his heroism. Tomorrow, he will be recognized again by the National Association of Letter Carriers for his courageous actions here in Washington D.C. The true magnitude of his bravery can only be fully illustrated by the fact that the child whom he saved, Nicholas Reyes, will have the opportunity to reach his full potential. Mr. Speaker, it is a distinct honor to recognize Mr. Salvador A. Lopez before this body of Congress and this nation for his bravery and composure in a time of adversity. Mr. Lopez's courage is an example of what all Americans throughout the country are capable of demonstrating when faced with extraordinary circumstances. Congratulations on your achievement, Salvador, and good luck in your future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO MR. DAVE MANEY

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2002

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Dave Maney of Augusta, Georgia. Mr. Maney is Experience Works' 2001 Older Worker of the Year for the State of Georgia.

As a Marketing Representative with the Department of Labor Career Center in Georgia, Mr. Maney changes the downhill direction of the unemployed every day. His job is to motivate, encourage and inspire clients into believing in their ability to find and keep a job. The way Mr. Maney describes his job is . . . ''Most of my clients, and there have been more than 600 this year, seldom set goals, and when they do, they are not high enough. I teach them that goals have to be higher than anything they have ever done.''

His goals in life have been simple. ''The keys to my success and to the life I have had to this point have been a positive attitude, a great wife and wonderful home life, and loving interaction with people.''

That interaction with people, especially those who are labeled non-custodial parents, and food stamp recipients, has added tremendous value to both his life and work. From his first job as a custodian at Montgomery Ward, to his service in the Korean Conflict, raising six children, and surviving cancer, Mr. Maney has had a full and challenging life. ''With all I've been through I would still say that giving people self-worth and hope for a better tomorrow is my proudest accomplishment,'' says Mr. Maney.

Mr. Speaker, due to the events of last September we were not able to honor Mr. Maney for his accomplishments. I hope that you will join me today to do so.

CUBAN POLITICAL PRISONERS INITIATIVE—SENATE OPENING

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2002

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today, Americans for a Free Cuba gathered on the Senate steps to officially open the Cuban Political Prisoners Initiative display in the Senate Russell Office Building. They will be storming the halls of the US Senate tomorrow, urging Senators not to vote for lifting the travel ban on Cuba.

The Business and Agricultural communities have used their vast resources to make their case for lifting sanctions on Cuba at a summit here in Washington, but we know that their case is based on their own self-interest. They have failed to acknowledge or fully consider that lifting sanctions would empower Castro to cling to power and continue his reign of terror over millions of suffering people.

The members of the Americans for a Free Cuba have heroically made the case for those Cubans who cannot speak for themselves because of Castro's brutal and restrictive regime through their silent vigil and demonstration. This is a regime that prohibits freedom in almost every way possible while punishing and imprisoning all opposition. The compelling stories of Cuban defectors clearly demonstrate that many will do whatever they can to escape the dreadful conditions brought about by their totalitarian ruler. Both the people and political prisoners in Cuba as well as those who cherish freedom are counting on Americans to stand up to Castro and keep the pressure on through the embargo.

Thankfully, President Bush is behind The Americans for a Free Cuba 100 percent. I commend President Bush for the strong and unwavering stance he has taken against the Castro regime. The President has made it clear that the United States will work with Cuba only after Castro takes concrete measures to improve the abysmal human rights situation in his country. I support the President's demand to Castro that he must free political prisoners, legalize political activity, permit free elections, and cease discriminating against Cuban workers before Congress should even begin to consider lifting economic sanctions. Administration officials have vowed a Presidential veto to any version of the Treasury-Postal Appropriations bill that weakens trade or travel sanctions on Cuba.

The Cuba Political Prisoners Initiative was initially launched in April when over a dozen members of Congress, from both political parties, adopted a dozen political prisoners. These prisoners each have a unique story but all share in a common suffering because of their love of freedom.

While the Cuba Political Prisoners Initiative was launched this Spring, it will not end until every single Cuban political prisoner is free. I am sending out a letter signed by my colleagues who are part of this initiative to Sergio Vielra de Mello, the new UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, urging him to follow through on the resolution this commission adopted in April that called on the Cuban government to improve its record on human, civil, and political rights and allow the UN and other representatives to examine human rights conditions in Cuba.

Twenty former political prisoners were amongst those gathered on the Senate steps today.

They are the heroes for freedom that endured the horrors of Castro's Cuba and lived to tell about it. Also in attendance was Maritza Lugo Fernandez a former Cuban political prisoner joining us today who was jailed more than 30 times before she was exiled by the Castro regime. Her husband, Rafael Ibarra Roque, is still a political prisoner in Cuba and is the prisoner I have adopted.

Before going to prison, where he has been since 1994, Mr. Roque's home was raided by Castro's thugs, who seized virtually everything he owned of value including the family car, the stove, a television, and even his pets. He was arrested and charged with ''sabotage,'' but no credible evidence whatsoever exists that he committed this crime. Those close to the case know his real ''crime'' was having the courage and audacity to speak out against the regime and demand the same freedoms Americans—and other freedom loving people hold to be self-evident and a basic foundation for society.

Mr. Roque has been sentenced to twenty years in the wretched Combinado del Este Prison in Havana where political prisoners are subjected to especially brutal treatment. The State Department's 2001 Human Right's report on Cuba speaks of political prisoners suffering beatings, intimidation, and sexual abuse. These abuses are carried out not only by prison officials but also by state security agents posing as prisoners.

Unfortunately Mr. Roque's case is not an exception but rather the norm for human rights activists in Cuba. Hundreds of others whose only crime is their love of freedom languish in Castro's prisons and the Cuban people on a whole have suffered under the terror of his rule for over 40 years.

The Cuba Political Prisoners Initiative display that we have opened in the Senate Rotunda is somber but will serve as an important reminder of the hundreds of innocent Cubans languishing in Castro's prisons for all Senators, Senate staff, and visitors who pass by it each day. I am confident that when the American people and members of Congress hear the true facts about the great human rights abuses occurring in Cuba, and fully consider the great harm Castro seeks to do our nation through working with terrorist states and harboring fugitives of justice, they will agree that keeping sanctions on Cuba is our only option.

The challenge of fighting for human rights in Cuba remains great. However, we must never give up and we must never, ever forget those who are persecuted for carrying the torch of freedom.

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

SPEECH OF

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 11, 2002

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the victims of the tragic events of one year ago. Last year on September 11th Americans awoke to a brutal attack on our country on its own soil. Throughout the course of this one tragic day, something that at once seemed inconceivable became a horrific reality. No one feels the pain of this day more acutely than the families and friends of the more the than 3,000 people who