

Never before in our history have Americans borne witness to such an egregious, savage, violent, and cowardly attack on American soil. The situation defies belief and embodies much of what had once been our greatest fear. I join with every American in support of our great country and am confident that our nation will overcome this challenge just as we have conquered past challenges.

When I swore my oath to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States, I never imagined that this country or I would be where we are today. Each member of Congress swears our allegiance to our constituents, to one another and to the country, yet the magnitude of our oath only is truly understood when we face situations like we face today. During trying times such as these, the American Spirit shines most brightly, and we find within ourselves the ability to overcome challenges once thought unthinkable and unimaginable.

Tuesday, September 11, 2001 is a date so packed with tragedy and meaning, we have tremendous difficulty fully understanding the implications of what has been done to our country and our people.

Not since the time of my father Stewart Udall's service in the Cabinets of Presidents Kennedy and Johnson, have we faced such difficult and trying issues. From the fear and terror of the Cuban Missile Crisis to the national horror following the assassination of our President to the anguish of the Vietnam War, our nation was confronted with innumerable and difficult challenges. The strength of citizens overcame all these challenges, and it will once again overcome what lies before us today.

As we see images of the devastation in New York City and at the Pentagon, we are flooded by emotions ranging from profound sorrow to unbridled anger. Yet we are also called upon to defend ourselves from unknown threats and invisible enemies. Ours is a responsibility to put our raw feeling and emotions aside and focus on the grim work at hand of responding to the attacks against us and doing everything in our power to ensure that such attacks will not be perpetrated against us in the future.

The question now arises how we may best fulfill our duty to protect the citizens of the United States and, indeed, the citizens of countries around the globe. The scourge of terrorism affects more than just the United States homeland. For years our friends and allies in Europe, Asia, the Middle East and Africa have suffered the horrors of terrorism. While offering our support and solidarity, we always believed and hoped that America would be spared from the type of tragedy which befell us last Tuesday. We hoped against hope that New York, Washington, or any American city would not be added to the infamous list which includes London, Paris, Belfast, Beirut, Johannesburg, and Tokyo. Now the fight has been brought to us, and we will respond. We must respond.

The question is how we respond. We will be quick to act, or will we be thorough, careful, deliberate, and patient?

We first responded by granting to President Bush the authority needed to prosecute this effort with the strength the task requires. The Congress will appropriate money, grant authority, and rouse popular support for the President as we take each step against terror

together and jointly exercise the Constitutional responsibilities invested by our Founders in both branches of the government.

Our efforts require and are receiving the support of the international community of responsible nations. The support is a crucial component of any action which our government may take in defense of the American People. The world must not be seen as tolerant in the least of terrorists or those who support terrorists. The strong backing of our allies is a reassuring sign that our international partners stand beside us as we jointly face this danger.

As we embark, we recognize that the Congress and the President are equal partners in the effort. We are making decisions and taking action only after tremendous consideration and deliberation. We have a profound understanding of the gravity of the situation which lies before us. We understand that the Constitutional principles upon which this great country is founded must be respected at every turn. As we defend the safety of Americans, we must also defend their liberties. To defeat terror in a way that robs us of our most cherished freedoms must be avoided. I believe that it is possible for America to be safe and free. As we continue to contemplate further actions and investigate those that have taken place, we must be vigilant in the defense of both our safety and our freedom.

As we respond to the attacks, Americans will continue to unite as we have over the past several days and in ways that we have not seen for years. We draw strength from our tremendous diversity as a nation and from our myriad experiences and abilities. We defeat terror by embracing each other in the face of those who would terrorize us and rising above the petty differences that might once have separated us. Our unity will be our strength as we confront this new challenge. The American House in which we all live will not, as President Lincoln said, be divided against itself. We will continue on, stronger and more united than ever.

The United States will meet this challenge as we have met previous challenges before. Our great nation will unite more strongly than ever, and we will prevail. My faith in our country is exceeded only by my admiration for those who place their own safety in jeopardy so that others will be free. America is great. God bless America.

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HONORING PAUL F. MARKS ON HIS  
RETIREMENT

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 25, 2001*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize, honor and salute my dear friend Paul F. Marks on the occasion of his retirement from Michigan State University Agricultural Extension, and for his many years of dedicated service to our community.

Paul began his career with Extension more than 27 years ago. Since that time, Paul has received numerous awards and citations, including the National Distinguished Service Award from the National Association of County Agricultural Agents.

At heart, Paul is a teacher. He is recognized throughout the state for his expertise and skill

in the areas of vegetable crops, fruit crops and beekeeping. In his professional capacity, he has developed and implemented a large number of award-winning educational programs in such areas as cider safety, agriculture employer seminars and pesticide certification.

Paul's passion for teaching extends well beyond Extension. When working with kids in 4-H or the Junior Livestock Association, one can see Paul's gift truly shine. Paul's exemplary teaching efforts were again recognized when he received the Monroe County 4-H Alumni Award. Paul's leadership has also been outstanding in directing Monroe County's Ag Awareness Day that annually gives more than 1,300 county elementary students a better understanding and appreciation of agriculture. And when the County Fair rolls around each summer, you can be sure Paul will be there making sure that every kid has their animal ready for show.

When Monroe County was added to my District in 1982, I gained a special knowledge of Paul's ability to educate. Knowing little about farming, I paid a visit to the Extension office and met a young Extension Agent by the name of Paul Marks. I asked him to do the impossible—teach a Polish lawyer from Detroit about farming. To his great credit, Paul was up to the task.

Since then, I have come to rely greatly on Paul's advice and counsel on agricultural matters. More importantly, Paul has become a great friend. His expertise and knowledge will be greatly missed by all of us.

Mr. Speaker, as Paul leaves behind a long and rich history as an Extension Agricultural and Natural Resources Agent to spend time with his beautiful wife Jeannine and his family, I would ask that all of my colleagues salute Paul, his excellent service to his community, his wonderful sense of humor and above all his earnest good will and compassion for his fellow man.

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TRIBUTE TO FRANCESC DE PAULA  
SOLER

**HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 25, 2001*

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Francesc de Paula Soler, a gifted and prolific musician. This world-renowned instrumentalist will grace the Library of Congress on October 2, 2001, and fill it with his music. This concert will feature music to soothe and lift our spirits during this difficult time in the wake of the national tragedy.

Francesc de Paula Soler was born in 1949 to a celebrated Catalan family of artists. He began studying music at age 6 and was dedicated to his guitar by age 11. As a young adult, he became an astute and devout student of the great Andrés Segovia, known as the father of the classical guitar. He also studied under the great Narciso Yepes for a number of years. From these musical founders, Soler was taught the classical guitar in its pure form. His music has an original, raw quality that makes it distinct and loved by many.

Although the guitar's ancestor probably originated in ancient Egypt, the version that we use today came from Spain in the early

16th century and became popular throughout Europe later in the century. Soler's first mentor, Andrés Segovia, is credited with legitimizing and revolutionizing the traditionally-regarded "Instrument of peasants" in the late 1800s. Spanish culture embraced the guitar and, as a result, the majority of music throughout Latin America is flavored with the instrument. Whether listening to Argentinian chacareras, Ecuadorian danzantes, Panamanian murgas, Mexican rancheras, a Cuban mambo, Puerto Rican salsa, or Dominican merengue, one can hear the prolific influence of the guitar. It is indeed a fundamental element of Spanish and Latin culture, which Soler has mastered and re-defined.

Mr. Speaker, Francesc de Paula Soler is routinely referred to as "The Poet of the Guitar" throughout the world, based on the way he conveys raw emotion and tells complex tales with only his fingers and the strings of a guitar. He has mesmerized audiences at the Levine School of Music and the Achison Auditorium in the U.S. State Department, and has entertained a myriad of cultural societies throughout the United States. Thousands have filled the auditoriums of colleges and universities from coast to coast to hear Francesc de Paula Soler's guitar. Beyond these American performances, Soler has engaged audiences around the world.

In commemoration of Hispanic Heritage Month and the ways that Hispanic Americans have served our country throughout history, I encourage all of my colleagues to attend the concert and enjoy an hour of exquisite music.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Francesc de Paula Soler for his contributions to the world of music and for honoring us with his art.

#### PRO BONO PROJECT

### HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 25, 2001*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the dedicated volunteers of the Pro Bono Project of Santa Clara County. The Pro Bono Project uses volunteer attorneys, judges and other legal professionals to represent low income and indigent clients in Santa Clara County in family law cases, including divorce, custody, child/spousal support, and domestic violence issues. Often, the Pro Bono Project is the last chance its clients have at securing representation.

The success of the Pro Bono Project is a direct result of 150 volunteers, through whose efforts the Project offered over 200 clients per year over \$958,000 in volunteer services. Thanks to these volunteers, the Pro Bono Project was able to staff several clinics, including a Bankruptcy clinic and a Paternity clinic. Pro Bono Project attorneys staff the Domestic Violence Collaboration in conjunction with Bay Area Legal Aid, Battered Women's Support Network, Next Door and South County Alternatives. The Domestic Violence Collaboration provides divorce, support and custody services to victims of domestic violence. The Project's Family Law Mentor Program provides a volunteer mentor attorney in the office every Wednesday to provide family law advice and help to attorneys.

With very little funding, the Pro Bono Project does an amazing amount of work. I commend the Project's founders and volunteers. On behalf of Santa Clara County, I thank these remarkable volunteers for all of their hard work.

#### TRIBUTE TO DAN TRANT

### HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 25, 2001*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, sadly today many American families continue to mourn the loss of their loved ones during the senseless tragedies at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. As each day passes, their stories are being heard by a growing number of Americans who are becoming intimately affected by these devastating losses.

I have spoken of several of these Americans here on the floor. I am also drawn to the story of Dan Trant, a former basketball legend at Clark University in Worcester, MA, and the older brother of a friend. Dan was a successful bond trader with the firm Cantor Fitzgerald at the World Trade Center.

Recently, the Boston Herald described Dan as an icon in New England college basketball who was drafted by the Boston Celtics in 1984 and went on to play professional basketball in Ireland, his family's ancestral home. Dan later played for the Springfield Fame during the inaugural season of the U.S. Basketball League, assisting his team in the first-ever league championship.

Off the court, Dan was even more inspiring. He was a father and neighbor who used his great successes in sports and in the business world to inspire hundreds of children in his church congregation, local school district and a nearby university near his home in Northport, LI. Many of the local children he helped attended his memorial service in New York, where they had an opportunity to express their love and say goodbye.

Mr. Speaker, our thoughts and prayers are with Dan's wife Kathy, his children Jessica, Daniel, and Alex, and all of those who loved him.

#### TO HONOR THE REVEREND CLARENCE D. ROBINSON

### HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 25, 2001*

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the work of the Reverend Clarence D. Robinson as he leaves St. Mark African Episcopal Church in Milwaukee after more than a decade of service. Rev. Robinson is moving to Chicago where he has been appointed presiding elder for 23 congregations in the city and its surrounding communities.

Following his ordination as an Elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church in 1959, Rev. Robinson's career took him to churches throughout the Midwest. He came to St. Mark's in August, 1991 from Ebenezer A.M.E. in Detroit, Michigan, and truly left his mark as a leader in our community.

In addition to giving his time as a board member of several Milwaukee organizations, Rev. Robinson has also served our young people as a tireless advocate and role model. St. Mark's offers the Men to Boys mentoring program, and opens its recreation center doors on Friday nights for Word Up—a night of Bible Study, basketball, board games and other activities. Rev. Robinson has helped provide productive and non-violent options for young people, linking them with positive role models and encouraging them to lead a life free of drugs and violence.

Rev. Robinson's legacy will surely be felt at St. Mark A.M.E. Church for years to come. Last September the church opened its second senior citizen housing facility. The congregation named this 25 unit building the C.G. Robinson Terrace in honor of their leader.

During his 10 years in Milwaukee, Rev. Robinson has impacted our community in many ways, and he will be sorely missed. I am proud to join the members of St. Mark A.M.E. Church in thanking him for his service to the people of Milwaukee, Wisconsin and wishing him the best of luck in his new position.

#### VOLUNTARY SEPARATION INCENTIVE PAYMENTS

### HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 25, 2001*

Ms. HOOLEY of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, as part of an effort to reduce the federal work force within the United States Forest Service, Forest Service employees were offered the opportunity to participate in a "voluntary separation incentive payments" program a few years ago. This program was included in the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 1997 (P.L. 104-180). As part of the agreement, employees were paid \$20,000; in exchange, they agreed to retire and not be employed by any federal agency for at least five years; if they were re-employed by the federal government they would have to forfeit all or part of the money from said agreement.

However, there has been a severe shortage of qualified firefighters to combat the extraordinary number of forest fires throughout the country over the past several years, specifically in the West. Many retired Forest Service employees have been asked to help fight many of these blazes, unfortunately many of them cannot without risk of forfeiting the payments they received through the buyout program.

My bill will amend Public Law 104-180 to allow former Federal employees who received voluntary separation incentive payments under the Department of Agriculture program to accept employment with the Federal Government once again, without loss of their payments, as long as their employment is directly related to fighting forest fires.

At a time when we need qualified, willing, well-trained individuals to fight these fires more than ever before, it's egregious if we do not change this law to allow these brave men and women to fight the fires that threaten our forests, wildlife, and our homes without having