

Richard Blanco continues to grace the world with his unparalleled artistic vision, poetic genius, and social consciousness, and has undoubtedly earned our profound respect and admiration.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SACRED HEART HOSPITAL

**HON. CHARLES W. DENT**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 3, 2013*

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the dedicated staff of Sacred Heart Hospital as they continue to celebrate Sacred Heart's 100th year of providing dedicated service to the community.

Sacred Heart Hospital started in 1912 in response to a diphtheria outbreak when the Missionary Sisters of the Most Sacred Heart arrived in Allentown to render nursing service to the diphtheria patients of the Sacred Heart Parish. Since that time, Sacred Heart has answered each and every call from the community.

When Sacred Heart Hospital made a commitment to the Allentown community over 100 years ago, the hospital was a draw to the city and, as a result, a neighborhood took shape. Sacred Heart's response to this neighborhood and beyond has always been simple—they are there to serve. Sacred Heart is personal, different and it is a unique place to heal as a patient. The hospital is also a special, caring place to work each day, with staff and employees who truly believe in the mission of providing nurturing care. Catholic beliefs inspire the Sacred Heart's philosophy of patient care by creating balanced and compassionate paths to well-being. Sacred Heart is focused on providing all persons the personalized approach to medical care they deserve.

Sacred Heart holds the firm belief that it is their responsibility to care for those in need, to promote and to defend the human dignity of each patient, and to create an environment that promotes healing and compassion. These values, and a tradition of commitment to the community, are used to guide the team of nearly 1,300 physicians and medical support staff every day.

Sacred Heart was established as an institution that was truly focused on the patient and that focus will never change. On a personal note, I was born at Sacred Heart Hospital and so were my three children.

Mr. Speaker, I hope Sacred Heart remains a vital part of our community far into the future. I offer my heartfelt congratulations and thanks to the people that make Sacred Heart such a great asset to our community and I wish them continued success and growth.

HONORING THE SOUTH FLORIDA NATIONAL PARKS TRUST

**HON. JOE GARCIA**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 3, 2013*

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary organization that

has consistently worked to better the South Florida community and the lives of the countless people who call it home, and continues to shine a light on the cause for environmentalism, sustainable living, and conservation.

For over a decade, the South Florida National Parks Trust has worked to support South Florida's national parks and to perpetuate the livelihood of our landscape and wildlife. This organization has directly benefited our community through its support for South Florida's four national parks, and indirectly through its promotion of community involvement and environmentalism. The work of the South Florida National Parks Trust allows members of our community to visit better-preserved parks today, and helps to ensure our children continue to have the opportunity to visit parks tomorrow.

The South Florida National Parks Trust serves as an exemplary organization for conservation and environmentalism, and has undoubtedly earned our community's admiration, respect, and gratitude.

NATIONAL DAY OF REASON

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 3, 2013*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the National Day of Reason. The American Humanist Association has issued a statement, which I submit on their behalf.

"The National Day of Reason celebrates the application of reason and the positive impact it has had on humanity. It is also an opportunity to reaffirm the constitutional separation of church and state in an age where the line between religion and government is increasingly blurred.

"The National Day of Reason is also an opportunity for nonreligious and secular Americans to get out and help local communities. Community service events, such as food and blood drives, are some of the ways that people have worked to help those in need on the Day of Reason and during the rest of the year.

"Therefore, I encourage all citizens to join in observing this day, focusing on the employment of reason, critical thought, the scientific method, and free inquiry to the resolution of problems for the welfare of humanity."

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the National Day of Reason.

HONORING YOANI SÁNCHEZ

**HON. JOE GARCIA**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 3, 2013*

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a courageous woman whose work on behalf of the advancement of human rights has inspired millions around the world and continues to shine a light on the cause of freedom just 90 miles from our shores.

For over 10 years, Yoani Sánchez has documented the realities of life in Cuba through

her blog, Generacion Y, and drawn worldwide attention to Cuba's civil society. Her riveting accounts detailing human rights violations and other injustices have earned her praise and recognition throughout the world. She has been named as one of Time magazine's "100 Most Influential People in the World" and won the prestigious El País 2008 Ortega y Gasset Prize for Digital Journalism.

Yoani stands as a beacon of hope for Cuba's future, and her strength in the face of incredible odds has earned our community's profound admiration and respect. If my colleagues would indulge me, I would like to say a few words in Spanish.

Es un gran honor reconocer la valentía de Yoani Sánchez quien es una fuente de inspiración para los millones alrededor del mundo que buscan la libertad y los derechos humanos. Yoani estará con nosotros aquí en el Capitolio la semana que viene e invite a todos mis colegas que vengan a conocerla para aprender sobre las realidades de Cuba y rendirle un homenaje a ella y la causa de los derechos humanos.

THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

**HON. TONY CÁRDENAS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 3, 2013*

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, today, in recognition of the National Day of Remembrance of Man's Inhumanity to Man, created in 1975 to remember the victims of inhumanity, specifically the Armenian people who lost their lives in the early part of the 20th century, I would like to note its importance to our nation.

Nearly 100 years ago, the hatred of one race toward another spilled over from politics into the murder of more than 1.5 million Armenians at the hands of Ottoman soldiers. This day not only recognizes those murdered in that genocide, but also the staggering inhumanity and atrocious acts of violence committed so often throughout human history. This day should serve to not only remind us of millions of lives lost, but that we must act with vigilance to ensure that atrocities are not allowed to ever occur again.

As we remember this dark period in history, we should remain hopeful, because goodness exists and that it is possible to prevent such horrific losses. I stand united with the Armenian people and the rest of America to take up that challenge.

RECOGNIZING THE 2013 PRINCE WILLIAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 3, 2013*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of the 2013 Prince William Chamber of Commerce Valor Awards. The Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety agencies. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put