

TWITCHELL'S 90TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MARTHA ROBY**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2012*

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to recognize the 90th anniversary of Twitchell Technical Products—a thriving business in Southeast Alabama.

Mr. E.W. Twitchell founded E.W. Twitchell, Inc. nine decades ago. First established in Unionville, Connecticut, the company later relocated in 1930 to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. In 1945, the company settled in Dothan, Alabama, where its headquarters remain today. To date, Twitchell provides jobs that support nearly 300 families around Dothan. In our area, this company is a staple in the local economy and a cornerstone of the local community.

Mr. Speaker, without question, the number one issue that affects our nation and my home state of Alabama is the health of our economy and the ability to create new American jobs. I am especially aware of this fact from the many discussions I have had with small business owners and employers throughout the district. I was privileged to recently have such a discussion with representatives from Twitchell last month.

During a time when too many employers have been forced to shrink their workforce or even close their doors, I was encouraged to hear about Twitchell's achievements. Through innovation, Twitchell achieved success by changing and adapting to the needs of the market. Mr. Speaker, that is what the free market is all about. Free from government interference or unnecessary regulation, private companies adjust to the demands of the market and remain competitive. When that happens, both employees and consumers benefit.

For example, four decades ago the company acquired a local yarn extrusion venture that specialized in PVC coated yarns. The yarn weaves into a fabric used for everyday products, such as screens, athletic goods, and outdoor furniture. The fabric continues to be Twitchell's best selling product, keeping the company in high-demand as it is one of only two manufacturers of PVC coated yarn and woven products in the U.S.

Here in Congress, we regularly discuss the many barriers that prevent job creation, such as costly federal regulations that stand in the way of private sector growth. We are working to repeal these burdensome federal rules. We want to encourage small business owners who work hard to invest in their employees and their products, not discourage them. The House of Representatives has passed nearly 30 pro-growth jobs-bills to reduce the mountain of federal regulations that limit an employer's ability to create jobs. We should never forget: government does not create jobs; the private sector does.

An economy built to succeed is an economy that is built on a foundation of small business entrepreneurship. Operating on the principles of persistence, innovation, and hard work, Twitchell is a model of American enterprise. It is a privilege for me to stand here today to honor the legacy of Twitchell and to recognize the many dedicated employees who have made the company a success through the years. I congratulate them for reaching this

milestone, and I look forward to the centennial celebration.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Twitchell on its 90th anniversary and in wishing the company many more decades of success.

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS FOR  
OBTAINING THE RANK OF EAGLE  
SCOUT

**HON. SANDY ADAMS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2012*

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Kyle Holysz for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

For his Eagle Scout project, Kyle led the construction and installation of reusable garden boxes for local nursing homes. Throughout the history of the Boy Scouts of America, the rank of Eagle Scout has only been attained through dedication to concepts such as honor, duty, country and charity. By applying these concepts to daily life, Kyle has proven his true and complete understanding of their meanings, and thereby deserves this honor.

I offer my congratulations on a job well done and best wishes for the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SPECIAL  
OLYMPICS' SOUTH BAY AREA  
GAMES

**HON. LAURA RICHARDSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2012*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exciting event that took place in the 37th Congressional District this past weekend: The Southern California Special Olympics' South Bay Area Games. The games took place on Saturday, April 21 at the Veterans Park and Sport Complex in Carson, California.

As a once aspiring Olympic athlete myself, I have always supported the Special Olympics and their goals. The Special Olympics of Southern California provides year-round sports training and competitions for children and adults with intellectual disabilities, all at no cost to the athletes or their families.

The Special Olympics, however, serves a deeper purpose than simply recreation and competition. Special Olympic athletes gain the opportunity to develop physical fitness and athletic skills, create relationships with other athletes and community members, and demonstrate the courage to achieve their dreams. Within the Southern California chapter alone, there are nearly 11,600 athletes and 15,000 coaches and volunteers. These numbers illustrate the popularity and far-reaching impact of the games.

The Special Olympics were first started in 1963 by Eunice Kennedy Shriver as a camp to provide people with intellectual disabilities with physical fitness and sports. Five years later, she organized the first International Special Olympics games, and athletes around the world have competed ever since. I am proud to be a co-sponsor of the Eunice Kennedy

Shriver Act, which will authorize funding for sports, health, education and employment programs for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the hard work of the athletes and volunteers of the Southern California Special Olympics. I know the people of California will continue to support the games and be inspired by the dedication of those involved.

REGARDING THE 97TH ANNIVER-  
SARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENO-  
CID

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 24, 2012*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

It was 97 years ago today that over 1.5 million men, women, and children, almost 75 percent of the pre-war Armenian population, were brutally exterminated by the Ottoman Empire. The Ottoman authorities arrested and later murdered over 250 Armenian political, intellectual, and religious leaders in Istanbul, beginning a horrific and systematic campaign to wipe a 3,000 year-old community from the face of the earth.

Armenian members of the Turkish armed forces were separated from their units and placed into labor battalions, where they were either worked to death or murdered. In Armenian villages throughout Turkey, adult males were singled out for execution, while the remaining women, children, and elderly inhabitants were then forced to march without food or water to the Syrian Desert. En route they were set upon by the Ottoman Security Service's "Special Organization," which consisted of released convicts and was created specifically for the purpose of carrying out ethnic cleansing. In the end, of the 2.1 million Armenians residing in Turkey at the start of World War I, only 100,000 would survive to see the end of hostilities.

And yet, despite clear evidence that genocide occurred, many officials today refuse to even to use the word genocide when referring to this incident. By equivocating, they not only dishonor the victims of this atrocity and their descendants, they increase the chance that other crimes against humanity are met with similar equivocation.

Indeed, before sending the "Death's Head" SS units into Poland with orders to "kill without pity or mercy all men, women and children," Adolph Hitler is reported to have commented to his generals, "who still talks nowadays of the extermination of the Armenians?"

When we fail to fully acknowledge that genocide was perpetrated against the Armenian people in 1915, it becomes a little easier to do the same today when we see similar atrocities unfold in Bosnia, or Rwanda or Iraq or Sudan.

Last week the world commemorated International Holocaust Remembrance Day as people everywhere gathered to renew our collective pledge to "Never Forget." Today we gather for a similar purpose as we remember the first genocide of the 20th century. We recall the suffering of the Armenian people 97 years