

force for the community outside of his ministry. He has served as precinct delegate, on the Eaton County Courthouse Square board, on the state Boundary Commission, village appeals board and Eaton County's Solid Waste Planning Commission. The fruits of his work know no bounds. For instance, what started as a church youth paper drive for camp scholarships developed into the Dimondale recycling center, which recycles over 1.8 million pounds of materials a year.

On Sunday, September 15, 2002, Rev. Toth will give his last sermon as the church's minister and he will be honored for his hard work and dedication at a special dinner. John Toth's significant contribution to not only those his ministry touched, but also the entire State of Michigan, in no way goes unnoticed. I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the efforts of Rev. Toth to improve the lives of those around him. The people of Michigan are truly grateful for his service.

DEDICATION OF THE SEPTEMBER 11 MEMORIAL IN ORADELL, NEW JERSEY AND PRESENTATION TO MRS. TRACY WOODALL

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2002

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call to the attention of my colleagues the dedication of a memorial in Oradell, New Jersey to honor and commemorate those who lost their lives in the tragic events of September 11, 2001.

Let me say first, Mr. Speaker, that I have been deeply moved by the outpouring of support and dedication that we all have seen throughout our Nation over the past year. In the days and weeks after the tragic events of September 11, we heard and read the stories of countless family members, neighbors, and friends who went to work on that day and never came home.

In my own district, our Bergen County community was particularly hard-hit. We all know someone who was lost. Their stories are heart wrenching . . . and still remain nearly unbearable in their sadness.

Over the past year, I have spoken to many families in my District in an attempt to bring them some consolation. Even though there are no words to relieve their anguish, I have told each family that they should take some comfort in the knowledge that the hearts and prayers of the entire Nation were with them.

As we dedicate this memorial in Oradell this evening to all of those who lost their lives on that tragic day, we pause to remember each of the men and women whose lives were so tragically cut short by a brutal and senseless act of terrorism.

In particular, we commemorate the tragic loss of one of Oradell's own residents, Brent Woodall.

In their deaths, the victims of the World Trade Center attack have come to symbolize all that we love in America. The terrorists attacked the Towers because they represented America's democracy, freedom, diversity, and economic prosperity.

Brent Woodall embodied these ideals in his work and in his life. Whether in his work in the

stock market—the nerve center of America's economic freedom—or as a talented athlete, or simply as a man deeply devoted to friends, family, and those whom he loved, Brent's life exemplified the American values which have made our country great.

The loss of every life that day was tragic. The loss of Brent touches each of us, as he and Tracy were just beginning so much of their life together. They had just bought a home, and were beginning a family together.

I did not know Brent personally, so I will not presume to elaborate upon his life and times beyond that. But as I have come to know the nearly one hundred residents of my Congressional District who never came home on September 11, so I have come to know Brent Woodall.

In every way, Brent's life was a life that is easy to celebrate.

This evening, we will commemorate our losses, and send a message of heartfelt sympathy and support to Brent's family and friends, particularly his wife, Tracy, and their son, Pierce Ashley, who came into this world on April 22, 2002, only after a few short months after his father had perished. How proud Brent would have been of his son . . . and how proud Pierce will someday be of his father, whose good nature, humor, and zest for life live on in him.

At tonight's memorial, I will be honored to present to Tracy Woodall an American flag, which was flown over the United States Capitol in Brent's honor.

Our flag has long stood as the symbol of our core values of freedom and liberty. It now stands also as a symbol of our national resolve to bring those responsible for this atrocity to justice, and, tonight, as a tribute to Brent, and all of those who lost their lives in one of America's darkest hours. Let it serve also to let Tracy, Pierce, and all of their family know that the support of extended family, friends, community, and the Nation, are with them now and always.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in asking that God bless Tracy and Pierce Woodall, the rest of their family, and all those who lost friends, family, or loved ones in this national tragedy. And, as Brent Woodall would have wanted, we ask that God bless the United States of America.

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF TERRORIST ATTACKS LAUNCHED AGAINST THE UNITED STATES ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, December 7, 1941 is the worst day in the history of our Republic in the 20th Century, and September 11, 2001 is the worst day in the history of our land of liberty in the 21st Century. Both days cost this nation thousands of lives; mothers, fathers, daughters, sons, grandmothers, grandfathers, aunts, and uncles and perished on these days because they were Americans. Their families and friends left behind have

never been the same—nor will they ever be the same—and the same can be said for our nation.

On both occasions these victims were victims because of what America stands for: liberty, freedom, justice, human rights, opportunity, and a faith in a caring and loving God. But out of this criminal act perpetrated upon the citizens of this nation and on this fortress of freedom that we call the United States of America, a fierce determination arose to destroy those forces of evil that without cause or warning attacked the U.S. We brought those that attacked us on December 7, 1941 to justice, and we are well on our way to bringing those who attacked us a year ago to the same fate. But today, September 11, 2002, we stop to remember in a formal way the victims and their families who perished on these very, very dark days in our nation's history. Today we stop to honor them, remember them, pray for them, and rededicate ourselves to seeing to it that this never happens again in America or any place else in the world.

HONORING BILL CARR

HON. KEN BENTSEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2002

Mr. BENTSEN. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and my colleague Gene Green, I rise to honor the memory of an extraordinary woman, Billie Carr, known far and wide as the "Godmother of Texas Liberals," who passed away on September 9, 2002, at the age of 74. Her death is a tremendous loss not only for her family, but for Texas and the nation. Ms. Carr will be long remembered as an unapologetic partisan, a champion of civil rights, a challenger of the status quo and a visionary who fought to forward the goals of the Democratic Party of the local, state, and national level.

Billie Carr was an exceptional individual whose life underscored what it meant to be an American. Known as a hard driving Democrat, revered by many, reviled by others and intimidated by none, Billie Carr was a kind and caring human being whose commitment to the American democratic experiment made our state and nation a better place. She once told me that political parties did not exist for the benefit of the politicians, but rather the politicians existed for the benefit of the parties and their volunteers. And she never let me or any other elected official forget it. She understood not only the function of politics better than most, but the purpose as well.

Billie Carr was first exposed to politics as a 26-day-old infant when her parents took her to a session of the 1928 Democratic National Convention, held that year in her native Houston. At the age of 18, Billie discovered what would become the true loves of her life, David Carr and politics. In the early 1950's, David was elected president of the United Steelworkers Union at the plant where he worked, and together, Billie and he learned the political ropes by working with union officials and labor organizations. In what would be a key to her political education, Billie volunteered for the Truman campaign in 1948, establishing herself as a tough political insider.

In 1953, in what would serve as the beginnings of the liberal movement within the Texas

Democratic Party, Billie along with the legendary Frankie Randolph, enraged at local and state Democrats who had endorsed Republican Dwight D. Eisenhower for president, took action. On Texas Independence Day of that year, they formed the Harris County Democrats, a liberal arm of the party that eventually became a powerful voice in the Harris County and Texas Democratic Parties.

Billie Carr was not only instrumental in the development and success of the Texas Democratic Party, but she was also influential on the national level, having attended every national convention since 1952. In 1968, infuriated by the direction of the state party, Billie led a challenge to the entire Texas Delegation, along with a busload of over 100 people, some of whom went on to become members of Congress, to protest the selection of delegates. As a testament to her tenacity and resolve, in 1972, she was elected as a national Democratic Committeewoman from Texas and later was a member of the Democratic National Committee's, Executive Committee.

During her more than fifty years of political involvement, many turned to Bill Carr for wisdom and guidance, including former President Bill Clinton who came under Billie's tutelage when he worked in Texas for the McGovern campaign in 1972. Billie Carr, a woman of irreproachable integrity, never used her status for personal gain, instead she believed the way to expand her movement was to bring people together under a unified front. Her unflagging drive and passion for each of her causes, has had a profound impact on the politics of Texas.

Throughout her tenure, Billie Carr sought to reinforce the tried and true notion that politics are best influenced, and best practiced, when done so at the grassroots level. She came of age simultaneous with the outgrown influence of money and media in politics. And she fought to the very end to ensure that volunteers and old-fashioned shoe leather remained as influential in elections as they did in the policy effected. Few would realize that the return of grassroots politicking recently heralded in a front page New York Times article is a phenomenon, which can be attributed in part to the tenacity of Billie Carr's life work.

Although Billie Carr has served the Democratic Party well, she considered her most important role to be mother, grandmother and friend. She is survived by three sons, David, Billy and Michael Carr, three grandchildren and many friends. It is fair to say that she was as devoted to them as they were to her. In an age when many politicians sought to coin family values, Billie Carr practices them to the fullest extent.

Mr. Speaker, many in Texas and across America mourn the loss of Billie Carr but rejoice in her memory and the contributions she has made to the betterment of our nation.

IN HONOR OF THE DEDICATED
WORK OF DALE A. CALLAWAY
AND SHIRLEY LEA JOSEPH FOR
THE DELAWARE VOLUNTEER
FIRE SERVICE COMMUNITY

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2002

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Dale A. Callaway, President of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association (DVFA) and Shirley Lea Joseph, President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen's Association for their hard work and continued dedication to the fire service and our State.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud of the volunteer fire service in Delaware. These men and women protect their communities, our State, and our Nation—and do so unselfishly. On behalf of my fellow Delawareans, I would like to commend and salute DVFA President Dale Callaway and Ladies Auxiliary President Shirley Joseph, not only for their tireless efforts on behalf of the citizens of the First State, but for their many years of contributions to fire and emergency services.

Dale Callaway has been a vital and active member of the fire services community for years. Mr. Callaway has worked diligently for the Milton Fire Company and served as past President of the Sussex County Firemen's Association. Shirley Joseph, too, has played an extremely critical role in keeping the Ladies Auxiliary of the DVFA a vital part of our communities. Her 42 years of dedication to the fire service as a charter member of Ellendale Station 75 serves as a model of service for us all. The Ladies Auxiliary has a long rich history and their commitment to the community is to be commented.

It is a tradition in the volunteer fire service for these men and women to not seek praise for what they do as volunteer firefighters, but today I offer my thanks on behalf of all Delawareans. Dale Callaway and Shirley Joseph are both exemplary models of commitment and excellence. I know they will continue to serve as valuable members of the Delaware fire service community. Their selfless commitment contributes every day to the quality of life at home in their community as well as throughout the entire State. This is why they will have a permanent place in Delaware's volunteer fire service history, and why, today, we say thank you.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD N. GRAY

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 12, 2002

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that a long and exceptionally distinguished career has come to an end. Mr. Richard Gray, of Marshall, MO, has retired as Executive Director of the Missouri Valley Human Resource Community Action Agency.

Mr. Gray began his work at the Missouri Valley Human Resource Community Action

Agency 13 years ago in February of 1989. The MVHR Community Action Agency has a myriad of programs to assist low-income people in the communities of Carroll, Chariton, Johnson, Lafayette, Pettis, Ray and Saline counties. Under Richard's leadership the agency has thrived and has been improved considerably. The Affordable Housing Development Program, which offers decent, affordable apartments around the community, was conceived and has flourished under his leadership.

Mr. Speaker, Richard Gray has dedicated 13 years to the MVHR Community Action Agency, serving with honor and distinction. The people of Central Missouri have greatly benefitted from his service. I know that the Members of the House will join me in wishing him all the best in the days ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2002

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, September 11, 2002, I was in my congressional district participating in ceremonies honoring constituents who perished in the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on America. Due to this circumstance, I was unable to cast a vote for rollcall 384. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: "Yea" on rollcall 384.

TRIBUTE TO BAYMEC

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 12, 2002

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend BAYMEC, the Bay Area Municipal Elections Committee, as they celebrate 18 years of advocating for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) rights in Santa Clara Valley and in communities along the central coast of California.

BAYMEC was founded in 1984 by local activists Ken Yeager and Wiggys Sivertsen. At that time, the Santa Clara Valley region was still reeling from the repeal of city and county ordinances which would have given gays and lesbians protection in housing and employment. BAYMEC was formed to organize the local gay and lesbian community, reverse the political tide, and advance the civil rights of LGBT individuals.

The past 18 years has produced a legacy of successes for BAYMEC and for the citizens of Santa Clara Valley. BAYMEC stands as a united front to fight for civil rights and end discrimination, to educate public officials, and to provide a voice for the LGBT community.

I am proud of the leadership, volunteers and network of supporters whose dedication has built BAYMEC into an integral part of the fabric of our local community. And, in so doing, BAYMEC is contributing to making Santa Clara Valley and the Central Coast a place where all people can expect to be treated with justice, dignity and respect.