

to get things done and who never fails to take on a challenge.

During the past several decades, I have been privileged to work with Jack and Georgia on issues of concern at local, State and Federal levels and have valued their friendship and counsel. It is my distinct pleasure to ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Jack Koszdin and Georgia Mercer for their outstanding contributions to our community and thanking Hillel at CSUN, Valley and Pierce Community Colleges for its great work generally, and for making tonight's Gala Dinner a wonderful success.

**NEW YORK'S YMCA CELEBRATES
ITS 150TH BIRTHDAY**

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of the YMCA of Greater New York in celebration of its rich and vital 150 year history.

Throughout its history, the "Y", as many of us know it, has spanned three distinct historical periods. The first, from 1852–1902, is marked by a commitment to help newcomers to the city and the creation of programs of social change to help groups impacted by war, population shifts and industrial changes. The New York "Association" was staunchly abolitionist and formed a commission to minister to soldiers in camps and hospitals, and on the battlefields of the Civil War. After the War, new YMCA programs were started for African Americans, railroad workers and young boys from urban centers.

From 1902–1952, the YMCA expanded its scope to all areas of public life and affairs, and women became members. Racial integration was attained nationally in the 1940s and much earlier in many New York City YMCA branches. The YMCA's expertise produced numerous vocational, skills training and job placement programs during these years.

From 1952–2002, the YMCA focused aggressively on urban programs to help girls and boys, and their families, in the city. Programs were developed to deal with poverty, youth unemployment, delinquency and drug abuse, and many programs were put on wheels, such as Jobmobiles and Youthmobiles, in order to be located in the neighborhoods most in need. In New York City, during fiscal crises and national recessions, the YMCA maintained its firm commitment to the city through large-scale childcare and expanded family programs. A growing emphasis on physical fitness led to many new program offerings, such as aquatics, cardiovascular fitness and sports leagues, including two sports invented at the YMCA in the late 19th century—basketball and volleyball.

In the past decade, the YMCA of Greater New York also has become a presence in nearly 200 public schools in every school district in the City. In partnership with the United Way and the New York City Board of Education, the Virtual Y currently enrolls 7,500 children and is expanding. Teen Action NYC, currently operates in five schools and provides academic support, life skills and career planning. Most recently following 9/11, the YMCA of Greater New York has developed programs

in response and made its 20 branches available for a variety of community needs. In 2002, the YMCA of Greater New York serves 170,000 youth and 200,000 adults.

Throughout its 150 years, the YMCA of Greater New York has been a model of public/private partnerships with a close connection to the City's business and civic leadership. Early lay leaders, such as William E. Dodge Jr., J. Pierpont Morgan and Cornelius Vanderbilt II, were among the most prominent businessmen and philanthropists of their time. Former elected officials, such as Governor Thomas Dewey and Major John Lindsay, served on the YMCA board. Mayors David Dinkins, Rudolph Giuliani and Michael Bloomberg have all been proactive supporters of YMCA community centers and programs.

The YMCA of Greater New York's fundraising efforts, including its Capital Campaign for Kids, are supported by hundreds of corporations and foundations that recognize the YMCA's major and continuing commitment to the youth and families of New York City. This support is led by the YMCA of Greater New York's 14 Corporate Champions: AT&T/AXA Financial, Bloomberg, Con Edison, Credit Suisse/First Boston, Deloitte & Touche, Deutsche Bank, JPMorganChase, Merrill Lynch, Metropolitan Life Foundation, New York Life, Pfizer, PriceWaterhouseCoopers and UBS/PaineWebber.

Mr. Speaker, 150 years after the YMCA of Greater New York first came into existence it is now bigger and better than ever before. As such, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable organization on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO 9/11 HEROES

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 2002

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, on March 19, 2002, I stood on the House floor to recognize and celebrate the 181st Anniversary of Greece's declaration of independence from the Ottoman Empire.

As I stated on that day, the Hellenic community, as every community in New York and worldwide, was hit heavily by that travesty of 9/11.

Fortunately, we have members of the Fire Department, Police Department, Port Authority, military and other volunteers who will continue to lead this war and to protect us on the homeland and abroad. They are lead by Captain John Casamatis, Nicholas Biancoviso (NYPD), Sgt. Emanuel Vrettos (Triborough Bridge & Tunnel Authority), Paul Pallas (NYPD), Demetrios Kaloudakis (NYPD), Constantine Kaloudakis (NYPD), US Marshall John Svinos, Nicholas Mitsinkos (NYPD), Special Agent Genie Poumpouraas (Secret Service), Steve Savvas (NYPD) and Athanasios Ganos (NYPD).

We salute the clergy and volunteer heroes, lead by His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios, His Grace Bishop Andonios Parapoulos, His Grace Bishop Savas Zembillas, Fathers John Angel, James Antokas, John Heropoulos, Alexander Karloutsos (Port Authority Chaplain), Michael Kontogeorge, Alexander Leondis, James Moskovitis, James Moulketas, Geore

Orfanakos, Paul Panos, Angelo Pappas, Nicholas Rafael, John Romas, Elias Villas, and Decons Niktaros Morrow and Panteleimon Papadopoulos. The volunteers include: Sofia Cotzia, George C. Zouvelos, Tony Benezatos, Maria Andriotis, Keana Balahtsis, Marissa Costidis, Jerry Dimitriou, Fran Karivalis, Michael Karloutsos, Xanthi Karloutsos, Ioanna Kekropidou, Theo Nicolakis, Andrea Pappa, Nitsa Sinanis, Gkorge Schira, Nick Terizis, Harry C. Zouvelos and Dina Theodosakis to name a few.

Today, as every day, we pay tribute to the heroes of 9/11. We will not forget you! Zeto E Eleftheria (Long Live Freedom), Se Ollo to Kosmo (In the entire world).

**INTRODUCING A JOINT RESOLUTION
HONORING THE 102ND
FIGHTER WING OF THE MASSACHUSETTS
AIR NATIONAL
GUARD**

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 22, 2002

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, without question, September 11th, 2001 was one of the most tragic days in our nation's history. Millions of lives were adversely affected by the terrorist acts that were perpetrated in New York City, Washington, DC and Pennsylvania. However, like so many times before, Americans from across the country rose to the challenge of defending this great nation. Out of this dark period came amazing stories of heroism, patriotism and selflessness. Today, I rise to introduce a joint resolution, on behalf of the Massachusetts Congressional delegation, that pays tribute to a group of men and women who played an indispensable role in defense of the nation during and following September's terrorist attacks.

Before most of America could come to grips with what was happening on the morning of September 11th, the 102nd Fighter Wing of the Massachusetts Air National Guard, located at Otis Air National Guard Base, had assumed its position as the tip of the spear in defense of the nation's skies. Known as the Minutemen, in honor of their Revolutionary War forefathers, the 102nd became the nation's first airborne responders when it scrambled two F-15s just six minutes after being informed of the hijackings. Within the first hour, the wing launched six armed aircraft on Combat Air Patrol over New York City and Boston. Incredibly, with significantly fewer pilots and maintainers than their active duty counterparts, the 102nd generated, loaded and accepted fourteen aircraft in less than seventeen hours for around-the-clock combat operations. As a result of its ability to respond so quickly and effectively, the 102nd Fighter Wing became the country's lead air defense squadron for Operation Noble Eagle.

In the first three days of the national crisis, the 102nd flew forty-six sorties and better than 160 hours protecting every major city in the Northeast Air Defense Sector. During this period, the 102nd was the country's sole clearance and identification authority and their flawless execution expedited the flow of medevac