

imagination, instill in young people the drive to reach for excellence in all their varied pursuits and the confidence to speak their minds.

Carleen's principal at Hopkins North Jr. High, Pat Schmidt, says: "Carleen has the courage to lead discussions focusing on racial identity, religious affiliations, cultural and ethnic customs and family membership."

To all of America's teachers, thank you for your steadfast commitment to quality education. Thank you for caring so much about our kids and their future. Thank you for overcoming immense challenges to provide Minnesota's and America's children with the best education.

You hard-working, dedicated educators are Minnesota's and America's unsung heroes. With great challenges ahead, we need more than ever to put partisanship aside, take off our Republican hats and our Democrat hats and come together as Americans. We must find common ground to adequately support public education and provide maximum flexibility at the local level to manage our schools and teach our children.

Madam Speaker, our Nation salutes Carleen Gulstad and all our remarkable teachers who bring an exciting world of opportunity and justice to the door of our children's classrooms each and every day. It is often a thankless and difficult task, but today we thank them for their great perseverance, commitment and inspiration.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE STATE
OF ISRAEL'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, as the State of Israel commemorates its 60th anniversary, I take this opportunity to recognize the long-standing friendship between the State of Israel and the Republic of Turkey.

Turkey was the first country with a predominantly Muslim population to step forward and recognize the Jewish State in 1949. Moreover, for three decades the Republic of Turkey remained the only Muslim country to have full diplomatic representation in Israel. This historical fact alone speaks well for the solid, special, and valuable relationship between Turkey and Israel. It is no wonder this relationship stands on its uniquely own merits—unmatched in the entire Middle East. Historical facts and recollections in the collective memories of both Turkish and Israeli peoples testify this sense of togetherness, standing shoulder to shoulder in testing times.

In recent years, more than 60 agreements have been enacted between the State of Israel and the Republic of Turkey in the economic and military fields. These have not only bolstered the bilateral relationship between the United States and these two close friends and allies, but have also created a legal framework that serves to institutionalize the bonds we have collectively developed. Since Turkey and Israel are the only two countries in the region that have embraced the principles of democracy and liberal market economy, it is easier to develop both the content and the depth of the bilateral relations in a multitude of different fronts.

Also, through a large volume of tourism and cultural sharing, countless citizens of Turkey and Israel, not just the two governments, have developed strong bonds of benevolence, a sense of togetherness, collaboration, and mutual respect.

At a time when dialogue between the parties to the Arab-Israeli conflict is needed, Turkey is once again in the unique position of maintaining positive relations with all the parties to the conflict. This is undoubtedly an asset for the region, and a great contribution to the security of Israel. The Israeli President Shimon Peres and President of the Palestinian Authority Mahmoud Abbas have addressed the Turkish Parliament last year in November and praised Turkey as an important ally in the peace process. President Peres's speech was the first to a parliament by an Israeli head of state anywhere in a predominantly Muslim country.

We also remember too well through what is known as The Ankara Forum, that Turkey has recently sustained Israeli and Palestinian joint efforts to provide support for economic development in the West Bank. Recent reports indicate that Turkey, investing on this ground of mutually earned respect, trust and confidence and taking steps at the request of both parties, has now embarked on facilitating dialogue between Syria and Israel.

Most members of the international community share the goal of a peaceful and prosperous Middle East. The security of all the countries in the region, including Israel, is dependent on this. Turkey believes that dialogue and cooperation are essential tools in working to make this dream a reality, and it is well equipped to chart its course for the benefit of Israel and her Arab neighbors, all for a peaceful and prosperous neighborhood.

On this note, the 60th anniversary of the State of Israel, I commend and encourage the strong relationship between our two allies, Turkey and Israel, which in fact stands stronger and more robust by each day offering hope for peace in the future.

TRIBUTE TO MARY NAUGHTON

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mary Naughton on the celebration of her 90th birthday on April 29, 2008.

Mary was born on April 29, 1918 in Illinois. She moved to Marshalltown, Iowa in 1948 when she married John Naughton. They happily had two daughters, three sons, nine grandchildren and one great-grandson. Mary currently resides in Marshalltown and is an active member of St. Mary's Catholic Church.

There have been many changes that have occurred during the past ninety years.

Since Mary's birth we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television and the Internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and the birth of new democracies. Mary has lived through sixteen United States Presidents and twenty Governors of Iowa. And, in her lifetime the population of the United States has nearly tripled.

I congratulate Mary Naughton for reaching this milestone of a birthday. I am extremely honored to represent Mary in the United States Congress and I wish her happiness and health for many years to come.

ON THE PASSING OF MILDRED
LOVING

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the passing of a great lady and civil rights icon, Mildred Loving.

I did not know Mrs. Loving personally, but I do know of her accomplishments for which she deserves our praise and gratitude.

At a time of Jim Crow and powerful forces of racial hatred and segregation, Mildred Delores Jeter and Richard Perry Loving proved that the power of love and the simple act of living true to their beliefs was stronger and more enduring than base bigotry.

When Mildred and Richard married, they were breaking the law. As an interracial couple, it was illegal for them to be married in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Instead, they obtained a marriage certificate from the District of Columbia but returned to live in Virginia, their home. A short time later, they were arrested, literally in their bedroom, and hauled off to jail. Under a plea bargain, they agreed to a 1-year suspended sentence under the condition that they not return together or at the same time to Virginia.

Inspired by the civil rights movement, the couple challenged Virginia's Racial Integrity Act, taking Loving v. Virginia all the way to the Supreme Court—and winning. As the Washington Post reported today, Richard Loving counseled the couple's ACLU attorneys that the real issue was actually very simple. "Tell the court," he said, "I love my wife, and it is just unfair that I can't live with her in Virginia."

In my efforts to grant federal recognition to Virginia's Native American people, I have come across similar stories of courage, determination and love fighting to overcome Virginia's legacy of racial division and subjugation.

Today we recognize Mrs. Loving, her life, her courage, and her determination for equality under the law. She was an American hero and we mourn her passing.

[From the New York Times, May 6, 2008]

MILDRED LOVING, WHO FOUGHT BAN ON MIXED
MARRIAGE, DIES AT 88

(By Douglas Martin)

Mildred Loving, a black woman whose anger over being banished from Virginia for marrying a white man led to a landmark Supreme Court ruling overturning state miscegenation laws, died on May 2 at her home in Central Point, Va. She was 68.

Peggy Fortune, her daughter, said the cause was pneumonia.

The Supreme Court ruling, in 1967, struck down the last group of segregation laws to remain on the books—those requiring separation of the races in marriage. The ruling was unanimous, its opinion written by Chief Justice Earl Warren, who in 1954 wrote the court's opinion in *Brown v. Board of Education*, declaring segregated public schools unconstitutional.