

Lowery is a co-founder of the Black Leadership Forum—a broad constellation of African-American faith and social justice groups dedicated to carrying on the legacy of Martin Luther King.

Rev. Lowery is a living legend who will remain in the hearts and minds of all of who have been so blessed and fortunate to know him, including his friends, family members, and colleagues in the struggle for human and civil rights. Reverend Lowery was clearly one of the most influential leaders of the civil rights movements. He is a humble and gracious man with a keen sense of humor. He kept so many of us in the civil rights movement motivated, energized, and hopeful regardless of the many serious obstacles we faced as a social justice movement.

Rev. Lowery is married to Evelyn Gibson Lowery, who in her own right is a committed and dedicated civil rights activist. We wish Rev. Lowery and his wife Evelyn Gibson Lowery many more years of happiness, good health, and blessings. America is a stronger, fairer, and more civilized nation because of the decades of work that Rev. Lowery devoted to the noble cause of liberty, freedom, and social justice for all Americans.

IN APPRECIATION OF ISRAEL'S 9/11
MEMORIAL

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary memorial built in Israel in honor of the victims of the September 11th attacks.

On the 10th anniversary of the September 11th attacks, hundreds gathered just outside of Jerusalem to dedicate the 9/11 Living Memorial. This memorial, commissioned and built by the Jewish National Fund-USA/Keren Kayemeth Lelsrael, was designed by Israeli artist Eliezer Weishoff. It depicts a beautiful 30 foot high bronze American flag which rests on a granite base partially composed of metal from the World Trade Center towers and features the name of every victim of the attack.

Honored guests included my colleague, Congressman HENRY WAXMAN, U.S. Ambassador Dan Shapiro, Former Prime Minister Ehud Olmert, and my friend, Stan Chesley, President of the Jewish National Fund.

While those tragic events occurred here at home, it is important to remember that there were victims from more than 90 countries, including five Israeli citizens.

This memorial will act as an important reminder of the need to remain committed in the fight against terrorism, and why Israel continues to remain one of our strongest allies.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in thanking Israel for this thoughtful memorial.

HONORING DR. SUNGBAE JU FOR
HIS LIFELONG ACHIEVEMENTS
IN THE PERFORMING ARTS

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Sungbae Ju, for his exemplary public service and devotion to the performing arts.

Dr. Sungbae Ju is the President of both the Garden State Opera and The Figaro Group, and is an accomplished musician. He holds a Masters Degree from the prestigious Manhattan School of Music, a Doctoral Degree from the Yeshua Theological Seminary and an Honorary Doctor Degree from the Universidad Christiana De Bolivia. He has experienced unmatched levels of professional success, including performances at notable New York and New Jersey performances venues such as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, and the New Jersey and Bergen Performing Arts Centers. He has also performed in operas including "The Barber of Seville" and "Rigoletto" with singers from the Metropolitan Opera.

Dr. Ju and his family are members of the New Jersey State Opera, and are widely renowned and respected for their numerous recitals to benefit worthy causes throughout the nation. Dr. Ju has always tried to use music as a tool for improving and developing communities. With that in mind, Dr. Ju and others formed the Garden State Opera, Inc., a non-profit organization that aims to unify the community with music in order to aid those in our global community who live without food, hope, human rights and with the threat of disease, terror, poverty and war.

In addition to the Garden State Opera, Dr. Ju and his family have volunteered their musical talents and services at over 130 events, including various holiday concerts and Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Celebrations at the NJ State Association of Chiefs of Police, NJ State Police, Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and Federal Air Marshal Service in the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Labor Department, Bergen County Public Safety Institute, Honor Legion Police Department and for many Asian and Korean-American communities.

Dr. Ju is also involved with many other cultural organizations throughout Bergen County including his positions as Chairman of the Korean American Day in New Jersey, Event Chairman of Northern-Eastern Korean Festival at New Overpeck Park, and Board Member of the Multi-Cultural Committee in the Bergen County Sheriff's Department. Additionally, he has received a multitude of awards from Members of Congress, the New Jersey State Senate and General Assembly, the Newark and New York divisions of the FBI, the DEA in New Jersey, the TSA, the Federal Air Marshall Service, the U.S. Labor Department, the NJ State Association of Chiefs of Police, the Bergen County Police Chiefs Association, the Ambassador of Taiwan Consul General, and the Bergen County Public Safety Institute.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Dr. Sungbae Ju, and thank him for his devotion to the performing arts, the Korean-American community, and the American community at large, both in the great State of New Jersey and across the Nation.

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF WAR IN
AFGHANISTAN

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the tenth anniversary of the war with Afghanistan. For ten years our country, and the brave men and women who fight for us on the battlefield, have been mired in a seemingly unwinnable war in Afghanistan, a war that has resulted in tens of thousands of casualties, and the death of 1,723 American service members. More and more Americans are expressing a desire to end the war in Afghanistan. Recent polls have shown that 73% of Americans want to withdraw troops, and 66% of all veterans believe the war is not worth its cost. There is no better time than now, on the 10th anniversary of this war, to reevaluate the continued conflict, and to commit to bringing our troops home.

It is irresponsible to continue to spend over one hundred billion dollars a year on a war that Americans support less and less each day, especially as our country tries to fight its way out of the worst economic recession of our lifetimes. This is money that is desperately needed domestically, and would be better spent on fixing our deteriorating infrastructure and fixing our education system.

Our mission after September 11th 2001 was to dismantle the infrastructure of al-Qaeda and to bring Osama bin Laden to justice, and there is no denying that the current administration and our courageous men and women serving overseas have accomplished these goals. It is time to bring our troops home, reinvest in our nation, and let the Afghani people take responsibility for securing their own nation.

I believe the time to withdraw from Afghanistan is now, which is why I joined my colleagues from both sides of the aisle in support of H.R. 651, the United States-Afghanistan Status of Forces Agreement Act of 2011 which would establish a redeployment date for U.S. troops. I will continue to work with my colleagues in Congress, the President, and commanders in our Armed Forces to press for a speedier end to this war. I yield back the balance of my time.

EQUAL JUSTICE FOR OUR
MILITARY ACT OF 2011

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Equal Justice for Our Military Act of 2011—a bill that will give our servicemembers equal access to the United States Supreme Court.

We all know that when American men and women decide to serve their nation in the Armed Forces, they make many sacrifices—from lost time with their families to irreplaceable losses of lives and limbs.

However, most Americans are not aware that active-duty servicemembers also sacrifice one of the fundamental legal rights that all civilian Americans enjoy.