

in the Polish-American community in Chicago, serving as a U.S. Representative and an Alderman. He passed away on September 25, 2002, but I rise to honor him today because some of his most important life's work will be available to the public for the first time this week. Beginning today, September 10th, the materials related to revealing the Katyn Massacre, that he spent much of his career in Congress working to compile, will be declassified and put on display at the National Archives. I am certain that he would be overcome with emotion if he were able to see the fruits of his labor on this special day.

During World War II, Poland was invaded by Nazi Germany on September 1, 1939, then by the Soviet Union on September 17th. The Soviet Army met little resistance as it advanced through Poland from the east, because Polish troops were ordered not to engage, incorrectly thinking that the Soviets were there to help. The Soviets subsequently took thousands of Polish prisoners of war. Soviet troops, by the order of Joseph Stalin and the Politburo, ordered approximately 22,000 executions of Polish military officers, police officers, and other government officials. These executions are now known as the Katyn Massacre. Nazi troops found the mass graves in 1943 and the Soviet Union denied any responsibility, and maintained that position until 1990.

Leading to the Soviet Union's acknowledgment of crime, Congress established the Select Committee on the Katyn Forest Massacre from 1951–1952, chaired by Congressman Ray J. Madden of Indiana. The committee hired Mr. Pucinski as the bilingual Chief Investigator for the committee because of his experience as an investigative reporter with the Chicago Sun-Times, and his fluency in both Polish and English. Mr. Pucinski worked endlessly to provide conclusive documentation that it was indeed the Soviets, and not the Nazis, who were responsible for this heinous crime. Traveling across Europe and the United States, he found witnesses, took depositions, and uncovered secret documents. He worked to uncover the truth about a great tragedy of World War II, and has helped ease the pain of those affected by Katyn Massacre. I am happy to say that many of the documents he helped uncover and compiled are finally available for public viewing. These documents will serve as a reminder for all visitors to the National Archives the horrors of World War II and the sacrifices of those who fought for freedom.

Mr. Pucinski was born in Buffalo, New York, but grew up in Chicago. He graduated from Northwestern University, and while there began his work at the Chicago Sun-Times. During World War II, Mr. Pucinski served in the U.S. Army Air Forces where he became a Captain and led his bombardier in the first B-29 bomb raid on Tokyo. Following the war, Mr. Pucinski attended John Marshall Law School in Chicago and graduated in 1949. He then went on to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1959 to 1973 and as a Chicago Alderman from 1973 until 1991. Throughout Mr. Pucinski's lifetime, he was a leader for both Chicago and the city's expansive Polish-American community.

Please join me in honoring Mr. Pucinski's work to investigate and uncover the truth behind the Katyn Massacre. I commend his efforts not only as an investigator, but also as an elected official and I am happy his important work will be available to educate Americans for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF CAMP WALTON SCHOOLHOUSE

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to recognize the 100th Anniversary of Camp Walton School located in Fort Walton Beach, Florida.

Construction on the Camp Walton School began in 1911 by a group of local citizens who sought to ensure that their children would have a permanent location to pursue their education. Located in historic downtown Fort Walton Beach, the school opened in 1912 with 15 students and one teacher. The one-room schoolhouse held classes for eight grades. In 1927, a second room was added to the schoolhouse for students in grades 9 through 12. The Camp Walton School continued to serve as a bastion of education until 1936, when a hurricane damaged the school.

After the hurricane of 1936, the local residents decided to build a new school for their community; however, the Camp Walton School building continued to be used by the local community. During World War II, the building served as an apartment house for several families. In 1974, the building's owners donated the Camp Walton School to the Junior Service League to restore it to its original status and preserve it as a historic museum. The Junior Service League, in conjunction with the Okaloosa County School Board, completed the restoration of the Camp Walton School in 1976 when it was reopened to the public.

The City of Fort Walton Beach assumed operation of the Camp Walton School in 1986, and since that time, it has come to serve thousands of local students and visitors from across the United States and around the world. The Camp Walton School is an important historical piece of the Northwest Florida community, and in 2010 it was placed on the National Register of Country Schools.

Education is the foundation for future success, and it has served as one of the cornerstones of our nation. The citizens of the Fort Walton Beach community realized this important fact and came together to ensure that their children had a suitable location to pursue their studies. One hundred years later, the Camp Walton School still stands as a testament to what can be achieved when a community comes together to preserve its history.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to recognize the 100th Birthday Celebration of Camp Walton Schoolhouse. With the dedication and commitment of the Fort Walton Beach Community, this historic site will continue to teach future generations about their shared history and inspire them to achieve great success.

JOB PROTECTION AND RECESSION PREVENTION ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 8, which should be called the Protecting America's Wealthiest 2 Percent Act of 2012.

Our main priority in the House of Representatives must be to support middle class families. It should not be to protect the wealthiest 2 percent of Americans by extending the so-called Bush tax cuts for them. As a body, we should work together to make our nation's tax system more equitable while continuing to support the middle class.

I opposed the so-called Bush tax cut plans in 2001 and 2003. In the aftermath of these cuts, federal revenue fell, real GDP grew at a rate less than 2 percent and the cumulative deficit grew to \$6 trillion. Today, I rise in support of the Democratic Substitute to H.R. 8 which extends all income tax cuts for the 98 percent of Americans and asks the richest households to contribute to deficit reduction by reverting back to the 1990s rates—a decade in which the workforce grew by 22 million jobs and saw the largest budget surplus in recent history.

My colleagues across the aisle have shown that their priority is to protect only privileged Americans by giving away tax breaks to the wealthiest in this country and continuing to ignore the needs of middle class families. Republicans are holding tax cuts for 98 percent of Americans and 97 percent of small businesses hostage to deficit-busting tax breaks for the top 2 percent, while rewarding Big Oil, special interests, and corporations that outsource American jobs.

H.R. 8 would raise taxes on 25 million American families by an average \$1,000 by ending vital expansions of the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit and end the American Opportunity Tax Credit entirely. These 25 million families are earning the least and who rely on these credits to put more wages in their pockets, increase access to child care services, and make college more affordable. It would add to the deficit by extending tax breaks for the highest-earning households, giving millionaires a tax break savings of \$160,000 annually. Republicans are holding the middle class hostage by demanding tax cut extensions for the richest 2 percent and by adding \$50 billion to the deficit. What is even more egregious is that H.R. 8 would disproportionately affect those military families who sacrifice every day to protect our freedoms. The American middle class, including our military families, would see a tax increase on January 1, 2013 if we fail to come to an agreement on taxes for the top 2 percent.

I want to protect hard working Americans, including our military families. I support making sure everyone, especially the wealthiest Americans and large corporations, pays their fair share. That is why I am an original co-sponsor of the Democratic Substitute to H.R. 8, which is identical to The Middle Class Tax Cut Act which passed the Senate last week. The Middle Class Tax Cut Act would preserve the current tax rates for 98 percent of Americans and only increase taxes on the richest 2