

flinched at any duty I asked him to address. When the troops arrived, John offered to set up a duty schedule for me and he did a fantastic job. We were all tired, and his schedule provided each of us some much needed rest. He is a soldier of whom you can be proud. I will never forget his friendly smile and warm good humor during such a difficult time.

Lieutenant Shultz was my right-hand medical person. She dealt with several medical situations that would normally be less challenging, and she responded well. She always kept her sense of humor and helped to keep our perspective. She dealt well with the young, the old, and the medically compromised. Her calm and efficient care provided our folks the sense of security was needed during this tremendously difficult time.

Chaplain Swain was also the perfect person for our shelter. I had made it clear that we must do everything we could for our seniors who were distressed by leaving their home. Chaplain Swain fell right into that role and spent countless hours listening, talking, hugging, and praying with our "guests." When a recently recovering alcoholic requested a bible, knew just the person for the job—Chaplain Swain. His kind, calm demeanor was heart warming to me when I had an extra minute to observe his interactions with our people. The Chaplain also spent time lifting patients, personal assistance with bathroom and other personal details, and helped feed those needing assistance.

Sir, this ice storm has provided the perfect opportunity for North County people to experience first hand the remarkable assets provided by our military and enjoyed by our Country. Ott, and Swain are three names that stand out in my mind, but be assured that every soldier who arrived at the Maxcy Hall Shelter in Potsdam spent days demonstrating to us that they are caring, loyal, and unselfish people.

Sincerely,

MARTHA E. HARTLE.

BLACK RIVER UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH,

Black River, NY, January 20, 1998.

Maj. Gen LAWSON W. MAGRUDER III  
Commanding General, Fort Drum, NY.

DEAR GENERAL MAGRUDER: I have always had a lot of respect and admiration for the United States Army and what it has done to establish and preserve our democracy and our American way of life. These feelings were reinforced by what has happened in the past two weeks in the little village of Black River and other communities in the North Country where Fort Drum is our neighbor.

The "1998 ICE STORM" struck this area January 7th, causing widespread and terrible damage and devastation, knocking out electrical power, telephones and communications, as well as very serious flooding along the Black River. After the initial shock and disbelief, almost every element of government, private industry, homeowners, apartment dwellers—even our children and grandchildren—our schools, law enforcement agencies, farmers and officials—our schools, law enforcement agencies, farmers and officials—set about to do whatever was necessary to recover from this evidence of Mother Nature's fury. Telephone and utility crews rushed to our aid from all over New York State and from other states as well—Pennsylvania, Ohio, Massachusetts, Virginia,—even Hawaii!! State Police arrived from such places as her Herkimer, Syracuse and points beyond.

Shelters were set up in schools, fire halls, churches and other locations, both public and private—so cold and hungry families and individuals could come for a hot meal and a

warm bed. Representatives came from FEMA, HUD, The Red Cross, the Salvation Army, and every other agency or private group that might be able to render help in the face of the disaster.

The first shelter set up in the Village of Black River was up to Leray Street at the St. Paul's Catholic Church. That site was soon filled to capacity, and we were asked to provide a 2nd shelter at the Black River United Methodist Church on S. Main Street. Blankets and cots arrived, but we became mostly responsible for providing hot meals for families and storm recovery teams. Kerosene and food was being distributed to those in need at the Black River Elementary School on a daily basis, and your soldiers were very much in evidence helping out with those services. Hundreds of area residents came to avail themselves of this assistance.

The Army brought in and hooked up a trailer-mounted generator so we could have heat and lights in the church. Volunteers came to help prepare the food, and these volunteers included Jefferson County Court Judge Lee Clary and his wife, Shirley, members of our church, Joyce Birchenough from the Catholic Church, Beth Stiefel, a former resident and member of St. John's Episcopal Church, and two soldiers from DivArty, Christopher O'Brien and Jennifer Haeffner.

On different days, we provided meat loaf and turkey dinners, chili, hot soups, sloppy joes, marcaroni and cheese, canned fruit and cookies, donuts and oceans of not coffee. We served anywhere from 25 lunches to over 100 lunches each day for eight days. The power company crews came. Also deputy sheriffs, State Troopers, and other men and women struggling to return our village to a semblance of normalcy.

I was never more proud of the U.S. Army than I was the day Capt. Michael Gabel brought large numbers of BDU-clad soldiers with green fluorescent sashes into town to help clear the tree branches and storm debris from our streets. I also got to meet two other officers working with him, Capt. Ronald Leggett and 2nd Lt. Michael Brown. Anyway, it was like a well-planned attack during wartime, groups were assigned to certain streets and, as one street was cleared, they moved on to another one. Their deportment was admirable and their mood was one of the good cheer and helpfulness. When they came to the church for lunch each day, they were all courteous and well-behaved, and seemed glad to be doing something very worthwhile for their citizens.

They came to our shelter to warm themselves, rest a bit, sit down and enjoy a hot cup of coffee, soup and a well-deserved meal. Their morale was as high as I've seen amongst soldiers anywhere.

Their efforts continued for several days. Today is Tuesday, January 20th, and we expect at least 50 soldiers for lunch today. They're still here, and giving their best effort. When they're done, we'll miss them. They lightened our load considerably, and we are grateful for their kindness, their concern, and their cheerful and willing attitude—and for all the work they're doing!

I believe these men were all from Division Artillery units, and we are somewhat familiar with Col. Robert Reese and some of his men, who have supported us in the past on patriotic holidays, such as Flag Day and Veterans Day.

Your Public Affairs Officer, B.D. Murphy, dropped by to visit, and the 10th Mountain Band came in to play for us one noon hour. And Chaplain Scottie Lloyd and his assistant dropped in on several occasions to offer their support and assistance.

God Bless You, General, for making all this possible, and please convey our sincere gratitude to Cpts. Gabel and Leggett, Lt.

Brown, the NCO's and enlisted men who all understood our critical situation and came to help us find our way back out of it.

Sincerely and With Gratitude,

SANFORD L. JONES,  
The B.R.U.M.C. Shelter.

REPORT FROM INDIANA—ON  
SERGEANT BRAD BROWN

**HON. DAVID M. McINTOSH**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 1998

Mr. MCINTOSH. Mr. Speaker, I would like to share a heroic story with my colleagues and the American people which took place in New Castle, Indiana. Sergeant Brad Brown, going beyond the call of duty, risked his life to save an eighty-three year old woman from a burning building in Henry County. The fact that the woman he saved was incapacitated at the time gives added weight to the heroism of Sergeant Brown. The dedication and bravery of Sergeant Brown is an example of the character which is needed to make a difference in our local communities. Individuals like Sergeant Brown make towns like New Castle safer places to live. I commend Sergeant Brad Brown for his actions and his service. Thank you for the role you have played in making our community a better place.

RECOGNIZING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF LEBANON TOWNSHIP

**HON. MICHAEL PAPPAS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 1998

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to send congratulations and best wishes to the citizens of Lebanon Township as they commemorate the 200th anniversary of the incorporation of their community. Our nation and this community have come a long way in the past 200 years and it is appropriate that we pause and recognize this milestone.

This is a day of celebration and remembrance—a time to celebrate the growth and achievements of Lebanon Township while remembering the efforts and sacrifices of the good men and women, past and present, who helped to make Lebanon what it is today.

In its origins as a small rural village community, Lebanon has kept with its traditions over the course of time. Remaining a relatively small town for most of its history, the people of Lebanon and the rest of New Jersey have enjoyed its quiet, peaceful atmosphere and its natural beauty. Now in more recent times, Lebanon has exhibited growth and prosperity in its business and population. However, it still maintains its rural roots and natural splendor that have always made it a valuable asset to the community and the state.

Now, 200 years later, the Township will celebrate its anniversary with rich new traditions while honoring its past. These festivities include a time capsule burial at the Woodglen School with artifacts and mementos of Lebanon, music and dance events, an arts festival; all to be led off by a February 21st Proclamation Day celebrating the historic bicentennial.