A TRIBUTE TO MS. NANCY STONE, 27TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2002

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF
OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Women’s History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation’s most notable women during the month of March and it is my honor to not only recognize women of the past but to also recognize women who are making a difference in my community. While a month of remembrance is certainly not sufficient, I am honored today to pay homage to such women as Eleanor Roosevelt, Sandra Day O’Connor, Harriet Tubman, Sally Ride and all the women of my Congressional District, whose contributions have made a profound difference in the face and fabric of our nation.

I am truly honored to pay special recognition to an outstanding woman of California’s 27th Congressional District, Ms. Nancy Stone. For over 15 years, Nancy has brought an abounding spirit and energy to her service in the foothills communities. Those fortunate enough to meet and work with Nancy instantly recognize her enthusiasm and passion for helping others.

A graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History, Nancy currently works part time at Salomon Smith Barney in Glendale, California. She has been married to Chip Stone for 19 years and is the proud mother of Sarah and Rob.

Her dedication to her children has manifested itself in the groups and organizations which she leads and supports. She has served as the President of the Mountain Avenue Elementary School PTA and as the Vice President of the Rosemont Middle School PTA. Noted for her involvement with Seeds of Peace, an organization she helped to create to actively nurture a caring and accepting community. Nancy has dedicated herself to working for a more peaceful neighborhood environment in which to live and raise our families.

Her outstanding work with the community’s young people truly sets her apart as someone who is keenly aware that our future lies with our children and in recognizing that, she has introduced innovative program ideas to help enrich the lives of all young people. She created the Community Service Learning Project in order to extol the values of unselfishness and community caring. Today the project has 600 students who dedicate approximately 10,000 volunteer hours to the community each year. Currently, she is the driving force behind efforts to open an after school teen center for 600 students who dedicate approximately 2,000 hours each year and are community caring.

Today in honoring an outstanding and extraordi-
September 11, 2002—exactly one year after the despicable act of terror. I am proud to acknowledge that the Phoenix Project is running 6 weeks ahead of schedule.

The dedication of the government employees and independent contractors once again shows the resolve that this nation has always shown in times of need. In fact, instantly the workers toiled around the clock to continue this extraordinary effort. They have even put up a digital clock at the site, counting down the days to September 11, 2002, to remind them of the victims who perished, with the intention and pride during the reconstruction on September 11, 2002.

Mr. Speaker, after the terrorist attacks on September 11 on the Pentagon, 400,000 square feet of demolition work had to be carried out before the reconstruction efforts could begin. This process was expected to take 4 to 7 months, but was finished in just one month. Also, out of about 4600 displaced employees, 1500 have already returned to their old office spaces.

The speed, resiliency, and efficiency with which this project has been carried out is a reminder of the determination that our nation has, the determination that was first seen on the United and American flights, and continues to be seen in the efforts of these workers.

Mr. Speaker, before September 11, these workers were working about 5 days per week to renovate the Pentagon, but after the attack, they have put aside their own fears and returned for even longer work days. A lot of these workers lost their loved ones in these terror attacks, yet they have endured through their personal grief to offer some solace to the rest of us.

This reconstruction effort is more than just the rebuilding of the old Pentagon building. Additional security concerns are being addressed including updated ventilation systems to guard against nuclear, biological or chemical attacks. The work continues around the clock. This is a testament to the selfless dedication that these unsung heroes have shown for the past six months.

Mr. Speaker, the workers involved with the Phoenix Project have aptly adopted the words once uttered by Todd Beamer as their motto. "Let's Roll!" now sits above the digital clock constantly reminding them and all of us of all the challenges that lie ahead and all the challenges that we have already overcome. I would like to assure everyone involved with this renovation project that we are behind them every step of the way in this monumental task that they have taken on with such grace.

A TRIBUTE TO DENISE NELSON NASH, 27TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR—2002

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Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's most notable women during the month of March and it is my honor to not only recognize women of the past but to also recognize women who are making a difference in my community. While a month of remembrance is certainly not sufficient, I am honored today to pay homage to such women as Eleanor Roosevelt, Sandra Day O'Connor, Harriet Tubman, Sally Ride and all the women of my Congressional District, whose work and courage have made a profound difference in the face and fabric of our nation.

I stand today, to recognize an outstanding woman of California's 27th Congressional District, Ms. Denise Nelson Nash. Ms. Nash's passion for community and especially the arts has brought life to the city of Pasadena and surrounding areas, a more rich and vital environment in which to live.

Ms. Nash is a graduate of Scripps College and earned her Masters of Fine Arts from the University of Michigan. She began her professional career as a professor and has since taught at Delta College, Illinois Wesleyan University, and Borough Manhattan Community College. Noted for her passion and ability as a teacher, she was invited to be director of the contemporary dance program at the Instituto de Danza in Caracas, Venezuela.

A strong advocate of the arts and especially arts education, Ms. Nash was the director of the Plaza de la Raza School of Performing and Visual Arts in East Los Angeles and in 1985 founded Bottom Line Dance Collective, a nonprofit organization providing creative opportunities for young people throughout the Los Angeles area.

For six years, Denise served as the Director of the Arts for the City of Pasadena. In this capacity she provided leadership for the Public Art Program, arts education programs in the city's schools, community arts programs, and special projects including the Pasadena Emmy Celebration and HBO Pictures Production "The Tuskegee Airmen." Currently, Denise serves as the Director of the Office of Public Events for the California Institute of Technology (Caltech).

Throughout her career, Denise has focused on using her position to enhance opportunities for others. As an advocate of the arts and community events, she has opened a realm of possibilities for young and old alike and has created an environment in which art is appreciated, respected and loved.

I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring an outstanding and extraordinary woman of California's 27th Congressional District, Ms. Denise Nelson Nash. The entire community joins me in thanking Denise for her continued efforts to make the 27th Congressional District a more vibrant and enjoyable place to live.

AIRMAN CUNNINGHAM
HON. TOM UDALL
OF NEW MEXICO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, March 20, 2002

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to pararescueman Jason Cunningham—one of America and New Mexico's true heroes.

Jason was one of America's six brave soldiers killed during a shoot-out in the mountainous Gardez area of Afghanistan on Monday, March 4th. Jason participated in the insertion of Special Forces in the area when the helicopter he was a passenger in was brought down by machine-gun fire and a rocket propelled grenade. Jason and his six crewmembers were trying to rescue a Navy SEAL who had fallen out of the helicopter.

Jason grew up in New Mexico, spending most of his childhood in the southern part of the state. In fact, initially he majored in art and entered the armed forces, this time joining the Air Force and attending Pararescue School, from which he graduated in June of 2001.

It was in February of this year that Jason was sent to Afghanistan to join the front lines in the war against terror and left behind his loved ones for the call of duty.

Last week, Jason received a deserved hero's burial in Arlington National Cemetery where he took his place among the men and women who have, like Jason, courageously answered their country's call.

Douglas MacArthur once said, "the soldier above all people, prays for peace for his or her family. If he or she must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war." However, I am sure that Jason's family, and the families of the other brave men and women who have died in service to their country also deeply feel the scars of loss.

From 1982 to 1989, while Ms. Flores entered her public service career in 1968 with the Concentrated Employment Program, where she directed the delivery of intensive education, training and employment services to disadvantaged youth and adults in East Los Angeles.

Her dedication and hard work then led her to work with the City of Los Angeles' Community Development Department, where she was directly involved with planning and implementing programs funded through federal grants from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and Health and Human Services. From 1982 to 1989, while serving as the Director of Human Services and Neighborhood Development Division, Ms. Flores ably administered the City Human Services Delivery System that provided services to the City's neediest residents. Her work addressed a variety of needs, such as childcare, legal aid, food and nutrition, homelessness and AIDS.

From 1989 to 1999, Ms. Flores was Director of the Department's Workforce Development Division, which had one hundred full-time staff and a $130 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to carry out the Job Training Partnership Act, Welfare-to-Work, and the