

rushed to the scene in a demonstration of extraordinary courage and sacrifice. We met adversity with resolve. We answered terror with strength. We responded to evil with good. We defeated hatred with tolerance.

Your assembling here today sends a powerful message to the people of the world, to our allies and to our enemies. Inspired by the strength, perseverance and compassion of our heroes and the people across America, our unity and our resolve has only grown stronger. We will remember. We will rebuild. And we will move forward with the unity and confidence of a free people.

Our sadness from the images of destruction and our memories of those we lost on September 11th will forever be embedded in our minds. Yet when we look back on that fateful day, we will look back not just in sadness, but also with pride, in the actions of New Yorkers and of Americans across this great land, who stepped forward in our cities in our nation's hour of adversity.

And to President Bush, and to this united Congress, you stepped forward for New York and for America, helping families and helping this city to recover, to rebuild and to reclaim its destiny.

You came to ground zero. You saw the destruction. And like so many other Americans, you responded and did your part. On behalf of all New Yorkers, I'd like to say thank you. (Applause)

Freedom is our legacy and our inalienable right as citizens of this great nation. It is our heritage. It is our birthright that was established here by the first Congress 212 years ago, and then reaffirmed today by this Congress 212 years later. Your presence here today means a great deal to all Americans, but especially to New Yorkers. It shows we have not forgotten, nor will future generations of America forget.

A century from now, they will know that the terrorists failed. They will know that in the face of destruction—we faced destruction with determination. We turned despair into hope. And we turned tragedy into triumph. We are united in our fight against terror. And in our defense of freedom, we are vigilant, we are strong, we are New Yorkers, we are Americans. Thank you. God bless New York. And God bless the United States of America. Thank you. (Applause)

Mayor Bloomberg: Fourteen days after September 11th, New York's newspaper, The Daily News, first proposed New York's hosting of a joint congressional session. It wrote that such a session would be a symbol, quote, "of unity, strength and resolve such as the world has never seen." Now I would like to introduce the earliest governmental champion of that idea, the dean of New York's congressional delegation, Charlie Rangel. (Applause)

CONGRATULATING THE ARCADIA,
CALIFORNIA ROTARY CLUB ON
ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DAVID DREIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2002

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure and pride that I call upon my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in extending congratulations to the Arcadia, California Rotary Club on the occasion of its 75th Anniversary. The members of the club have truly lived up to their motto, "Service Above Self." and I am proud to have this opportunity to express appreciation for

myself and the residents of the 28th Congressional District of California for the many benefits that our community has derived from their good works. Indeed, the members of the Arcadia Rotary Club have been a model of excellence as to what a few can do for the benefit of all.

The members of the Arcadia Rotary Club go about their volunteer activities quietly, without fanfare, and their accomplishments are oftentimes not given the full recognition that they so richly deserve. I am, therefore, happy to make these remarks a part of the public record.

Chartered on October 27, 1927, the Arcadia Rotary Club began their first organized effort in the community by working with crippled children. They later pioneered the establishment of Arcadia Methodist Hospital of Southern California and remain strong supporters of this hospital today. The Club sponsored a Boy Scout Troop in 1929 and formed a student loan fund for needy students who wanted to complete their education. Many students needed help to stay in school during the Depression. They also established a scholarship fund to encourage high school students to complete their education. Members constructed Youth Huts on the playgrounds of several local schools—donating both dollars and labor.

While I cannot list all the ways in which the members of the Arcadia Rotary Club have served others over the years, I can list a few: The Club has helped build an orphanage in Mexico, and constructed many buildings at Camp Trask, the Boy Scout facility in the mountains above Monrovia, California. They have donated money for a water well in Africa. The Club honors outstanding middle school and high school students in the Arcadia Unified School District. The Arcadia Rotary Club donated money to rebuild a school in France shortly after World War II. They have run a Junior Achievement program at the Alternative High School in Arcadia that was named the outstanding Junior Achievement Program in Southern California for the year 1995. Each year, the Arcadia Rotary Club sponsors and serves a luncheon for the senior citizens of Arcadia. Over the years, they have planted trees and shrubbery at the L.A. County Arboretum. The Club has been a generous contributor to Rotary International's program to eradicate polio throughout the world.

Arcadia Rotary Club will continue to serve the community in many of the same ways and look for new opportunities to be of service to others for decades to come.

TRIBUTE TO TATYANA
VELIKANOVA

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, there are certain times in our lives when we do well to pause, reflect upon, and honor those outstanding persons who have fought, at great personal sacrifice, to make a real difference in the never-ending struggle around the world for basic human rights. Now is one of those special times for sure.

On September 21 of this year one of the greatest heroines in the long fight against the

horrible human terrors of the Soviet Union died in Moscow after a battle with cancer at age seventy. Tatyana Velikanova was a leading champion of the Soviet-era dissident movement. She was described by Andrei Sakharov, the 1975 Noble Peace Prize winner, as an "embodiment of the . . . purity and strength of the Soviet human rights movement."

Andrei Sakharov lauded Ms. Velikanova in a statement written during his own banishment from Moscow for her dedication to the cause of the oppressed, regardless of whether she agreed with their views. "Her only consideration was whether someone had suffered injustice," he wrote.

"She was a symbol of the human rights movement," said Sergei Kovalyov in an Associated Press story about her death. Kovalyov, a prominent dissident who worked alongside Ms. Velikanova, described her as "absolutely reliable, a crystalline honest person." Kovalyov regards Andrei Sakharov and Tatyana Velikanova as the brightest representatives of the Soviet human rights movement.

Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor the amazing life of Tatyana Velikanova. Freedom-loving people everywhere join us in honoring her life, her commitment, her courage, her dedication and her long struggle to tell the world the truth about the unbelievable human rights abuses perpetrated throughout the Soviet Union for so many long years including those in the country of my heritage, Ukraine.

Marjorie Farquharson, a writer on human rights issues, wrote in a recent article published by Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. "The death on 21 September this year of Tatyana Velikanova, the editor of 'Khronika tekushchykh sobytiy' ('A Chronicle of Current Events'), draws a line under the most remarkable publishing venture of the Soviet era."

Tatyana Velikanova was arrested in 1979 on charges of "anti-Soviet propaganda," and received a nine-year sentence, serving four years in prison camp before being exiled to a desolate part of Kazakhstan.

Mr. Speaker, according to Mr. E. Morgan William, a personal friend of mine and an expert on Eastern European affairs, "all those around the world today who love and support the cause of human rights and basic human freedom owe a debt to Tatyana Velikanova. Her life and the cause she fought for must not be forgotten." Mr. Williams' personal appreciation of Velikanova has motivated him to articulate the magnitude of her legacy on a mass scale. In fact, these very remarks are inspired by his passion for liberty and his devotion to Velikanova's cause for human dignity.

Williams is right to suggest the conflict is ongoing and the champions of freedom continue where Velikanova's efforts have ended. "The fight for basic human rights still goes on today," Williams told me. "We must step up the long struggle against those who crush the human spirit and deny people their basic human rights."

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me now in offering the prayers and supplications of a thankful nation to the Almighty God of our country for life and works of His servant, Tatyana Velikanova. May her soul and all souls of the faithfully departed, through the Mercy of God, rest in eternal peace.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I hereby submit for the RECORD, three published accounts of Tatyana Velikanova's life. This submission is particularly important because of the constrained