

Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Mr. Hornbecker to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Hornbecker and wishing him the best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING SEPTEMBER 11 AS A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

SPEECH OF

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the anniversary of September 11, 2001. It was a day that our enemies had hoped to show America's weakness, but instead showed our enormous strength and our enduring commitment to the values on which this Nation was founded.

The tragedies that unfolded in New York, Virginia, and Pennsylvania on September 11 took the lives of nearly 3000 individuals, Americans and others. These men, women, and children were killed because they lived in a country where toleration, freedom, and compassion are guiding principles. Many of those lost were brave first-responders who entered burning buildings, selflessly placing the interest of strangers above their own. All those who were killed that day left voids in the hearts of their families and communities. But their memory and spirit continue to endure in us all, and reinforce our commitment to the freedoms and ideas for which they died.

Moreover, everyday since September 11, tens of thousands of Americans work tirelessly in our communities to prevent terrorist attacks from happening again. Our hospitals, fire departments, and law enforcement officials all have redefined their mission to protect, prepare, and respond as part of the War on Terror. Meanwhile, overseas the brave members of the American military and intelligence community continue to pursue and destroy terrorist organizations like al-Qaeda and the Taliban.

Mr. Speaker, September 11 was a defining day in the history of the United States. Although we lost many great Americans, our Nation united in a cause to honor their memory and win the long-term struggle against terrorism. And in this struggle, we will win while protecting the freedom and way of life for which our enemies fight us. We continue to honor the memory of those lost and we strive to do them justice.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 9/11 COMMISSION REPORTS

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, it is fitting that we are pausing to honor the memory of those who died on that terrible day and to reaffirm our commitment to bring to justice those who

perpetrated these heinous acts. Today is also a time for us to remember that we can best honor those who perished by learning the right lessons from 9/11, including the heroes of United Flight 93 like Todd Beamer, whose actions that day prevented further loss of life in Washington, DC.

Over the last 6 years, we have made it harder for the reconstituted al Qaeda to mount a similar operation against the United States. And last month, the Congress passed and the President signed into law a bill (H.R. 1) that will implement the balance of the 9/11 Commission's recommendations. These are tangible achievements, but we must guard against the kind of complacency and false sense of security that prevailed before the attacks on our Nation.

Because al Qaeda's leadership—Osama bin Laden and Ayman Al Zawahiri—remains at large, America is still vulnerable to future al Qaeda attacks. Moreover, our involvement in Iraq has caused us to waste lives, resources, and time that should have been spent in finding and neutralizing bin Laden and Zawahiri, and dismantling the rest of their network. We know that our involvement in Iraq has made it harder for us to rally the world in the common struggle against al Qaeda and its murderous ideology. The sooner we disengage militarily from Iraq, the sooner we will be able to refocus ourselves and our allies on the larger and far more important struggle against bin Laden and those like him.

We must also do what is necessary to care for the first responders of 9/11—those who have developed debilitating illnesses as a result of their exposure to the multiple toxins unleashed in the aftermath of the attacks. I'm hopeful that a bill to provide for the long-term monitoring of affected first responders (H. Res. 128), offered by my colleague Representative CAROLYN MALONEY of New York, will be brought to the floor of the House for a vote very soon.

Finally, we must ensure that America does whatever is necessary to take care of the men and women of our armed forces who are engaged in the hunt for our terrorist enemies. Traumatic brain injury, life-changing physical wounds, and post-traumatic stress disorder are all conditions that are affecting veterans in record numbers. I'm gratified that this Congress has provided major funding increases to deal with the needs of the veterans, but we must do more than provide one-year increases in funding—we need to structurally increase the VA health care budget to cover these injuries and their treatment throughout the expected lifetimes of these veterans. To do less dishonors them and our Nation.

Madam Speaker, as we mark this solemn day, let us remember that so long as we remain united as a people, we will weather this struggle successfully—just as we weathered the fights against fascism and communism in the last century.

HONORING THE NORTHWEST INDIANA FEDERATION OF LABOR AFL-CIO

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Madam Speaker, It is my distinct honor to congratulate some of the most

devoted and proficient workers in northwest Indiana. The Northwest Indiana Federation of Labor AFL-CIO will recognize several individuals for their dedication during the 33rd Annual Community Awards reception to be held at the Duneland Falls Banquet Center in Chesterton, Indiana, on Friday, September 21, 2007. These individuals, in addition to the other Northwest Indiana Federation of Labor members who have served northwest Indiana so diligently for such a long period of time, are the epitome of the ideal American worker: loyal, dedicated, and hardworking.

At this year's event, several individuals will receive special recognition. The Honorable Duane Cheney, our distinguished State representative who recently retired, is this year's recipient of the President's Award. Mr. Cheney is being honored for his many years of service and his many contributions to the well-being of workers throughout northwest Indiana.

Mrs. Cindy Carlson, retired secretary of Sub-District 5 of District 7 for the United Steelworkers and member of Local Union #3657, will receive the Service to Labor Award for assisting organized labor to improve the quality of life for workers in northwest Indiana.

As selected by the executive board, Mr. Rudy Sutton, president of R.V. Sutton, Inc., will be presented with this year's Union Label Award for his unselfish devotion to the labor movement through all the endeavors of his company.

Mr. Jeremy Rivas of Bricklayers Local #4 will accept the Community Service Award for exemplary service to the community and the enhancement of the quality of life for all.

Mr. Joseph Kasper of Boilermakers #374 will receive the George Meany Scout Award, an honor bestowed upon him by the Boy Scouts of America.

In memoriam, the late Jim Hornak, retiree of Carpenters Local # 1046, will be honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award. The exceptional service he so generously provided to the community deserves our admiration and respect. His dedication and commitment to his community is representative of the values we cherish in northwest Indiana.

For the 2007 Business Sector Awards, Mr. Dan Sajikowski, business unit leader at the BP Refinery in Whiting, Indiana, is this year's recipient of the President's Award. The years of hard work he has put forth are a true inspiration to all. Mr. Rex Mudge, vice president of human resources for Strack & Van Til, is this year's recipient of the Retail/Wholesale Sector Award, and Arcelor Mittal USA, will be recognized with the Building Trades Sector Award. Another of our distinguished State representatives, the Honorable Charlie Brown, will be honored with this year's Service Sector Award, and Mr. Mark Oprisko, councilman for the city of Portage, will be honored with the Industrial Sector Award. Finally, Mr. Bill Kelly, president of the East Chicago Federation of Teachers #511, will be recognized for his efforts with the Public Employees Sector Award.

Northwest Indiana has a rich history of excellence in its craftsmanship and loyalty by its tradesmen. These individuals are all outstanding examples of these qualities. They have demonstrated their loyalty to both the union and the community through their hard work and self-sacrifice.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these dedicated, honorable, and exemplary

citizens, in addition to all of the hardworking union men and women in America. They have shown commitment and courage toward their pursuits, and I am proud to represent them in Washington, DC.

CONTINUING FUNDING FOR GULF COAST KATRINA RELIEF RECOVERY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, our Nation's responsibility to the people of the gulf coast has not ended since Hurricane Katrina devastated the gulf coast region 2 years ago. Since then, volunteers, first responders, and officials from across the Nation have boldly confronted the challenges of rebuilding damaged areas by dedicating their time and effort to help restore these vibrant communities. However, the challenges the region continues to face are far from over and it is clear that this administration has fallen dramatically short of fulfilling the promises made to the people of the gulf coast.

Two years ago, despite multiple warnings of Katrina's severity and the approaching devastation that would result if residents of the gulf coast were not evacuated, the ill-prepared Bush administration failed to offer the necessary support to the hundreds of thousands of people in the storm's path. Vulnerable populations without the economic means or available transportation to evacuate were left with no choice but to weather the storm in their homes or shelters. After the storm ended, at least 1,800 people lost their lives in five States; more than 1 million people were displaced from their homes; hundreds of thousands of homes, schools, and businesses were destroyed; and countless communities and habitats were uprooted.

Despite the outpouring of congressional support for reconstruction and disaster assistance, the administration has poorly managed the disbursement of funds and failed to ensure that home and business owners receive the aid they need. Of the \$94.8 billion that Congress appropriated in response to hurricanes Katrina and Rita, almost half has been spent by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) on debris removal and temporary housing assistance. Only \$3.4 billion has been spent on permanent infrastructure repairs, and FEMA's consistent underestimation of the necessary costs associated with permanent rebuilding has resulted in billions of dollars of aid being tied up after costs exceed FEMA's initial estimates. As a result of the inadequate management and inefficient use of funds, thousands of residents have not returned to their homes. According to the Congressional Budget Office, CBO, 107,000 gulf residents displaced by Katrina are still in FEMA-provided temporary housing.

The administration could have chosen to overcome its original failure with a concerted commitment to rebuild the gulf coast and ensure that the victims of this disaster receive the assistance they need. Instead, over the last 2 years, they have chosen to ignore these problems and the needs of the gulf coast residents. The administration's continued indiffer-

ence to the devastation caused by Katrina has prevented these residents from rebuilding to their communities and tackling the lingering poverty in the region. This administration's failures have been compounded with time, continuing to postpone the complete restoration of the gulf coast.

Madam Speaker, today, we must recommit ourselves, at all levels of government, to rebuild the gulf coast in a responsible and comprehensive way. As we honor those who lost their lives during Hurricane Katrina, we cannot allow this important work to be pushed to side any longer.

HONORING GEORGE BURROWS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize George Burrows, Sr. whose hard work and determination have resulted in the revitalization of the Sistrunk Boulevard corridor in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. This once-blighted neighborhood is now the pride of Ft. Lauderdale's African-American community.

Born in 1926, George Burrows grew up in the segregated Jim Crow south. He was one of 14 children raised by his Bahamian immigrant parents. After serving in the Marines during World War II, George returned to Ft. Lauderdale. Using the G.I. Bill, he attended Bethune-Cookman College where, after sampling several vocational courses, he decided to study electronics. In 1948, he earned his Associate of Arts degree in electronics, and soon after received his state certification as a licensed master electrician.

Madam Speaker, with only electrical wire, government-issued tools, and a used bicycle with front and rear baskets, George Burrows embarked on a career that has spanned more than five decades. He fought bravely against a segregated system that limited his services to Colored Town and went on to great success in the electrical business. The day before his alma mater Dillard High School was to play an important football game, its field still had no lights. George Burrows came to the rescue, installing lights on the field and saving the day.

One of his proudest accomplishments is his longtime involvement with the Black Chamber of Commerce, formerly the Negro Chamber of Commerce. George's work with the Chamber led to minority businesses obtaining contracts with the Hollywood-Ft. Lauderdale International Airport and Port Everglades. George and his devoted wife of more than 50 years, Agnes, have raised four children, all of whom are graduates of historically black colleges. One admirer of his business, Burrows Electric, recently called him "number one in the business" and "a consummate professional."

Madam Speaker, even Ft. Lauderdale City Commissioner Carlton Moore, who grew up in the Sistrunk Boulevard district, lauded George Burrows' achievement as a role model in the community. Commissioner Moore has noted that George "created a business that provided business opportunities to those who were locked out by the system." George Burrows' advice to aspiring entrepreneurs is to "get an

education." With an education, he says, "one can do anything they want in the field they choose." George Burrows is living proof of that. We all owe this great man an enormous debt of gratitude for what he has done to make his neighborhood, his city, and our world a better place. He is truly someone of whom we can all be very proud.

CONGRATULATING MS. KELSEY HOWE

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Kelsey Howe of Highlands Ranch, CO, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. Her outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young woman.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Ms. Howe to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Howe and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

OWEN LOVEJOY PRINCETON POST OFFICE BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2825, designating the post office at 326 South Main Street in Princeton, IL as the Owen Lovejoy Princeton Post Office Building.

Owen Lovejoy, born in Albion, ME, and known for his passionate public service, fought for years for the abolition of slavery. At the root of this passion was the memory of his brother Elijah, Presbyterian minister and editor of an abolitionist press. Elijah was murdered by a mob angered by his anti-slavery writings.

Owen Lovejoy sought an end to slavery, opening his home to runaway slaves, seeking political office in order to push for change, and serving in the Union Army during the American Civil War. An acquaintance of Abraham Lincoln, Lovejoy served as a platform speaker in support of Lincoln in his famous debates with Stephen Douglas.

Our country owes much to individuals like Owen Lovejoy, who, believing in his heart that "all men are created equal," sought an end to