

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I recall the words of novelist George Eliot, "The growing good of the world is partly dependent on unhistoric acts." Mr. Lockhart didn't make history, but he certainly grew good and kindness in the world as a public servant, businessman, friend and family man.

And so, I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in recognizing Mr. Jack Lockhart's exemplary life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 11, 2017

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained, and so I missed Roll Call vote number 439 regarding Financial Stability Oversight Council Insurance Member Continuity Act. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea.

I also missed Roll Call vote number 440 regarding Improving Access to Capital Act, as amended. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea.

IN HONOR OF THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN LEGION WARREN MCKEON POST 587

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 11, 2017

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of American Legion Warren McKeon Post 587 as its members celebrate the 75th Anniversary of their charter in Foresthill, California.

The American Legion was first incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization dedicated to continued devotion of America's service members and veterans. Hundreds of local American Legion posts around the country strengthen our nation one community at a time, and the Warren McKeon Post is no exception to that standard.

The American Legion Warren McKeon Post 587 was founded on September 11, 1942—just nine months after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. The Post is named in honor of Warren Alexander McKeon, who was raised at Yankee Jim's, located three miles from Foresthill, CA, and served in the 26th Infantry Regiment, 1st Division in World War I. Private McKeon was killed in action on July 18, 1918 and buried at Oise-Aisne American Cemetery in France.

The Post's 160 members serve a number of different charities including the Veterans Home of California, Travis Air Force Base Fisher House, American Legion Boys State, and Boy Scouts of America, in addition to sending care packages for troops deployed overseas.

To honor the sacrifices made by the men and women who have put themselves in harm's way to defend our nation, American Legion Warren McKeon Post 587 has built a veterans monument in front of the Foresthill Veterans Memorial Hall. The monument, to be dedicated on September 11, 2017, will serve

as a permanent reminder of our nation's sacrifice in the pursuit of a free and prosperous democracy.

Mr. Speaker, the significance of this day is lost on no one. Not only is September 11th the 75th anniversary of the chartering of American Legion Warren McKeon Post 587, it also marks 16 years since the deadliest terror attack on American soil.

The monument will commemorate the heroism, selflessness, devotion and patriotism of the men and women of our nation who answered the call when our nation needed their service.

Mr. Speaker, our veterans deserve to know their contributions will never be forgotten, and it is my privilege to rise in recognition of the efforts of American Legion Warren McKeon Post 587 to honor those who stepped forth from the safety of hearth and home and into mortal peril to protect their fellow citizens.

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

Monday, September 11, 2017

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, on this, the 16th 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 Towers.

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.

As I stand here today, 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.

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

We lit candles, held hands, helped neighbors, and prayed for our country and its leaders.

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.

As President George W. Bush announced to the American people and to the world: "Whether 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 Ladin 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.

Mr. 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.

Mr. 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.

I believe all Americans want their country to remain safe, free, and invulnerable to another cowardly attack like the one we witnessed sixteen 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.

A 9/11 MEMORIAL IN COLTS NECK,
NEW JERSEY

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 11, 2017

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, everyone remembers where they were and what they were doing on September 11, 2001—I was in Washington chairing a Veteran's Affairs hearing—when a group of cowards hijacked airliners in order to perpetrate the worst act of terrorism in American history.

No one remembers the shock, horror and numbing sorrow more, however, than the families and close friends of the victims.

Because it was a surprise attack, there was no chance to fight back that day although when New Jersey's Todd Beamer and other passengers learned what happened to the Twin Towers, Todd famously said "let's roll!" and attacked the terrorists on board the flight that crashed in a Pennsylvania field to preclude another jet from being used as a missile.