

Janice Knutz, Linda Miller, Kelsey Hanning, Toni Williams, Ilene Berry, Patti Anderson, Charley Newhouse, Alycia McCord, Marty Hamilton, Bret Harris, and Lee Go.

Delivering these urgently needed funds to Klamath Basin farmers in a fair, accurate, and efficient manner is a monumental task. What makes this effort even more remarkable is the fact that the program for disbursing the funds, designed by State Office Specialist Fred Ringer, does not require one dime in administrative fees for the Farm Service Agency.

Mr. Speaker, we should all take pride in this selfless group of federal workers whose tireless efforts have made the difference between despair and hope for so many of the farmers in the Klamath Basin. They truly represent the best of what our government stands for. Their hearts are guided by compassion and they have the personal commitment to do their job to the fullest, regardless of the extreme effort required. I offer them both my praise and my most sincere gratitude for caring for the farmers in the Klamath Basin who have faced such significant trials.

Many hurdles remain in the path of Klamath farmers, and I am delighted that the Oregon Farm Service Agency will be working with us throughout the challenges that lie ahead.

TRIBUTE TO MARTIN STEWART NIEDERER

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take the opportunity today to pay tribute to Martin Stewart Niederer.

Martin Niederer was young, he was a hard worker, a loyal citizen, and represented the bright, young future of America—the next generation. Martin's life was robbed from him, and from us, by the hand of terrorists—radical extremists, seeking to rule the world by instilling fear and spreading hatred. Henrico, and indeed the entire Richmond area, has experienced a great loss. Our entire community mourn along with Martin Niederer's parents and his loved ones.

On Tuesday, September 11, 2001, a precious life was ripped from our midst. Martin Niederer forged his way as a leader—in his case, a leader in the center of the world's economic capital. Sadly, Martin Niederer reported for work on September 11, as he always did, to Cantor Fitzgerald at the World Trade Center—only on that day, America was to become victim to a set of horrific terrorist atrocities. Martin was conducting the nation's economic business, when he and the World Trade Center were attacked.

Because Mr. Niederer lived as a symbol of American greatness and success, he was attacked. Not because he, as an individual, was hated, but because he stood with his colleagues as a symbol of America's prosperity and our democracy. We owe Martin Niederer for paying our price for freedom. We must forever honor his memory. Mr. Niederer's memory will be honored as America secures its future, fights against a maniacal hatred of freedom and human rights, and continues to demonstrate strength.

AMERICAN HEROES AT PENTAGON FROM BAKERSFIELD AND KERN COUNTY

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the real contributions of many individuals from California's 21st District to the relief effort because of the horrible tragedy on September 11, 2001. I am continually encouraged by the courageous and unselfish acts of our communities.

Yesterday, I visited a group of American heroes at the Pentagon. Over the past two weeks, a tireless and dedicated crew of 11 firefighters and Forest Service personnel from Bakersfield and Kern County in California has helped with the rescue and cleanup efforts at the Pentagon. Facing, long days of work in a stressful environment, they kept their resolve. The display of internal fortitude by these heroes serves as a great example of generosity and selflessness.

Soon, this talented and brave group returns home, and I would like to express my appreciation to Steve Gage, Kevin Harper, Nick Dunn, Ken Stevens, Bob Klinoff, Bob Lechtreck, Dean Clason, Pat Caprioli, Steve Shoemaker, Jim Scritchfield, and Dan Kleinman for all their hard work in assisting with the rescue and recovery efforts at the Pentagon. I would also like to thank their families for the sacrifices they also endured during these uncertain times.

I am extremely proud of these firefighters and our communities for the compassion shown to the victims of this horrific act of terrorism. The blood, sweat, and tears shed throughout our history in the quest for life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness have never been in vain. That is why I am certain the American people will rise to the occasion and triumph in these most trying of times. Together, there are no difficulties we cannot overcome as the greatest example of freedom and democracy in the world.

THE SAFE SKIES ACT OF 2001

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, by now we are all aware of the events that took place on September 11th and the many actions that took place before the tragedy. One circumstance that I found troubling was many of the terrorists at the controls of the commercial airliners used in the attacks received training in our own flight training schools.

The United States attracts men and women from throughout the world looking to acquire the skills needed to pilot an aircraft. There are several factors that make the United States an ideal place to receive flight training: it is inexpensive to rent aircraft, fuel is reasonably priced, landing fees are nonexistent, and it is quick and easy to be accepted for flight training.

We have now witnessed firsthand the destruction that can be wrought when the skills

acquired in our flight training schools are used for evil purposes. Currently, The Federal Aviation Administration does not require a background check of any type for individuals seeking civilian instruction to fly an airplane or helicopter in our nations' skies.

In order to close this loophole, I have introduced the Safe Skies Act of 2001, which will require background checks of all those seeking civilian instruction to fly airplanes or helicopters. It is my hope that we can stop international and domestic terrorist groups from using innocent and necessary skills for purposes other than innocence and necessity. Mr. Speaker, I realize not all terrorist organizations are those that infiltrate our borders from the outside, but also threaten us domestically. For that reason, we must ensure that the best information from the FBI and CIA is used to comb all civilian aviation applicants' history for criminal activity, espionage, or links to terrorist organizations.

The skies over this great land belong to its hard-working, law-abiding citizens. Let's help ensure that it stays in their hands.

RECOGNIZING THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS AND NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Civilian Conservation Corps on the occurrence of their upcoming 60th anniversary. This Saturday, ceremonies around the country will commemorate the work and sacrifice of the members of the Civilian Conservation Corps, these unsung heroes who built over 800 of America's national and state parks. In addition to these ceremonies, volunteers will work to restore original CCC projects. The achievements and contributions of the CCC to our nation are still being realized nearly sixty years after the program ended. I also would like to recognize the efforts of thousands of volunteers who will donate their time on Saturday, September 29, 2001. These volunteers, participating in National Public Lands Day, will put in a day of real work on projects ranging from trail construction and repair to habitat restoration and making public lands more accessible for disabled visitors. In short, the volunteers participating in National Public Lands Day will work on projects much like the projects that the Civilian Conservation Corps completed so many years ago. I express my deep gratitude to the volunteers and to the men who made up the CCC.

Following the stock market crash of 1929, the United States, and the entire world, slid into depression. Banks failed, loans and mortgages were foreclosed, unemployment soared as factories closed their doors, farms were abandoned and bread lines grew in cities. In 1933, to help get men out of bread lines and back to work, newly elected President Franklin D. Roosevelt engineered the passage of legislative measures which created government work programs designed to lift the country out of the Depression. One of these programs was the Civilian Conservation Corps.

The CCC would work in every state as well as in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. Although one of the most recognizable and remembered CCC projects is Skyline Drive, in Virginia's Blue Ridge Mountains, the CCC's roots are planted firmly in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The CCC was based on a program that was already put in place by Pennsylvania Governor Gifford Pinchot. Pinchot, a Yale graduate who went to France and became recognized as the first American trained in forestry, served as Governor from 1923 until 1927 and again from 1931 to 1935. The work camps that he created throughout the Commonwealth are credited with building 20,000 miles of paved roads. Governor Pinchot's work camps would become the model for President Roosevelt's CCC. Because of Governor Pinchot's early leadership, Pennsylvania would have 113 CCC camps, second only to California. A total of 194,000 Pennsylvania citizens served in the CCC nationwide. The CCC transformed the forests and natural areas of Pennsylvania and greatly enhanced the Pennsylvania Bureau of State Parks.

The CCC, officially formed in 1933, would instill a unique blend of military-style discipline and social responsibility in every man that served. From 1933 until 1942 millions of men, mostly youths but also World War I veterans and some skilled laborers, gathered to complete civil engineering projects for a mere thirty dollars a month, twenty-five of which was sent back home to their families. This work would not only earn them money to help their families through hard times but would teach them the value of their labor and challenge their minds. Upon introduction to the CCC the men would be given military-style physicals and then transported to Army training camps where they would be subject to a basic training and orientation program conducted by military personnel. From there they would be transported to the CCC district where they were assigned. Aside from the strong military presence there were also civilian teachers and ministers that would teach the men more useful skills that they would use throughout their lives.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that the CCC had a great impact not only on the lives of its members but on the country as a whole. It was a program that put men to work building roads, walls, bridges, parks and countless other projects at a time when other nations put their populations, equally touched by depression, into work building bombs, planes and tanks. The same bombs, planes and tanks that former CCC men would face in Europe and the Pacific. The CCC worked to pull the nation out of depression but it also unified the country for the trying times to come.

I urge every American to take the opportunity to find out about the CCC. Use the internet to look up the accomplishments of the CCC or take a trip to the Allegheny National Forest, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, Skyline Drive, the Appalachian Trail, the Pacific Crest Trail or any of the thousands of CCC sites to see the results of their commitment. Most importantly, seek out a person who served in the CCC. There are fewer every year and the knowledge and wisdom they possess is invaluable. Mr. Speaker, let us all recognize the CCC and its men for their contributions, and also recognize the volunteers of National Public Lands Day who are working to bring the accomplishments of the CCC to light.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL EDWARD C. GRUETZEMACHER

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to speak of the recent retirement of Colonel Ed Gruetzemacher, 1107th Aviation, Classification and Repair Activity Depot commander, Missouri National Guard. Colonel Gruetzemacher retired after over 30 years of service to the United States military. He has distinguished himself, the military and our nation with dedicated service.

Colonel Gruetzemacher began his career in 1967 when he was drafted into the U.S. Army. After basic training, Colonel Gruetzemacher was selected for officer training school and then flight school. Upon completion of flight school, Colonel Gruetzemacher flew COBRA helicopters in the 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry, the same unit his father served in years earlier. After service in Vietnam, Colonel Gruetzemacher was assigned to Fort Knox, Kentucky, where he deployed an attack helicopter company to Europe for restationing.

In 1974 Colonel Gruetzemacher joined the Missouri National Guard as deputy at the Transportation Aircraft Repair Shop, now known as the 1107th AVCRAD. During his 27 years in the Missouri National Guard Colonel Gruetzemacher has served in the 142nd Transportation Battalion, the 1107th AVCRAD, the 635th Aviation Group and the State Aviation Office.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Gruetzemacher has dedicated 34 years of his life to the military, serving with honor and distinction. As he prepares to spend more time with his wife Jean and daughter Eve, I know the Members of the House will join me in wishing him all the best in his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO MARGARET ANSLEY OF SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great joy and personal pride that I give tribute to a great American, Margaret E. Ansley of San Bernardino, California on the occasion of her 100th birthday.

The history of one person can be a deep sea of history, as is the case with Margaret. Margaret was born in 1901 Norwalk, Connecticut. The daughter of Hungarian immigrants, Margaret grew up in Connecticut and moved to San Bernardino, California in 1926 with her husband Alex. Like many others of that simpler and more dedicated time, she commuted to work from Connecticut to New York City everyday. When she moved to California, Margaret and her sister Anne ran a grocery store in San Bernardino next to the Santa Fe Railroad. Unfortunately, in 1933 her husband Alex passed away from tuberculosis, but she remarried in 1936 to Howard Ansley. Together Margaret and Howard bought some land in Bloomington to grow grapefruits and raise a family. Since then, she has been a lov-

ing wife, active member of her parish, and a good citizen. Margaret and I attend Saint Catherine of Sienna Catholic Church on Sundays. I've gotten to know this wonderful lady over the years and I can say without a doubt, Margaret is one of the most decent and fine examples of our community.

Margaret lives in the Inland Empire to this day. She is an active and distinguished California resident that has brought credit and distinction to her family. It is because of her legacy of commitment to our region and the value of hard work that she has demonstrated every day of her life, that I pay homage and tribute to this wonderful woman.

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO JONATHAN Y. THOMAS

HON. STEPHEN HORN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. HORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Jonathan Y. Thomas, a former member of the Los Angeles Board of Harbor Commissioners and the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority Governing Board.

Between 1994 and 2001, Mr. Thomas provided seven years of distinguished public service as a Port of Los Angeles representative to the public agency undertaking the Alameda Corridor, a rail cargo expressway critical to speed the movement of goods from the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach into the stream of commerce. At the time, the Corridor needed to develop a financing package, and given Mr. Thomas' well-known expertise in public finance, he was appointed to the Governing Board specifically to develop the financing concepts to underpin the Corridor.

Utilizing his expertise, Mr. Thomas has played a vital role in developing a unique financing package for the Alameda Corridor. In fact, this package has become a model for other major public works projects across the country. Mr. Thomas was also instrumental in generating political support for the project when it was little more than a concept.

This body identified the Alameda Corridor as "a project of national significance" in 1995. The Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles comprise our nation's busiest port complex, and cargo volumes are projected to triple by the year 2020. The Alameda Corridor will link the ports to the transcontinental rail yards near downtown Los Angeles, creating a more efficient and timely way to distribute cargo into the stream of commerce, thus allowing our ports and our mainstream economy to maintain competitive advantages.

It is a testament to the distinguished service of Jonathan Y. Thomas that the Alameda Corridor is now in full-scale construction, on budget and on schedule to open in April, 2002.

We owe a debt of gratitude for his dedicated service.

TRIBUTE TO EARL MIDDLETON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 25, 2001

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Earl Middleton of South