

In 1994, Mr. O'Leary received the Meritorious Unit Citation for a CPR run at Jefferson Elementary. He received Fire Chief Awards for the many training programs presented to the Sterling Heights Fire Department and for the Residence Assistance Program. He has served as a member of the local Safety Committee for nine years and a member of the Apparatus Committee. Mr. O'Leary also became nationally certified as a Fire Explosion Instructor.

Mr. O'Leary has also worked to represent and improve the employment for other firefighters through his service at the local, state and federal levels. He has served as the Secretary and President of the local union, as the State Representative of the International Association of Firefighters and as the 6th District Vice President.

Madam Speaker, I have been pleased to work with Pat over the years in many community service endeavors and have witnessed the tireless and compassionate devotion of Pat and his wife Joan to the individuals and families around them. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Patrick O'Leary, a good friend who has dedicated himself to the community with valor, commitment and honor.

COMMENDING THOMAS GALLOWAY
OF MOBILE, ALABAMA, FOR HIS
SERVICE IN THE SECOND WORLD
WAR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Thomas Galloway of Mobile, Alabama, for his service in the United States Army during World War II. Serving as a lieutenant in the European Theater of Operations in the winter of 1944, Mr. Galloway fought bravely in some of the toughest and most brutal battles of the war, including the Battle of the Bulge and the Huertgen Forest.

In his career as a soldier, Mr. Galloway was captured twice, and he escaped twice. Escaping as part of an attempted rescue of Gen. Patton's son-in-law, he was captured and returned to the prisoner-of-war camp in Hammelburg, Germany. Later that spring, Mr. Galloway escaped while on a march toward Austria, eventually making it back behind American lines.

Upon returning home from the war, Mr. Galloway graduated from Auburn University and the University of Alabama School of Law and began a successful law career. He served as assistant attorney general for the state of Alabama and assistant district attorney for Alabama's thirteenth judicial circuit. He is now a member of Galloway, Wettermark, Everest, Rutens & Gaillard, LLP of Mobile.

Madam Speaker, the recognition of Mr. Thomas Galloway in Ken Burns' documentary series "The War" is an appropriate time for us to pause and thank him—and all of the soldiers who fought in World War II. They personify the very best America has to offer. I urge my colleagues to take a moment to pay tribute to Mr. Galloway and his selfless devotion to our country and the freedom we enjoy.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 47th Anniversary of the Republic of Cyprus. It was on October 1, 1960, that Cyprus became an independent republic after decades of British colonial rule.

I am honored to represent Astoria, Queens—one of the largest and most vibrant communities of Greek and Cypriot Americans in this country. I truly enjoy participating in the life of this community and treasure the wonderful and vital Cypriot friends that I have come to know.

As a member of the European Union, Cyprus is playing a vital role in European affairs while also strengthening relations with the United States. Unfortunately, the commemoration of Cyprus' Independence Day this year, as in the past, is clouded by the fact that Turkish military forces continue illegally to occupy Cyprus, in violation of UN Security Council resolutions. On July 20, 1974, Turkey invaded Cyprus, and to this day continues to maintain an estimated 40,000 heavily armed troops on the island.

I have introduced legislation, H. Res. 407, which expresses the strong support of the House of Representatives for the positive actions by the Government of the Republic of Cyprus aimed at opening additional crossing points along the cease-fire line, thereby contributing to efforts for the reunification of the island. On March 8, 2007, the Government of the Republic of Cyprus demolished a wall at Ledra Street in Nicosia, a key thoroughfare through the divided capital, as a gesture to facilitate the opening of Ledra Street as a crossing point. Two months later, the Government demolished a National Guard post at Kato Pyrgos. I commend the Government of the Republic of Cyprus for taking these actions, and I continue to believe that it is time for Turkey to remove its troops from the island so that Cyprus can move forward as one nation. I remain hopeful that an end to this division will be achieved.

I believe that the United States must play an active role in the resolution of the serious issues facing Cyprus. Cyprus and the United States share a deep and abiding commitment to democracy, human rights, free markets, and the ideal and practice of equal justice under the law. The relationship between Cyprus and the United States is strong and enduring, and we stand together celebrating democracy and freedom.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I could not be present for votes on Monday, September 24, 2007 due to commitments in my district. As a result, I missed 4 rollcall votes.

I would like to enter into the record that if I had been present on September 24, I would have voted yes on H. Con. Res. 193, which would recognize U.S. hunters for their commitment to safety. As a sportsman myself, I appreciate hunters' commitment to safety and support their continued dedication to safe and responsible hunting.

I would have voted yes on H. Res. 668, which would recognize the 50th anniversary of the desegregation of Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas by the Little Rock Nine.

I would have voted yes on H.R. 1199, which would extend grant programs for drug endangered children.

I also would have voted yes on H. Res. 340, which would emphasize the importance of providing a voice for the victims of missing persons cases.

ON THE PASSING OF MR. BILL
WIRTZ

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 27, 2007

Mr. HASTERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the late William W. Wirtz. Bill was a kind and charitable man, who generously gave back to the people of Illinois throughout his life.

Over 40 years, Bill was the President of the Chicago Blackhawks and chairman of the Wirtz Beverage Group, which operated in Illinois and the surrounding States.

Bill also served as chairman of the Board of Governors of the National Hockey League for 18 years and was responsible for negotiating the merger between the NHL and the World Hockey Association in the late 1970's as well as the expansion of the league. No one did more for hockey on both the professional and amateur levels than Bill. He served on both the 1980 and 1984 Winter Olympic Committees. For his efforts on both the professional and amateur levels, Bill was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1976, was the recipient of the Lester Patrick Trophy in 1978 and was inducted into the U.S. Hockey Hall of Fame in 1985.

Under the guidance of Bill, Chicago Blackhawk Charities was established in 1993. Since that time, Blackhawk Charities has donated over \$7.5 million to worthy causes in the Chicagoland area such as Boys and Girls Clubs, Cathedral Shelter, Misericordia Homes, the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago, the Chicago Blackhawk Alumni Association, and the Amateur Hockey Association of Illinois, AHAI. Bill also donated both the Chicago Stadium and the United Center to host the Blackhawk Cup, the annual High School Boys and Girls State Championship Game, over the past 20 years.

I would like to extend my most heartfelt condolences to Bill's wife Alice, his children Rocky, Gail, Karey, Peter and Alyson, and his seven grandchildren. Bill will always be remembered for his charity and goodwill towards the people of Chicago.