

HONORING TALLULAH FALLS SCHOOL ON THE OCCASION OF ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL C. BROUN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. I rise today to honor the centennial anniversary of an outstanding institution in my district: Tallulah Falls School. Located in Northeast Georgia near the Chattooga River, this school continues to thrive after one hundred years of instilling impeccable values and a superb work ethic in its students.

Though the school was formally dedicated on June 30, 1909, its first director, Mary Ann Lipscomb, began teaching the poor Georgia mountain children to read on her front porch in 1905. Quickly noticing the poor living conditions and a dire need for basic education, Mrs. Lipscomb petitioned the Georgia Federation of Women's Clubs to establish a school at Tallulah Falls.

Right away Tallulah Falls School was appreciated by the surrounding community. Not long after its creation, this school was recognized across the nation as a success by both the Dean of American Journalism and Good Housekeeping. In 1944, the original Willet Building was destroyed by fire. But within seven months, over \$55,000 had been raised for reconstruction—an amazing amount considering that the Great Depression was just coming to an end and World War II was raging.

In the late 1980's, the school once again gained national exposure when nine of its students, led by Martha Cantrell, met with President George H.W. Bush to receive their award for naming the space shuttle Endeavour. Today, this great school is still producing successful citizens while expanding to include both boarding students and day students.

As many in Congress seek new and untested policies on education, I urge my colleagues to instead look to what has worked for a hundred years; the tried and true principles of Tallulah Falls School. We can learn so much from this school as we learn from its past and applaud its growth into the future.

Madam Speaker, I applaud the great effort by the teachers and students of Tallulah Falls School and congratulate them on celebrating 100 years of academic excellence.

100TH BIRTHDAY OF GENEVA POOLE

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure and honor that I congratulate Geneva Williamson Poole on a momentous milestone, her 100th birthday, which will be on April 16, 2009. Geneva will be celebrating this milestone with family and friends on Saturday, April 18, 2009, at her home in Gary, Indiana. One of Gary's proudest and most adored residents for over 63 years, Geneva Williamson Poole is an inspiration to countless members of her community as well as her beloved family.

Geneva Williamson Poole was born on April 16, 1909, in Augusta, Georgia, to John and Mary Williamson. Geneva was raised with three sisters and two brothers and was brought up on strong Southern values and profound love. In 1936, she moved to Gary, Indiana, making her home with her four children: Justine, Virginia, Jerome, and Berniece, and her husband, Charlie Poole. Through the years, Geneva worked at many local businesses in Northwest Indiana, including: Barnette's Clothing Store, Dave's Fur Store, Westville Hospital, and Kingsbury Ordnance Plant. While she enjoyed the positions she held, Geneva devoted her life to her family and her community. Geneva's belief in strong family values has taught her children and grandchildren the meaning of a strong work ethic, the value of education, and how important it is for family and communities to stick together. Always leading by example, in 1982, Geneva planted a community garden at the end of her block, and she would give the fruits and vegetables to the people of the neighborhood. An extraordinary cook, Geneva was also known for hosting elaborate dinner parties for family and members of the community. As a senior citizen, Geneva adopted two children, Kathy and Vanetta, and helped raise her thirteen grandchildren. In the summers, Geneva has enjoyed opening her home to her grandchildren and teaching them how to sew, cook, garden, and fish. Geneva's passion for family has touched not only those related to her but also many members of the community. For passing along such essential family values, Geneva is worthy of our deepest admiration.

In addition to her remarkable dedication to her family, Geneva continues to serve her community as an active member at Israel Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in Gary, where she participates in many of the church's programs. Geneva has many friends and loved ones within the church who look to her for advice. They share a common respect for her commendable qualities, including her intelligence, wit, strength and perseverance. She is truly an inspiration and a role model for us all.

Madam Speaker, Geneva Williamson Poole has always generously given her time and efforts to preserving family values and strengthening the community in Gary, Indiana. She has taught her family, friends, and members of her community the true meaning of selfless devotion. I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in wishing Geneva a very Happy 100th Birthday!

HONORING THE VILLAGE OF LOMBARD ON ITS 140TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 140th Anniversary of the incorporation of Lombard, Illinois, in the heart of my Congressional District.

In 1837, Sheldon Peck and his family settled on 80 acres in what was then known as Babcock's Grove. In 1869, the Village of Lombard was incorporated.

In the years since its humble founding, Lombard has become a center of culture and commerce, serving as a home to businesses, professionals, churches and organizations that have made this a vibrant and thriving community. Over the years, Lombard has developed a well-deserved reputation as an enjoyable place to live, work and raise a family.

On the occasion of this 140th Anniversary, we join together to celebrate Lombard's legacy of growth and prosperity, and to look ahead to the opportunities facing our local community and our nation. Today both marks 140 years of working together to build a brighter future, and reminds us that our work continues.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing Lombard Village President Bill Mueller, the Village Board of Trustees and the citizens of Lombard in wishing them happiness on this special occasion.

IN TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL STERN

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Michael Stern, an extraordinary man who passed away on April 7, 2009 at the age of 98. He was a journalist, author, genius and visionary, and I was deeply fortunate to count him as a friend.

In 1978, he joined with his good friend Zachary Fisher, to save the aircraft carrier Intrepid from mothballs and use it as the base for an extraordinary museum situated in Pier 86 on the West Side of Manhattan. Since it opened its doors in 1982, the Intrepid Sea-Air-Space Museum has served more than 10 million visitors. Mr. Stern knew that the Intrepid was one of the most successful ships in U.S. history, and that it would be a fitting monument to the heroism of our nation's military.

Commissioned during World War II, the Intrepid served in the Pacific Theater, survived five kamikaze attacks and one torpedoing. In its year and a half of active duty, Intrepid's aircraft had destroyed 301 Japanese airplanes and helped sink 122 enemy ships, including shared credit for the super-battleships Yamato and Musashashi. The ship went on to serve as one of the primary recovery vessels for NASA, did three tours of duty off Vietnam, and assisted submarine surveillance in the North Atlantic during the Cold War.

Together, Mr. Stern and Mr. Fisher also created the Fisher Center for Alzheimer's Research Foundation at Rockefeller University and Fisher Houses, a program to build houses for families of hospitalized military personnel to stay near to their loved ones while they are receiving treatment. After Mr. Fisher's death, Mr. Stern started the Michael Stern Parkinson's Research Foundation. I serve on the Board of Trustees of both research foundations and know that they support vital research to find cures for these devastating neurological diseases. Scientists tell us that the two diseases may have a common cause and, therefore, a common cure. Mr. Stern hoped the work he supported would eventually lead to that cure.

Mr. Stern joined the United States Army in 1943 as a war correspondent for Fawcett Publications and the North American Newspaper

Alliance. He was first shipped out to Algeria, and later traveled with American forces through Sicily and up the boot of Italy. He arrived in Rome just one day ahead of U.S. troops. As a young journalist from Brooklyn, he writes of feeling slightly provincial in the face of Rome's cosmopolitan ethos and rich historical past. Nonetheless, he relates that the city inspired him, thrilled him, made him become more worldly and knowledgeable. He made it his home for the next 50 years.

In the foreword to Mr. Stern's book, *An American in Rome*, Robert Ruark creates a vivid portrait of him as a journalist in Italy: "Michael Stern is a myth. He never really existed outside a scriptwriter's imagination. He dug up and lived with the most famous outlaw of our time when ten thousand Italian police couldn't locate Salvatore Giuliano. He wrote the definitive pieces on such unlikely people as Lucky Luciano, Virginia Hill, Dorothy DiFrasso, Geroge Dawson, Freddie McEvoy, Roberto Rossellini, Vincenzo Moscatello and Calouste Sarkis Gubenkian. . . . The reason a lot of people hate Mike Stern's guts is that he is a writer of harsh truth. . . . Don't get me wrong. Mike's an operator. He's an arranger, a dealer, and if necessary, a law unto himself. He does not play to lose. If he were a baseball player, he'd dust off his mother to protect his earned run average, and if he were a boxer he would unhesitatingly club you in the neck to win. . . . I have seen people stop by his table in a Roman caffè and say: "You son of a bitch, I'll kill you for what you wrote about me." Mike doesn't even bother to scowl. So many people have been threatening to kill him for years that one more is only a bore. This is a tough boy, and he writes tough prose. I wish to Christ we had more like him in a sappy, soggy world of cotton-wooled halftruths."

Before becoming a war correspondent, Mr. Stern wrote for *True Crime* magazine and other publication, sometimes using his own name, sometimes employing a pseudonym. Later, he authored or co-authored a number of books, including *Flight From Terror*, *Into the Jaws of Death*, *No Innocence Abroad* and *An American in Rome*.

In 1934, Mr. Stern married Estelle Goldstein, who died in 1995. In addition to his daughter, Margaret, of Manhattan, he is survived by a son, Michael Jr., of Juno Beach, Fla., and a granddaughter.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in paying respects to Michael Stern, a true American hero whose work has educated, inspired and benefitted generations of Americans.

RECOGNIZING JOHN T. ASDAL OF
THE VILLAGES, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John T. Asdal of The Villages, Florida. Mr. Asdal later this week will reach a momentous milestone. He will celebrate his 90th birthday.

John is a decorated veteran of the United States Army, serving from the 25th of May 1942 to the 11th of October 1945. He served with Company B, 1st Battalion 16th Infantry

Regiment 1st Infantry Division in North Africa and Sicily. He served with Company H, 36th (Texas) Infantry Division in Italy.

Mr. Asdal participated in four major battles with the 1st and 36th Divisions, Kasserine Pass, Mateur Tunisia, Rapido River Italy and Monte Cassino Italy. The professional skill and personal devotion displayed by Mr. Asdal was repeatedly recognized by the military and reflects his immense commitment and sacrifice.

A rarity to be so decorated, John was awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Combat Infantryman Badge, Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Honorable Service Lapel Button, and three Service Stars. His unit received Presidential Citations for Mateur Tunisia & Sicily, French Croix de Guerre for Kasserine, and an Arrowhead for Algeria French Morocco. Because of his extensive time on the front lines and immense sacrifice, Mr. Asdal was among the earliest troops to be able to return to the U.S. in 1944.

I am honored to have such a decorated and respected citizen as a constituent. Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in honoring John T. Asdal for reaching his 90th birthday. I hope we all have the good fortune to live as long as a life and with such distinction as Mr. Asdal.

COMMEMORATING THE 94TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN
GENOCIDE

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of the victims of the Armenian genocide and ask my colleagues to support H. Res. 252, a bill to commemorate the Armenian genocide.

Over 94 years ago this week, Ottoman Empire authorities arrested some 250 Armenian community and political leaders in Constantinople. This event signaled the beginning of the deliberate and systematic mass murder of 1.5 million Armenian men, women, and children.

From 1915–1923, more than a million Armenians were forced to resettle in Ottoman Syria. To get there, ethnic Armenians were told to march from Turkish Armenia, many of them dying of starvation, disease, or massacre by Turkish forces. Those who survived faced continued abuse at the hands of the Turkish authorities, causing the rest of the population to perish or flee the region as refugees. This effectively eliminated the Armenian population from the Ottoman Empire.

Despite facing some of the worst atrocities of the modern world, Armenians have overcome adversity and continue to prosper as an independent, democratic state. The United States and Armenia have built a long-lasting, strong relationship and we continue to stand by our friend and ally to sustain cooperation on issues of global and regional importance.

As citizens of a global society, we have a solemn obligation not to ignore history or the horrific events of the past. The Armenian genocide marks the first known genocide of the 20th Century, a century only sadly to be

marred by repeated offenses against humanity from the Holocaust to Darfur. To commemorate this inhumane event reminds us that ethnic conflict still plagues the modern world and is a pressing issue for the international community. As a member of the Congressional Armenian Caucus and the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, I remain committed to achieving a future free from unnecessary violence, hatred, and indifference.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering and acknowledging the American genocide and the victims of its atrocities to ensure we do not repeat the mistakes of the past.

“NICK ROUSSOS: AN AMERICAN
HERO”

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, our jobs as Members of Congress are sources of great satisfaction to us, but there are occasional downsides. For me, the worst is the fact that I cannot literally be in two places at one time on certain occasions. One of those is coming up. On Friday, May 1st, at a time when I already committed myself irrevocably to be elsewhere, the Arnold M. Dubin Labor Education Center at the University of Massachusetts/Dartmouth will be celebrating the life of the late Nicholas Roussos.

Madam Speaker, at a time when we are trying to pass legislation that will restore to American working men and women the right to be fairly represented in the workplace through unions of their choosing, it is poignant that Nick Roussos passed away. No one I have ever worked with has been a better, more dedicated, tougher, and at the same time gentler crusader for the rights of working people than Nick Roussos. As a leader in the Southeastern Massachusetts branch of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union, and as a prominent member of the leadership of the labor movement in general, both in Southeastern Massachusetts and in the Commonwealth, Nick Roussos embodied the best in that activity.

I first met him in 1981, when congressional redistricting sent me to the City of Fall River to look for support. I found a strong supporter. But more importantly, I found a great friend and a source of inspiration. No one who worked with Nick Roussos—no one exposed to his infectious humor even in the face of the greatest adversity—could become jaded for too long. At the tensest moments I had to deal with. I would find excuses to call Nick and get the encouragement and energy that he could dispense as well as anybody else, and far more than most.

Economic trends, especially trade policy, have been unkind and unfair to the people that Nick represented. But he never gave up fighting hard for justice for them.

Madam Speaker, Nick Roussos was an American hero. He did as much as was humanly possible to improve the quality of life for his neighbors and for the people he represented.

And it's important to note that those whom he dealt with on the industry side shared the