

IN RECOGNITION OF THE MICHAEL ALLEN DAVIDSON 9/11 FOUNDATION

HON. FRANK PALLONE JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2011

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the philanthropic activities of the Michael Allen Davidson (M.A.D.) 9/11 Foundation and their efforts to provide a new playground facility in Neptune, New Jersey. The late Michael Davidson is remembered as a young professional determined to make a difference in the lives of those around him, yet tragically lost his life in the North Tower of the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. The new playground facility in Neptune has been erected in his honor and will continue to stand as a symbol of Michael's spirit and fortitude.

Michael Allen Davidson was an impressive individual, dedicated to building a successful professional career while assisting others. Michael was a member of the Rutgers University Class of 1997 and applied his educational background to become a successful trader. In 2001, Michael was to be named the youngest Partner at Cantor Fitzgerald, located on the 104th floor of the World Trade Center, North Tower. At the early age of 27, Michael tragically lost his life during the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. He is remembered for his uncanny ability to make others smile and laugh. These characteristics are a testament to his continuous outpouring of love and compassion for others.

The M.A.D. 9/11 Foundation has continued to organize various philanthropic activities in honor of the late Michael Davidson. Playgrounds, for children ages 2 through 5, have been erected in Tinton Falls, Wall, and Eatontown, New Jersey. The most recent project in Neptune has expanded the recreational facilities for children in the community and continues to provide a beautiful landscape for children to grow, while commemorating the life of an outstanding individual. Among many other projects, the foundation has also committed to fund the majority of a rehabilitation project—a World Trade Center replica memorial that sits in front of the Tinton Falls Fire Department. The M.A.D. 9/11 Foundation has been supported by caring individuals dedicated to making a difference in the community on behalf of the late Michael Allen Davidson.

As a result of their outstanding efforts, the M.A.D. 9/11 Foundation was awarded the 2001 Fay S. Mathewson Award, presented by the New Jersey Recreation and Parks Association as a testament to their contributions to the Monmouth County community. They are also the recipient of the 2009 Monmouth County Parks and Recreation Difference Maker Award and the Tinton Falls Appreciation Award.

Mr. Speaker, once again please join me in thanking the Michael Allen Davidson 9/11 Foundation for their dedication to the Monmouth County community and commemorate the life of Michael Allen Davidson.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DIANE BLACK

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2011

Mrs. BLACK. Mr. Speaker, on amendment rollcall Nos. 622, No. 623, No. 624, No. 625, No. 626, No. 627, No. 628 as well as rollcall No. 629 for final passage of H.R. 2551, I am not recorded because I was attending to a family matter. Had I been present, I would have voted:

“Yes”—Representative Melvin Watt Amendment;

“Yes”—Representative Nan Hayworth Amendment;

“No”—Representative Paul Broun Amendment;

“Yes”—Representative Marlin Stutzman Amendment;

“No”—Representative Glenn Thompson Amendment;

“No”—Representative James Moran Amendment;

“No”—Representative Rush Holt Amendment; and

“Yes”—Final Passage of H.R. 2551.

HONORING THE COHOCTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2011

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the brave men and women of the Cohocton Volunteer Fire Department who have tirelessly served our local and national community for 125 years. As the Cohocton Volunteer Fire Department celebrates its 125th anniversary, I applaud the many ways they have served our community.

From July 22–24, members of the department will hold several events commemorating the service of their valiant volunteers. Historical displays, parades, competitions and dinners will be held. The department will even be publishing a commemorative book on its history to celebrate this milestone.

For the past 125 years, members have selflessly given their time and energy to serve our community throughout periods of emergency and disaster. While the Cohocton Volunteer Fire Department should be commemorated for all of their service to our community, I want to especially highlight their tireless work during the 1972 Flood, the Ice Storm of 1991 and the Blizzard of 1993—three major storms which devastated the Chemung Valley.

Furthermore, the department also aided the national community during the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Under a mutual aid request, the department sent an ambulance and personnel to the Twin Towers Site after the attack. The ambulance was equipped with medical supplies donated by the local community for use by the FDNY.

Members of the Cohocton Volunteer Fire Department have repeatedly risked their lives in order to save our friends and neighbors. I am proud to recognize such a self-sacrificing and courageous organization. I congratulate the Cohocton Volunteer Fire Department and thank them for their 125 years of service.

MASSACHUSETTS AND PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL WILL GREATLY MISS MYRA KRAFT

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 25, 2011

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, last week, one of Massachusetts' leading citizens succumbed to a long illness, which she had courageously fought. Myra Kraft was the partner and wife of Robert Kraft, and co-owner of the New England Patriots. Under the leadership of the Kraft family, the Patriots became one of the great sports franchises in America, not simply because of their extremely impressive record of Super Bowl championships, but because of the honorable way in which they conducted their business, and because of the great contributions they made to their community. I have the honor of representing the Town of Foxboro, in which the Patriots play, and in which the Kraft family created a wonderful commercial complex that adds a great deal to the economic and cultural life not just of the town but of the entire region.

Mr. Speaker, I've had the pleasure of walking through the complex with members of the Kraft family and I can report to you that the residents of New England—not just Massachusetts—are understandably great enthusiasts of the work the family has done.

Myra Kraft was an extraordinary contributor to the society around her, not just through the work of the Patriots, but through her great charitable efforts. She was a leading member of the organized work of the Jewish community of Greater Boston, but her good works were not confined.

All of Massachusetts will miss her, even those who did not know of the work she did, because she was not one to seek publicity for her efforts. And those of us who did have the privilege of knowing her are particularly saddened by her loss.

Mr. Speaker, the Boston Globe for Friday, July 22, in its lead editorial expressed what our community feels about Myra Kraft and I ask that because she presented such a wonderful example of good citizenship in a democracy, that this editorial be printed.

[From the Boston Globe, July 22, 2011]

MYRA KRAFT WAS A ROLE MODEL FOR FAMILY LOYALTY AND GIVING

Bob Kraft, the developer turned football impresario, made the once-derided New England Patriots a symbol of local pride. Myra, his wife of 48 years, made the Kraft family a symbol of civic responsibility. Her numerous charitable works, including chairing the local boards of the Combined Jewish Philanthropies and the Boys & Girls Clubs, paralleled Bob's rise in the statewide business community.

The Krafts were an unbreakable unit. Bob and Myra's four sons shared in all their parents' endeavors. On May 3, the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce honored the family for their work on behalf of the community, fueled by Myra's tireless exertions.

She was too ill to attend the banquet, but her husband, sons, daughters-in-law, and grandchildren all stood proudly together on the dais—an honor guard of which any mother would be eternally proud.

“I got it right the first time,” quipped Bob, referring to Myra, whom he married when she was just 20. Myra Kraft, who died