

I wish to commend Post #2575 and all of its members for the great service they provide the veterans of New Mexico. Congratulations Post #2575 on 75 great years and keep up the good work.

THE PERSECUTION OF THE
UYGHUR PEOPLE AND THE FAM-
ILY OF REBIYA KADEER

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 497, which expresses the sense of the House of Representatives that Rebiya Kadeer's children should be immediately released from detention, and that the Chinese Government should refrain from further persecution of the Uyghur people. I am proud to be a cosponsor of this resolution and believe strongly that the Chinese government must be pressed on these points.

The China of today is not progressing, Madam Speaker, it is regressing. It is becoming more violent, more repressive, and more resistant to basic values of human rights and religious freedom. The Chinese government tortures and imprisons Catholic bishops, Protestant church leaders, Muslim worshipers, Falun Gong followers, and Buddhist monks and nuns just because of their faith and systematically destroys churches and confiscates Bibles. It persecutes the Uyghur people, cutting them off from the outside world as it pursues a policy of cultural liquidation.

Rebiya Kadeer is a brave soul who has stood up to this violence and repression. She has suffered so much at the hands of the Chinese Government, and yet does not recoil in fear. For her bravery, the Chinese Government has retaliated by capturing and imprisoning her children who remained behind in China. They have been held at unknown locations, interrogated, and very possibly tortured.

A couple of years ago, the FBI identified Chinese secret police following Rebiya Kadeer and spying on her at her Fairfax home. The Chinese Government will stop at nothing to silence those who oppose its brutal tactics against its own citizens.

I urge the House to adopt this resolution, and to demand that the Chinese Government cease its persecution of the Uyghur people and immediately release Rebiya Kadeer's children from detention.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
LYDIA THOMAS

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Lydia Thomas on the occasion of her retirement as President and CEO of Noblis Inc. in Falls Church, VA.

Dr. Thomas graduated from Howard University in 1965 with a bachelor of science in zoology. She went on to pursue a master of science in microbiology from American University in 1971, and later, returned to Howard to earn a doctor of philosophy in cytology.

Dr. Thomas began her career with the MITRE Corporation in 1973. While at MITRE, she held a variety of technical and management positions in the areas of energy, environment, health, and communications systems. In 2002, she was appointed by President Bush to serve as a founding member of the President's Homeland Security Advisory Council. Dr. Thomas was elected to the Council on Foreign Relations that same year. In 2005, she chaired the Homeland Security Advisory Council's Task Force on Preventing the Entry of Weapons of Mass Effects on U.S. Soil.

On the State level, Dr. Thomas was appointed to the Virginia Research and Technology Advisory Commission by Governor George Allen, and then for a second term by Governor Mark Warner. Active in her local community, Dr. Thomas is a member of the Superintendent's Business/Industry Advisory Council for Fairfax County Public Schools, a trustee of the INOVA Health System, and a member of the Northern Virginia Health Force.

Dr. Thomas is the recipient of numerous awards throughout her career, including the 1986 TWIN Award by the Young Women's Christian Association; the 1990 "Ebony" Image Award by the Coalition of 100 Black Women; the Deans' Award at the 1991 Black Engineer of the Year Conference; and one of the 50 Most Important Blacks in Research Science in 2004.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I applaud Dr. Lydia Thomas on a distinguished career dedicated to ensuring the national security and environmental health of our Nation. I call upon my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Thomas on her retirement and wishing her the best of luck in all future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO ALTA MIRA CLUB

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Alta Mira Club on its 100th anniversary. The Alta Mira Club is a philanthropic project established on December 9, 1907, to benefit women and children. The club is located in the City of San Leandro, CA, and has been creating a positive impact in that community over the past century.

The Alta Mira Club's 60 charter members became a part of the California Federation of Women's Clubs on January 13, 1908, with the adoption of a constitution, bylaws, and elected officers. The Club later joined the General Federation of Women's Clubs, headquartered in Washington, DC, on February 9, 1912.

The Alta Mira Club has a rich history. The members participated in the Suffragette movement and held classes for women on "how to vote", helped furnish and plant the grounds of the first San Leandro City library, and planted palm trees in the City, while also continuously engaging in other community, philanthropic, educational, scholarship, and social activities.

The Club purchased the Ygnacio Peralta Home in 1926, receiving California Historical landmark bronze plaque number 285 in 1949. In 1978, the Ygnacio Peralta Home was placed on the national register in Washington, DC. The membership of the Alta Mira Club is the sole support of the clubhouse, where

members continue the tradition of providing musical entertainment, poetry, and lectures as a part of its programs.

I congratulate the Alta Mira Club on their 100th anniversary of excellent service to the community, their many accomplishments, and their continued support of civic projects and programs.

HONORING DOTTIE JOHNSON

HON. PETER HOEKSTRA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dorothy "Dottie" Johnson, a passionate and dedicated leader both in Michigan and at the national level in the philanthropic and nonprofit sectors. I am proud to say that Dottie and her family reside in my district, yet spread their passion for philanthropy, volunteerism and nonprofit initiatives throughout the country. She is truly an inspiration.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Johnson's list of accomplishments is long and impressive. Each has significantly impacted individuals and communities on a myriad of levels.

For 25 years she served as the Council of Michigan Foundations, the Nation's largest associations of grant makers and has created other regional associations of grant makers in the United States and overseas.

A significant amount of Ms. Johnson's energy has been focused on our country's youth. She founded the Michigan Community Foundations Youth Project, involving more than 1,500 high school youth in philanthropy annually in Michigan and now an international movement in more than 38 States and 18 countries. She created Learning to Give, an internationally used Internet resource of more than 800 teacher-prepared and tested lesson plans on giving and the nonprofit sector for K-12 education.

She founded the Michigan AIDS Fund, the oldest statewide private response to HIV/AIDS in the Nation. She also initiated a number of other statewide efforts, including the Michigan Community Service Commission and Michigan Nonprofit Association.

The list of awards bestowed upon Ms. Johnson is yet another indication of the level of her dedication and success with which she pursued her work. She is the recipient of the Distinguished Grantmaker Award from the Council on Foundations—the highest award from the Nation's leading association on philanthropy. She is also the recipient of the Women of Achievement and Courage Award from the Michigan Women's Foundation.

She serves as a trustee on the W.K. Kellogg Foundation in Battle Creek and serves as a trustee of Grand Valley State University, which is now home to the Dorothy A. Johnson Center on Philanthropy and Nonprofit Leadership. She has served on numerous national boards, such as Independent Sector—the voice for the Nation's Nonprofit Sector.

Ms. Johnson retires this month as a trustee of the Corporation for National and Community Service, where she served since 1998, and has the distinction of having been nominated by both Presidents Bush and Clinton. As a former Chairman of the Oversight subcommittee with jurisdiction over the Corporation, I can say firsthand that she is a wise and

trusted counsel. She was the architect of significant grant process reform and program policy reform at the Corporation and a leader on AmeriCorps rulemaking.

Madam Speaker, Dottie Johnson has led a long and distinguished career deserving of the recognition of the U.S. House of Representatives. Please allow me to submit my remarks for the RECORD.

HONORING DR. KATHY KINLEY

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, on November 27, 2007, the California School Boards Association, along with over 3,000 school board members from across the state, will gather to honor Dr. Kathy Kinley and her ongoing efforts to improve life and education for our children.

As a product of the California school system, Dr. Kinley has become a prestigious member of our community holding a doctorate in educational leadership from the University of La Verne. Before earning her doctorate, she received a bachelor's degree in English and political science from San Diego State University and a master's degree in school administration from California State University, San Bernardino.

Dr. Kinley has played a multifaceted leadership role in our school districts. Kathy began her career with the California Education System as a teacher and later went on to serve as principal of De Anza Middle School in San Bernardino County's Ontario-Montclair School District. Along with participating in the classroom, she has also dedicated herself as an active member of CSBA's Delegate Assembly since 1984 and CSBA's Board of Directors since 1996 serving on a number of committees including the Budget Committee, the Legislative Committee and the Federal Issues Council.

As President of CSBA, Dr. Kinley has committed herself to closing the education achievement gap that creates a barrier for many Latino, black, American Indian, and underprivileged youth in our California school districts. She has embraced a mission to ensure the futures of all children and has pushed schools to encourage students to aspire above their circumstances, so that they too might become incredible leaders. Along with her colleagues, Dr. Kinley sees the incredible resource that lies in the hands of our children and has dedicated her life and career to ensuring that the resource of our younger generation is protected and cultivated.

There is no question of why such an incredible leader was honored with the title of Woman of the Year by the Kudos for Kids Foundation during their 61st annual Amazing Woman Award assembly. Dr. Kinley has made a direct impact on the lives of millions of teachers, students, and families. Our communities have benefited and will continue to see the fruits of her labor unfold. Because of her passion and talent more students will have a chance to achieve their dreams because of her belief that all students deserve an open door to educational excellence. She has made headway in closing a gap that before seemed like an insurmountable goal.

It is for relentless dedication, perseverance, passion, and visionary leadership that we recognize, with great gratitude, Dr. Kathy Kinley for today.

INTRODUCTION OF THE 9/11
HEALTH AND COMPENSATION ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, today, with my good friends Representatives NADLER, FOSSELLA and 44 other original cosponsors, I am pleased to introduce the comprehensive, bipartisan 9/11 Health and Compensation Act, to finally provide health care and compensation to the heroes and heroines of 9/11.

The collapse of the World Trade Center towers took nearly three thousand lives in an instant and released a massive cloud of asbestos, pulverized concrete, and other poisons. To those toxins, we now know that thousands more have lost their health.

Now 6 years later, more than 6,500 responders—truly the heroes and heroines of 9/11—are being treated for 9/11-related health problems through the federally-funded World Trade Center Medical Monitoring and Treatment program, and more than 4,500 have been referred for mental health care, often for conditions like post traumatic stress syndrome. Every month, another 500–1000 responders sign up for health monitoring, and those coming in are more sick than ever before.

Separately, more than 70,000 Americans reported to the World Trade Center Health Registry. While most are from New York, New Jersey or Connecticut, more than 10,000 Americans from outside the Tri-State area have also registered. Amazingly, every single state has someone in the World Trade Center registry. This is a health emergency on a national scale and it requires a strong federal response.

Last Saturday, I joined New York AFL–CIO President Dennis Hughes, and Representative NADLER and FOSSELLA at a labor rally at Ground Zero to announce the bill we are introducing today. The 9/11 Health and Compensation Act will ensure that everyone exposed to the Ground Zero toxins has a right to be medically monitored and all who are sick as a result have a right to treatment. It will build on the expertise of the Centers of Excellence, which are currently providing high-quality care to thousands of responders and ensuring on-going data collection and analysis. Expanding care to the entire exposed community, the bill also includes care for area residents, workers, and school children as well as the thousands of people that came from across the country to assist with the recovery and clean-up efforts. Finally, the bill provides compensation for economic damages and loss by reopening the September 11 Victims Compensation Fund.

I thank Chairman PALLONE of the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health for holding an important hearing tomorrow on answering the call to provide medical monitoring and treatment to World Trade Center responders. I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee, the Judiciary Committee and the lead-

ership as we move this important legislation forward. It is critical that we show our first responders that, after rushing in to serve New York and the Nation in a time of great disaster, we will not desert them in their time of need. It is the least we can do, as a grateful Nation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE 9/11
HEALTH AND COMPENSATION ACT

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, when the World Trade Center collapsed on September 11, 2001, the towers sent up a plume of poisonous dust that blanketed Lower Manhattan. A toxic brew of lead, dioxin, asbestos, mercury, benzene, and other hazardous contaminants swirled around the site of the disaster as rescue workers labored furiously in the wreckage, many without adequate protective gear. Thousands of first responders, residents, area workers, students, and others from around the country inhaled this poisonous dust as it settled onto and into countless homes, shops, and office buildings.

Now, 6 years later, there is no doubt that thousands of people are sick from World Trade Center contamination. A study released in September 2006 by Mt. Sinai Hospital found that 70 percent of the more than 9,000 first responders studied suffer health problems related to their work at Ground Zero. This number does not include the Stuyvesant High School students whose school sat near piles of debris from the towers, the nearby residents whose apartments still contain poisonous dust, or the thousands of people who work in offices that were never properly cleaned.

Abraham Lincoln once said that we must "care for him who shall have borne the battle." And so we should. Today, I, along with my colleagues, am introducing essential, new legislation that ensures that everyone exposed to World Trade Center toxins, no matter where they may live now or in the future, would have a right to high-quality medical monitoring and treatment, and access to a reopened Victim Compensation Fund for their losses. Whether you are a first responder who toiled without proper protection; or an area resident, worker or student who was caught in the plume or subject to ongoing indoor contamination; if you were harmed by 9/11, you would be eligible. This bill builds on the best ideas brought to Congress thus far and on the infrastructure already in place providing critical treatment and monitoring.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE 9/11
HEALTH AND COMPENSATION ACT

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 17, 2007

Mr. FOSSELLA. Madam Speaker, last Tuesday was the sixth anniversary of 9/11, and it is time to reaffirm our commitment to "Never Forget."

What many here in Washington have forgotten is that a silent killer to this day is still taking the lives of the rescue, recovery, and