

TO COMMEMORATE THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF BROWN UNIVERSITY

**HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE**

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 4, 2014*

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 250th academic year of Brown University. This prestigious institution has been a source of pride for Rhode Island since 1764 and was one of the first colleges in the country. Throughout its history, Brown has attracted some of the best and brightest talent from around the world, and is known for a student body that is driven by a desire for free thought and self-determined education. Brown University is a treasured Rhode Island institution, and I am honored to recognize the integral role it has maintained in our community for the last two and a half centuries.

As one of the oldest universities in the United States, Brown University has infused its students with a deep and abiding dedication to public service. Brown's student body is remarkably intelligent and high-achieving. But this institution also challenges its students to be more than intelligent; it challenges students to sincerely consider how they can make the world a better place. Brown University encourages its students to explore their interests while serving local communities in Providence, the State of Rhode Island, the United States, and throughout the global community. With its famed Open Curriculum, this renowned university stands as a monument of free thought, allowing students to challenge themselves to grow not only academically, but also as citizens of the world.

Brown University has long drawn premier talent from a wide range of academic disciplines to historic College Hill. For example, the Brown University BrainGate research team was recently recognized for its work developing neurotechnology for individuals with neurologic disease, injury, or limb loss. Researchers and students at Brown have also been recognized for their work related to the discovery of the Higgs Boson, Superfund cleanups in Rhode Island, and important advances in public health. In addition to generating top-notch work on campus, Brown has also graduated alumni who excel in the arts, government, technology, medicine, business, athletics, and a diverse set of other professions. Some notable alumni include Horace Mann, the father of American public education, philanthropist and businessman John Rockefeller Jr., President of the World Bank Dr. Jim Yong Kim, and the Honorable Janet Yellen, who is the first woman to serve as Chair of the Federal Reserve. And in my home state of Rhode Island, alumni such as Governor Lincoln Chafee, Lieutenant Governor Elizabeth Roberts, and former Attorney General Patrick Lynch have served in important positions in government.

Over the past 250 years, Brown University's history has been deeply intertwined with our nation's story. Brown has evolved during moments of tremendous transition—our fight for independence, the Civil War, the Great Depression, the Industrial Revolution, and the digital age—but it continues to reflect the principles of nondiscrimination and freedom of conscience rooted in Rhode Island's founding.

I am confident that Brown will continue to grow in the next 250 years, and its hallowed halls will welcome brilliant and curious students for generations to come.

Finally, on a personal note, I am proud to have attended and graduated from Brown University, and I am even more proud to represent this fine institution in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Congratulations on 250 years.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE  
MIDDLEBOROUGH MAY FLOWER  
LODGE

**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 4, 2014*

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Middleborough May Flower Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons upon the occasion of its one hundred and fiftieth year of continued fellowship.

The Middleborough May Flower Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons was formally organized on March 4, 1864. Since then, the Lodge has provided fellowship, charity, education, and leadership to not just its members, but also to the town of Middleborough and surrounding communities. Since its chartering, the Lodge has actively increased its membership, currently totaling to two hundred members. The Lodge has worked vigorously over the years to promote self-improvement, personal study, and social betterment through the ideals of philanthropy and community involvement. My district in Massachusetts has great appreciation for the work that this Lodge has done, and it serves as an example for how community service and brotherhood can benefit our nation.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Middleborough May Flower Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons upon this significant anniversary. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating them as well as wishing them many more happy and productive years ahead.

UNIQUE LITHO

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 4, 2014*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Unique Litho for achieving 25 years of outstanding membership in the West Chamber serving Jefferson County.

Membership in a Chamber of Commerce comes with commitment, dedication and contribution to community. Chamber members are leaders in the community mentoring other businesses, creating positive environments for business to thrive. The West Chamber serving Jefferson County is a strong and vibrant organization today due to members like Unique Litho.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Unique Litho for 25 years of leadership and inspiration you provide in our community. I look forward to many more years of your service.

HONORING THE VICTIMS OF  
SUMGAIIT

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 4, 2014*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the twenty-sixth anniversary of the pogrom against people of Armenian descent in the town of Sumgait, Azerbaijan, where Armenian civilians were massacred at the hands of the Azerbaijani regime. Beginning on February 27, 1988 and for three days, Azerbaijani mobs assaulted and killed Armenians. Hundreds of Armenians were wounded, women and young girls were brutally raped, and many victims of all ages were burnt to death after being tortured and beaten. The carnage created thousands of ethnic Armenian refugees, who had to leave everything behind to be looted or destroyed, including their homes and businesses. The Sumgait Pogroms were part of an organized pattern, and were preceded by a wave of anti-Armenian rallies throughout Azerbaijan, which culminated in the 1990 Pogroms in Baku.

These crimes were never adequately prosecuted by Azerbaijan authorities. Despite efforts by the Government of Azerbaijan to cover up the events which occurred in February 1988, survivors of the pogrom have come forward with their stories. They told of enraged mobs, which threw refrigerators and furniture, among other belongings from apartment balconies and set them afire. Armenians were dragged from their apartments. If they tried to run and escape, the mob attacked them with metal rods, hatchets and knives before the victims were thrown into the fire.

The Sumgait massacres led to wider reprisals against Azerbaijan's ethnic minority, resulting in the virtual disappearance of a once thriving population of 450,000 Armenians living in Azerbaijan, and culminating in the war launched against the people of Nagorno Karabakh. That war resulted in thousands dead on both sides and created over one million refugees in both Armenia and Azerbaijan.

In the years since the fighting ended, the people of Artsakh, the region's ancestral name, have struggled to build a functioning democratic state in the midst of unremitting hostility and threats from Azerbaijan, as well as incursions across the Line of Contact between the two sides, such as the recent murder of yet another Armenian soldier, Hrant Poghosyan, in an unprovoked attack by Azerbaijani troops against Armenian forces. Hatred towards Armenians is both celebrated and inculcated in Azeri youth, as exemplified by the case of Ramil Safarov, an Azerbaijani army captain who had confessed to the savage 2004 axe murder of Armenian army lieutenant Gurgen Margaryan, while the latter slept. At the time, the two were participating in a NATO Partnership for Peace exercise in Budapest, Hungary. After the murder, Safarov was sentenced to life in prison by a Hungarian court and imprisoned in Hungary.

In 2012, Safarov was sent home to Azerbaijan, purportedly to serve out the remainder of his sentence. Instead of serving out his sentence in an Azeri jail, he was pardoned, promoted to Major, given back pay and paraded through the streets of Baku in a disgusting and bloodthirsty welcome home.