

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Thursday, September 28, at 10 a.m., for a nomination hearing on The Honorable Ned R. McWherter, to be Governor, U.S. Postal Service, and Donald S. Wasserman, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be permitted to meet Thursday, September 28, 1995, beginning at 9 a.m. in room SH-216, to conduct a mark up of spending recommendations for the budget reconciliation legislation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 28, 1995, at 2 p.m., in room 226, Senate Dirksen Office Building to consider nominations.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, September 28, 1995, at 1:30 p.m. to hold a hearing on non-immigrant immigration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Children and Families of the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet on Thursday, September 28, 1995, at 10 a.m., to consider private efforts to reshape America.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

SUPPORT OF FUNDING FOR THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTION FUND [CDFI]

• Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I rise today to join my esteemed colleague from Vermont, Mr. LEAHY, to express my concern that by voting for final passage of H.R. 2099, we in the Congress are voting to eliminate funding for the Community Development Financial Institution Fund [CDFI]. The CDFI fund was established in the Community Development Banking and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994—an Act which passed the Congress with overwhelming bipartisan support. In fact, this body voted unanimously for the measure,

which sought to stimulate community lending and empower local communities by increasing access to credit and investment capital.

But Mr. President, I stand before you to offer another perspective on the importance of the CDFI fund, and that is the significant potential it holds for improving the economic conditions in Native American communities. Native American communities face some of the harshest living conditions in this country, leading some to draw comparisons with conditions in Third-World countries. Fifty-one percent of native American families living on reservations live below the poverty line, with unemployment rates on some reservations as high as 80 percent. Moreover, a recent study conducted by the Department of Housing and Urban Development found that over half of American Indian and Alaska Native families live in substandard housing, compared to the national average of 3 percent; 27 percent of American Indian and Alaska Native households are overcrowded or lack plumbing or kitchen facilities, compared to a national average of 5.4 percent; and approximately 40 percent of Native households were overcrowded, compared to a national average of 5.8 percent.

Mr. President, these conditions, under any circumstances, are unacceptable. And it is even more unacceptable that we in the Congress would turn our backs on an innovative program which would stimulate economic activity in these communities by leveraging private sector resources into permanent self-sustaining locally controlled institutions. Each \$1 million in the fund would have a substantial impact, and could create 65 to 135 new jobs; provide 100 loans to micro-enterprises and self-employment ventures; assist 20 first-time homebuyers; or construct 20 units of low-income housing. It is my understanding that there are at least 13 Indian controlled financial institutions which would be eligible for assistance from the fund, and an additional 16 tribal entities that have expressed an interest in becoming CDFI's.

Earlier this year, I joined Senators BEN NIGHORSE CAMPBELL and MCCAIN in sponsoring a bill, the Native American Financial Services Organization Act [NAFSO], which emanated from recommendations of the congressionally chartered Commission on American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian Housing, and from a multi-agency Federal working group with tribal input, and was designed to dovetail with the CDFI fund, with NAFSO serving as a technical assistance provider to a second tier of primary lending institutions, or Native American Financial Institutions. The elimination of funding for the CDFI fund will have devastating ramifications for this NAFSO proposal.

Mr. President, I realize full well the climate within which we operate today, and that we in the Congress must exer-

cise great fiscal restraint. And I commend the outstanding efforts of my esteemed colleagues, the chairman of the VA-HUD appropriations subcommittee, Mr. BOND, and the ranking member, Senator MIKULSKI, for producing a bill under these constraints—a bill which attempts in many ways to address the housing needs of Indian country. I only wish to point out that we in the Congress must ever be cognizant of our national responsibilities to the native people of this Nation, and that we must endeavor to improve the conditions under which the vast majority of our Native families live.

I feel compelled to take note of the irony that over the last few days, within the context of drastic reductions to funding for Indian tribal governments under the Interior Appropriations bill, that one of the justifications offered for these severe reductions was that tribal governments must become less dependent on Federal resources and more self-sufficient. And yet, today, we are poised to eliminate funding for the Community Development Financial Institution Fund—a fund which could have made tremendous strides in enabling tribal governments to realize greater economic independence.

Mr. President, I thank you for this time, and I thank my colleague from Vermont, Mr. LEAHY, for his leadership on these matters.●

DEDICATED U.S. SERVICE MEN AND WOMEN

• Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I rise today to thank our brave U.S. service men and women who with total dedication serve around the globe, but most importantly to pay tribute to four individuals who recently died in the service of our country. On August 15, 1995, Chief Warrant Officer Michael R. Baker, Chief Warrant Officer Donald J. Cunningham, Specialist Crew Chief Robert A. Rogers, and Specialist Crew Chief Dale Wood perished when their U.S. Army Blackhawk helicopter crashed into the sea off the shores of Cyprus. The crew was on a routine humanitarian mission to bring supplies and mail to the U.S. Embassy in Beirut.

U.S. service men and women worldwide are frequently responsible for humanitarian and lifesaving missions which often go unnoticed by the American people. These missions are often fraught with danger attributable to health concerns or often insurgent occupation. The Cyprus airlift is just one example where our U.S. service men and women are tasked to put themselves in harms way.

In addition to Cyprus being needed as a strategic point to support our Middle East efforts it has also become a strategic point for United States involvement in several areas of international concern, such as counterterrorist measures, narcotics trafficking, counterfeiting, money laundering, and international bank fraud. The Cyprus

National Police force has been very cooperative and helpful in our international law enforcement efforts. I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Assistant Chief of Police Panikos Hadjiloizou. Chief Hadjiloizou has been noted as being one of the driving forces in the cooperative international law enforcement effort being conducted within Cyprus. Chief Hadjiloizou has worked in close coordination with the U.S. Secret Service, the Drug Enforcement Agency, and other U.S. law enforcement agencies in efforts to stem these organized criminal organizations. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank Chief Hadjiloizou and hope that this cooperative effort continues its successful campaign. I also want to thank Chief Hadjiloizou and the men under his command for their extraordinary efforts to locate and recover the remains of the Blackhawk crew in order to return them to their families. I am sure that I am speaking on behalf of all my colleagues when I thank him for all his efforts.

We all are aware that international criminal activity is expanding and the only way to counteract this growth is through cooperative, task force involvement between the United States and its international neighbors.●

JUDITH COLT JOHNSON

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to a distinguished Marylander, committed environmentalist, and model citizen—Judith Colt Johnson. Judy recently stepped aside from a long and distinguished career as president of the Committee to Preserve Assateague Island. I want to extend my personal congratulations and thanks for her many years of hard work and dedication to the environment and the stewardship of Assateague Island's ecosystem.

Judy Johnson founded the Committee to Preserve Assateague Island in 1970, the year I was first elected to the U.S. Congress, and served as its president for the past 25 years. Over the years, Judy worked tirelessly to preserve the natural beauty and unspoiled character of Assateague Island. Her accomplishments are many and remarkable. Among other things she: Led the successful campaign to amend the organic act for the National Seashore to remove provisions calling for construction of a road the length of the island and 600 acres of development; developed a grass-roots membership of over 1,300 people representing 38 states; blocked construction of a sewage outfall pipe across the island; sponsored an annual beach cleanup marshalling larger volunteer efforts each year; and convened the first-ever conference on the condition of Maryland's coastal bays which initiated the current efforts to protect these sensitive waters;

Judy not only organized and led these efforts, but gave selflessly of her

time and energy to make Assateague a better place for all of us. She has done this through activities such as cleaning trash from the beach and helping plant stems of beach grasses and seedlings to protect valuable wildlife habitat. She also contributed substantially to the development of the master plan for Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge—now considered a model for other wildlife refuges in coastal areas—and actively participated in hundreds of public meetings, hearings and workshops on issues affecting Assateague and the surrounding areas. Her monthly newsletters have provided invaluable information on potential threats to the natural habitat and ecology of this fragile barrier island as well as the many noteworthy events and special values of this area. I have had the privilege of working closely with Judy and her organization on a number of issues affecting Assateague Island and can attest that Assateague Island would not look as it does today had it not been for all the hard work of Judy Johnson over the years. Judy's indefatigable energy, spirit and determination are renowned.

Mrs. Johnson's activities and interests were not limited to her involvement with the Committee to Preserve Assateague Island. She also served on numerous national and State conservation organizations including the Maryland Wetlands Committee, the Maryland and Virginia Conservation Councils, the board of the Coast Alliance, the advisory council to the National Parks and Conservation Association and the Garden Club of America. In recognition of her outstanding service and dedication, Judy has received numerous awards and commendations including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Commander's Award for Public Service, the Izaak Walton League of America Honor Roll Award, the Take Pride in America Award given by the U.S. Department of the Interior, and the National Parks and Conservation Association's Conservationist of the Year Award.

The efforts of Judy Johnson over the past 25 years have earned her the respect and admiration of everyone with whom she has worked and the visitors to Assateague Island will benefit from her labors for years to come. I join with her many friends in extending my best wishes and thanks for her leadership and commitment.●

THE AMERICAN PROMISE

● Mr. ROBB. Mr. President, I rise today to speak briefly about an important new PBS series entitled "The American Promise", which will premiere on October 1, 2, and 3. "The American Promise" celebrates community based democracy—the individual works of countless citizens throughout America who work every day to make their communities stronger and more vital.

There is no question that our actions in this Capitol represent democracy's most visible work. It is the facet of democracy most studied in classrooms and most reported nationally by the media.

But our legislative world, Mr. President, has increasingly, in my judgment, become a world of partisanship and competition. The focus too often turns to who wins and who loses rather than how we can work together to reach a positive goal. I believe this partisanship is making many of our citizens more frustrated and cynical.

So we can not forget that our work in Washington is but one form of American democracy—and that American democracy is larger and more diverse than the business conducted here in this Capitol.

In communities throughout our Nation, in ways both large and small, citizens decide every day to become a valuable part of the democratic process. They do this by joining an organization; by bringing others together to improve or expand an existing service; by asking how a practice that does not work can be changed; by engaging in a civil and respectful debate; by considering another viewpoint; or by taking responsibility to make a hard decision which will make a community better.

When this happens, Mr. President, everybody in the community wins. When a community development bank is opened where none existed before, when individuals cooperate so that dry land can be irrigated, score keeping becomes irrelevant. Through action and energy, participation and deliberation, taking responsibility and seeking common ground, American democracy comes to life.

"The American Promise", a new PBS television series, reminds us of the community-based democracy that is alive and well beyond this Capitol. And in doing so, it both strengthens our faith in our democracy and teaches our citizens how they can personally be a part of the democratic process in their own communities. And because "The American Promise" will be made available to high school and junior high school classes through the United States, young Americans will be able to have it as they study civics and government.

In roughly fifty story segments taken from every region of the county, lessons are offered on the skills and values needed to bring our democracy to life. These vignettes illustrate core American values such as freedom, responsibility, opportunity, participation, and deliberation.

Each 3 hour segment contains select historical reenactments, which serve to establish important contexts through which the remaining vignettes take on new meaning. The first of these reenactments, which appears the beginning of the documentary, is set in 1769, in the streets of Williamsburg, VA. We watch as a young Thomas Jefferson, along with Patrick Henry, Colonel