September 21, 2001

We triumphed then. We will triumph now. So help us God.

SEPTMBER 11TH, 2001 TRAGEDY IN AMERICA
HON. SANDER M. LEVIN
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, since September 11, we are solemnly reminded each day what it means to be a firefighter. Like so many others in public life they serve the community, but they do so at great risk of peril to their own health and lives.

So I am particularly pleased and proud to rise today in recognition of the careers of two distinguished firefighters from Sterling Heights, Michigan upon their retirement and as they embark upon a new phase of their lives.

Captain Kerry Wolgast began his firefighting career in Sterling heights in 1979. Since then, he has obtained numerous certifications ranging from Hazardous Materials First Responder to Terrorism Awareness. He was promoted to Lieutenant in 1994, and then to Captain in January of this year. He retired on September 17, 2001. Fire Inspector Andy Wallace began his career in Sterling Heights in 1980. Inspector Wallace has also obtained numerous certifications ranging from Criminal Justice Training to Fire and Arson investigation. He was promoted to Lieutenant in 1995 and Fire Inspector in 1997. He will retire on January 16, 2002.

We are grateful for the service Captain Wolgast and Inspector Wallace have provided the community and citizens of Sterling Heights over their long careers. Both have served the public well and have received letters of thanks and commendation from the community in response. I send to them and to their families my best wishes for a healthy, happy and productive retirement.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF ARMENIA’S INDEPENDENCE
HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 10th anniversary of Armenia’s independence from the Soviet Union. This anniversary marks an important turning point for Armenia and an opportunity to highlight the U.S.-Armenia relationship. As our country continues to mourn the victims of last Tuesday’s tragic attacks, so too do the Armenian people.

Armenian President Robert Kocharian expressed his condolences to President Bush along with an offer to send experienced rescue workers to help the relief efforts in New York and at the Pentagon. The government of Armenia also pledged to support America’s anti-terrorist campaign.

Since the dawn of history, Armenians have lived to their land despite repeated occupa-
readiness, but I am concerned that if successful, these efforts will ultimately encourage domestic pressure for removal of military operations which in any way inconvenience nearby residents. At this time of national crisis, we simply cannot afford to lose our most critical military training sites.

Unlike the situation in Puerto Rico, though, the overwhelming majority of residents and indeed the leaders of CNMI have not jumped on the political bandwagon to force the U.S. out. They are standing up to those fringe elements, because they recognize that freedom isn’t free, and that with the benefits of being part of the U.S. territories come some responsibilities.

The tragic terrorist events in New York and Washington, D.C., show us once again, that we cannot just turn our military on like a light switch. To ensure peace, our military must always be prepared for the horrible reality of war. They must always maintain the people, the equipment and most important, the training to ensure that they prevail when a challenge arises. We thank Speaker Filial for taking the initiative in confirming the commitment of the CNMI people to our fighting forces and all the citizens of the United States. As we enter the battle against terrorism around the world, it is heartening to have the CNMI people standing by our side. They have been there in times of peace, and they will be with us in the new war against terrorism.

DR. FREDERICK G. SAMPSON II CELEBRATES 50TH YEAR AS A MINISTER

HON. JOHN CONVYERS, JR.
OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. CONVYERS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commend Dr. Frederick G. Sampson II, pastor of Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church, as he marks two very important milestones in his illustrious career. In addition to celebrating his 50th year as pastor, Mr. Sampson recently celebrated his 30th anniversary as pastor of Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church.

Dr. Sampson has an extensive educational background, holding degrees in both Behavioral Science and the Theological Sciences. Dr. Sampson, an avid lecturer at colleges and universities throughout our country, is also the annual keynote speaker for various Conferences, Fellowships, Conventions, Councils, Coalitions, Advisory Boards, and Community Outreach Programs all over this country. During his career, Dr. Sampson has pastored various congregations all over the country, and has served on commissions and boards with the aim of fighting crime, improving education, and bringing a higher level of consciousness to our community.

Dr. Sampson’s many endeavors to enrich life at all levels of society have also led him to teaching, preaching, and studying mission all over the world. Dr. Sampson deserves praise for his rich, multi-national service record, including his leadership and participation in the Human Rights struggle. Once again, I urge my colleagues to join me in commending Dr. Sampson on his outstanding achievements.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS September 21, 2001

I am proud to say that these young students are award-winning scientists. Earlier this year, they earned the Unisys Prize for their outstanding use of the Internet as a tool in scientific investigation. Their project was entitled, “El Agua Trabaja! How Water Benefits Quality of Life in Chicago’s Little Village.”

In collaboration with the Chicago Academy of Sciences and Friends of the Chicago River, Mr. CONVYERS for putting together a bill that has garnered such wide bipartisan support.

I am pleased to recognize the 2000–2001 first and second grade students who took part in this endeavor. The students in Ms. Naida LaLuzz class include Jaime Aguilar, Jesenia Avelar, Raul Cordova, Roxana Delgando, Juan Deluna, Alejandro Galvan, Amaia Galvan, Luis Garcia, Rosio Garcia, Keli Hernandez, Erick Martinez, Diego Nava, Israel Navarro, Jose Pena, Jorge Ramirez, Denise Ruiz, Erwin Hernandez, Vincente Sanchez, Maria Sosa, Sergio Vega, Samantha Vera, Jacob Villegas and Maria Zavala. The students in Ms. Claudia Torres’s first grade class were Jose Aguierre, Christina Avila, Adrian Barraza, Guillermo Barriga, Fernando Cahuas, Jose Carbajal, Carolina Contreras, Chris Contreras, Yngrid Delacruz, Javier Deleon, Michael Gamez, Fernando Garcia, George Garcia, Francisco Gutierrez, Brenda Hernandez, Daniel Hernandez, Alejandro Ledezma, Genesis Lopez, Sarah Michel, Marcos Osario, Jose Perez, Alexander Reyes, Christina Salazar, Yasmeen Salazar, Nadia Santiago, Alejandro Vazquez, Jesus Vera, Esmerada Vergara and Ruby Zuno. First grade students in Ms. Gloria Carraro’s class were Maria Alcantar, Javier Flores, Bryan Gomez, Christopher Gonzalez, Miguel Gonzalez, Jose Granados, Gustavo Hernandez, Andrea Labra, Karina Lara, Gilberto Laureano, Nallei Luna, Alejandro Macias, Victor Majos, Lizett Mata, Crystal Medina, Beda Mendoza, Jose Mendoza, Luis Navarrete, Leonel Palaz, Blanca Paredes, Carmen Perez, Raul Quirz, Alejandro Rojas, Cristina Rojas, Vicente Salamanca, Leobardo Solis and Ixzel Zavala. First and second grade students in Ms. Jennifer Myer’s class were Guadalupe Alatorre, Julie Anna, Jose Carrasco, Alejandro Duenas, Cristian Garcia, Juan Garcia, Marco Garcia, Maria Garcia, Melissa Garcia, Valentino Gonzalez, Monica Hernandez,