ATTACK ON THE UNITED STATES

HON. TODD TIAHRT
OF KANSAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, September 11, 2001 is the day the landscape of America was changed forever.

We will rebuild structures, but we cannot rebuild the thousands of loved ones that have been lost to this world forever. Our thoughts and prayer go out to the families and friends of the victims of the reprehensible and cowardly attack against our country. As we attempt to rescue possible survivors and console those who have lost, we begin our determined quest to find their murderers and impose a tough and appropriate punishment.

Make no mistake, the act of war perpetrated against the United States will be met with the full force of the U.S. military. President Bush, Congress and the American people are resolved to take on and defeat the forces of evil that attempt to disrupt our way of life. The principles of democracy in a free and open society are at stake. This is a war against all nations who enjoy the liberties and freedom of democracy, and all peaceful nations should band together in a unified force against those that wreak hatred and terror.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday was a dark day in America. Today, the light of freedom shines bright and we move forward as the greatest nation in the world.

God bless the victims and their families and God bless America.

ATTACK ON THE UNITED STATES

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, like many Americans, I woke up this morning after not getting much sleep, with a broken heart and a tremendous feeling of sadness and anger. There are still so many questions unanswered and so much emotion tied in our hearts.

While we see these horrible events, feel these unbearable stories, we must remember that we are Americans. Throughout history Americans have shown the world what freedom is, and more importantly, what freedom costs. While we share this planet with evil, we will not let evil triumph.

To the victims and to the friends and families of those who have perished, I want you to know that your country—your American family—is praying for you and shares this burden with you.

To those responsible for the unspeakable horrors our country has endured, I say to you: You should not sleep another night peacefully, you should not eat another meal without looking over your shoulder, and you should never have rest because we will find you. Justice will be done.

ATTACK ON AMERICA

HON. HENRY BONILLA
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. BONILLA. Mr. Speaker, yesterday was a day we never thought we would see in our lifetimes. Unfortunately, we are just learning the depths of the devastation. In the true American spirit, we are also learning about heroes across this country who rose to the challenge to save and comfort their fellow Americans.

President Bush has the full support of this Congress. In the long days and months ahead, we must unite to follow through on his pledge to track down those responsible for these cowardly acts against the American people.

Those who have declared war on the American people must now face the full might and power of the United States. Americans will stand strong and will not let these terrorists take our freedom.

The men and women in our Armed Forces serve our country with brave hearts every single day. But today is a new day in their duty, a new day of a monolithic fight against evil. We must provide our military and intelligence agencies with the resources they need to win this fight.

America must stand together with strength and resolve so America remains free, safe and secure. America must stand together in prayer for the lives that were lost. America will prevail and we will win.

God Bless America.

ATTACK ON THE UNITED STATES

HON. CLIFF STEARNS
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, the bloodiest attack in America history occurred yesterday September 11, 2001—a date which will live in infamy. Life in America, as we know it, will change. Let us as Members of Congress, and more importantly, as Americans resolve to help those families who lost loved ones in the cowardly attacks, and provide the necessary resources to both New York and Washington, DC to aid in the recovery and assist these families.

We will work to identify those responsible for these acts of savagery and bring them to justice. We will also, as the President has mentioned, hold those groups or states that harbor these cowards responsible for what has occurred.

The attacks yesterday remind us of the shock and horror experienced at Pearl Harbor. We must—and will—work to ensure that this kind of barbarism will never occur again.

So my colleagues it is clear that the U.S. is at war like December 7, 1941 but a new kind of war. The U.S. won WWI, WWII and the cold war. But now we must prevail in what could be called the gray war. We will prevail here also.

IN HONOR OF THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF JAMES L. CUBBAGE, JR., AND JULIA MAST TO THE DELAWARE FIREFIGHTER COMMUNITY

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE
OF DELAWARE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, during my service as a Member of the House of Representatives, it has been my honor and privilege to rise and pay tribute to organizations and people who really make a difference in the Delaware community. Today, I rise to recognize James L. Cubbage, Jr., President of the Delaware Volunteer Firemen’s Association (DVFA) and Julia Mast, President of the Ladies Auxiliary of the DVFA.

On behalf of my fellow Delawareans I would like to commend these two outstanding individuals, not only for their tireless efforts on behalf of the First State, but for their tremendous contributions to the DVFA and the Ladies Auxiliary of the DVFA.

James L. Cubbage, Jr., has been a tremendously active and influential member of the fire prevention community for years. He has served as an active member of the DVFA since the early 1970’s, is a Board Member of the International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI) Education Foundation, and also former President of the Delaware Chapter of the IAAI. Jim Cubbage has shown exceptional leadership skills throughout his career, reflected in his election as Director of the DVFA in 1987 and serving in that capacity until 1998, when he was then elected as 2nd Vice President of the DVFA, followed by being elected President in 2000.

Mr. Cubbage has also worked diligently for the Clayton Fire Company, No. 1, Inc., being a life member, having joined in 1965. There he has served on the Board of Directors for over 15 years and is a former Chief and President. He is a member of the New Castle County Fire Association and former President. He also serves as Chief Deputy Fire Marshall for the state of Delaware. Jim’s devotion and
dedication to fire prevention was acknowledged when he was recognized as “Firemen of the Year” in 1969.

Julia Mast has also played a critical role in keeping our communities safe through her work in the Ladies Auxiliary of the DVFA. Julia has served as a member since 1959, a tribute to her devotion and commitment. She is a charter member and has also served as President of the Clayton Ladies Auxiliary on several different occasions, which is a testimony to her exceptional leadership qualities and hard work. Julia has also shined as an active and enthusiastic member in her local church. Fire service is a long standing tradition in her family and Julia Mast has done a praiseworthy job of keeping this tradition going.

James L. Cubbage, Jr. and Julia Mast are both exemplary models of commitment and excellence and valuable members of the Delaware community. I salute James L. Cubbage, Jr. and Julia Mast for their efforts to keep the Delaware Volunteer Firemen’s Association and Ladies Auxiliary a strong and vital part of Delaware.

THE HORRIFIC ACTIONS OF TERRORISTS

HON. JOHN LINDE
OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. LINDE. Mr. Speaker, when the prayers are said; when the tears are dried; when the bodies are buried—we must go on remembering. Always.

The war against terrorism has been casually engaged for nearly thirty years. Now we must get serious and win it.

There are only two sides in this war, ours and the enemy’s. To those who believe that there is a neutral ground we must say that you are on the side of the enemy and we will punish you. To those who believe that they can quietly harbor and help the terrorists we must say that you are the enemy and our military will bring you to your knees. To those who commit these acts we must say that we will find you and kill you.

America has been changed forever through this tragedy. If falls upon us to rebuild the confidence in our society that great nations will not cower, that you will be safe again, that freedom works.

TRIBUTE TO ROBERTA “ROBBIE” RADER

HON. ROY BLUNT
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, all too often in the news, the only young people we hear about are those who are in trouble for one reason or another. It is an honor today to rise and share with my Colleagues information about an outstanding young man in my district who demonstrates exemplary character and leadership skills in her Southwest Missouri school and community.

This exceptional young leader is Roberta Rader, or “Robbie” as everyone in Mount Vernon, Missouri knows her. In many ways she is just a typical teenager in her senior year at Mount Vernon High School. But at the same time, this typical teen is doing extraordinary things. Robbie is active in Student Council where she serves as the Community Service Chair. Because of her personal commitment she has helped build houses through Habitat for Humanity and has volunteered at various shelters for the underprivileged in the community. Robbie also serves as President of her school’s National Honor Society and was on the three-person team from Mt. Vernon that captured the state Future Farmers of America forestry championship this year.

To further demonstrate that she is a well rounded person, Robbie has lettered for two years on the school’s track team, is a district champion in hurdles and will be co-vedalitarian of her Senior class next spring. Such a rich and varied accomplishments has not gone unnoticed at the national level. Robbie was just chosen to be the Co-Chair of the Executive Board of the National Association of Student Councils, a position in which she represents seven states. As a member of the national board, she also participates in setting national goals for student councils and directing those activities as co-chair.

It is clear that this young lady is motivated and focused. Part of her commitment is seen in a personal habit of keeping a list of her goals with her everywhere she goes. Robbie has to update the list every six months! Our country would benefit if more could achieve their goals as quickly and stay as committed and focused as Miss Rader.

Robbie has benefited from a supportive family and caring teachers who have encouraged and guided her along the path of learning and achievement. Robbie continues to work relentlessly toward her goals, earning the respect of classmates and teachers. It is a testament to the strength of her character that despite all of her accomplishments, her teachers still praise her as “humble.”

Robbie Rader is leadership in action. It is a comfort to know that young people such as Robbie are preparing themselves today to our future leaders. I know that my Colleagues join me in commending Robbie for her national office and her commitment to excellence in her personal life.

ATTACK ON THE UNITED STATES

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.
OF WISCONSIN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, September 11, 2001, is a date that will forever be etched in our memories as a day our very way of life was attacked. These acts of cowardice took the lives of innocent souls away from their families and friends. My thoughts and prayers go out to the families who lost loved ones and my thanks go out to all of the emergency personnel who risked their lives to save others.

The perpetrators believe that our weakness is our freedom. They are so wrong. This will unite our country and they will soon know that freedom is our greatest strength. We should support President Bush and we should expeditiously make available all necessary means so that justice can be carried out. God Bless America

TRIBUTE TO WEST HERNANDO MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. KAREN L. THURMAN
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, September 11, 2001

Mrs. THURMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am here today to pay tribute to the remarkable students and faculty of West Hernando Middle School. West Hernando Middle is located in Hernando County, Florida which is one of the fastest growing counties in the state. The faculty at West Hernando Middle works extremely hard to serve students with highly diverse educational needs, with 23% of its students receiving Exceptional Student Education services ranging from Educational Alternative Treatment classes to classes for gifted students.

In 1995, West Hernando resembled many other middle schools in the district. It was hindered with problems such as overcrowding and poor socioeconomic conditions and it became evident that change was needed. In that same year, Ken Pritz was appointed the new principal of the school. Along with their new principal, students at West Hernando Middle received a new approach to learning. This new approach was founded on the shared vision of the staff that, “We at West Hernando Middle believe that all students can and will learn.”

Building on this vision, Ann Bristol, the graphic arts instructor at the school, came up with the theme known as “Dream Extreme.” Ms. Bristol, a teacher known for her infectious enthusiasm and ability to motivate, encouraged her students to learn by creating many different exciting activities. Her unique teaching methods soon spread throughout the school, consuming the faculty and students.

“Dream Extreme” became reality when in the 1998–99 school year the sixth-grade Gemini Team accepted a challenge to build an 87-foot wooden foot bridge over a water retention area adjacent to the school. Students began using the Internet as well as cable television technology to research and implement the design and construction of the bridge. The project, known as “Brigding the Gap in Education,” was a huge success and the bridge was honored as the cover story for the March 2000 issue of Cable in the Classroom. The entire project was evidence that the transformation of abstract knowledge to an actual application and concrete learning process had indeed “bridged the gap in education.”

During the 1999–2000 academic year, the Gemini Team embarked on a second project, equally as interesting, just as difficult and even more ambitious than the first. Working alongside the Southwest Florida Water Management District, students began researching the process of xeriscaping (a form of landscaping involving drought resistant vegetation) as well