

career with the U.S. Army. Since that time, Colonel Coleman has served in various capacities in Stuttgart, Germany; Raleigh, NC; Izmir, Turkey; Alexandria, VA; Washington, DC; and at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, AL. He achieved a masters of arts degree from Webster University as well as graduated from many other distinguished military educational programs. On March 28, 2002, he will retire from his position as the Director of Personnel and Training for the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command at Redstone Arsenal. I know the people of Redstone Arsenal will miss his outstanding leadership, but wish him a well-deserved retirement.

Colonel Coleman has earned a great deal of respect from his colleagues, receiving several military awards throughout his career. His awards include the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal Second Oak Leaf Cluster, Meritorious Service Medal Fourth Oak Leaf Cluster, the Army Commendation Medal Third Oak Leaf Cluster, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the National Defense Ribbon, the Army Staff Identification Badge, the Army Parachute Badge, and the Army Superior Unit Badge.

This is a deserved retirement for someone who has worked so diligently for the United States to protect our freedom and defend our nation. I join his wife, Carolyn, his sons PJ and Casey, and all of his friends, family, and colleagues in celebrating Colonel Micheal J. Coleman's 27 years of service. On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I congratulate Colonel Coleman and express my gratitude for a job well done.

HONORING MICHAEL FORDE AND
THE NEW YORK CITY DISTRICT
COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2002

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Michael Forde, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of the New York City District Council of Carpenters and the over 300 men and women who have dedicated everyday, 24 hours a day, to the clean up effort at the World Trade Center Site.

Mr. Speaker, Michael Forde is a leader in the New York City labor community as the Secretary-Treasurer of the largest Carpenters Union in the Country representing over 25,000 members.

On September 11, the District Council under the leadership of Michael Forde, wasted no time in being some of the first men and women outside of rescue workers and public safety officers to be on the scene of Ground Zero. During the first days after the destruction of the Trade Center, union carpenters worked around the clock helping to clear debris, insuring the structural safety of the area for rescue workers and engaging in the search themselves for survivors of the attack.

As a union based in Lower Manhattan, the District Council of Carpenters has a long and strong history of working to make New York City the financial capital that it is today.

The quick, untiring and heroic response of the men and women of the District Council of Carpenters would not have been as extensive

or effective if it was not for the leadership of Michael Forde.

Mr. Speaker, I have known Michael Forde for many years. He was born in the Bronx, moved to Woodside, Queens, in my congressional district where he graduated from Christi High School in Astoria. He received his B.A. in Business Administration from Hunter College.

Mike started in the carpentry field as an apprentice during the construction of the World Trade Center in the early 1970s. Through hard work, dedication to his craft, exceptional leadership skills and a strong commitment to his fellow union brothers and sisters, he rose through the ranks to become a foreman, general foreman, shop steward, president and business manager of Local 608 and ultimately to his present position.

Mr. Speaker, Michael Forde is just one among many. I rise today not only to pay tribute to him and to recognize his work to help rebuild Lower Manhattan and Ground Zero, but I rise to recognize all the men and women of the New York City District Council of Carpenters. These men and women have showed exceptional dedication, fulfilling the task at hand and they will play a critical role in the tasks of the future rebuilding Lower Manhattan and Ground Zero.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to insure that we as a Congress recognize the work the New York District Council of Carpenters did and the work they continue to do to rebuild Lower Manhattan.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE IRON WORKERS TO THE RECOVERY OF NEW YORK

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2002

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, for every American, September 11th, 2001 means one thing. It is a day that we, as a Nation, suffered as we had never before. As I watched the events of the day unfold from my home in the Bronx, like most, I thought of my family and their safety.

Some others though, had thoughts of only one thing—how can I help. Hundreds of firefighters, police officers, and emergency medical personnel and, yes, construction workers, went running to what was left of the Twin Towers to try and save lives. We should all feel proud of the many men and women who went to Ground Zero, such as the Iron Workers.

In fact, it was Iron Workers who had one of the toughest jobs. These men and women were charged with sifting through that nightmare and they did so with great dignity and compassion for those who lost their lives and their families. As I have watched this amazing transformation, I have swelled with pride, for I have a special place in my heart for these men and women who are Iron Workers, because so was my father.

Today, I have the honor of recognizing two great trade union leaders, Ed Walsh and Robert Ledwith, Both of these men have dedicated their lives to their families, their communities, and their unions.

Just last month, Ed Walsh became the President of the Iron Workers District Council

of Greater New York and Vicinity. Ed Walsh started his career with the Iron Workers in 1968 working as an apprentice for three years. He became a journeyman Ironworker union member in 1971. Through three decades he moved up the ranks until becoming the Business Manager of Local 40 in 1995. In March 2002, Ed was appointed as General Organizer for the International and became President of the Iron Workers District Council of Greater New York and Vicinity, an affiliate of the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers.

Ed resides in Mamaroneck, New York with his wife Kathy. He has two sons, Christopher and Kevin. Kevin has decided to follow his father's footsteps and is currently an apprentice with Iron Workers Local 40. Ed Walsh comes from a union tradition. His father and brothers John and Bob are union ironworkers, his brother Jim is a retired union carpenter, and his brother is a retired New York City Police Officer.

Bob Ledwith serves as Business Manager and Financial Secretary-Treasurer of the Metallic Lathers Union and Reinforcing Iron Workers Local 46. Bob Ledwith was elected as Business Agent for the Metallic Lathers Union and Reinforcing Iron Workers Local 46 in June 1981. He was elected Business Manager and Financial Secretary-Treasurer in 1999 and continues to serve in that capacity today.

Through the haze and the numbness caused by September 11th, something was shining through. The American Spirit. The men and women of the Iron Workers are the embodiment of that Spirit. It gave us all a sense of hope and a sense of pride.

LEHIGH VALLEY HERO—HANOVER
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. PATRICK J. TOOMEY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 17, 2002

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to share my Report from Pennsylvania for my colleagues and the American people.

All across Pennsylvania's 15th Congressional District there are some amazing people who do good things to make our communities a better place. These are individuals of all ages who truly make a difference and help others. I like to call these individuals Lehigh Valley Heroes for their good deeds and efforts.

Today, I would like to recognize the fifth graders and teachers at Hanover Elementary School in Bethlehem. These students and teachers are true examples of excellence in education.

This year, Hanover Elementary, for the second year in a row had the highest PSSA scores in all of Pennsylvania. The 69 students scored 1630 in math and 1570 in reading, well above the state average of 1310 in both areas. The students outscored 3,800 public and private elementary schools across the state!

I recently had the opportunity to attend a reception in honor of these students and teachers, and offer my congratulations. The teachers deserve much credit for their hard work and dedication. They obviously inspired their