

ours, these fascinating and fulfilling young people who choose to labor in these buildings and the Capitol, much like the Clerk's Office, the police officers, the rank and file. All of us came here today to prove a point to terrorists that we will not succumb to fear.

When we have a 21-year-old coming up to us, realizing that probably their own parents suggested they should stay home, call in sick, these kids chose no, and to face the burden of the day and face the challenges; and, yes, face the fear, knowing that this city could be a target at any time. But democracy, for it to flourish, fear must be subdued, and we must fight with our energy and vigor to make America the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Mr. Speaker, I salute Parker Altman today. I am thankful that he took time to put his words to paper. I am thrilled that I am able to read it on this floor and state a memorial for the RECORD. I urge all Americans today as we bow our heads in prayer to thank God for the divine inspiration and the great opportunity we had today to celebrate another day of American heritage; sad as it was, powerful that we were able to overcome our fears and focus on the work of the people.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. NORTON addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. DEFAZIO) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. DEFAZIO addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. EDWARDS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. EDWARDS addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

AMERICANS STAND TALL AGAINST TERRORISM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on this September 11, the 1-year anniversary of the greatest tragedy on American soil in our history with a heavy heart, as I know is shared by all Americans, because it was on this day 1 year ago when almost 3,000 Americans lost their lives at the hands of evil terrorists who sought to destroy our Nation, who seek to destroy our way of life.

We know from that experience that all Americans must stand tall against the threat of international terrorism. We know as Americans that we never, never, never want to experience that tragedy again. As a part of our history, we will always remember September 11 of last year.

I come to the floor today to call upon the House to pass legislation entitled the National Memorial to the Victims of Terrorism Act. This legislation would memorialize all victims of terrorism, both those who have lost their lives on September 11, as well as those who have been victims of terrorism in previous times, as well as those who have died in the cause since.

Since September 11 of last year, we have engaged in a battle in Afghanistan where 51 Americans have lost their lives. We know from experience that the war against terrorism will not be won quickly and that perhaps we may face this challenge for many years ahead.

In many ways on September 11, the American people recognized for the first time that we were in fact engaged in a war against terrorism, even though we have had ample opportunity to define those events that occurred in previous years, taking the lives of American citizens and American soldiers, as a war. We understand that this legislation that we have introduced will memorialize those who lost their lives to terrorism. The legislation which we have introduced is entitled the National Memorial to the Victims of Terrorism. It was introduced by me and by the gentleman from Utah (Mr. HANSEN). It is a bipartisan piece of legislation that enjoys the support of Members on both sides of the aisle.

The legislation would create a 13-member Victims of Terrorism Memorial Advisory Board appointed by the President in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Defense. Members of the advisory board would include appointees from organizations dedicated to assisting the victims of terrorism and their families. The board would begin the process of establishing a memorial not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this legislation. The advisory board would have the responsibility of raising the necessary funds from private sources to pay for this national memorial.

Those who came and testified on behalf of this legislation in the committee last May spoke very eloquently about the importance of this national memorial. We had testimony from Lisa Beamer, the widow of Todd Beamer, who joined those brave passengers on Flight 93 and fought off the terrorists and saved this Capitol and many people who were in this building.

We had testimony from Colonel Ted Anderson, who saved many victims when the Pentagon was struck by the aircraft on that fateful day.

We had testimony from Joe Finley, a New York firefighter who worked hard

and dedicated his efforts on that fateful day to saving the lives of those who were struck in the World Trade Center.

We also had testimony from Liz Howell, a staffer on the Committee on Resources staff that heard of this bill who lost her husband at the Pentagon on September 11.

Each of these individuals shared heartfelt testimony as to why it is important for Americans to mark this event with a national memorial, and why it is also important to reflect in this memorial the memory of all who have lost their lives to terrorism.

□ 1745

The war on terrorism is indeed the first war of the 21st century. It will not be one marked by any one geographic location. It is a global war. It is a global war that will be fought both at home and abroad. Though they have lost their lives in places far and near over a span of time that includes the past, the present and perhaps the future, the victims of terrorism, both civilian and military, deserve solemn tribute, for they died at the hands of the enemies of America simply because they were Americans.

I call upon the leadership of this Congress to promptly set this bill for hearing in order that we may act promptly and pass the National Memorial to the Victims of Terrorism Act.

THE MEANING OF SEPTEMBER 11

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GILCREST). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I do not intend to use the full hour this evening, unless some of my colleagues come in and would like to share some of the time.

I did want to take to the floor this evening on the evening of September 11 to basically talk about the meaning of September 11 to me and particularly to my constituents in New Jersey. I wanted to particularly make reference to two events that I participated in in the last 24 hours.

Last evening, after the House adjourned during the day for votes, I went up to Middletown, New Jersey, which is a town in my district, in Monmouth County, that suffered more deaths in the World Trade Center building during the attack on September 11 than any other town in New Jersey or maybe in the whole metropolitan area. There was a memorial service, a dedication of a garden in memory of the 36 residents of Middletown who died on September 11. It was a very moving ceremony. We had relatives of the victims who made speeches. I would like to talk about it a little more.

The other event I went to this morning was at my own high school in Long Branch, New Jersey, where the entire

student body from kindergarten, I believe, all the way to 12th grade, to the graduating seniors, showed up at the football stadium for a service. I think we must have had probably over 4,000 people there this morning. It also was very moving. I would like to sort of comment on both of those ceremonies in light of what happened last year.

Mr. Speaker, last September 11 I actually was in the Capitol. Many of us know that on Mondays and Tuesdays we schedule at 9 a.m. what we call morning hour, which is very similar to the special orders that we have at the end of the day. It is an opportunity between 9 and 10 a.m. for Members of Congress to come down and give 5-minute speeches on whatever topic they desire. It is not part of the votes of the House. It is an opportunity to talk about issues or really any kind of event that you want to talk about that day.

Before morning hour on the Democratic side we have a meeting, what we call a message meeting in the morning that I chair, along with the gentlewoman from Connecticut (Ms. DELAURO), and that usually starts at 8:30 in the morning. So on that morning of September 11 last year we started at 8:30, maybe it was a little later, with a message meeting, and then we came up to the floor, some of us, including myself, to do the 5 minutes for morning hour.

I do not know exactly what time it was, probably maybe about 9:15 or 9:20, when I finished my 5-minute speech for morning hour that I walked out of this Chamber and walked over to the leader's office, the office of the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), and discovered that the World Trade Center had been attacked. It was on the TV.

The only reason I bring this up is because over the weekend there was a report in the news media about how certain informers for al Qaeda and the Taliban had indicated that the plane that went down in Pennsylvania on September 11 last year was actually headed for the Capitol, for the United States Capitol.

This morning when I was at the ceremony at Long Branch High School, the superintendent of schools, who was the MC for the ceremony, Mr. Joseph Ferraina, mentioned in his opening remarks that the people who died on September 11 basically gave their lives so that others might live.

I thought about that statement this morning, and, of course, it has a tremendous symbolic meaning, but it also had a literal meaning in a sense for me, because it is very likely that if those brave Americans who had decided to try to fight the terrorists and bring down that plane into a field in Pennsylvania had not made the decision to try to struggle and overcome the terrorists, that that plane would have headed for the Capitol and I would have been right here on the House floor and probably died as a result or could have died as a result of that attack. So

those people literally, literally, were giving their lives so that Members of Congress like myself and my colleagues could live.

It is an amazing thing to think about, that they were willing to sacrifice so that that plane would not come here and hit the United States Capitol.

But I also thought this morning that they were not only giving their lives for other Americans, possibly myself and my colleagues, but they were also sacrificing their lives, they were essentially martyrs for the cause of America in a more symbolic way. When I say the cause of America, what do I mean? I mean democracy. I mean the freedom of speech, the freedom to assemble, the freedom of religion that we find so sacred.

My wife mentioned to me this morning that the Americans who were on that plane that ended up crashing in Pennsylvania, because they were in contact with others on the ground, they were using cell phones and were able to contact other people while they were on the plane, and they found out that the World Trade Center had been attacked, that the Pentagon had been attacked, and they decided, because of those attacks, that they would take a vote and they would vote amongst themselves on the plane as to whether or not they would try to overcome the terrorists in order to veer the plane away from, in this case, the Capitol or whatever else they thought landmark it might be used by the terrorists to attack.

I thought it was terribly significant that they voted, because here we are this morning in Long Branch, yesterday in Middletown, today on the floor in Washington, talking about the meaning of democracy and how the people who lost their lives were really martyrs for the American way for democracy. Lo and behold, they were taking a vote to decide whether to overcome the terrorists, which is probably, I guess, the most basic manifestation of what democracy is about, taking a vote.

I am sure that the terrorists that hijacked the plane were not taking any votes because, unlike the Americans who were willing to give their lives on that plane, they did not believe in a democratic process. They did not believe in the American way, the values that we believe in. They basically had a very different ideology, and their ideology, whatever it was, said that it was okay for them to hijack the plane, to kill innocent civilians for what would appear to be some sort of fundamentalist religious cause.

I think that we cannot forget the fact that so many Americans who lost their lives on September 11, including the 36 in Middletown, the town that I went to last night in my district, even though they were giving their lives for the American way, for American values, that the effect on their families, the effect on their relatives, is devastating.

It is nice to say that someone is a martyr. It is a glorious thing. But, at the same time, it is very hard to be the relative of the martyr, because your husband or your wife or your daughter or your son is no longer there. There is the huge void, if you will, that lingers. I am sure it lingers a year later or lingers 10 years later. It is never really filled.

Mr. Speaker, I will introduce into the record an article that was in the New York Times, I think it was on September 7, just a couple of days ago, that talks about Middletown, New Jersey, and the grief and the difficulty that the relatives and the survivors of the victims of September 11 have been going through.

I put it in the record, Mr. Speaker, not because I want to dwell on the grief. The title of the article in the New York Times is "Emerging From Cocoon of Grief," but because I think it is important for us to understand that as much as we talk about these victims and their families, or these heroes, I should say, and their families, in the sense that they gave so much and they are so important and they are so significant for us to comment on, that they still were people whose families now are having problems because of a void that has been left behind. I think this article kinds of sums it all up. It sums up their courage and what they had to face, but also sums up what they face in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATERS).

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleague for yielding to me and giving me an opportunity to voice my support for House Concurrent Resolution 464. I was not here when the vote was taken. I was on a plane coming from Los Angeles. I had to stay in the district to take care of some very important problems there. I tried very hard to get from the airport here to the House floor so that I may take that vote, because I think it is so important for all of us to show that we really do care and we really do honor the memory of those who lost their lives and for those families who are making sacrifices, even today, because of the devastation that they are experiencing in their families and in their homes and in their lives. So I would like it to be known that had I been present for the vote on House Concurrent Resolution 464, Roll Call No. 384, I certainly would have voted yes.

Again, I want to thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) for taking out extra time on the floor. Having done what we all should have done, and that is voted, the gentleman has remained here, because he had something additional that he wanted to say to the families and to the friends and neighborhoods and the communities.

Just as I walked in, the gentleman was talking about what happened on that airplane in Pennsylvania when a decision was made by a vote "to roll,"

to try and take the plane away from the hijackers, in an effort perhaps to prevent them from coming to this Capitol or to the White House.

The gentleman is absolutely correct, we should never forget that, and we should all know and feel that we are very blessed because there were very brave people who decided to take a courageous action in the interest of saving lives. So I thank the gentleman for the extra time that he is putting into this.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague for those words.

Mr. Speaker, I see other colleagues joining me, and I am very pleased to see that, and I just wanted to talk a little bit more about the Long Branch ceremony this morning and Middletown last night, if I could.

I was really happy this morning in Long Branch because there were so many young people there, about 4,000 people, as I said, maybe from kindergarten all the way to 12th grade from my home community. I think they were listening very attentively to the various speeches being made and they understood that the people who lost their lives on September 11 really were heroes to the American way.

The most important thing I think we need to do as we continue to commemorate September 11, and in Long Branch actually said they plan on doing the ceremony every September 11 because they wanted to teach, if you will, the students and the young people about the significance of September 11, that it is important that from now on, not only today, but in the future, that we continue to commemorate the day and we continue to commemorate those people who lost their lives and the heroes that tried to help the victims, the firefighters, the police, because if we forget it, then we are not paying proper respect to them, and we must continue to point out that this democracy that we live in and the freedoms that we so cherish are not easily come by, that people continue to sacrifice for them.

Obviously we must continue to do what we can here in Congress with the President and Congress jointly to make sure that the terrorists do not have the opportunity to do this type of terrible act again.

If I could just mention a little more about Middletown last night, because it was so significant. As I said, in Middletown there were 36 men and women who lost their lives in the World Trade Center on September 11.

□ 1800

I mentioned the article that was in the New York Times, and there was a lot of news stories and national attention that was focused on Middletown over the last year because so many people died proportionately for the size of the town. But in the middle of all the descriptions in the news media about the suffering, about the people who died and their families, there was

also much said about the pride of the community, the fact that the community came together in untold ways, that residents were helping each other in time of need, and that the community banded together not only to help the families of people who died but also to send firefighters and police to help the efforts on September 11 and in the aftermath. And I guess I just wanted to say this evening, if I could, how proud I was last night to be able to say that I represent a community like Middletown and to also have the opportunity to participate in the groundbreaking for another wonderful community effort there, the Middletown Memorial Garden.

Let me just explain a little bit about what went on last night. Each of the elected representatives spoke briefly, and then they had relatives of the victims who spoke and then they proceeded over to this new memorial garden where each of the relatives was given a shovel to shovel some of the dirt before the garden started to be put together. And of the speakers, every one of them was overwhelming in terms of what they said and the significance of what they said, but in particular I can remember a little girl, I do not know, I think she probably was about 9 or 10 years old, maybe a little younger or a little older, and of course she reminded me of my own daughter. I have one daughter who is 9 years old. And she spoke about her father. She basically read a letter, I guess in a sense she was writing a letter to dad, and it was such a moving experience. And after that all the relatives, I think about 170 or so relatives that proceeded over to this garden to do the shoveling of the groundbreaking, and there were little kids 2 years old, 3 years old all the way up to teenagers. It was such an overwhelming experience.

I want to say in conclusion before I yield to my colleagues, the loss is always going to be there. There is no way to get away from the loss for all these relatives of what they lost on September 11, but I think if we do not forget the people who gave their lives, if we continue to commemorate their activities, if we do things like the Middletown Memorial Garden or the ceremonies like were held at Long Branch High School this morning, then we are doing what is necessary to make sure that we never forget what happened and the significance of what happened. We need to be reminded ultimately that this battle against those who would defy America and defy America's values is never ending and that we have to be constantly vigilant in order to protect our democracy and our freedoms. And that is why I think today was so significant to me, not only to the two ceremonies that I attended over the last 24 hours, but because I feel in general that people after a year really understand the significance of what happened on September 11 and are determined to keep in mind the lessons of that day.

Mr. Speaker, with that I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL), and I know he had many of his own constituents who died and suffered that day as well. I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. ENGEL. I thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE), my friend, for yielding to me, and I am very grateful that we are able to speak on the floor about September 11 today because I have just gotten back from New York and spent my morning at Ground Zero at the World Trade Center site where we had extremely moving events. I was just out in front of the Capitol where I sang "God Bless America" with so many of our colleagues, and for me being in two places the same day, Ground Zero, the World Trade Center, and at the Capitol where we now know that the doomed flight from Pennsylvania was heading towards the Capitol. It has been a very emotional roller coaster for me to be in both cities one day. Flying the shuttle, it was practically empty. A lot of people were obviously not flying today. But I am just so proud the way this Congress and the American people are handling the anniversary of the tragedy that happened 1 year ago today.

I saw, as I have seen in my city since September 11, just an outpouring of goodwill, of people just hugging each other and banding together and taking pride in being New Yorkers and taking pride in being Americans and just wanting to help each other, care about each other, be concerned with each other. We saw that again when I drove down this morning. The first thing we saw when we got near Ground Zero were people with American flags and having victory signs and thumbs-up signs and just hugging each other. When we actually got to the event, there was a platform and we started with different famous speeches that were made, and then at the exact times that the planes hit the World Trade Center, both towers, there were moments of silence, and then at the exact times that the buildings crumbled a year ago, there were bells tolling and moments of silence, and all the names of all the victims of the September 11 tragedy at the World Trade Center were read from A to Z, and it was very, very moving. I was given a list of names to read to be part of the procedure, to read the names, and I realized that someone had come in who was a family member of someone who had died at the World Trade Center and he had no names to read, and I gave him my list to read because it was just enough for me to be there to just get the feeling. And I will tell my colleagues, it was a very windy day in New York City today, and it was almost as if one could just feel the spirit lifting everybody that was there. I do not think I have ever had anything that has been as emotional or as emotionally uplifting. It was sad, very, very sad, but at the same time it made us feel like we were all part of something and that we were all together as

Americans and as New Yorkers. There were thousands upon thousands of people. There were family members making their way down to the exact spot of Ground Zero.

Last night at about 1 o'clock in the morning, there were processions, actually marches, of people from all five boroughs. New York City, of course, has five boroughs. The Bronx, where I am from; Brooklyn; Manhattan; Queens; and Staten Island. And people started from the farthest reaches of the city, from the farthest points of the five boroughs from Ground Zero and all converged at Ground Zero. And so as the names were being read out, family members were marching down and we could see the family members. Yo Yo Ma was playing as he does so well, and it was just a very moving experience.

I said the week of September 11 last year after touring the site with the President 3 days after that I was never more proud to be an American and never more proud to be a New Yorker, and I feel that way again today. And I do hope that every September 11 we can all come together. I hope we can do it 365 days of the year, but I think that September 11 is a day that we really always need to reflect and always need to understand how proud we are to be Americans, how proud we are to be New Yorkers. The terrorists think that they can destroy our way of life, but they cannot. Quite the opposite. Because what I see is a resolve amongst Americans, amongst people in this country like I have never seen before. It is almost as if a sleeping giant has awakened, and we are going to ensure that the evil of terrorism is eradicated all over the world wherever it rears its ugly head, and this country will always be in the forefront of fighting evil. And we understand what it means to be an American, and we understand why it is so important that we all band together and help each other because that really gives us the meaning of what life is all about.

And those people, those poor people, and I will conclude, who perished on September 11 did not perish in vain because they will always be in our minds, they will always be in our hearts, and the heroism that we saw from the first responders to everybody else, the untold acts of heroism that we will never know about, those people are an inspiration to all of us.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) for what he said, and I know that there were a lot of New Jersey people at Ground Zero. I think the governor of New Jersey also spoke or read the Declaration of Independence, if I am not mistaken.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Ms. PELOSI), our Democratic whip.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding and for having this very important special order this evening on this day that is etched in the hearts and minds of all Americans.

I want to first commend the gentleman, my colleague from New York (Mr. ENGEL), and extend to him and the members of the New York delegation, especially the dean, the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL) for the magnificent hospitality extended to the Congress. Over 300 Members of Congress traveled to New York on Friday to the place where George Washington took the oath of office as our first President of the United States. What more suitable place could there be than for us to express our grief to all those who personally suffered on September 11 and, indeed, to our entire country which shares in that grief?

But New York took a hit and all those from surrounding areas, as the gentleman said, many from New Jersey, certainly those in the plain in Pennsylvania and those at the Pentagon, in every venue the spirit of the families who suffered the loss and the spirit of the communities that were involved has lifted up our country.

This has been quite a day for our country, all over America, and I know in my district in San Francisco all day. We started at 5 o'clock this morning because it is three hours earlier, to be ready to commemorate at the exact moment the sad tragedy that our country experienced last year. But for some of us, we were in the National Cathedral at that precise time when the great bell of the cathedral rang to observe again that sad time and for all of us to join in mourning. It is a day of mourning and memories, and it is a day to pay tribute and give thanks certainly to the New York delegation for the wonderful venue they provided for us to mourn, commiserate, and they provided us a great memory for which we are all grateful.

With the resolution that we approved today in the Congress, we expressed our utmost appreciation to those brave and courageous young men and women in uniform who are fighting the battle to route out terrorism wherever it exists. Today we remember the victims of September 11. We also remember and pay tribute to Johnny Micheal Spann, the CIA officer who in November became the first American killed in combat. We honored him earlier in this Congress with his family in the gallery. His name and the names of thousands of other Americans, too many Americans, are now etched as permanently in our history as they are in the minds of their families. As the poet laureate of the United States said in New York, too many names for even the walls of our hearts to contain.

For some of the families of the victims, the sound of a plane flying overhead fills them with fear. Indeed, the warning of any possible terrorist act intensifies their grief, and for them and for all Americans we must do everything in our power to reduce risk to the American people. Yet as we continue to grieve, we take pride in knowing that the unspeakable events of September 11 have brought Americans

closer together than ever. The gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL) referenced that, as did the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE). We have joined together as a community, we rush to give blood, money, and volunteer time to become more patriotic, to appreciate our freedom.

Today's resolution honored all of those affected by September 11 from whom we have learned what it means to be a member of the American family. From our first responders, our firefighters, and police officers, we have learned to be an American is to be selfless, to put honor above personal safety and the lives of strangers above your own. From cell phone calls made from crumbling buildings, we learned that to be an American is to love family with a power and a force that transcends even death. From a group of passengers in a hijacked plane over Pennsylvania, we learned that to be an American is to be brave in the face of hopelessness and to do good for others while evil is being done to oneself. And from workers at the Pentagon who went to work that day and every day, we learned that to be an American is to love freedom and to show that love every day by serving our great country.

This morning we also went to the Pentagon, shared some sympathies with the families of those who lost their loved ones. One young man showed me the flag that was given to him in memory and honor of his father who perished that day. We also honored the hardhats who rebuilt the Pentagon so that here today on that 1-year anniversary we could visit a Pentagon that was restored, a sign of confidence and pride in our country.

With these lessons in mind, we can rest assured that the assault in our heart, the heart of our Nation, will only make it beat more strongly. That strength will allow us to triumph over terror militarily, and that strength will allow us to triumph over terror in spirit. We will cherish our freedoms now more than ever and recognize, as was said at the National Cathedral this morning, that there is a high cost to freedom.

□ 1815

We will draw our loved ones closer and reach out further toward peace with our adversaries.

With that, I would like to once again express gratitude to all who have helped us all grieve. I hope it is a comfort to those who lost their loved ones that so many people throughout the world, and indeed, intensely in our own country, share their grief and are praying for them at this sad time.

I would also like to thank the gentleman from Illinois (Speaker HASTERT) and our leader, the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. GEPHARDT), for making it possible for us to travel to New York, because it was a place we had to visit. We went to the heart, to where our country began, to renew ourselves and to be ready for this very,

very sad day, but in a spirit of renewal and pride in our great country. God bless America.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from New York (Mr. ENGEL).

Mr. ENGEL. The only thing I wanted to add, Mr. Speaker, was that the gentleman pointed out that so many people from New York City and the suburbs of New York lost their lives. Both Senators from New Jersey were there today at Ground Zero, and the Governor was; both Senators from New York, and the New York Governor was.

In my district in Rockland County and Westchester County, the suburbs of New York City, so many people lost their lives: firemen, policemen, and average citizens who went to work. So this is truly a regional feeling, and absolutely a national feeling; but of course, in the New York City metropolitan area, a regional feeling, as well. I thank the gentleman for mentioning that.

Mr. PALLONE. I thank the gentleman for adding that. He is right, that we can even go beyond that. My understanding, I hope I am not wrong, was that the plane that went down in Pennsylvania was actually headed for California, so there were probably some of the constituents from the district of the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI).

We know there were even foreign nationals that perished in the World Trade Center, so the tragedy was truly not only American in that there were so many people from all parts of the country, but even people from other parts of the world. This was something that happened not only to New York and New Jersey, but to the country and even to the world.

Mr. Speaker, I include for the RECORD the article from the New York Times of September 9, 2002.

The article referred to is as follows:

[From the New York Times, Sept. 9, 2002]

EMERGING FROM COCOON OF GRIEF

(By Andrew Jacobs)

MIDDLETOWN, N.J., Sept. 6.—Even now, a year after her husband, Louis, disappeared at the World Trade Center, Barbara Minervino struggles with the competing pulls of rejoining the living or remaining curled up in the shelter of her cream yellow ranch home with its comforting memories and distracting mounds of 9/11-related paperwork.

A photographic shrine to her husband still dominates the living room and she refuses to touch the Yankee ticket stubs and the \$15 he left on a nightstand the final evening of his life. But she is also increasingly drawn into the world, both by necessity, and in recent months, the realization that she can survive as a 54-year-old widow with limited skills. "It devastates me that I was able to live without Lou for the last year," she said, sitting in Redheads, a strip-mall restaurant where hundreds of mourners gathered last year after her husband's memorial service. "I didn't change a light bulb for 29 years. I didn't buy a bedspread without consulting him."

In contrast to the unrelieved grimness of the past months, there is now a hint of levity in her voice when she talks about the road

ahead. "I still don't know where I'm going, but I feel like I'm a butterfly about to come out of the cocoon," she said. "With the grace that God gives me, I look forward to October and what my place is in the world."

Since losing 36 residents on Sept. 11, this centerless hodgepodge of look-alike ranch homes and waterfront estates has become a national symbol of devastating loss and communal caretaking. Over the past year, Vanity Fair, "Dateline NBC" and a score of newspapers discovered that tragedy had transformed this anonymous, disjointed suburb into a model of selfless do-goodism. Local volunteers distributed more than \$700,000 in cash and services to the stricken families, and many neighbors, once strangers, delivered home-cooked meals to make sure no grieving survivor would have to cook during those first terrible months. Lawn services, mechanics and plumbers donated their time, ensuring that no one would have to worry about the mundane aspects of suburban living. In a way, this community has discovered itself in its grief. But as it crosses the first anniversary, Middletown, like Mrs. Minervino, is struggling with opposing impulses: the urge to move past the trauma of last September and the need to remember.

And while both impulses have enormous force, both the individuals and the town seem intent, finally, on moving on. "Some days, I just want a normal life like other women," said Kristen Breitweiser, who lost her husband, Ronald. "I want to go food shopping. I want to bake an apple pie. I don't want to be a 9/11 widow for the rest of my life." Of course, Sept. 11 this year will be more about looking back than looking forward. By 8:46 on Wednesday morning, when the bells begin to toll at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church, the camera crews from MSNBC, CBS and Australian television will already be broadcasting live, showcasing this township's resilience in the face of excruciating loss. Shopping malls will fly their flags at half-staff, police officers will shroud their badges in black and residents will gather for commemorative events at a fishing pier, a half-dozen churches and the Middletown train station, where township officials will break ground on a four-acre park honoring the local residents who died.

"Not an hour goes by when you don't think about it," said the police chief, John Pollinger, choking on emotion as he pulled his car into a drive-through teller. "I think all of us here have been changed, changed forever."

But neither patriotism nor civic boosterism can stop the intrusions of daily life. Mounting job losses have taken a toll on many families. The battle over a proposed megamall, dormant in the first few months after the terror attacks, has reignited with more fury than before. And although a tentative contract agreement reached Thursday means schools opened without labor strife, there is lingering bitterness from an ugly strike in December that sent 228 instructors to jail. Since then, more than 100 teachers, about one-eighth of the district's total, have left the community for other jobs or early retirement. The district's embattled superintendent moved on as well. "There are deep and painful wounds that no glossing over, no platitudes, can undo," said the union's president, Diane Swaim, a middle school teacher who has lived here most of her life.

While many families say the public outpouring of kindness helped them endure a nightmarish year, they recognize that the unlimited benevolence cannot last forever. The meals stopped coming with the onset of summer, when many families went away on vacation, and several women said they have sensed a waning tolerance for outward displays of grief. "After a very long year, people

expect us to move on, to get on, to try to live life," Mrs. Minervino said.

To many family members, moving forward remains painful. Brittany Chevalier, 16, who lost her 26-year-old brother, Swede, worries that school administrators and teachers will no longer make allowances for the days she is too distraught to come to school or too upset to complete an assignment. "They were understanding on the six-month anniversary, and they'll understand if I don't come to school on Sept. 11," she said, "but they'll start to think I'm being ridiculous when the year-and-a-half anniversary arrives. I guess I'm afraid people are just going to forget and that the world will just go back to normal."

But the pull toward moving on is the dominant impulse, even for the bereaved. During the past year, Patricia Wotton was so distracted by grief she became emotionally detached from her two children, Dorothea, nearly 3, and Rod, who is named for his father, who died a week before he was born. "It was too painful interacting with them," she said, "It reminded me of what I lost. Besides, I was so focused on breathing."

Over time, Dorothea began to act out aggressively, much of it directed at her fragile brother, who was born prematurely and spent his first month in intensive care. Last month, Dorothea's therapist warned that Ms. Wotton's inattention was compounding her daughter's trauma. It was those blunt words, Ms. Wotton said, that helped her cross an invisible line.

In a burst of activity, she opened her backyard swimming pool, planted some tomato plants in the garden that was once her husband's domain and started to talk baby talk to her son. She even visited ground zero, which helped her realize that her husband was really, truly gone. "I saw where the south tower was and finally understood he couldn't have survived such hatred," she said.

In an outgrowth of her newfound strength, she has begun a campaign aimed at winning extended health coverage from her husband's former employer, Fiduciary Trust, which plans to cut off all medical benefits in December. Last month she appeared with Diane Sawyer on ABC's "Primetime Thursday," and now other networks are clamoring for an appearance. "I have this big open wound, but it's starting to form a tiny scab," she said. "I still feel the pain, but I'm doing what my husband would have expected of me."

For Elaine Chevalier, Brittany's mother, the journey back to everyday life has been powered by the earthly distractions of work and the spiritual nourishment that comes from intense faith. Those first catatonic months have given way to busy days managing commercial real estate in and around Middletown. But Ms. Chevalier says her true salvation has been her church and its support group. The crystallizing moment came one night last year in a dream, which featured Swede, the angel Raphael and her son's yellow Labrador retriever, Holly, who had also just died. "I'm trying to heal by thinking about my son in a different way, trying to think of him as a spiritual being," she said, sitting in the family's soaring great room with Brittany by her side. "Sometimes it works, but sometimes it doesn't cut it."

As she crosses the one-year mark, Ms. Chevalier believes she is entering a new phase of her life, one marked by self-reliance. (She is also seeking a divorce from her husband of 30 years). "The community has been so wonderful to us," she said, "but people can't feel sorry for us and cater to us forever."

It has been a busy year for the dozens of volunteers who came together to spoil the grieving families of Middletown. Besides

raising \$200,000 in cash, the group, Favor, made sure every family received overflowing gift baskets to mark Thanksgiving, Christmas, the depths of winter and the beginning of summer.

In June, the group decided it had done its job, and announced that it would disband. Several of the organizers, who set aside work and the demands of family, said it was time to return to their former lives. But Favor will not be fading away any time soon. The renewed flood of news media attention that began in recent weeks has sparked a fresh round of philanthropy, including that of a Texas millionaire who has offered scholarships to the 61 children who lost a parent last September.

At the very least, Allyson Gilbert, the group's executive director, said she and others have decided to put together one more gift basket, something small and simple, perhaps a tray of home-baked cookies crowned by a teddy bear. The baskets, she said, will probably arrive a week or two after Sept. 11, when the commemorative events and televised anniversary specials are through.

"They don't need us to deliver these huge food baskets or big checks anymore," she said. "I think they just need a reminder that we're thinking about them, that we have not forgotten, and that we're not going to go away."

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a concurrent resolution of the House of the following title:

H. Con. Res. 464. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress on the anniversary of the terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11, 2001.

CONGRESS MUST CREATE SINGLE, UNIFIED AUTHORIZATION AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEES FOR NEW DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY TO BE SUCCESSFUL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. FLAKE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2001, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I take this time to reflect on the incidents of the past year and to discuss the next phase of our war against terrorism and our war for homeland security.

Mr. Speaker, 1 year ago on this day at 8:30 in the morning I was on the third floor of this building in the press gallery beginning a press conference with our colleagues from both sides of the aisle. We had assembled before the national media to call for support of a bill that I was introducing that day asking for an additional \$6 billion of defense spending. That defense spending was to go specifically for readiness for our troops, for homeland security, and for the war against terrorism.

The first plane hit; the second plane hit. The media had to stop the press conference, and by 9 o'clock we real-

ized that we were going to have to vacate the building. The Sergeant at Arms called for vacating the Capitol, and we began the orderly process of descending from the third floor of this building to the parking lot.

On the way out, I talked to our Sergeant at Arms. I said, What is happening? He said, There are at least two more planes in the air, and we feel one of them may be headed for the Capitol building. By the time we got to the parking lot and looked across Washington, off in the distance we could see the black smoke rising from the Pentagon.

There was total chaos on Capitol Hill that day, Mr. Speaker, because no one had anticipated that kind of action against us, in spite of the calls for America to be secure that had been made by many Members of this body on numerous occasions prior to 9-11.

We wandered on the Hill as they evacuated the office buildings, and moved down toward the Capitol Hill police station. Near the train station we would get our first briefing. About 120 of us got that briefing. I came back out and walked back toward the Capitol when my cell phone rang, and I got a call that was extremely disturbing and very emotional for me. I learned from my friends in the New York City Fire Department that one of my good friends was missing with the collapse of the two World Trade Center buildings.

See, what was so tragically emotional for me was that individual had taken me through the first World Trade Center bombing in 1993. As many of our colleagues know, Mr. Speaker, I would not be in this body were it not for my work in the fire service. Having grown up in a fire service family and becoming chief of my own local department, a fire instructor, and going back to school for a degree in that area, I have been identified with those brave individuals since I first came to this body 16 years ago.

So in my capacity as a Member of Congress and the founder of the Congressional Fire and Emergency Services Caucus for the past 16 years, I have made it my business to attend every disaster we have had, from the Murrah Building bombing in Oklahoma City to the wildlands fires in the West to Hurricane Andrew and Hugo in the South to the Mid Western floods to the Loma Prieta and Northridge earthquakes and the World Trade Center bombing in 1993.

It was in 1993 when I went up as a guest of Commissioner Howard Safir that I first met a brave young firefighter in New York who would later become the chief of all special forces and rescue in that department. He and members of the New York City Fire Department took me through the bombed-out parking garage in the Trade Center in 1993, where I saw the terrible, horrible devastation caused by bin Laden the first time he hit America.

He and I became friends. We traveled around the country and spoke at many events together on the need to prepare for homeland security and our common defense. In fact, it was the suggestion of a commission that came from some of the recommendations he gave me that resulted in legislation I introduced 4 years ago to create a commission chaired by former Governor Jim Gilmore of Virginia called the Gilmore Commission.

My friend, Ray Downey, was a member of that commission. The Gilmore Commission's purpose was to make recommendations to the Congress and the White House about how we could better prepare for what none of us wanted to think about: the ultimate tragedy against our country. Four years ago, no one was thinking that could be a reality, but the Gilmore Commission in fact three times issued reports before 9-11 with specific recommendations that we in the Congress and the White House should follow.

Ray Downey was a member of that commission. Ray Downey was the incident command officer on the scene in New York at Ground Zero directing the bulk of those 343 firefighters who were killed as they went up into the stairwells of those buildings to bring people down. In fact, when I went to the Trade Center Ground Zero site 2 days later, not as a Member of Congress but as a member of the fire service, I spent the day with the New York City firefighters.

The day that I arrived, unfortunately, the tragedy was that Ray Downey's two sons, who were both New York City firefighters, one a captain and one a lieutenant, were looking for the remains of their dad. How terribly tragic it was to be asked by the firefighters union in the city to go back to the Javits Center to greet the families of those that were going to visit with President Bush that night, the families of those that were missing.

I did that, and I saw our President for 2½ hours meet privately with the families of those victims who were tragically taken in the course of the rescue, in the course of the firefighting, in response to the World Trade Center disaster.

Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor for two specific reasons. One is to first of all talk about the next phase of where we have to go. It is extremely important that this body understand that even though we passed the Homeland Security Act creating a new Federal department, and we did a good job in that process, and the gentleman from Texas (Speaker ARMEY) and our colleagues on the other side of the aisle are deserving of credit for the outstanding piece of legislation that we finished very early in the morning hours of August, the other body will shortly complete their version of that bill; and by the end of this month we will send to the President a piece of legislation that creates a brand-new large agency in fact consolidating 22