

Response Committee, the Yale Emergency Planning Committee, and the New Haven Terrorist Task Force.

Beyond his professional contributions, Harry has always generously donated his time and energies to local charitable organizations. Among many others, he has long been an advocate, fundraiser, and vocal supporter for the St. Jude's Hospital, the Marine Cadets of America, New Haven Teen Challenge, and the Leukemia Society. Harry has touched the lives of thousands and has left an indelible mark on this community.

It is an honor for me to stand today to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Harry DeBenedet for his countless contributions as he is named St. Michael's "Man of the Year." He has made such a difference and the City of New Haven is indeed a better place because of his good work.

IN RECOGNITION OF PAULA EDWARDS, NEWLY ELECTED BOARD MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FEDERAL CREDIT UNIONS

HON. STEVEN C. LATOURETTE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Paula Edwards, a fellow resident of Ohio on her recent election to the Board of Directors of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU). Ms. Edwards, the President and CEO of Nationwide Federal Credit Union located in Columbus, Ohio, was elected as a regional director, representing the States of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

Ms. Edwards has been associated with Nationwide FCU for more than 25 years. Ms. Edwards joined Nationwide FCU as the Operations Manager in 1975. Since that time, Ms. Edwards has served as the Services Manager for Nationwide's mutual fund operation, Nationwide Investing Foundation, she has served on the Nationwide FCU board of directors, including a three-year stint as chairwoman, and in 1989 she took over her current position as President and CEO of Nationwide FCU.

In addition, Ms. Edwards is active in a number of other activities including holding positions on the Corporate One FCU Board and Executive Committee. She is the Chair of Consumer Credit Counseling for the Midwest and she also serves on the Public Service Credit Union Strategic Advisory Group.

During her 25 years of service in the credit union community Ms. Edwards has made the financial literacy of her members a priority. In addition, Ms. Edwards has worked hard to build the credit union movement into what it is today; a healthy, competitive alternative to other financial institutions.

As a board member of NAFCU, she has distinguished herself as a leader in the only national trade association that exclusively represents the interests of America's federal credit unions, and I have no doubt that Ms. Edwards will serve NAFCU members as well as she has served her own credit union members. Again, I would like to congratulate Ms. Edwards on her new position and wish her the best of luck in this new role.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for rollcall No. 492, I would have voted "aye". I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 493, and "aye" on rollcall No. 494. I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 495. I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 496, and "aye" on rollcall No. 497. On rollcall No. 498, I would have voted "no". On rollcall No. 499, I would have voted "no". On rollcall No. 500, I would have voted "aye". On rollcall No. 501, I would have voted "aye". On rollcall No. 502, I would have voted "aye".

COMMENDING THE EMPLOYEE BENEFIT RESEARCH INSTITUTE ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere congratulations to the Employee Benefit Research Institute as it celebrates its 25th anniversary.

Since I began serving the state of North Dakota in Congress, I have supported public policy that would encourage the growth of health and pension plans among private employers. I continuously turn to EBRI for the nonpartisan data I need in order to make legislative judgments in this area. To this end, I am especially thankful to EBRI and its superb, responsive and hard-working professional staff.

EBRI, led by Dallas Salisbury, is widely regarded by both political parties and the press as a knowledgeable and substantive source of information about employer-sponsored health and welfare plans. As Congress faces the monumental task of trying to sustain our employer-sponsored health and pension systems, I salute EBRI on its 25th anniversary, thank them for the important work they have performed over the years and recommend them to my colleagues who seek a deeper understanding of the policy options we confront. Congratulations. We will need your analysis even more in the 25 years that lie ahead.

REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2003

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share a few thoughts with my colleagues on this anniversary of the September 11, 2001, attacks against our nation. None of us will ever forget the day that members of the terrorist group al Qaeda destroyed the World Trade Center towers and attacked the Pentagon. The courageous action taken by the passengers aboard United Airlines Flight 93 prevented more carnage by crashing the aircraft in a Pennsylvania field. On that day nearly 3,000 innocent victims were murdered.

Like many of my colleagues, I lost constituents on that terrible morning. A number of them were personal friends of mine and of my family. Those of us who live in eastern Connecticut will never forget Josh Piver, Madeline Amy Sweeney, Ruth Clifford McCourt, Juliana Valentine McCourt, James Greenleaf Jr., Bruce Eagleson, James Hobin, Rick Thorpe and Eric Evans. All of them died far too soon; all of them left behind grieving families and friends.

The events of that day are burned indelibly in our minds and on our hearts. Like Americans always have, we immediately began to rise to the challenge. We put out the fires; we cleared the debris; we prayed for the deceased and their families; and we began the serious work of ensuring that such an act of war would never again visit our shores.

While we will never forget that day, sadly, some Americans, including some in this very Chamber, have either forgotten or failed to learn the lessons of those attacks. Until September 11, 2001, it was thought that in order to wage war against the United States the enemy would have to be a nation with a mighty army and enormous industrial capability. That is no longer the case. Today we live in a world in which a few dedicated and evil men, supported by a minimal amount of resources and armed with box cutters, brought to our shores death and destruction the likes of which we have never seen before. Those who died on September 11th and their families are the tragic witnesses to that reality. We have no greater responsibility than making sure it never happens again. Advances in communication and technology have created opportunities for the enemies of freedom and justice. Terrorists do not need huge armies. They do not need an industrial base. They have learned how to exploit the resources of the 21st Century. But they underestimate the resources and resolve of the American spirit.

America is engaged in a war. Today a major battleground is Iraq. We have weakened an evil regime in Afghanistan that gave al Qaeda support and we have removed Saddam Hussein from power. Our people have not suffered further attacks at home, not because our enemy has changed its mind, but because our law enforcement agencies and our intelligence community have worked diligently to prevent further assaults. Congress has provided the tools they need to make America safer. And we have taken the fight to our enemies instead of waiting for them to continue their violence here. But the war is not over.

Some of us have expressed concern about the cost of the war—both in terms of funds and with regards to the even more precious cost in the lives of our fellow Americans. As a Vietnam veteran, I understand these issues personally and share those concerns every day.

In Connecticut's Second District, which I represent, two courageous heroes have given their lives in defense of freedom. Corporal Kemaphoom Chanawongse, 22 years old, 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, was killed in action during operations on the outskirts of Nasiriya on March 23, 2003. Gunnery Sergeant Phillip Jordan, 2nd Marine Regiment, 42 years old, was killed in action near Nasiriya on March 23, 2003. Their families and they have made the ultimate sacrifice on our behalf. The price of defending our nation is great.