tremendous leadership and determination to help the less fortunate in her Atlanta community. I am honored to share a little about her work with my colleagues today and urge them to join me in congratulating her for winning this distinguished award.

As her nominator said, ''Lucy took on this challenge with nothing but an idea and a burning desire to help others. Unlike others, she found a way to turn this idea into reality.''

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRIAN BAIRD

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2002

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, on September 17, 2002, I was in my Congressional District in Washington and consequently I missed three votes. For the record, had I been present, I would have voted ''yea'' on rollcall vote 388, ''yea'' on rollcall vote 389 and ''yea'' on rollcall vote 390.

THE PERSECUTION OF CHRISTIANS IN SUDAN

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2002

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, Saturday night, college students from around the country will be spending all night at the Lincoln Memorial. They will be praying for the people of Sudan, and reminding us all of the human tragedy that is occurring there, and that we must do something about it. They will march to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in the morning, reminding us that we must never again let happen the kind of evil, the genocide perpetrated by the Nazis. And so, we must do something about Sudan.

The Sudanese government, the National Islamic Front, is killing its own people in many horrible ways in its attempt to assert total control over their lives, to impose its version of Islamic law on the Christians and animists of southern Sudan. Government forces drop homemade bombs on villages and crops; they attack people in line for food aid with helicopter gunships; and they bum villages and crops to the ground. A particularly horrible weapon the government uses is hunger—it intentionally denies food to hundreds of thousands of people, to force them to starve or become refugees.

According to the United Nations World Food Program, the Sudanese government intentionally put as many as 1.7 million people at risk this spring by denying them food and medical relief. The government agreed in 1989, along with the Sudan People's Liberation Army (the rebel group) and the United Nations to allow relief through Operation Lifeline Sudan. Shortly after this agreement, however, there was a coup and the current strongmen came to power. They immediately began to manipulate the relief system to prevent relief from coming in. Operation Lifeline Sudan flights are not always allowed in, and the government refuses to protect non-Operation Lifeline Sudan flights. In short, the government is trying nearly everything short of outright banning all relief to keep the people of the south starving.

This is nothing less than genocide. The government is trying to kill or drive out hundreds of thousands of people because they are not Arabic Muslims. The government wants to impose its version of Islamic law over these people, who refuse to follow, and it wants free access to the oil fields that lie under these people's homes. So, it tries to starve them.

We in America cannot tolerate this any longer. We have stood by too long while the people of southern Sudan suffer at the hands of the government. We must act. We must listen to the call of the college students at the Lincoln Memorial Saturday night and the Holocaust Museum Sunday morning. We must stand firm with Sudan.

HONORING THE 50th ANNIVERSARY OF THE GREATER FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2002

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th year of ministry of the Stones River Baptist Church of Smyrna, Tennessee. The congregation will celebrate the milestone on October 7, 2002.

The need for a new Baptist Church to serve the military families stationed at the former Seward Air Force Base in Smyrna, Tennessee, was discussed in May 1952. The first worship service conducted by the Stones River Baptist Church was held on July 30, 1952. And the first worship conducted in the church's permanent building was held on October 26, 1952.

The church has served its community and congregation well for half a century, a period during which our nation experienced much change and innovation. Through those many years, though, Stones River Baptist Church never faltered in its commitment to bring the Lord's word to the people.

Smyrna is a much stronger community because of the work of the church and its congregation. I congratulate the congregation's perseverance and am sure the church will grow even stronger during its next 50 years of service.

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR SENATE PASSAGE OF THE PENSION SECURITY ACT (HR 3762)

HON. CHARLES W. "CHIP" PICKERING

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2002

Mr. PICKERING. Mr. Speaker, since December, several of our country's most noted corporations, many widely regarded as the most innovative, fastest growing, strongest, and best managed companies, have collapsed due to gross irresponsibility and financial mismanagement. Accordingly, shareholders in these companies as well as tens of thousands of employees who held their retirement accounts in these companies have lost literally billions of dollars.

These shareholders and employees have lost everything. The plans made for retirement? Vanished. Their hopes and dreams for the future? Gone. Money set aside to pay for sending their children to college? Disappeared. All because of the improper and fraudulent actions of a handful of corporate executives who took advantage of the system.

In April, the Republican leadership of the House brought to the floor legislation to protect the pensions of employees from corporate wrongdoing. This legislation, the Pension Security Act, HR 3762, provides new protections and options to help workers enhance and preserve their savings while restoring employee confidence in our country's pension system.

That crucial legislation passed this body with a bipartisan vote of 255–163. Since that time, however, the Senate has not taken action on this bill. Pension security is a must past issue for this Congress. Employee confidence in their pensions is deteriorating. Will we allow yet another corporate scandal to hurt even more families throughout this country before getting a bill to the President's desk?

The Pension Security Act will reform outdated federal pension laws. The bill will prevent company insiders from selling their own stock during blackouts while employees are left to fend for themselves. It will require employers to offer workers high quality investment advice so they can make well-informed decisions on how to invest their hard-earned money. It gives workers freedom to diversify their portfolios and seek alternative investment options.

The President is ready to sign this bill. The House has not turned its back on American workers. The House has taken action! We passed the Pension Security Act five months ago! But, the Senate has not acted on pension reform legislation, and American workers are worried about their retirement.

Mr. Speaker, a few bad apples in the corporate hierarchy have drained the retirement savings of tens of thousands of workers, and it's time to act! Today, I am introducing a resolution demanding action on the Pension Security Act. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution. It's time to stop playing politics with the savings of hard working Americans.

STATEMENT ON ANNIVERSARY OF TERRORIST ATTACKS ON AMERICA

HON. MAC COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 2002

Mr. COLLINS. Mr. Speaker, one year ago, cowardly terrorists carried out a brutal and horrific attack on America. We watched our televisions that Tuesday morning in shocked disbelief to see our landmarks burning, knowing that it meant thousands of our countrymen and women had perished in the flames and smoke.

For many, that day was a nightmare unlike any other. As we commemorate the one-year anniversary of those attacks, I am pleased to say that a dark nightmare has given way to the dawning of a new day in America.

We have taken the battle to our enemies, ferreting them out of caves and crevices. We have broken the backs of an organized, well-funded, committed terrorist network, and our