

an advocacy group for survivors and 9/11 families. Beverly was instrumental in the development and growth of this important advocacy group, which now claims more than 5,500 members.

Beverly and other members of the Voices of September 11 testified before the 9/11 Commission to help report on the September 11th terrorists attacks. Beverly worked admirably with the 110th Congress and was a key proponent in the final passage of the "Implementing the 9/11 Commission Recommendations Act of 2007"—the important legislation to effectuate the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission to prevent, prepare, and respond to acts of terrorism.

All too tragically, Beverly lost her life in the devastating crash of Continental Connection Flight 3407 on February 12, 2009. As the tireless advocate she was, Beverly was on her way to Buffalo to mark what would have been her husband's birthday and launch a scholarship in his memory. We have all lost an inspiring and tenacious woman in Beverly. We must continue to honor her memory and her accomplishments, and carry on her mission.

This resolution acknowledges Beverly's service to the Nation and particularly to the survivors and families of the September 11, 2001, attacks; recognizes Beverly's work to help bring about implementation of the 9/11 Commission recommendations to prepare, prevent, and respond to acts of terrorism; and extends its deepest condolences to the family of Beverly Eckert and the families of all those who lost their lives due to the crash of Continental Connection Flight 3407.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, honor the life of Beverly Eckert, and commemorate her valuable service to the 9/11 survivors and families and to this country.

IN HONOR OF CLEAN OCEAN ACTION

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2009

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Clean Ocean Action's 25th anniversary. Clean Ocean Action, led by Cindy Zipf, is a national and regional leader on the protection of our coastal environment. For twenty-five years Clean Ocean Action has fought against ocean dumping and the industrialization of our coast. They have also worked to improve programs and laws that protect public health at our beaches.

Most importantly, Clean Ocean Action focuses on grassroots organizing to create awareness about coastal environmental issues. They have been outstanding at rallying coastal communities and like-minded organizations against the industrialization of our coast and the degradation of our beaches.

We have come a long way in the last 25 years. When Clean Ocean Action started there were countless beach closures and medical waste on the New Jersey shore. However, with Clean Ocean Action's leadership we have been able to close eight ocean dumpsites and we now have powerful clean water laws on the books. Laws like the BEACH Act have ensured better monitoring of beach water, greater public awareness, and improved health.

In these twenty-five years I have stood side-by-side with Clean Ocean Action. I have introduced the Clean Ocean Zone, a comprehensive set of policies that will preserve the New York/New Jersey Bight as a great place for residents and visitors to enjoy. I will continue to stand on the front lines with Clean Ocean Action to keep our beaches clean and to protect our coastal environment.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in honoring Clean Ocean Action and their leader Cindy Zipf for their environmental stewardship and their commitment to keeping our beaches clean, safe and healthy.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST MILITARY FLIGHT

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2009

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, United States military aviation was born in San Antonio on March 2, 1910, when 1st Lt. Benjamin Foulois launched a Wright Brothers "Aeroplane" into the air from a wooden take-off ramp at the Fort Sam Houston Parade Field. This first flight revolutionized military combat, and dramatically influenced public transportation and commerce around the globe.

March 2, 2010, will mark the 100 year anniversary of military aviation, and San Antonio would like to celebrate this in a special way. They would like to make military aviation a theme for the entire year, encompassing everything from San Antonio's Fiesta celebration to The Chamber's annual "Celebrate America's Military".

This anniversary will include a reenactment of Foulois' first flight using a replica of the original Wright Flyer at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

San Antonio is home to many aviation legends and firsts, among them: In 1924, Charles Lindberg became a flying cadet in the United States Air Reserve, training at Brooks and Kelly fields. Dr. Francis Kane developed the GPS system, which was originally used for precision bombing. On June 3, 1965, astronaut Edward Higgins White, II, a San Antonio native, became the first American to conduct a spacewalk. Gen Schielberg is father of space missile defense. U.S. astronauts used the centrifuge at Brooks City-Base for nearly 40 years to conduct space training. Brooks AFB was the first center for manned space travel.

All of this occurred as a result of the first military flight in San Antonio.

HONORING BRAD SCHIPPER

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 2, 2009

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate New Hartford Fire Chief Brad Schipper on receiving the 'Heroes Among Us Award.' Chief Schipper received this award for his dedication to his community during and after this summer's tornado and floods that ripped through Iowa.

This award is presented to an individual or individuals who, through their unique commitment and humanitarian spirit, have made exceptional and lasting contributions to their community. This is an everyday task that Chief Schipper has been committed to for the past 19 years as a member of New Hartford's Fire Department.

Our everyday public servants are individuals that keep our families and us safe and represent the very best of our communities. Chief Schipper has been dedicated to this objective and is truly a hero among us.

I am proud to represent Brad and the town of New Hartford in Congress. I congratulate Brad on his extraordinary accomplishment and ask you to join me today to honor the service of one of our hometown heroes.