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of her unique gifts of artistry, dance and creative writing. It is because the Livingston Developmental Academy focuses on the uniqueness of each child and provides special attention and love to every student that the school has been so successful.

Indeed, Charyl was a young lady who always made others smile. This act of kindness must not go without recognition. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Charyl Stockwell and to her family as the Livingston Developmental Academy honors her in dedicating their new building in her name. May the school forever carry the spirit and enthusiasm of Charyl Stockwell.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 13, 2001

Ms. KILPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, due to the shutdown of the National Air Space System, I am unable to return to Washington; therefore I respectfully request a leave of absence from business for Wednesday, September 12. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on H.J. Res. 61, the resolution condemning terrorist attacks launched against the United States on September 11, 2001, Rollcall No. 338.

HONORING PHILIP EILEBRECHT

HON. SCOTT McNINNIS
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, September 13, 2001

Mr. McNINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the courage and patriotism of Mr. Philip Eilebrecht. Now 83, Mr. Eilebrecht was one of the brave Americans who fought for our great country during the D-Day invasion at Normandy on June 6, 1944.

Mr. Eilebrecht's life was changed forever on January 29, 1942 when he left his father's ranch in Gunnison, Colorado at 24 years of age and was stationed within the ranks of the 102nd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron in Fort Riley, Kansas. He was sent there because of his knowledge of horses but was soon transferred to Columbia, South Carolina where his unit turned in their horses for "greyhound" armored cars. Only a few months later he found himself maneuvering his armored car along the sandy shores below the cliffs at Omaha Beach. He and thousands of other American soldiers bullied their way through the German forces that had held earlier forces at bay. Mr. Eilebrecht returned to Colorado with the Bronze Arrowhead Medal where he has remained and eventually retired after 25 years as a brand inspector.

Mr. Speaker, Philip Eilebrecht displayed his willingness to make the ultimate sacrifice for his country by fighting in one of the most legendary and bloody victories in the history of the United States. I would like to honor Philip Eilebrecht for his valor in the face of such immense danger and destruction. The United States appreciates his patriotism and recognizes him as a truly heroic American.