

We've shown that we won't allow terrorists to destroy the values that make America great—we will protect and defend liberty, tolerance and democracy. There's no better national tribute to those who were lost than that.

SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE
SEPTEMBER 11 ATTACKS

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Second Anniversary of the September 11 attacks.

This week we commemorate the Second Anniversary of the September 11 attacks. A day that will forever remain in our memories as we endured the loss of over 3,000 innocent people in New York, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania. Despite this tragedy we continue to press on rebuilding our communities and renewing our spirits.

I would like to share with you a poem written by one of my constituents and a dear friend, Ms. Danita Harris, news anchor for Good Morning Cleveland on WEWS News Channel 5 in Cleveland. It reads:

On September 11, 2001 . . .
our hearts were pierced by the loss of our fellow Americans in the terrorist attacks

On September 11, 2001 . . .
we held on to the one thing that stands when all else fails, our faith in God

On September 11, 2001 . . .
there was a rebirth, an awakening, a national acknowledgement of the power and love of Almighty God

On September 11, 2001 . . .
in the midst of mourning the loss of a mother, a father, a sister, a brother, someone found Jesus—a comforter, a friend, a saviour

On September 11, 2001 . . .
knees bowed down and tongues cried out "HELP US GOD!"

On September 11, 2001 . . .
the salt of our tears fell on the earth giving our country a new flavor of freedom and pride

On September 11, 2001 . . .
hatred and ignorance showed its ugly face as terrorism penetrated America's front door

On September 11, 2001 . . .
we put aside our differences, our prejudices, our isms, and our schisms

On September 11, 2001 . . .
the only race was the human race, not connected by blood but united by spirit

On September 11, 2001 . . .
our voices sang God Bless America, but in our spirits we were all singing Amazing Grace

Because if it wasn't for God's grace
it could have been you
in that building

it could have been you
on that airplane
it could have been you.

May we remember those families who lost loved ones during this tragic event during this time and continue to renew our spirits.

NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY

HON. WAYNE T. GILCHREST

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Public Lands Day on September 20, 2003. On this day, volunteers around the nation will be lending their hands to our public lands—improving the nation's habitats, removing invasive species, building trails, planting trees, and contributing an invaluable service to the nation. This event promotes the stewardship of our publicly held natural and cultural resources.

To provide further information, I attach the enclosed statement.

VOLUNTEERS SPRUCE UP NATIONAL MALL
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2003

Volunteers around the nation will be lending their hands to our public lands on the 10th annual National Public Lands Day—Saturday, September 20, 2003. This is the largest nationwide effort to improve and enhance those places where Americans go for recreation and to enjoy the outdoors. It is expected that around 80,000 volunteers will be working at 500 locations and in every state.

This year the focus is on improving and preserving the nation's habitats—the forests, mountains, prairies, plains, rivers, wetlands, and urban streams that are home to a rich diversity of animals, plants and birds. Many of the projects will involve invasives, a growing threat to our public lands. Volunteers will also repair trails, build bridges, plant trees, protect cultural sites, restore aging facilities and much more.

Here in our nation's capital volunteers will be working from one end of The National Mall to the other—the Lincoln Memorial to the Ulysses S. Grant Memorial. Projects include repairing the walkway around Constitution Gardens; trimming cherry trees around the Tidal Basin; painting benches and railings at Hains Point; and weeding, planting and mulching flowerbeds at the George Mason Monument, Department of the Interior and the Benjamin Banneker Park. Kids will build bat houses for a National Park Service research project and help install duck ramps in the lake at Constitution Gardens.

This is a unique opportunity for Members and staffs to join others who are giving up a Saturday to care for our special place, The National Mall.

National Public Lands Day is a project of the National Environmental Education & Training Foundation in partnership with nine federal agencies, numerous state land authorities and private organizations. Toy-

ota Motor Sales USA is the national corporate sponsor.

REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, today marks the second year since one of the most devastating attacks occurred on United States soil in our history.

Many of us remember exactly where we were when we first received news of the two planes flying into the World Trade Center complex in the borough of Manhattan.

We also remember the unimaginably horrible sight of both towers crashing downward, and the residents of New York running for their very lives through the streets and over bridges leading away from the site.

On this day, we also remember the dedicated workers of the Pentagon who perished, and the brave men and women of United flight 93, who sacrificed their own lives to prevent another horrific incident.

This devastating act of terrorism has affected the lives of every single American living in this country today.

Thousands of Americans lost their lives on September 11. These were ordinary, hard working people, who had no knowledge that they would be on the front lines of a cowardly act that would forever represent a new battle, the "war against terrorism."

Mr. Speaker, America is a special place. Despite differences in race, culture, creed, and faith, we hold certain ideals close. Americans believe the words of the patriots who met at the Second Continental Congress, "that certain truths are selfevident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness."

Americans believe that all people, in the words of Martin Luther King, Jr., "will bow before the altars of God and be crowned triumphant over war and bloodshed, and nonviolent redemptive goodwill will proclaim the rule of the land."

Finally, Mr. Speaker, Americans believe that we are one nation, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Mr. Speaker, the war against terrorism continues to this day, but the resolve and spirit of the American people can never be defeated, our thirst for peace and democracy never quenched.

On this day, let us remember the victims, their families, and all who were touched by the tragic events of 2 years ago. God bless them all, and God bless America.