

career with the U.S. Army. Since that time, Colonel Coleman has served in various capacities in Stuttgart, Germany; Raleigh, NC; Izmir, Turkey; Alexandria, VA; Washington, DC; and at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, AL. He achieved a masters of arts degree from Webster University as well as graduated from many other distinguished military educational programs. On March 28, 2002, he will retire from his position as the Director of Personnel and Training for the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command at Redstone Arsenal. I know the people of Redstone Arsenal will miss his outstanding leadership, but wish him a well-deserved retirement.

Colonel Coleman has earned a great deal of respect from his colleagues, receiving several military awards throughout his career. His awards include the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal Second Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal Fourth Oak Leaf Cluster, the Army Commendation Medal Third Oak Leaf Cluster, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the National Defense Ribbon, the Army Staff Identification Badge, the Army Parachute Badge, and the Army Superior Unit Badge.

This is a deserved retirement for someone who has worked so diligently for the United States to protect our freedom and defend our nation. I join his wife, Carolyn, his sons PJ and Casey, and all of his friends, family, and colleagues in celebrating Colonel Micheal J. Coleman's 27 years of service. On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I congratulate Colonel Coleman and express my gratitude for a job well done.

HONORING MICHAEL FORDE AND
THE NEW YORK CITY DISTRICT
COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2002

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Michael Forde, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the New York City District Council of Carpenters and the over 300 men and women who have dedicated everyday, 24 hours a day, to the clean up effort at the World Trade Center Site.

Mr. Speaker, Michael Forde is a leader in the New York City labor community as the Secretary-Treasurer of the largest Carpenters Union in the Country representing over 25,000 members.

On September 11, the District Council under the leadership of Michael Forde, wasted no time in being some of the first men and women outside of rescue workers and public safety officers to be on the scene of Ground Zero. During the first days after the destruction of the Trade Center, union carpenters worked around the clock helping to clear debris, insuring the structural safety of the area for rescue workers and engaging in the search themselves for survivors of the attack.

As a union based in Lower Manhattan, the District Council of Carpenters has a long and strong history of working to make New York City the financial capital that it is today.

The quick, untiring and heroic response of the men and women of the District Council of Carpenters would not have been as extensive

or effective if it was not for the leadership of Michael Forde.

Mr. Speaker, I have known Michael Forde for many years. He was born in the Bronx, moved to Woodside, Queens, in my congressional district where he graduated from Christi High School in Astoria. He received his B.A. in Business Administration from Hunter College.

Mike started in the carpentry field as an apprentice during the construction of the World Trade Center in the early 1970s. Through hard work, dedication to his craft, exceptional leadership skills and a strong commitment to his fellow union brothers and sisters, he rose through the ranks to become a foreman, general foreman, shop steward, president and business manager of Local 608 and ultimately to his present position.

Mr. Speaker, Michael Forde is just one among many. I rise today not only to pay tribute to him and to recognize his work to help rebuild Lower Manhattan and Ground Zero, but I rise to recognize all the men and women of the New York City District Council of Carpenters. These men and women have showed exceptional dedication, fulfilling the task at hand and they will play a critical role in the tasks of the future rebuilding Lower Manhattan and Ground Zero.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to insure that we as a Congress recognize the work the New York District Council of Carpenters did and the work they continue to do to rebuild Lower Manhattan.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE IRON WORKERS TO THE RECOVERY OF NEW YORK

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2002

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, for every American, September 11th, 2001 means one thing. It is a day that we, as a Nation, suffered as we had never before. As I watched the events of the day unfold from my home in the Bronx, like most, I thought of my family and their safety.

Some others though, had thoughts of only one thing—how can I help. Hundreds of firefighters, police officers, and emergency medical personnel and, yes, construction workers, went running to what was left of the Twin Towers to try and save lives. We should all feel proud of the many men and women who went to Ground Zero, such as the Iron Workers.

In fact, it was Iron Workers who had one of the toughest jobs. These men and women were charged with sifting through that nightmare and they did so with great dignity and compassion for those who lost their lives and their families. As I have watched this amazing transformation, I have swelled with pride, for I have a special place in my heart for these men and women who are Iron Workers, because so was my father.

Today, I have the honor of recognizing two great trade union leaders, Ed Walsh and Robert Ledwith. Both of these men have dedicated their lives to their families, their communities, and their unions.

Just last month, Ed Walsh became the President of the Iron Workers District Council

of Greater New York and Vicinity. Ed Walsh started his career with the Iron Workers in 1968 working as an apprentice for three years. He became a journeyman Ironworker union member in 1971. Through three decades he moved up the ranks until becoming the Business Manager of Local 40 in 1995. In March 2002, Ed was appointed as General Organizer for the International and became President of the Iron Workers District Council of Greater New York and Vicinity, an affiliate of the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers.

Ed resides in Mamaroneck, New York with his wife Kathy. He has two sons, Christopher and Kevin. Kevin has decided to follow his father's footsteps and is currently an apprentice with Iron Workers Local 40. Ed Walsh comes from a union tradition. His father and brothers John and Bob are union ironworkers, his brother Jim is a retired union carpenter, and his brother is a retired New York City Police Officer.

Bob Ledwith serves as Business Manager and Financial Secretary-Treasurer of the Metallic Lathers Union and Reinforcing Iron Workers Local 46. Bob Ledwith was elected as Business Agent for the Metallic Lathers Union and Reinforcing Iron Workers Local 46 in June 1981. He was elected Business Manager and Financial Secretary-Treasurer in 1999 and continues to serve in that capacity today.

Through the haze and the numbness caused by September 11th, something was shining through. The American Spirit. The men and women of the Iron Workers are the embodiment of that Spirit. It gave us all a sense of hope and a sense of pride.

LEHIGH VALLEY HERO—HANOVER
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. PATRICK J. TOOMEY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2002

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to share my Report from Pennsylvania for my colleagues and the American people.

All across Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District there are some amazing people who do good things to make our communities a better place. These are individuals of all ages who truly make a difference and help others. I like to call these individuals Lehigh Valley Heroes for their good deeds and efforts.

Today, I would like to recognize the fifth graders and teachers at Hanover Elementary School in Bethlehem. These students and teachers are true examples of excellence in education.

This year, Hanover Elementary, for the second year in a row had the highest PSSA scores in all of Pennsylvania. The 69 students scored 1630 in math and 1570 in reading, well above the state average of 1310 in both areas. The students outscored 3,800 public and private elementary schools across the state!

I recently had the opportunity to attend a reception in honor of these students and teachers, and offer my congratulations. The teachers deserve much credit for their hard work and dedication. They obviously inspired their

students to want to achieve academically. They have shown that when we raise academic standards, we raise academic performance.

These teachers who make a difference everyday and students who excelled way beyond expectations are Lehigh Valley Heroes in my book. They are as follow: Carol Leasure, Principal; Earl Bethel, 5th grade teacher; Patrice Masluk Schwartzman, 5th grade teacher; and Amanda Shuler, 5th grade teacher.

Students are: Sophia Abud, Erin Albertson, Matthew Ammon, Darren Ankrom, Philip Antonis, Amal Atiyeh, Peter Badger, Monica Bates, Rachel Bochner, Jaimie Boyd, Lauren Burlew, Christopher Cann, Andrew Cass, Rakesh Chauhan, Dilesh Chudasama, Nicholas D'Angelo, Brittany Dellatore, Gregory DeSarro, Owen Divers, Lance Dolci, Roberta Domyan, Caitlin Donnelly, Brittney Dunnigan, Austin Emmons, Donnarae Farrell, Luke Foley, Shawn Forouraghi, Maria Gentis, Erin Glenn, Alexander Haller, Benjamin Haskins, Andrew Hero, John Hrubenak, Christie Jones, Kayleigh Kalamar, Patrice Kane, Ryan Kassis, Carl Kolepp, Nicole Kyriakopoulos, Gregory Laudenslager, Alaina Loguidice, Kyle Longemecker, John Lule, Kevin McCarthy, Drew Mihalik, Brian Miller, Mark Moyer, Bradley Pendzick, Gregory Pendzick, Lauren Perlman, Matthew Piazza, Ashley Plummer, Alexander Pyiuk, Jason Ricles, Kayleigh Rider, Daniel Rivera, Ethan Saravitz, Robert Sawyer, Matthew Searfoss, Emilie Segretto, Mark Segretto, Paul Segretto, Jared Serman, Christopher Smith, Robert Stauffer, Abigail Tercha, Emily Turner, Steven Walsh, and Rebecca Yaple.

Mr. Speaker, this concludes my Report from Pennsylvania.

PENSION SECURITY ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3762, the Pension Security Act of 2002. This legislation is not only a step in addressing areas such as blackout periods and diversification in retirement accounts, it is an important step towards giving workers throughout my state of Kansas, and the rest of America, the peace of mind and security they deserve when planning for retirement.

This bill, based on the President's pension reform proposal, contains new safeguards and options to help workers preserve and enhance their retirement security, and demands greater accountability from companies and senior corporate executives during so-called "blackout periods" when workers are not allowed to make changes to investments in their retirement accounts.

The Pension Security Act would have made a real difference in the lives of thousands of Enron employees and investors if these measures had existed at the time of the company's collapse. For example, under this bill, diversification and sound investment advice would have been readily available because investment advisors would have been made more accessible and employers would have been forced to take responsibility for anything that

happened to employee retirement savings during blackout periods. Companies would have also been required to provide 30-day advance notice of a blackout period.

Mr. Speaker, I believe Congress has a responsibility to fully protect workers and give them the ability to enhance their retirement savings. Enron workers may well be the victims of criminal wrongdoing, but they were definitely the victims of outdated federal pensions laws. Let's prevent this from happening again. Pass the Pension Security Act.

YOM HA'ATZMAUT

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2002

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in celebration of Israel's Independence Day. Fifty-four years as the sole democracy in the Middle East is a huge accomplishment. As a member of Congress, and a friend of Israel, I know that she will have 54 more, and counting! This is only a beginning.

Israel has faced many tough times since 1948, like the one now. Over the past 18 months, Israel has continued to battle hatred on a daily basis. This hatred is terrorism. It is murder. Israel has every right to defend herself against terrorism. When innocent civilians are murdered, over and over again, Israel has no choice but to take action.

I don't think it is unreasonable for Israel to root out terrorists. I think it's natural, and expected, and it must be done just like America's efforts in Afghanistan. But for the past couple of weeks, Israel has been criticized by many for her military action against terrorism, and lack of compassion for Palestinians. But what other choice does Israel have?

Is Israel supposed to wave suicide bombers through the checkpoints, allow wanted terrorists to go without arrest? Are we to expect Israel to sit by and watch her country crumble, and her people be murdered in groups of 20 while they sip coffee at cafes? No.

I firmly believe that difficult decisions will be made in order to achieve a permanent peace. I also think one of the decisions was Israel's resistance to international pressure to end the military operation. Israel entered towns in the West Bank with a plan: to root out terrorism. Obviously, there was an exit strategy to be used once the terrorists were caught.

Recently, Israel announced her upcoming withdrawal from almost all of the towns she entered. I commend Israel's decision to withdraw only after the operation is complete. So does the upcoming withdrawal of troops bring Israel back to where she was? Can we expect Israel to compromise should daily suicide bombings begin again? No.

Terrorism is not something you can compromise with, it is not something to reward. What I know is this. Israel will survive this crisis. Israel will continue to do what is necessary to rid the country of terrorists. If terrorist attacks end, military action will end, and more difficult decisions in the name of peace will be made. What those decisions are, I can't tell you. No one can.

But last Sunday, I joined 3,000 of my constituents in a pro-Israel rally on Long Island. Many of those constituents were Jewish; oth-

ers, like myself, were Christian. These same people participated the weekend before at a rally in New York City. They also traveled with over 100,000 other Americans to the Capitol on Monday for a national rally. Regardless of their religion, they are standing up for their beliefs.

Terrorism must be destroyed. Not only here, but in Israel, and in many other countries. The US firmly believes in this, and I know Israel will continue to enjoy broad support as she eliminates terrorist threats from her borders. Israel will always have a friend and ally in the US government.

TRIBUTE TO MR. DENNIS MAYS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2002

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the impeccable motor carrier safety record of Mr. Dennis Mays of Blue Springs, Missouri. Mr. Mays is a professional motor carrier operator for Roadway Express, Inc.

According to the most recent information from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, large trucks drove 7 percent of all vehicle miles traveled. In motor vehicle crashes, large trucks represented 9 percent of vehicles in fatal crashes, 3 percent of vehicles in injury crashes, and 5 percent of vehicles in property-damage-only crashes.

Mr. Mays reached a safety milestone when he recently surpassed one million miles driven without a preventable accident. This outstanding achievement, obtained by few drivers, demonstrates Mr. Mays' commitment to safety. To put this accomplishment in perspective, the average car driver would have to travel around the world forty times to equal this milestone.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Dennis Mays for reaching this noteworthy milestone. I am proud to have a constituent as dedicated to highway safety as he is, and I wish him continued safe driving in the future.

PENSION SECURITY ACT OF 2002

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 11, 2002

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3762. This important legislation makes significant improvements in protecting the retirement accounts of America's working men and women. H.R. 3762 takes a sensible approach in ensuring that employees have the best access to their retirement accounts possible, and are able to make informed investment decisions in those accounts.

In particular, I'd like to congratulate the sponsors of this legislation for a provision in the bill dealing with restricting insiders from selling their shares during periods when their employees don't have the same freedom. When the facts of the Enron bankruptcy became known, all of us were horrified to learn