

present I would have cast my vote in favor of this legislation. This legislation is critical to the continued operation of our government.

A PROCLAMATION COMMENDING  
CONGRESSMAN RANDY "DUKE"  
CUNNINGHAM

**HON. ROBERT W. NEY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 2002*

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker, whereas, Congressman CUNNINGHAM joined the Navy in 1966 and is recognized as one of the most highly decorated pilots in the Vietnam War; and

Whereas, Congressman CUNNINGHAM was designated the first flying ace in Vietnam and was awarded the Navy Cross for his courageous acts; and

Whereas, Congressman CUNNINGHAM trained U.S. fighter pilots at the "Top Gun" program at Miramar Naval Air Station; and

Whereas, Congressman CUNNINGHAM now serves his country in the United States House of Representatives;

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District in recognizing Congressman RANDY CUNNINGHAM for a lifetime of service and sacrifice for our country.

REPORT FROM PENNSYLVANIA

**HON. PATRICK J. TOOMEY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 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 Mrs. Grace Hart O'Boyle of Bethlehem. Mrs. O'Boyle is a prime example of someone who has devoted her life to the betterment of our communities.

Mrs. O'Boyle served Bethlehem Township as a junior high school, business and English teacher and was an active participant in the city's summer school program for many decades. Despite commitments to Brownie troops and other youth organizations, Mrs. O'Boyle found time to raise a family and her strong commitment to education and the community is reflected in her own children's education-based careers.

While most would relax in their retirement, Mrs. O'Boyle saw her retirement only as an opportunity to help her community. She continued to substitute teach and was a member of Bethlehem's Professional Woman's Association, American Association of University Women, and served with various other Organizations.

Mrs. O'Boyle is marked by her humbleness and devotion, which she exhibited on her 80th birthday. Instead of accepting the flowers and gifts that usually mark such an occasion, Mrs.

O'Boyle established a Scholarship fund to help bright, needy students at her local parish school.

Mrs. O'Boyle stands out as an example of the effect one person can have upon their community and for this she is a Lehigh Valley Hero in my book.

Mr. Speaker, this concludes my Report from Pennsylvania.

TRIBUTE TO MARGARET VINSON  
HALLGREN

**HON. JAMES P. MORAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 2002*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Margaret Vinson Hallgren, President of the National Military Family Association, NMFA, in recognition of her distinguished service to our country.

For 18 years, while filling critical volunteer positions within NMFA, including four terms as director of government relations and an unprecedented six terms as president, Margaret has worked tirelessly to help partially offset the extraordinary hardships and sacrifices service members and their families endure while serving our Nation.

Margaret Hallgren, whom I have the honor of knowing personally, has been a military family member all her life, first as an Army "brat," then as an Army spouse. She is the widow of an active duty Army officer, W.H. Vinson, Jr., and is now married to Hal E. Hallgren, who retired after 30 years of active duty in the U.S. Army. She has four grown children and nine grandchildren.

After earning her B.A. degree from Vassar College and a Masters of Accounting from Duke University in Political Science/International Law, Margaret worked for 2 years as an Intelligence Analyst for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in Washington, DC.

Margaret later went on to an incredible career at the National Military Family Association, NMFA, where she has touched the lives of hundreds of thousands of active duty, National Guard, Reserve, and retired families in her unwavering efforts to enable them to achieve a reasonable quality of life. It is an understatement to say that Margaret has been in the vanguard of Congress' and the Department of Defense's actions to sustain readiness and the All Volunteer Force.

Among her numerous accomplishments, perhaps her biggest achievement comes from her visionary work as one of the 12 original cofounders of the Military Coalition, TMC. The Coalition was organized in 1985 for the sole purpose of attempting to repeal legislation which would have reduced retired pay cost-of-living adjustments by 22.5 percent over a 7-year period. After TMC's successful effort in this area, Margaret and other leaders in the Coalition had the foresight to recognize its future potential and kept it intact. Today, the Coalition is comprised of 33 military and veterans organizations and represents more than 5.5 million active duty, National Guard, Reserve, retired members and veterans of the seven uniformed services plus their families and survivors. Thanks to Margaret's insight, NMFA continues to be a leader in TMC on issues affecting military families.

Mr. Speaker, Margaret Hallgren's extraordinary career of leadership, volunteerism and personal dedication in protecting the welfare and quality of life of every member of the uniformed services community is an inspiration and continuing lesson to all Americans. My best wishes and gratitude go with her. Margaret, I salute you on behalf of all our servicemen and women, past and present who have worn and continue to wear the uniform.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF THE  
AMERICAN CANINE ASSOCIATION'S  
SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAMS AT  
GROUND ZERO IN NEW YORK

**HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 2002*

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my gratitude and appreciation to the Search and Rescue Teams of the American Canine Association, ACA, who, for 8 weeks following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, tirelessly and selflessly served at Ground Zero in New York City. Following the devastating attacks on our country and our very way of life, handlers Robert Yarnall, Jr., Susan Yarnall, Heather Nothstein, Michael Glass, Avi Thol, Travis Hayden, Sean Hayden, and Amy Dinardi, along with canines Gus, Nela, Nala, Samson, and Duchess, came to the aid of a grieving nation and endured tremendous personal difficulty to assist in finding survivors of the Twin Towers.

In the year since September 11, we have come to a new appreciation of the heroes who live among us, those who volunteer their time, ability, and talent, without thought of recognition. The actions of these handlers and canines represent the true values of America—generosity, compassion, and service to community—that have made us great. I am proud to have had these extraordinary people and canines represent Chester County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The ACA deserves our thanks and our commendation for a job well done.

CONGRATULATING DR. JAMES T.  
HARRIS ON HIS APPOINTMENT  
AS PRESIDENT OF WIDENER  
UNIVERSITY

**HON. CURT WELDON**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 1, 2002*

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to welcome and congratulate the new president of Widener University, Dr. James T. Harris III. Founded in 1821, Widener University is composed of eight schools and colleges that offer liberal arts and sciences, professional and preprofessional curricula. A comprehensive, teaching institution chartered in both Pennsylvania and Delaware, Widener is a three-campus university offering 150 programs of study leading to an associate's, bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree. Dr. Harris becomes only the ninth president in Widener's rich 181-year history to lead this institution in continued excellence.