

Tom Hobbins harbored a deep and abiding commitment to health care for all. He taught at the University Medical School and served as medical director of the Maryland Sleep Disorders Center in Towson. A board member of the Maryland Citizens' Health Initiative, he fought tirelessly for universal health care coverage for Marylanders. He also served on the front lines against handgun violence, teen smoking, and environmental degradation. He was a member of my health advisory group and I greatly valued his guidance.

Dr. Hobbins' curriculum vitae is filled with memberships, awards, and accolades. But I and my colleagues whom he visited here in Washington will remember him best for his generous spirit, his calm demeanor, and his altruistic approach to public policy matters. Whenever he called my office for an appointment, I could be assured that the subject of his visit would involve his patients' welfare and the common good. Tom Hobbins never once disappointed me. He combined a rare selflessness with a level of grace and serenity that most can only aspire to. It is with a sense of gratitude that I remember Dr. Thomas Hobbins. There are many who have been touched by his good will, and I am proud to count myself among them.

PROCLAMATION FOR STEVEN  
FUCALORO

**HON. STEVE ISRAEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 3, 2001*

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize one of New York's outstanding young students, Steven Fucaloro. This young man has received the Eagle Scout honor from his peers in recognition of his achievements.

Since the beginning of this century, the Boy Scouts of America have provided thousands of boys and young men each year with the opportunity to make friends, explore new ideas, and develop leadership skills while learning self-reliance and teamwork.

The Eagle Scout award is presented only to those who possess the qualities that make our nation great: commitment to excellence, hard work, and genuine love of community service. Becoming an Eagle Scout is an extraordinary award with which only the finest Boy Scouts are honored. To earn the award—the highest advancement rank in Scouting—a Boy Scout must demonstrate proficiency in the rigorous areas of leadership, service, and outdoor skills; they must earn a minimum of 23 merit badges as well as contribute at least 100 man-hours toward a community oriented service project.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of these awards, as their activities are indeed worthy of praise. Their leadership benefits our community and they serve as role models for their peers.

Also, we must not forget the unsung heroes, who continue to devote a large part of their lives to make all this possible. Therefore, I salute the families, scout leaders, and countless others who have given generously of their time and energy in support of scouting.

It is with great pride that I recognize the achievements of Steven and bring the attention of Congress to this successful young man on his day of recognition, Friday, November 2, 2001. Congratulations to Steven and his family.

“POLKA-BRATION” TIME FOR  
ELEANORE MAGIERA

**HON. JAMES A. BARCIA**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 3, 2001*

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Eleanore Magiera of Caro, MI, for her induction into the Michigan State Polka Music Hall of Fame. The citizens of our State are proud of their multi-cultural ancestry and delight in celebrating that diversity with others. The Polish community is one of the proudest in Michigan, bringing with it a passion for good food, good spirits, fellowship, dancing and traditional foot-stomping, lively polka music.

First introduced to the polka at an early age, Eleanore became part of a rich musical heritage with origins in European classical music and folk music that later combined to form a uniquely American style during the Depression Era in the United States. Contemporary polka music is a melting pot of musical influences from the vast array of immigrants that came to the United States and is representative of the diverse cultural backgrounds of our Nation.

In 1970, Eleanore and her husband, Frank, helped form the Michigan Polka Boosters Club to promote polka music and dancing. Eleanore was elected secretary-treasurer of the club, and over the years has put out the Michigan Polka News publication. She also organized the State of Michigan Polka Hall of Fame and is currently a member of the Great Lakes Polka Association.

Of course, everyone remembers Eleanore as a disc jockey for “Polka Party” on Sunday afternoons at the Rainbow Bar in Caro. Her enthusiastic, energetic and persistent promotion of the polka has brought smiles and good cheer to thousands of people everywhere. She continues to be active in many efforts to trumpet the qualities of polka music and to ensure its continued popularity among the young and old alike.

Induction into the Michigan State Polka Music Hall of Fame is a great honor bestowed upon those who have upheld the joyful spirit that is at the heart of polka music. Eleanore's hard work and outstanding service on behalf of polka enthusiasts has earned her this nomination, but her passion for the polka has done more than win her accolades. It has spread the love of music and dance to many who otherwise might have missed the opportunity to discover the polka.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Eleanore Magiera on achieving the Michigan Polka Music industry's highest honor and in expressing gratitude for her spirited promotion of the polka. I am confident she will continue to roll out a barrel of fun for polka lovers near and far.

SEARCH AND RESCUE DOGS

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 3, 2001*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am introducing H. Con. Res. 241, which recognizes the service of the search and rescue dogs who have been an integral part of the ongoing emergency response efforts in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania following the tragic events of September 11.

Our Nation has witnessed the valiant courage and selfless sacrifice of our public safety officers as well as ordinary citizens in the wake of these horrendous barbaric terrorist attacks. It should be noted that these search and recovery efforts have been aided by the service of more than 300 specially trained rescue dogs which possess unique sensory abilities that allow them to perform much-needed tasks that cannot be conducted as efficiently by people.

These rescue dogs, working in tandem with their equally courageous handlers, have endured exhaustion, exposure to noxious fumes and active fires, risks from falling debris, and other hazards during the rescue and recovery efforts. Accordingly, we should recognize the contribution of these highly trained canines along with those brave men and women who have risen to the challenge of responding to this tragedy.

H. CON. RES. 241

Whereas thousands of Americans and citizens of other nations perished in the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001;

Whereas many police officers, firemen, and other emergency rescue workers also perished or were injured in their heroic efforts to save people at the site of the World Trade Center, in New York, New York, and also worked in the rescue and recovery efforts at the Pentagon outside Washington, D.C., and at the site of the airline crash in Pennsylvania;

Whereas the rescue operations also involved more than 300 trained service dogs that performed rescue and recovery duties, particularly in New York City;

Whereas these dogs performed their duties at serious risk to their health and welfare and suffered injuries during the rescue and recovery process; and

Whereas these dogs were an important component of the larger rescue and recovery efforts: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—*

(1) more than 300 specially trained rescue and recovery dogs were instrumental in the emergency response operations in New York, Pennsylvania, and Virginia in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001;

(2) these dogs have unique sensory abilities that allow them to perform a set of tasks that cannot be conducted as efficiently by people;

(3) these dogs, working in tandem with their handlers, endured exhaustion, exposure to noxious fumes and active fires, risks from falling debris, and other hazards during the rescue and recovery efforts; and

(4) the Nation owes a debt of gratitude for the service given by these dogs.