two main production facilities are located in West Springfield and Palmer, Massachusetts.

Turley Publications was forced to stop the presses in October 2005 when floodwater caused property losses over 900 thousand dollars. I visited Turley Publications immediately after the flooding occurred and can personally attest to the severity of the damage at the Water Street facility in Palmer.

But high water didn't stop Patrick Turley from tackling the job that needed to be done. He decided he wasn't going to miss a deadline. Dedicated employees helped with the cleanup, electricity was restored, and 2 university newspapers were printed on time. Turley received an SBA disaster loan and within 5 months the plant was running once more at full capacity.

I had the honor of meeting with Patrick Turley and his wife Ann today when they visited my Washington office. I would like to echo the accolades of the Small Business Administration in recognizing Patrick Turley as an extraordinary businessman and citizen. Congratulations.

COMMON-SENSE GUN LEGISLATION IS NEEDED NOW

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to extend my condolences to the families of the 32 Virginia Tech students and teachers who lost their lives due to senseless gun violence on April 16, 2007. I would also like the families of Columbine High School tragedy—which occurred 8 years ago on April 20th—to know that my thoughts and prayers are with them as well. As those two tragedies demonstrate, we are not doing enough to protect our schools, workplaces, homes, and communities from gun violence. In honor of all the victims of gun violence, I call on my colleagues to pass tougher gun laws, including requiring more stringent background checks and banning the use of assault weapons and high-ammunition clips.

It is a well-known fact that it takes very little time and is very easy and for individuals to buy powerful weapons in this country. In fact, depending on the state, it takes anywhere from just 2 hours to a mere 2 minutes to conduct a background check. Since it took the assailant in the Virginia Tech case only 10 minutes to get approval to buy a gun, it is no wonder that the store from which he made his purchase missed the fact that a court had ordered him to undergo outpatient treatment. Federal law states that anyone who has been

adjudicated for being a "mental defective", as the assailant had, cannot purchase weapons. Had there not been an expedited process for buying a gun, and the background check relying on the self-reporting of mental illness, perhaps this tragedy could have been prevented. I support the efforts of my colleagues, Representatives MCCARTHY and DINGELL, to provide federal funding to states for computers systems that will allow them to promptly upload information about potential gun buyers from the National Instant Criminal Background Check System. As we have tragically learned, we can no longer wait for all states to get online.

Additionally, we need to renew the bans on assault weapons and high-capacity ammunition clips. We have allowed this ban to expire, every day more police officers and innocent families are in sight of criminals wielding Uzis, Tec-9s, AK-47s. And, high-capacity ammunition clips—which have no purpose other than to kill people—allowed the gunman at Virginia Tech to kill 32 students and teachers. Because of the high-capacity ammunition clips, even those who survived were left with multiple bullet wounds.

Every day that we allow to pass without a ban on assault weapons and high-capacity ammunition clips is another day that Americans are needlessly put at risk. We need to support and pass Representative McCarthy's, H.R. 1022, the Assault Weapons Ban, which would renew that ban.

I am proud to represent the 9th Congressional District, a district that is strongly in favor of getting guns off our streets. Chicago, Wilmette, Morton Grove and Evanston have laws outlawing handguns, and I think this is a great start. We need to bring that commitment to our children's safety, to the safety of our neighborhoods, and to the safety of our schools, to the rest of our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from this chamber yesterday, April 23, 2007. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 245, 246 and 247.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, due to other Congressional business, I unfortunately missed recorded votes on the House floor on Monday, April 23, 2007.

Had I been able to vote that day, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes No. 245, 246, and 247.

H.R. 1338, THE PAYCHECK
FAIRNESS ACT

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, today I rise in recognition of Equal Pay Day. Issues of equity and fairness are integral to the strength of our democracy. Pay equity, and its effect on every person in the U.S., is a vital issue and it is unconscionable that in the 21st century, the vast majority of women are still not paid fairly for their work. I look forward to the day when every person, regardless of their gender, race or ethnicity, is receiving equal pay for equal work.

According to the Census, women are paid, on average, 77 cents per one dollar earned by a man. Racial and ethnic disparities exacerbate this difference with African American women making 66 cents, Latinas making 55 cents and Asian American women making 80 cents. A recent study by the American Association of University Women reveals that the income gap between men and women widens dramatically following graduation from college, growing from a 20 percent difference immediately following graduation to a 31 percent difference ten years later. This gap persisted despite controls for numbers of hours worked, parenthood, and occupation choice.

I am a proud co-sponsor of H.R. 1338, the Paycheck Fairness Act, which will improve the remedies available to victims of wage discrimination based on sex. Passage of this legislation will be one of many societal changes we have seen over the past one hundred years of women's struggle for equality in America, but there remains much to be done. The current income gap continues to stand in the way of true equality and as a Nation we must work to close the gap faster than the current, abysmally slow, 1.5 cents per year. There are rays of sunshine to be seen on the horizon, but we cannot consider this particular battle won. I look forward to continuing the struggle for equality with my colleagues in Congress during the 110th Congress.

CELEBRATING LIFE OF MARTIE J. "JAY" ABOUSSIE, JR.

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Martie J. "Jay" Aboussie, Jr., the devoted son of Martie and LeEllen Aboussie and the loving brother of Amy Aboussie.

Jay earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from St. Louis University, and graduated with honors on May 14, 2005 while maintaining nearly perfect attendance in spite of his chronic health problems.

Jay's family, friends, and numerous people unknown to Jay have been inspired by his bravery, courage, and deep religious faith. He refused to surrender to the debilitating physical ailments which ultimately took his life.

Jay's leadership qualities and academic excellence were recognized by the Faculty and

Administration of Christian Brothers College High School when they selected Jay as "Senior of The Year" among a class of 217 seniors. Moreover, Jay was a member of the National Honor Society and was regularly on the Honor Roll at CBC.

Jay's family and high school colleagues have chosen to honor his life and preserve his memory by supporting the Martie J. "Jay" Aboussie, Jr. '01 Scholarship Fund at Christian Brothers College.

I commend the efforts of his friends and family in honoring Jay's life to ensure that his memory lives on.

NINETY-SECOND COMMEMORATION OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 23, 2007

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in commemoration of the 92nd anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. On April 24, 1915, the Ottoman government ordered the deportation of 2.5 million Armenians. Over the next year, 1.5 million Armenians had been killed or sent to the horrors of concentration camps.

April 24 lives in the hearts and minds of an Armenians. And while this day of remembrance is somber, the day also brings a sense of encouragement that stems from the success of Armenian-American communities here at home in the United States, as well as the independent nation of Armenia. This nation's independence has become a living testament of honor to the memories of the survivors and their descendants.

I have always supported the Armenian community. In 2003, I had the opportunity to visit Armenia and to plant a tree at the Genocide memorial. We must never forget the horrors that took place 92 years ago. Let us never forget the 1.5 million Armenians who perished in 1915 and 1916. We know such mass murder is not a tragedy from a distant past, but a continuation of the failing to recognize these barbaric acts before they are executed.

Mr. Speaker, again, I wish to commemorate the 92nd anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, and I urge the leadership to bring H. Res. 106 to the floor for a vote. If we are to change the future, we must recognize the past.

NINETY-SECOND COMMEMORATION OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 23, 2007

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, today is a day of remembrance and commemoration of the Armenian Genocide, one of the darkest chapters of World War I, and the first of the series of genocides we saw in the 20th Century. We set today aside to remember, as we do every year, because it is essential to reflect upon these terrible events, but we also do so because we know that the Armenian people

must continually confront and surmount the legacies and the consequences of those dark days.

The writer Milan Kundera once wrote that "The struggle of man against power is the struggle of memory against forgetting." There are those that would deny the Armenian Genocide, just as there are those that deny the reality of the Nazi Holocaust. In commemorating the Armenian Genocide we collectively engage in that struggle of memory against forgetting. We do this not only to remember the past, but to reaffirm our commitment to prevent such things from ever happening again, and to strive towards making a better future for the Armenian people.

It has taken Armenia decades to reach a point where its people could enjoy their rights as a free people. Today, we have an opportunity and a responsibility to help ensure that the Armenian people can build a better future. And so, I look forward to continuing to work with the Armenian-American community and Members of the Congressional Caucus on Armenia to address the issues facing this long-time friend and important ally of the United States, so that together we build something positive, something hopeful, something good for the future—a peaceful, prosperous and secure Armenia.

The Armenian Genocide is sometimes called the "Forgotten Genocide." In fact, as most of you know, back in 1939, prior to the invasion of Poland, Adolph Hitler argued that his plans for a Jewish holocaust would in the end be tolerated by the West, stating: "After all, who remembers the Armenians." But we do remember, and we shall never forget. And our memory and commemoration is stronger than the hate of those who would perpetrate the greatest crime known to humanity, the attempt to exterminate an entire people.

NINETY-SECOND COMMEMORATION OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 23, 2007

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 92nd anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. Our voices, as well as those of Armenian-Americans across the Nation, are essential in the effort to bring needed attention to such a historic tragedy. The Armenian-American community has made tremendous contributions to our country, and their efforts and passion will help ensure that those who lost their lives will not be forgotten.

Today, we pay tribute to the memory of those who died, reflect on all those who have suffered from such prejudice, and vow to raise awareness so that such an atrocity never occurs again. As a member of the Armenian Caucus and a cosponsor of the genocide resolution, I will keep fighting to ensure that the Armenian Genocide is appropriately recognized.

It is a shame that we have not learned from our mistakes in the past regarding genocide, but it is not too late to heal these wounds and also help end atrocities occurring as we speak. To that end, we must not stand by as the situation deteriorates in Darfur. It is our

duty to end this human suffering, and I will continue to work to stop this conflict and promote peace in Sudan. Together, let us make this world a better place.

As an ardent supporter of Rhode Island's Armenian-American community throughout my public service career, I am proud to join my colleagues today in honoring the victims of the genocide by paying tribute to their memory, showing compassion for those who have suffered from such prejudice, and never forgetting the pain that they have endured.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE RALPH FORD JR.

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise with a level of sadness to pay tribute to a good son, a good husband, a good father, a good citizen and one of Chicago's finest of the men and women in blue, Police Sargent Ralph Ford Jr.

It has been my pleasure and that of my wife to know the Ford Family for many years. I first knew Ralph's mother, Mrs. Jacqueline Ford, when she was a pioneer community activist serving on the board of the Martin Luther King Jr. neighborhood health center. She and my wife Vera have attended Carey Tercentenary AME Church together forever. I first knew Ralph well when he was a young Chicago police officer and I began to run for public office; he was a diligent and enthusiastic volunteer who was not afraid to be associated with our campaign even though I was running as an independent against the existing political machine. The fact that Ralph had attended the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff added another star to his crown because I had attended the old Arkansas A.M. & N College before it attained University status. Being the excellent police officer that he was, Ralph made Sargent and outdistanced many of his peers. He was jovial, a good talker, had a great personality and a wonderful sense of humor.

Family meant everything to Ralph, he was totally devoted to his wife and children, he had a great affinity for other members of the family, and of course he and his mother Jackie had an absolute long-standing love affair.

Madam Speaker, Sargent Ralph Ford Jr. was an absolute credit to his law enforcement profession, the apple of his wife and family's eyes and a joy to humanity. He shall be sorely missed.

H.R. 362 AND H.R. 363

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I am encouraged by the continued development of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education programs in the United States as we seek to stay competitive at the global level. While H.R. 362 and 363 attempt to boost these endeavors, we have to examine at what cost and whether