

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO CRESCENTA VALLEY'S 135TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the community of Crescenta Valley, California upon its 135th anniversary.

The Crescenta Valley is comprised of the communities of La Cañada Flintridge, La Crescenta, Montrose, Glendale, Sunland, and Tujunga. For well over a century, this picturesque valley has grown and prospered, and today is a prominent suburb of Los Angeles nestled between the San Gabriel and Verdugo Mountains and the San Rafael Hills.

The valley was originally populated by Native Americans before Don Jose Maria Verdugo, namesake of the surrounding hills, was granted 36,000 acres by the Spanish Crown in 1784. Don Verdugo eventually went bankrupt, and the homeless thieves and bandits of the foothills who roved the area shared his namesake and were called "verdugos."

Nearly a century later in the early 1880's, Dr. Benjamin Briggs from Indiana moved to Southern California and purchased land in the valley, subdividing and selling 10-acre parcels, with the intent to establish a hospital for lung disease due to the clean, dry air. Dr. Briggs chose the name "La Crescenta" for the valley, noticing the crescent shapes of the mountains from the windows of his home. Although Dr. Briggs did not live to realize all his plans, other physicians and health workers followed his lead establishing health clinics and sanitaria; eventually yielding to the establishment of vineyards, orchards, and resort homes.

With the advent of an electric trolley line in 1913 which connected Crescenta Valley to Glendale and Los Angeles, small family homes began to evolve, a precursor of the thriving suburban neighborhoods that populate the valley today. In the 1930's, the Crescenta Valley experienced a major calamity when a massive flash flood struck on New Year's Day that took forty lives, and left hundreds homeless. Despite this tragedy, the Crescenta Valley grew rapidly, developing into an established, mainstream suburbia, and the 210 freeway that was built in the 1970's allowed distant communities to connect, incorporating Crescenta Valley even further into the fabric of Los Angeles.

The Crescenta Valley has flourished and has found its place as a distinguished part of the greater Los Angeles community. It contains many scientific, cultural, and historical highlights, from the beauty of Descanso Gardens to the world-renowned Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

I ask all Members to join me in congratulating the Crescenta Valley upon its 135th anniversary.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROBERT BARBIERI ON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE LUZERNE COUNTY SPORTS HALL OF FAME

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor former athlete and Northeastern Pennsylvania native, Robert Barbieri. This year, Bob was inducted into the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame at the 35th annual dinner on August 11, 2019 for his distinct athletic achievements in the sport of football.

Each year, the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame honors those who have brought recognition to the state of Pennsylvania through their outstanding achievements and contributions in athletic endeavors.

Bob started his athletic career at Old Forge High School where he was All-Scholastic in football and basketball. Bob played as an offensive lineman, linebacker, and place kicker, once converting 21 straight placements.

After high school, Bob continued playing football at The George Washington University. He was a starting offensive lineman and linebacker from his sophomore year on. During his time at GW, Bob was asked to play in the North-South College All-Star game.

When his college playing days were over, Bob first tried out for the Baltimore Colts. He then moved back to Northeastern Pennsylvania to pursue his passion in a different way. Bob coached the Pittston High School football team where he was highly regarded. During his coaching career from 1966 to 1998, he had a record of 159 wins, 100 losses, and 4 ties. His Patriots won 5 Wyoming Valley Conference A Division Championships and tied for one Eastern Conference Championship with Shikellamy in 1967. The 1967 team was undefeated, with a 10-0 record during the season before facing Shikellamy in a hard-fought championship game that ended in a scoreless tie. Bob was a two-time Coach of the Year (1974 and 1981), and he also coached the UNICO team twice (1970 and 1985).

While at Pittston Area, he also coached girls' basketball, boys' basketball, junior high basketball, swimming, and junior high track. For his outstanding efforts and career, the athletic field house located in Charlie Tippi Stadium was named the Robert "Bob" Barbieri Field House in 2014.

It is an honor to recognize Bob on his induction into the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame. May his story and athletic career serve as an inspiration to the next generation of Pennsylvania athletes striving for excellence.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE LOST AND THOSE WHO GAVE AND RISKED THEIR LIVES DURING THE TERRORIST ATTACKS LAUNCHED AGAINST THE UNITED STATES ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, on this, the 18th anniversary of the attack launched against the United States on September 11, 2001, I rise to remember the victims of that horrific tragedy and those first-responders who risked, and in too many cases, sacrificed their lives to rescue the occupants of the besieged World Trade Center.

The morning of September 11, 2001 is, and will always be, a day like no other.

It is a day all living Americans will remember because not since Pearl Harbor had there been such a dastardly and deadly attack on American soil.

Eighteen years later, my heart still grieves for those who perished on flights United Airlines 93, American Airlines 77, American Airlines 11, and United Airlines 175.

When the sun rose on the morning of September 11, none of us knew that it would end in an inferno in the magnificent World Trade Center Towers in New York City and the Pentagon and in the grassy fields of Shanksville, Pennsylvania.

I stand here remembering those who still suffer, whose hearts still ache over the loss of so many innocent and interrupted lives.

My prayer is that for those who lost a father, a mother, a husband, a wife, a child, or a friend will in the days and years ahead take comfort in the certain knowledge that they have gone on to claim the greatest prize, a place in the Lord's loving arms.

And down here on the ground, their memory will never die so long as any of the many of us who loved them lives.

Madam Speaker, I watched as the first, and then the second, plane flew into the World Trade Center and was horrified when the buildings came down.

I was in The Capitol and saw the billowing smoke from the wreckage at the Pentagon and was told about the missing third plane that met its fiery end in the empty fields of Shanksville, Pennsylvania thanks to the selfless act of patriotic and heroic Americans.

But as hard as it is to believe, out of a tragedy so overwhelming and horrific, something good and great emerged in the aftermath of September 11.

On that day there were no Republicans or Democrats.

There were no Northerners or Southerners or West or East Coasters.

We were not Red State or Blue State.

We were all simply Americans.

On that day, we were united in our shock and anger and sadness.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

We were united in our resolve to defend our country and protect the freedoms that has made America the greatest country in the history of the world.

Later that day, I joined scores of my colleagues on the East Steps of the Capitol where we sang 'God Bless America', lit candles, held hands, and prayed for our country and its leaders.

In the days ahead, I travelled to New York City to visit first responders and victims still recovering bodies and rescuing victims of the attacks and became a charter member of the Committee on Homeland Security to ensure that 9-11 never again happens in America.

A united America can never be defeated as Operation Enduring Freedom showed.

The brave and valiant armed forces of the United States swiftly toppled the Taliban and liberated Afghanistan, making good on the pledge that "[w]hether the terrorists are brought to justice or justice is brought to the terrorists, justice will be done."

And though he ran and hid for almost ten years, Osama bin Laden could not hide forever and evade the long arm of American justice, which, under the leadership of President Barack Obama, caught up with him on May 2, 2011.

Madam Speaker, Americans take care of their own.

Americans cherish freedom. Americans cherish liberty.

And Americans want peace.

Not just for themselves alone, but all persons in every corner of the globe.

Madam Speaker, ensuring that America is safe and secure and protected from another attack on American soil is the least we owe to the heroic passengers on Flight 93 and to the brave firefighters of the FDNY and officers of the NYPD and the officers and civilians we lost in the Pentagon who gave faithful service to our nation.

Americans want their country to remain safe, free, and invulnerable to another cowardly attack like the one we witnessed eighteen years ago today.

We owe that much to the Americans who lost and gave their lives.

We owe it to them to ensure that their children and loved ones will never again experience such pain, suffering, and loss.

We can do this. We must do this. After all, we are Americans.

IN REMEMBRANCE ON THE 18TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Mr. KING of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of all the lost lives and families of 9/11, on the 18th anniversary with a poetic tribute penned by Albert Carey Caswell. Sadly, we are living daily with the second wave on 9/11 with the loss of all those magnificent responders who stayed on to help recover our lost loved ones. Our prayers go out to them and their families on this day.

And on this day . . .
We gather and pray, forgetting not all those who've paid . . .

But, with their most precious lives on that day, and continue to in every way . . .

With the price so grave . . .
And for all of their loved ones living and the lost,
who now lie in such cold quiet graves the cost . . .

And the ones whose precious bodies we could not bury nor save . . .
Oh how the tears come our way,
wishing somehow to each heart remorse convey . . .

Our thoughts and prayers go with them in their pain each day . . .

As we add new names to this list that which evil gave . . .

With more and more Heroes going to their graves . . .

All in the aftermath of 9/11 and in its second wave . . .

Were all those heroes who dug in deep,
to find our most precious loved ones while in the midst this evil speaks . . .

All so their loved ones could find solace,
and bury their loved ones in the earth deep down beneath . . .

On this day to stop and pray to these hearts which speak . . .

And give thanks and remembrance for all and each . . .

The families who can not be repaid . . .

God Is Good and God Is Great, all in such magnificent heroes he creates . . .

For such selflessness there can be no greater gift then this . . .

Then, all of those Gotham Hearts who stood so courageously on that day we miss . . .

And laid down their lives illuminating our souls in the light of hope's golden rays . . .

With rays of hope and faith and courage and glory to our children we must convey . . .

And now all of the new battles which lie ahead,
for all of those who stayed on the site who too now blood must shed . . .

Trying to give closure to the families, so their loved ones could be lowered into such solemn graves . . .

As its for them and all of their loved ones in this new battle pray . . .

And for all those innocents who died just because they went to work that day . . .

We Can Not and Will Never Forget . . .

As like them too we must face each new day . . .

With the determination and grit and courage as they . . .

To live our lives but For The Greater Good each day . . .

As we have built in their honor this magnificent shrine upon hearts which stays . . .

Which rises out of the ashes of hate in its light up towards heaven in time . . .

So very splendid and so very fine . . .

That which now will so surely stand the test of time . . .

So that from generation to generation all of our children will find . . .

The answer to winning the battle against evil in its darkest of times . . .

Goodness, Evil, Darkness, Light, those brave hearts who evil must fight . . .

Who bring their light, together enjoined as we battle on into that dark night . . .

And that The Darkness is no match for The Light . . .

As we pray our souls be filled with such hope and such faith as they so bright . . .

Knowing full well that time does not heal all,

only up in Heaven when out to us our love ones call . . .

When, once again together again . . .

Let us find peace, let us find rest, let us mend with our Lord us to bless . . .

And watch over all of the families in their battle in the second wave 9/11's direst . . .

And all of the families who lost loved ones and gave all in death . . .
As we thank and remember all of America's Best . . .

ON THIS DAY . . .
In memory of all those beautiful people who lost their lives and their loved ones on 9/11, and still lose more today in

the second wave of 9/11's tragedy. May God Bless them all and hold them in palm of his hands . . .

WE WILL NEVER FORGET!

TRIBUTE TO J'S MAINTENANCE

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2019

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the Waldheim family upon the 50th anniversary of J's Maintenance in Glendale, California.

For over a half a century, J's Maintenance has provided clients with superb commercial janitorial services and is an outstanding example of a family-owned business that cares about their customers' satisfaction, their staff's wellbeing and their community.

Ed and Linda Waldheim bought the small janitorial service company in 1969 and re-built it essentially from the ground up. They have had clients ranging from individual residences to large companies like J.C. Penney and Sears. Their son, Chris Waldheim, currently runs the company. Under Chris's leadership, the company has set a great example by conducting their business in an environmentally friendly way, from installing solar panels on their roof to using green chemicals for their cleaning services. Additionally, J's Maintenance has implemented a recycling program that has saved thousands of pounds of waste from entering our landfills.

In addition to their business success, the Waldheim family also exemplifies what it means to be civic leaders. The family supports Relay for Life, which raises funds for the American Cancer Society to conduct research and provide services to patients while in treatment and are avid supporters of the Crescenta Valley and Montrose Chambers of Commerce. J's Maintenance has also invested in the local schools in the Crescenta Valley area by sponsoring activities like Clark Magnet High School's robotics team and fundraising for Crescenta Valley High School's prom. Most notably, however, is Chris's support for and involvement with the YMCA of the Foothills. He served as a board member for several years, holding leadership positions, chaired the Community Support Campaign for three years, and he and his family continuously support the YMCA's events. In 2011, Chris was awarded the Pat Aho Volunteer of the Year Award for his long-lasting involvement with the YMCA.

Our community has greatly benefited from the hard work and dedication of the Waldheim family and their business, J's Maintenance. I ask all Members to join with me in congratulating the Waldheim family upon the 50th anniversary of J's Maintenance.