

urge all Americans to take steps to protect their families and loved-ones by installing and checking smoke detectors, practicing home escape plans, and identifying home hazards.

In 1920, President Woodrow Wilson issued the first National Fire Prevention Day proclamation, and since 1922, National Fire Prevention Week has been observed during the beginning of October. No doubt, this act has roots that draw from the tragic fire that raged through Chicago in early October 1871, killing more than 250 people and leaving more than 100,000 others homeless.

The message of National Fire Prevention Week—to install and check smoke detectors, practice home escape plans, and identify home hazards—hits particularly close to home. During a warm July night earlier this year, a faulty electric wire breathed life into a fire that quickly engulfed a bedroom in my home. My young granddaughter was sleeping in this room at the time, when a smoke detector roused her from her sleep. Fortunately, the smoke detector also aroused my wife, who was able to evacuate my home and call the fire department before anyone was hurt.

That smoke detector saved the lives of my family. And yet, thousands of Americans die from fires each year. In fact, every 18 seconds a fire department responds to a fire somewhere in this country.

It only takes a few moments to install a smoke detector or ensure that one is working properly. Moreover, practicing an escape plan and checking around your home for hidden fire hazards can not only prevent considerable heartache for you and your family, it can reduce the number of fires our brave firefighters have to respond to each year.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, again, I rise to recognize National Fire Prevention Week. And I also ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing their local police, fire, and rescue squads for their unceasing commitment to keeping our families and loved-ones safe.

WORLD SPACE WEEK 2002—SPACE AND DAILY LIFE

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, the United Nations commemorates the beginning of the Space Age by celebrating World Space Week this October 4th through the 10th. Celebrated in nearly fifty nations, this week is designated to recognize the progress of technology, anticipate new economic opportunities and find new means for transforming life in space and on Earth to improve the lives of people around the world. The theme for Space Week 2002 is "Space and Daily Life".

The benefits of community participation in World Space Week are far reaching. It is a proactive way to demonstrate public support for space programs, encourage youth to learn about space and the possibilities of the future, promote institutions around the world that are involved in space and to foster international cooperation in space outreach and education.

I am proud to say that the 5th District of Maryland has a variety of dynamic activities that will allow community members to participate in Space Week.

The initiatives taken by NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center, the Office of Space Science Sun-Earth Connection Education Forum, the Living with Star Initiative, Prince George's County Economic Development Corporation and Maryland Space Business Roundtable have made it possible for every public high school and middle school in Maryland to receive information on World Space Week.

In today's increasingly technological world, it is vital to the future advancement of our country to encourage our youth to take an active learning interest in academic fields and career paths such as space, science and math.

Eleanor Roosevelt High School in Greenbelt, which is a school in Maryland's Fifth Congressional District that I represent, has responded to this need by organizing a panel discussion about space in conjunction with Goddard Space Center. This event is a testament to their dedication to academic excellence. Roosevelt High School has even been honored as a 2002 National School of Character, which recognizes their outstanding efforts to encourage the social, ethical and academic development of students through character education.

I would also like to commend the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland for its contributions to the exploration and peaceful use of outer space. The cutting-edge technologies they have developed have played a large role in attracting scientists, engineers and technicians who create next-generation spacecraft, sensor and instrument technologies which are used to benefit Maryland, our society and the international community.

Goddard is the lead center for the Living with a Star Initiative, a multi-year program that will eventually produce new systems, spacecraft and technology to study the effects of the sun on the Earth. In fiscal year 2002 I worked to help secure \$25 million for the program and I will continue to work to obtain such resources to help ensure the success of such projects in the future.

World Space Week 2002 serves as a positive voice in recognizing past and future accomplishments and innovations in exploration, development and use of space and space education for the benefit of all humankind and I am proud of the role that Maryland's Fifth Congressional District plays in promoting this week each year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANK MASCARA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

Mr. MASCARA. Mr. Speaker, on October 2, 2002, I was absent for personal reasons and missed rollcall votes Nos. 427 through 436. For the record, had I been present I would have voted "yea" on 427, "yea" on 428, "nay" on 429, "yea" on 430, "yea" on 431, "yea" on 432, "nay" on 433, "nay" on 434, "nay" on 435, and "nay" on 436.

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, on September 11 I joined with the students, teachers, administrators and parents of the Idle Hour Elementary School in Oakdale for a profound commemoration of those lost in the attacks on America. I know that our colleagues will be as moved as I was to hear the essays of three sixth graders: Emily Pertz, Justin Rigas and April LaValle. I am honored to share them with the entire Congress today:

SEPTEMBER 11

(By Emily Pertz)

September 11 was a painful and tragic event. It changed the lives of millions forever.

I don't know anybody who died in my family because of the attack, but knowing that a lot of kids became parentless that day is enough to make my family and I upset. Whenever we go over the bridge I see many buildings and then a big gap where the towers once stood. To me it is very upsetting to see. My family is more cautious than ever.

I think the attacks have changed both our country and our world. The United States became more united. The world together is fighting terrorism. But on the other hand, many people lost loved ones, and the world's tallest towers were destroyed. Many people are still mourning and are still heartbroken.

Our school has done many great things to remember the victims. We raised a lot of money to plant a memorial garden to honor the lives lost from our neighborhood. We made red, white and blue chains that connected every classroom to show we are united. Each student colored in two flags, one to take home and one to hang up in school. The day after the attack our school had a moment of silence. It really made me think and made me a little depressed.

The United States went through a lot, but no matter what we will always be united.

AMERICA CHANGES

(By Justin Rigas)

The terrorist attack made by Osama Bin Ladin and the Taliban on the Twin Towers, landmarks of our New York City Skyline, was a great tragedy. Thousands of innocent people died terribly as the buildings melted and crumbled to the ground. Children are left without their mothers and fathers, families without sisters, brothers, dear friends. Families are left without jobs, without their income, possibly unable to pay their bills and keep their house.

But America has stood together strong. In this moment of sadness and tragedy millions have come together with help and support. People all over our country, not just New York have sent donations of food, money and clothing to help those families that have lost those dear to them.

The events of September 11, 2001 have changed the attitudes of my family as well as millions of Americans. We all miss those we know and loved that are gone. The Americans innocence may never again be the same, not able to totally trust the safety we've somehow always felt. Many people hesitate to travel on airplanes which means less people are visiting places where the people there count on them to spend their money. It could hurt business in hotels, restaurants and stores.

We always need to be on guard that something terrible could happen again. Our government cannot sleep, it must always be searching for the next thing to happen.

During the months following September 11, my school painted pictures of the Twin Towers and memories of that day. We made a tree of buttons representing the people that died that day on the wall in our hallway. Collections of food and money were presented to the Red Cross and a garden in the form of our flag was planted at school.

At Dowling College, a memorial Garden was planted to be kept forever funded by a dinner our school held.

People everywhere still fly their American flags at their homes and, in their cars.

In the meantime we will rebuild our city and the towers that will again stand, this time as a huge memorial of 9-11 and those lost. The day that changed America.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

(By April Lavalley)

9-11 was a day of mixed emotions, sadness, anger and determination. Even though many innocent people were killed, never will the people of America stop the deeds, kind donations and prayers for all who have passed away. Some people were lucky not to know anyone who was in the Twin Towers. But I knew my personal life would never be the same. I took so many things for granted.

I now think about the desperate families of the innocent people who have died. Even though people try to do all they can to make families who lost loved ones feel better, nothing can serve as compensation for those who left us on September 11th. America now has to prove to the world that we are a strong nation and will fight for what we need. The world is no longer a peaceful place for us and no longer united. A gray sky will stay in our minds until we find peace and our sun will again shine through.

Our community hung flags, made donations and I bet you that everyone prayed. We are a proud and patriotic nation. Don't think 9-11 made us a weaker country; it made us a stronger America.

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE PATSY T. MINK, A MEMBER OF CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF HAWAII

SPEECH OF

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 1, 2002

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for this opportunity to remember and pay tribute to our dear departed colleague, PATSY MINK of Hawaii. I am deeply saddened by her passing. PATSY MINK was a wonderful woman and a great leader for her constituents of Hawaii and for our Nation.

I had the honor and privilege of serving on the Government Reform Committee with Congresswoman MINK. During my short tenure on the committee, PATSY MINK's passion and her belief in her work was evident and could be felt by all that knew her.

Mr. Speaker, PATSY MINK will always be remembered for her legislative achievements. Her ability to build coalitions for progressive legislation led to the first comprehensive Early Childhood Education Act and authored the Women's Educational Equity Act.

Her constituents benefited from her dedication to equality for women and she played a key role in the enactment of Title IX of the Higher Education Act Amendments, which prohibited gender discrimination by federally funded institutions. This legislation has become the major tool for women's fuller participation not

only in sports, but also in all aspects of education.

Most significantly, I have admired PATSY MINK for her tireless commitment to the people of the second district of Hawaii. While this tribute cannot begin to communicate her greatness as a leader and friend, I can say that this body has been made better by her presence and is truly diminished in her absence. She was a role model, and always led by example.

Mr. Speaker, when you come to Congress, you look to certain people that set the framework on how you should act and how you should conduct yourself. You cannot find a better example of that than PATSY MINK. I consider myself fortunate to have had the opportunity to know and work with her. Congresswoman MINK's mark on this institution has been left, and she will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory and celebrating the accomplishments of Congresswoman PATSY MINK.

TRIBUTE TO ANN S. MILLER AND TED MALIARIS

HON. BOB CLEMENT

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

Mr. CLEMENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ann S. Miller and Ted Maliaris of South Florida for their patriotism and consistent dedication to our nation through the "A Tribute to America Tour."

Ann Miller and Ted Maliaris, a mother and son team, wrote and produced "A Tribute to America—A 21st Century Anthem" following the devastating events of September 11th. Their anthem is pertinent to all Americans, recognizing the dedication of our Armed Forces and the men and women in uniform who risk their lives every day to ensure our safety and the safety of freedom.

Their sense of pride and devotion to America is clearly evident through their lyrics:

We have freedom in our land, we will fight for our rights, we will stand up for the brotherhood of man

No one can destroy us through thick or thin we're a nation that was built to survive.

No terrorist plight can destroy our sight or the strength of this motherland

We're America, America
Strong, Proud, Brave and Bold

I urge all our colleagues, Mr. Speaker, to join me today in paying tribute to two loyal and proud Americans, Ann S. Miller and Ted Maliaris.

STOP RACIAL PROFILING OF SIKHS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, racial profiling of Sikhs continues in our country a year after terrorists attacked New York and Washington. According to the September 20 issue of the New York Times, two Sikh men were arrested while trying to fly from New York to Las Vegas for an Exxon convention. Mr. Wander could be facing up to 20 years in prison, according to the article.

Gurdeep Wander and Harinder Pal Singh were headed to that convention on a Northwest Airlines flight after missing a previous connecting flight in Minneapolis. They were flying on the night of September 10 to avoid flying on the anniversary of the September 11 attacks, but had to fly on the morning of the 11th after being delayed. Apparently, it is now a crime to fly if your hair is long and your skin is dark.

Mr. Wander and Mr. Singh were late for their flight and ran on board. Right after them, a Hispanic man named Carlos Nieves rushed onto the plane. All that the two Sikh men carried was the shaving kits they had been given by the airline, because their luggage had already been forwarded to Las Vegas. The flight attendants said that they found three swarthy men rushing onto the plane suspicious. I can't help but wonder if they would have been suspicious of three white men rushing onto a plane.

Right before departure, Mr. Wander got out of his seat and got the shaving kit the airline had given him. He asked to use the restroom. After a few minutes, the flight attendant asked him to sit down and he asked for a minute to finish up. After Mr. Wander came out, Mr. Nieves went to the restroom, followed by Mr. Singh. The flight attendant tried to prevent Mr. Singh from using the restroom, claiming that explosive devices could be assembled if separate individuals carried the components. Because of Mr. Wander's, Mr. Nieves's, and Mr. Singh's skin color, she clearly assumed that they were doing so.

After the plane made an emergency landing in Arkansas, Mr. Singh, Mr. Wander, and an Egyptian man named Alaaeldin Abdelsalam were detained. All the luggage was taken out of the plane. Soon, the plane was surrounded by bomb-sniffing dogs.

It is clear that Northwest Airlines detained these individuals because of their darker skin color. This is racial profiling, and it is wrong. It must be ended. The Transportation Department must put out an order banning racial profiling. Otherwise, it will be dangerous for any minority to fly.

We must treat all passengers equally. No one should be detained for his or her skin color. It must be stopped now. I call on Northwest and all the airlines to end this racist practice and I hope that those who are victimized by this practice will get full recompense.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to place the New York Times article I referred to into the RECORD at this time.

[lsqb]From the New York Times, Sept. 20, 2002[rsqb]

BOUND FOR LAS VEGAS, 2 MEN TAKE A 9/11
DETOUR TO JAIL

(By Edward Wong)

FORT SMITH, Ark., Sept. 19.—The distance between a convention in Las Vegas and a brick jail here in the lush plains of western Arkansas proved far shorter than Gurdeep Wander and Harinder Singh ever could have imagined.

Mr. Wander and Mr. Singh, two gas station workers of Indian descent from New Jersey and Pennsylvania, boarded a Northwest Airlines flight on Sept. 10 from La Guardia Airport, bound for an Exxon convention. In one of the more Kafkaesque instances of air travel jitters, they landed in the county jail here