

Crescent Operating, Inc. named him president and COO in November 1997. He was named President and CEO on November 1, 1998. Currently, Michael is serving on numerous boards and is affiliated with many community services. When he heard Michael was retiring, George Mitchell stated "I hate to see it, Mike is a very knowledgeable person. He did a great job of keeping the vision alive."

Mr. Speaker, please join me and the citizens of The Woodlands, Texas, in thanking and congratulating Michael Richmond on a job well done.

COMMEMORATIVE JOINT MEETING OF THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE VICTIMS AND HEROES OF SEPTEMBER 11 2001, AND IN RECOGNITION OF THE COURAGE AND SPIRIT OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, FEDERAL HALL, NEW YORK, NY, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2002

SPEECH OF

**HON. BOB ETHERIDGE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 6, 2002*

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, it's hard to believe that it's been almost a full year since that awful day. On September 11, 2001, all the world saw the very face of evil. And on that day and every day since, we have felt the heartbeat of America.

For me, the most enduring image of 9/11 was the sight of the Pentagon on fire after the terrorists crashed American Airlines Flight 77 into our nation's military headquarters. A thick black smoky cloud oozed from the Pentagon and hung over the banks of the Potomac River. I will never forget seeing with my own eyes that proud building engulfed in flames. Then the whole world watched TV in stunned disbelief as the twin towers of the World Trade Center came crumbling down in a fiery wreck of twisted steel.

On that day, America was changed forever. But, the test in life is not whether or not you ever get knocked down. The true test is whether you have the courage, pride and determination to get back up again. Every day since September 11, the people of this country have gotten back up.

We Americans from all walks of life have pulled together like never before. We have stood united to tell our enemies that the spirit of America will never be broken. We will not rest until we have eliminated Osama bin Laden and his terrorist network.

In the year since 9/11, we have come to treasure the service and sacrifice of ordinary Americans and extraordinarily heroic. The selfless devotion of the firefighters, police, EMS and other public servants in New York City and the Pentagon have given us new appreciation for our hometown heroes whose everyday service does so much to strengthen our communities. The dedicated professionalism of our men and women in uniform renew our pride in our country and make us thankful for our many, many blessings. And the incredible story of the passengers of the hijacked plane who fought back and prevented the tragic events of that day from being even worse in-

spires us all to take charge and give back to our country.

September 11 taught us anew the immeasurable strength of the uniquely American ideal of "We, the people." As we memorialize the lives lost one year ago, let us also celebrate the renewed spirit of America that has been reinvigorated by the service and sacrifice of so many ordinary citizens and inspirational heroes.

RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO OUR NATION

**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 17, 2002*

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate an outstanding member of our military, and native of my district, whose impressive service in the United States Navy makes our district, our country, and me very proud.

Vince McBeth was born the fourth child of Velma McBeth-Slaughter and the late Manuel M. McBeth in Camden, Arkansas. In 1983, he graduated from Fairview High School, where his impressive athletic and academic performance earned him many honors. He went on to earn a Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science at the U.S. Naval Academy, where he was Captain of the Navy Football Team as well as an officer on the Brigade Staff.

Upon receiving a commission as an Ensign in the U.S. Navy, McBeth completed division officer tours aboard two guided-missile frigates, USS *Duncan* and USS *John A. Moore*, and a guided-missile cruiser, USS *Antietam*, in Long Beach, California. He then served as Operations Officer aboard the USS *Barry* in Norfolk, Virginia.

At age 30, McBeth became one of the youngest officers to command a warship. As Commanding Officer of the USS *Tempest*, McBeth commanded more than 50 special warfare missions while deployed to the European and Caribbean theaters. After earning a Master's Degree in International Relations from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, McBeth returned to serve as Executive Officer of the USS *Barry*. He now serves as a Commander in the U.S. Navy and the Administrative Aide to the Secretary of the Navy. McBeth was recently appointed as a White House Fellow.

McBeth's service to our country extends beyond his actions in the military. He has coordinated Adopt-A-School programs in several communities and implemented U.S. Embassy-sponsored community relations projects in numerous countries abroad. His awards include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, two Navy Commendation Medals, and three Navy Achievement Medals.

Throughout his life, McBeth has sought to better himself, his community, and his country. He is a model for today's youth of what is possible through hard work, discipline, and most of all, compassion. I congratulate him on his recent White House appointment, and I wish him luck in what I know will be many more selfless years of service to our great nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 17, 2002*

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 384, 385, and 386, had I been present, I would have voted "yea"; on rollcall No. 387, "nay."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 17, 2002*

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, because of commitments in my home State of Wisconsin, I was unable to vote on rollcall Nos. 375 through 386. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"Aye," on rollcall No. 375; "Aye," on rollcall No. 376; "Aye," on rollcall No. 377; "Aye," on rollcall No. 378; "Aye," on rollcall No. 379; "Aye," on rollcall No. 380; "Aye," on rollcall No. 381; "Aye," on rollcall No. 382; "Aye," on rollcall No. 383; "Aye," on rollcall No. 384; "Aye," on rollcall No. 385; and "Aye," on rollcall No. 386.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ADAM CURRY

**HON. SCOTT MCINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 17, 2002*

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct privilege to recognize Adam Curry of Clifton, Colorado for the recent contribution he has made to the advancement of science. An undergraduate student at Mesa State College and only 18 years old, Adam has invented an earthquake warning system that has received much attention from numerous people throughout the scientific community.

Adam Curry has shown lots of interest and enthusiasm for electronics throughout his life. As a kid, Adam spent afternoons taking apart various appliances around the house to try to understand how they operated. Today, the curiosity of Adam's childhood has developed into an extraordinary talent for electrical engineering. Adam has just recently developed an electronic device that measures minute amounts of electron activity related to earthquakes and uses gravity to create a computer language. The language can then be transmitted through the Internet to warn that an earthquake is coming. The invention is significant because it provides scientists around the world with the ability to measure earthquake activity.

Over the summer, Adam traveled extensively throughout the country and Eastern Europe to enlighten the scientific community to the utility of his new earthquake warning system. He hopes to have his new invention placed in 20 different locations throughout the world. He has met with many scientists from prestigious universities such as the University of Virginia, Harvard University, and the University of St. Petersburg, and from all accounts,