

Rollcall No. 251, H.R. 3971—To provide for an independent investigation of Forest Service firefighter deaths that are caused by wildfire entrapment, or burnover, "yes".

Rollcall No. 252, H.J. Res. 95—To designate an official flag of the Medal of Honor and providing for presentation of that flag to each recipient of that Medal of Honor "yes".

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2002

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 252, 251, 250, and 249, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

BRONZE STAR EVENT

HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2002

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, in a year of honoring heroes, on July 2, 2002, I will have the privilege to honor nine men in my district for their heroism and bravery. These men all fought in World War II and were never awarded the Bronze Stars, which they rightfully earned more than 50 years ago.

These veterans, like countless other men and women of their generation, heard the call and bravely fought to defend the United States and our allies. They put the early years of their adult lives on hold to fight in the deserts of Africa, the islands of the Pacific and in the embattled towns and countrysides of Europe. Some of these soldiers made the ultimate sacrifice and never returned from the war. The fortunate ones who came home made sure to take their civic responsibility to heart. Having defended our freedoms on the battlefield, they realized the importance of preserving these same freedoms at home. Like veterans of all wars, those who fought in World War II continue to play a vital role in our communities by voting, participating in civic affairs and sharing their stories with younger generations so that their sacrifice will never be forgotten.

I would like to take a moment to recognize the nine men who will finally receive their Bronze Stars on July 2, 2002: Charles Anders of Redmond who served in Europe, Harold Enger of Bothell who served in Europe and Africa, The late Charles Iffland who served in Europe and Africa, The late William Nielsen who served in Europe, James Owens of Redmond who served in Europe, Ernest Schaefer of Kirkland who served in the Pacific, Trevor Wilkinson of Redmond who served in Europe, Robert Zappone of Kenmore who served in Europe, The late Elmer Peal, who gave his life for his country while serving in the Philippines.

I am proud to have these men and their families in my district. They are true American Heroes.

HONORING THE NORTHEAST ALLISON COMMEMORATION COMMUNITY PROJECT

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2002

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor the men and women who were a part of the Northeast Allison Commemoration Community Project. This project was composed of citizens, community leaders, civic clubs, churches, and local government and business who banded together for each other after the devastating flooding caused by Tropical Storm Allison.

Last June, when Allison began moving into the Houston area, few had any idea the disaster that lay ahead. Over the week beginning June 6, Allison sat over Houston, Texas, and dumped rainfall in excess of 10"-15", with some areas in the 29th District receiving over 30", with the majority of that falling in a 24 hour period.

Flooding from this storm was severe and widespread, with streets and freeways impassible, residents being rescued from their roofs just before their homes were completely submerged, and schools and other public places transformed into hastily-organized shelters.

The damage to both homes and businesses was estimated at over \$5 billion. However, that total is low, when you consider the inability to completely replace treasured mementos and other valuables that were left behind and washed away or ruined by floodwaters.

In the aftermath of this disaster, the Northeast Allison Commemoration Community Project was formed. This organization helped address the overwhelming sense of helplessness with crisis counseling; strengthened the unity of the community; served as a remembrance to those who lost their lives; and brought healing to the devastated neighborhoods.

This Saturday, the Project will hold a gathering to celebrate their recovery. This gathering will allow members of this community an opportunity to close the door on this difficult period. However, the bonds which were forged and strengthened by this flood will continue, as we all work together in the future.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL THOMAS L. PIROZZI

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2002

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Thomas L. Pirozzi and offer heartfelt congratulations for a successful Battalion Command. Lieutenant Colonel Pirozzi is the commanding officer of the 626th Forward Support Battalion, stationed at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, and currently on duty near Kandahar, Afghanistan. On July 8, 2002, Lieutenant Colonel Pirozzi will be changing command in Afghanistan and will subsequently return to the United States for his next assignment, in Washington, D.C.

Lieutenant Colonel Pirozzi was born in Bayonne, New Jersey on November 6, 1961 to

Eli and Elaine Pirozzi. He graduated from Bayonne High School and was commissioned into the Quartermaster Corps through the Rutgers University ROTC program, where he earned a Bachelors degree in Business Administration and American Literature. Lieutenant Colonel Pirozzi also holds a Masters of Military Science Degree from the Marine Corps University at Quantico, Virginia.

Prior to taking command of the 626th Forward Support Battalion, Lieutenant Colonel Pirozzi served in a number of positions around the world, including Chief of Logistics Information Systems for the U.S. European Command in Stuttgart, Germany; Executive Officer, 82nd Forward Support Battalion, 82nd Airborne Division and XVIII Airborne Corps Airdrop Officer at Fort Bragg, North Carolina; and Forward Area Support Coordination Officer (FASCO), 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), and Commander, 53rd Quartermaster (Airdrop Support), Fort Campbell, Kentucky, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

Lieutenant Colonel Pirozzi's awards and decorations are as impressive as his service around the world. They include, the Bronze Star Medal (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Joint Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal (with two Oak Leaf Clusters), the Humanitarian Service Medal, the Southwest Asia Campaign Medal (with two Bronze Star Devices), Saudi Arabia and Kuwait Liberation Medals, the Air Assault Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, and the Parachute Rigger badge.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear through his numerous assignments and awards that Lieutenant Colonel Pirozzi has served his country with honor and pride. Therefore, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking him for his service to our country and to the cause of Freedom, not only here at home, but abroad. I would also ask my colleagues to join me in welcoming Lieutenant Colonel Pirozzi home from Afghanistan and wishing him good fortune in his new assignment in Washington, D.C.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CHERYL BAKER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to pay tribute to Cheryl Baker who was recently appointed as Mayor of Cortez. This is a special occasion for both Cortez and Cheryl, the first woman to be elected Mayor of Cortez. This position is a reflection of Cheryl's hard work and dedication to improving life for the citizens of Cortez.

The Cortez City Council unanimously nominated Cheryl for the position of mayor by merit of her hard work and leadership skills, which she has so often demonstrated. I am confident that they will serve her well throughout the course of her term and although Cheryl will undoubtedly face many difficult challenges and decisions in the following months, she has clearly exhibited a dedication and willingness to tackle any obstacles that may lie ahead.

Cheryl has expressed considerable concern about the financial state of Cortez and has already begun development on a five-year plan

that will improve city funding. She has also announced a proposal that would consider reducing the city's water use by at least 20 percent by improving communication with city residents regarding the need for conservation.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to bring the accomplishments of Cheryl Baker to the attention of this body today. Her leadership, hard work, and dedication to improving the lives of her fellow Coloradans is an example for all aspiring community leaders and it is for this reason that I wish to bring her accomplishments before this body of Congress, and nation. I wish the best of luck to Cheryl, in your coming term and congratulations to Cortez on its first woman mayor!

PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS AWARD

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2002

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I proudly commend David Sims, a teacher of Latin at St. Paul Academy and Summit School in St. Paul, Minnesota for receiving the 2002 Presidential Scholar Teacher Recognition Award. Mr. Sims was nominated for this distinction by Presidential Scholar Hannah Wright of St. Paul. He and other influential teachers fully deserve the recognition provided by the Commission on Presidential Scholars. We have people like Mr. Sims to thank for being dedicated educators for our nation's children. It is my distinct pleasure to congratulate Mr. Sims on receiving this prestigious honor.

PERSONAL STATEMENT

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2002

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, June 21, 2002, due to business related to honoring four students in my District, I was unable to cast my floor vote on roll call numbers 246, 247, and 248. The votes I missed include roll call vote 246 on Agreeing to the Amendment; roll call vote 247 on The Motion to Re-commit with Instructions; and roll call vote 248 on Passage of H.R. 4931, The Retirement Savings Security Act.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" on roll call votes 246 and 247, and "no" on roll call vote 248.

RECOGNITION OF ENTERPRISE HIGH SCHOOL'S AWARD WINNING CHEERLEADING SQUAD

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2002

Mr. EVERETT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize an extraordinary team of individuals who have personified the meaning of a champion on the national stage.

The cheerleading squad of Enterprise High School in my hometown of Enterprise, Ala-

bama was recently successful in attaining their third cheerleading national championship in as many years.

Earlier this year in Orlando, Florida, the squad earned the CheerSport National Championship in senior dance, the grand championship at the National Cheerleaders Association/National Dance Association Sunshine Classic, and the NCA/NDA American Classic Championship. In addition, the squad has claimed three individual national championships and the coach of the year national championship.

The Wildcat cheerleading squad has exemplified the type of determination and hard work that is required to fulfill the heart of a champion. Their unprecedented history of national achievement is a testament to the community's commitment to excellence and fortitude for success.

I take great pride in acknowledging the talents of the young people from my district, and it is this type of spirit, resolve, and ability embodied by this team of champions that allows me to confidently rest the future of our country in the hands of Alabama's youth.

HONORING IRENE HOLLINGER

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2002

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Irene Hollinger on her retirement. Mrs. Hollinger is retiring on June 30th after 29 years in the occupational health field.

Mrs. Hollinger is retiring from Edwards Medical Supply Inc. where she did important work in Customer Relations and Customer Service.

Mrs. Hollinger has been married to her husband, Edward Hollinger, for the past 41 years and the two of them have four children and five grandchildren. Mrs. Hollinger served as a PTA mother for eight years at St. Agnes Church and she also spent three years as a baseball mother for the Marquette Baseball club.

Mrs. Hollinger is a beloved employee. Her co-workers and customers will greatly miss Mrs. Hollinger upon her retirement.

The commitment, dedication and energy given by Mrs. Hollinger to her family and career are seen by all who know her. It is my pleasure to honor Mrs. Hollinger for her 29 years of service in the occupational health field and extend my heartiest wishes as she begins her well-deserved retirement.

CELEBRATING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF TITLE IX

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 19, 2002

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, on the 30th anniversary of Title IX, I am proud to celebrate the progress we have made since Members like PATSY MINK, Edith Green and others fought hard to pass this legislation. It is hard to believe today that there was a time when our Nation's colleges and universities simply denied women admission under the assump-

tion that females were more interested in homemaking than higher education. A time when the idea of thousands of girls participating in field hockey or soccer was laughable. A time when only boys took shop class and only girls took home economics.

We have come a long way in the last 30 years. Girls and women are taking advantage of opportunities in sports and school subjects that used to be dominated by males. In 1972, less than 300,000 girls participated in high school varsity sports; last year more than 2.7 million girls played on a varsity sports team. Now, high school girls are taking upper-level math and science courses at the same rate as boys.

We have a lot to celebrate today, but we also have more work to do. Studies show that in the classroom, girls still typically receive less attention, including praise, criticism and encouragement, than boys. In many colleges and universities, disproportionate gaps remain between the percentage of female athletes and the percentage of scholarship money they receive. We can do better!

I am optimistic about the future of our Nation's educational systems under Title IX. We must uphold the progress we have made and, at the same time, continue to expand opportunities for our daughters, granddaughters and generations beyond.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2002

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, on roll call Numbers 249, 250, 251, and 252, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted yes on all of those votes.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE FRANCES MEADOWS

HON. NATHAN DEAL

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 25, 2002

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to convey my deep sympathy and condolences to the family of Frances Jenkins Meadows, a distinguished public servant who passed from this life on April 21.

Ms. Meadows was a remarkable pioneer and role model to many. As a single mother of three, she was working at a local production plant when she developed the notion to return to school at night. She enrolled at Lanier Tech to study data processing. While there, she began working part-time at neighboring Gainesville College in records administration, using her freshly learned skills in the pre-computer era. Impressing the college officials, she accepted full-time employment in the Registrar's Office at the college, thus beginning a thirty-year career there. She retired in 1999 as Assistant Director of the Office of Financial Aid.

Ms. Meadows' pioneering was not limited to her chosen profession. In 1992, she became the first African-American to ever be elected to the Hall County Board of Commissioners. She