

Rather, there must be a community effort to ensure the safety of our schools and its students. The community of Brownsville understands this and teaches responsible gun use, while also promoting tolerance and understanding of others. With support from religious and civic organizations, Brownsville offers young people positive role models so today's students can become tomorrow's leaders.

Recognizing that it is our individual communities that set the example everyday for our young people, we should teach responsibility, emphasize faith, and offer age-appropriate entertainment and examples of proper behavior to our children. It is our duty to lead our children to the right path; then it is their duty to follow that path.

With this in mind, Brownsville is working to reduce school violence by planning "Violence Prevention Week," sponsored by the Brownsville Independent School District, the local law enforcement agencies, the Brownsville Chamber of Commerce, area civic organizations, and the local church community.

Events for the week include: a student essay contest about the challenge of school violence, the "Violence Prevention Fair" at a local mall, and assembly programs and speakers for middle and high school students about the issues facing young people today.

Our honored guest for this special event will be Dave Roeber, a Vietnam veteran who has an intimate understanding of the daily challenges faced by young people of the 21st Century.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the community of Brownsville, Texas, for their efforts to work together to reduce gun violence and build a stronger and safer community.

HOMELAND SECURITY ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2002

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5005) to establish the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the United States House of Representatives representing New York City, I am deeply aware of the profound responsibility that was thrust upon this government last September 11th. It is our responsibility, our most important responsibility, to keep the American people safe from terrorism and violence. We were not prepared last fall. We should never be caught unprepared again.

Addressing this, on June 6, 2002, President Bush called for the creation of a permanent, cabinet-level department of homeland security. Even before the President's announcement, we as a nation have been struggling to figure out new ways to improve the nation's safety.

Throughout the debate about the creation of this new department, I have been skeptical that this may just be an exercise in moving boxes around on an organization chart. After examining the bill and listening to my colleagues both on the floor today and during the Government Reform Committee hearings and

markup, I believe that H.R. 5005 should be passed by the House.

As you know, H.R. 5005, the Homeland Security Act of 2002, establishes a Department of Homeland Security as an executive department of the United States headed by a Secretary of Homeland Security who shall be appointed by the President, with the consent of the Senate. The legislation consolidated 22 federal agencies into one new Department responsible for intelligence analysis and dissemination, science and technology, border and transportation security, and emergency preparedness and response. The new department will also have an office of civil rights and liberties, critical to ensuring that the government does not overstep its boundaries. I am hopeful that this legislation will provide the framework for law enforcement, intelligence, health, and other first-line agencies to work together to defend our great nation.

I am disappointed that H.R. 5005 does not include an amendment that I crafted that passed unanimously in the Government Reform Committee. Learned from past lessons, the amendment fixed current problems in our response system and would have allowed future sites of attacks to cut through red tape and bureaucracy and receive disaster relief right away.

I am very concerned that the final product includes troubling provisions that weaken civil service protections for the new Department's employees, undermine Freedom of Information Act compliance, and disregard the need for accountability for corporations that contract with the agency. I strongly encourage the Senate to correct these flaws.

During this time in American history, we public servants must accept the responsibility before us. The President of the United States has said a Department of Homeland Security is necessary to improve our nation's security. I agree with him.

We have to do everything we can to prevent a tragedy like 9/11. We have to make sure we can respond as quickly as possible to future attacks. I hope and pray this new department will do this. I hope and pray we can avoid what my great city has had to live through.

Because of these lessons learned, I urge my colleagues to vote yes on final passage.

INDIAN INTELLIGENCE PRO-
MOTING TERRORISM IN U.S.,
WORLDWIDE—INFILTRATES OR-
GANIZATIONS, CREATES TER-
RORIST INCIDENTS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, a recent intelligence report states that there are 25,000 agents of the Indian government's "Research and Analysis Wing" (RAW) outside India. While there is nothing wrong with legitimate intelligence work, RAW habitually infiltrates organizations of minority groups and creates terrorist incidents in order to discredit these groups.

The Indian government has recently been declared a violator of religious freedom by the United States government. On January 2, columnist Tony Blankley reported in the Wash-

ington Times that India is sponsoring cross-border terrorism in the Pakistani province of Sindh. This comes at a time when President Musharraf of Pakistan is actively helping us in the war against terrorism, at substantial risk to himself personally and politically.

The organizations Babbar Khalsa International (BKI) and the International Sikh Youth Federation (ISYF) have been identified by the U.S. government as "terrorist organizations." The ISYF has been banned in Canada. These organizations have been heavily infiltrated by the Indian government, to the point that they are government-controlled organizations. They have spawned other organizations designed to embarrass the Sikhs, especially those in the Khalistan freedom movement, and blame them for terrorism.

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) is another organization that our government has labelled "terrorist." Yet journalist Tavleen Singh of India Today, India's leading newsmagazine, reported that the Indian government itself created the LTTE and put up its leaders at the most upscale hotel in Delhi. If LTTE is a terrorist organization, then India created its terrorism.

In November 1994, the Indian newspaper Hitavada reported that the Indian government paid the governor of Punjab, the late Surendra Nath, the equivalent of \$1.5 billion to foment terrorist activity in Punjab, Khalistan, and in neighboring Kashmir. In a country where half the population lives below the international poverty line, the supposedly democratic government could afford to lay out one and a half billion dollars to create state-sponsored terrorism. I'm sorry, Mr. Speaker, but I don't understand how that could happen in a democracy.

Also in 1994, our own State Department reported that the Indian government paid out more than 41,000 cash bounties to police officers for killing Sikhs. One of them killed a three-year-old boy and received a bounty for that! A report from the Human Rights Wing showed that at least 25,000 Sikhs were arrested, tortured, murdered, and cremated, then their bodies were declared "unidentified" and cremated. Two reports, one from the International Human Rights Organization (IHRO) and the other jointly issued by the Movement Against State Repression (MASR) and the Punjab Human Rights Organization (PHRO), showed that Indian forces carried out the massacre of 35 Sikhs in Chithisinghpura in Kashmir in March 2000.

In the excellent book *Soft Target*, journalists Brian McAndrew of the Toronto Star and Zuhair Kashmeri of the Toronto Globe and Mail prove that the Indian government itself carried out the bombing of an Air India airliner in 1985, killing 329 people, then blamed the Sikhs. There is too much good information in this book to quote here, but I would like to quote one statement from the Canadian State Investigative Service which appears in the book: "If you really want to clear the incidents quickly, take vans down to the Indian High Commission and the consulates in Toronto and Vancouver, load everybody up and take them down for questioning. We know it and they know it that they are involved."

Mr. Speaker, this ongoing pattern of terrorism against its neighbors and against the minority peoples living within its borders shows that India's claim to be a secular democracy and an opponent of terrorism is a lie.

India should be declared a terrorist state and subjected to appropriate penalties. These should include a cutoff of U.S. aid to India until the terrorism stops and human rights are fully enjoyed by all people within the country. And we should declare our support for the freedom movements seeking their freedom from India. By doing these things, we will advance the fight against terrorism in the world and help all people to enjoy the basic democratic right of self-determination.

As former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell said, "the essence of democracy is the right to self-determination." It is time for real democracy in India rather than a continued campaign of terrorism.

IN HONOR OF RONALD MACK
WOODGEARD

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, heroes come in many shapes and sizes. Over the past 11 months we have celebrated the lives of many heroes. We have paid tribute to firemen, policemen, public officials, businessmen, among many others. Their common thread is the selfless desire to improve the world around them.

Today I rise to recognize and pay tribute to one of my district's great heroes who spent his life on the political lines, digging deep into the business of Georgia law-making to tell the story, Mr. Ronald Mack Woodgeard, former Editor of the Macon Telegraph in Macon, Georgia.

Ron was known throughout the state, especially in Macon, for his fair and balanced journalism. He had a knack for taking a story into the future, not just by giving a play by play description of events, but by taking the analysis a step further to uncover not only the facts but look past the facts to explain what they mean.

A friend of the community, Ron earned and kept the trust of his neighbors, his co-workers, and public figures, including the subjects of his reports. Many view the role of news reporter to be "watchdog" but this reporter was not one out for cold blood, looking to exploit a person or a situation for the "scoop". He sincerely believed in educating people to improve the community and society as a whole. Through his leadership, the Macon Telegraph was known for representing all sides of its readership—there was always something for everyone on the editorial page.

Ron was a dedicated worker and a good friend of mine, but I call him a hero not only for his years of dedicated service of bringing the news home to south Georgia, but for doing his job while waging a ten year war against a rare form of cancer. Co-workers at the Telegraph remember Ron for pressing on without complaint. Pressing on for Ron meant getting the story while enduring more than 15 major and minor surgeries, three rounds of chemotherapy, and four courses of radiation. To survive ten years of this type of treatment and still get the job done takes iron will. Sadly, this invisible assailant overcame our soldier and took his life Monday, September 9, 2002.

Other professional hats of the Editor include college instructor, military policeman for the

Army during Viet Nam, private investigator, and after completing trade school, a welder. But his most important job was father of two sons.

Ron Woodgeard believed in people and they believed in him. I believed in him, and I will miss him. My wife Julianne and I extend our deepest sympathy to his family, and join with them in celebrating the memory of one of Georgia's journalistic heroes. His legacy will live on through the millions of lives he touched.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO WANDA
SOTHEN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding individual who has selflessly contributed her time and energy towards the betterment of her community and her nation. Wanda Sothen, of Durango, Colorado, has donated countless hours to aid the people of Durango and its surrounding communities following this wildfire season. She has been a true inspiration to her friends, family, and community and it is with pleasure that I applaud her efforts before this body of Congress and this nation.

When wildfires ravaged Colorado and the devastation proved too widespread for the Red Cross and other aid organizations to care for the specific needs of the 1,700 households displaced by the 70,000 acre Missionary Ridge fire, Wanda stepped up to meet the challenge. Recognizing that her friends and neighbors needed more than just the basics of food and shelter, Wanda founded Helping Hands, a relief organization based out of Durango. Starting with only a telephone and a stack of index cards at a desk in the local mall, Wanda carefully put together every piece of relief she could find.

Wanda learned quickly that many residents needed help, and many also had something to give, the problem was trying to bring everyone together. After the creation of Helping Hands neighbors began to donate items such as candles, clothing, food, school supplies, along with professional veterinarian services for local animals. Wanda's understanding of community needs extended beyond the ordinary, as animals from the size of goldfish to horses found help or homes through her organization. Her untiring spirit of charity continues to bless the lives of those affected by the fire as she continues to turn each donation into a gift of relief.

Mr. Speaker, I stand today to pay tribute to Wanda Sothen, a true community activist, before this body of Congress and this nation. Her diligence in bringing her community together in the face of crisis, by creating and running Helping Hands, has made her an inspiration to us all. She truly stands as an example of American values and civic virtue and deserves our praise.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING MR.
AND MRS. DeGENOVA

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, Whereas, Joseph and Malvina DeGenova were united in marriage on August 24, 1933; and

Whereas, Joseph and Malvina DeGenova are celebrating 69 years of marriage; and

Whereas, Joseph and Malvina DeGenova have demonstrated a firm commitment to each other; and

Whereas, Joseph and Malvina DeGenova must be commended for their loyalty and dedication to their family, consisting of 3 sons, 8 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren; and

Whereas, Joseph and Malvina DeGenova have proven, by their example, to be a model for all married couples.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Mr. and Mrs. DeGenova as they celebrate their 69th Wedding Anniversary.

THE CRANBURY LIONS CLUB
MARKS SEPTEMBER 11

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, Wednesday, September 11, 2002 marks the 1st anniversary of the heinous attack on the United States of America by terrorists. On Saturday, September 14, 2002, the Cranbury Lions Club will remember the heroic actions on September 11th of a Cranbury, New Jersey resident, Mr. Todd Beamer, with the dedication of a memorial in the township's Heritage Park. Mr. Beamer was aboard Flight 93 on September 11, 2001 when it was hijacked by terrorists and crashed in Western Pennsylvania.

The memorial honors the uncommon service of Todd Beamer and his fellow Flight 93 passengers whose selfless act of courage saved countless lives and helped reunite our Country. It also provides a permanent symbol to underscore the invaluable role of all citizens in protecting our unalienable rights of Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.

The Todd Beamer Memorial contains two symbols of strength, a boulder and an oak tree. On the boulder is a plaque that reads:

"LET'S ROLL"

These are the memorable words spoken by Todd Beamer, a Cranbury resident, who was aboard United Flight 93, when it was hijacked by terrorists on September 11, 2001, as he joined with his fellow passengers in a final act of resistance, sacrificing their lives to save countless others.

A man described as ordinary to the world, extraordinary to his family, he shall forever be remembered for his uncommon act of bravery. This memorial celebrates the faith and heroism of Todd Beamer—husband, father, son, brother, friend, civilian—an American.

Americans have read or heard about the heroic actions of Todd Beamer, and will always remember his simple, inspiring words: "Let's Roll". As we memorialize his actions and