

victory, because they died a few days earlier at the Battle of the Alamo. One hundred eighty-four brave men held the Alamo for 13 days before falling to 6,000 Mexican troops.

Following a tradition begun by my recent predecessor, John Tower, on the birthday of our more distant predecessor, Senator Sam Houston, I would like to read a letter sent by the commander of the Alamo, Col. William Barret Travis, during the siege. I think it will serve as a reminder of how many people spilled blood to make our country what it is today:

To the people of Texas and all Americans in the world—Fellow citizens and Compatriots—I am besieged by a thousand or more of the Mexicans under Santa Anna. I have sustained a continual Bombardment and cannonade for 24 hours and have not lost a man. The enemy has demanded a surrender at discretion, otherwise, the garrison are to be put to the sword if the fort is taken. I have answered the demand with a cannon shot, and our flag still waves proudly from the walls. I shall never surrender or retreat. Then, I call on you in the name of Liberty, of patriotism and everything dear to the American character to come to our aid with all dispatch. The enemy is receiving reinforcements daily and will no doubt increase to three or four thousand in four or five days. If this call is neglected, I am determined to sustain myself as long as possible and die like a soldier who never forgets what is due his own honor and that of his country. Victory or death. William B. Travis, The Alamo, 2/24/1836.

Today is a great day in the history of Texas. I am sorry that it is a sad day for America. It will be remembered as the day we did not declare independence from the debt accumulated over the last 34 years. We did not close the back door to become heroes of future generations, but while the Alamo is just a memory in our minds, we will be back to fight the battle of the balanced budget amendment. We will amend our Constitution, and we will do the right thing some day.

So while I am not able to celebrate the vote that just happened on this floor a few minutes ago, perhaps we will remember the lesson of the Alamo and perhaps we will remember that it was those who died at the Alamo, who thought they had failed to hold that bastion that paved the way for the success of the Battle of San Jacinto.

Mr. President, our Battle of San Jacinto has yet to come on the balanced budget amendment, but it will. It will come, and we will do what is right for the future generations of our country. The battle has just begun. Today was the Alamo and San Jacinto will follow.

Thank you, Mr. President.

Mr. THURMOND. Will the Senator yield?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Will the Senator yield?

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I yield.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I want to commend the able Senator from Texas on what she has had to say about the Alamo. I am very pleased that South Carolina played a big part

in that historic event. William Barret Travis, the commander at the Alamo, was born in Edgefield County in South Carolina, the county in which I was born. He was a brave soldier. He fought to the end. Every person there was killed.

James Bonham, another man prominent to the Alamo, was also born in Edgefield County, SC. So we are proud that South Carolina has played a big part in the history of Texas. They saw they could not win over the Mexicans, they were overpowered. James Bonham asked for permission to go out in the countryside to search for reinforcements. He had to fight through the Mexican lines to get out. He could find no help. He fought to get back to the Alamo.

He came back to the fort and fought to his death. He knew they would die because they did not have enough support. Again, I want to commend the able Senator from Texas for telling us about the history of the Alamo.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, let me just say that the Senator from South Carolina, as usual, is right. The people of South Carolina did come and die at the Alamo. They were very much an important part of the independence of Texas.

I want to say that there were people from Tennessee, Kentucky, and Georgia who also played a major part. I would not be standing here today as the Senator from Texas but for the blood of those great men who migrated from the East and came over and were a very important part of the history of our Nation.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator's time has expired. The Senator from Wisconsin.

Mr. FEINGOLD. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. FEINGOLD pertaining to the submission of S. Res. 83 are located in today's RECORD under "Submissions of Concurrent and Senate Resolutions.")

Mr. FEINGOLD. I yield the floor.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, all of Vermont is saddened today by the loss of a great leader in agriculture, George Dunsmore.

George was a strong advocate for Vermont agriculture. He worked tirelessly promoting it here and abroad, and fighting for it in the legislatures of Montpelier, VT and Washington, DC.

In addition to serving in the State legislature, he had two tenures as Commissioner of Agriculture. Under his leadership the high quality image of Vermont food and agricultural products has flourished. George always looked for ways to find new markets for Vermont products. He knew that it was important for Vermont and New England to look beyond our Nation's borders to the export market.

George understood Vermont agriculture so well because he was a part of it. A dairy farmer in Franklin County, he worked both on the farm and in Montpelier for many years.

He also understood how Washington worked. He was a leader in the Na-

tional Association of State Departments of Agriculture. He also served as the agricultural specialist for my good friend JIM JEFFORDS when he was a Member of the House of Representatives.

George was a strong supporter of the State's dairy industry and the Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact. I think it is fitting that Senator JEFFORDS and I introduce this measure, Senate Joint Resolution 28, today and do so in memory of him.

Whether he was defending the purity of Vermont's maple products, looking for new markets for our apple growers or fighting for higher prices for dairy farmers, George was always a true advocate for agriculture.

My deepest sympathies go to his wife Bette Ann, and their three children.

TO MY FATHER, BY PETER TORRIERI

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I want to call the attention of our colleagues to a very moving poem by my good friend Peter Torrieri of Baltimore. "To My Father" is a tribute not only to those of Italian-American heritage, but also to all of those who crossed the seas to establish families in this great Nation of ours. The immigrant legacy, deeply rooted in our history as Americans, is a facet of our society that should inspire pride and honor.

Peter Torrieri's father, Domenico, came to America during the wave of immigration in the early 1900's. His dream of a better life for himself, his wife, and their children was one that he would see slowly come to fruition. The sacrifices made by the entire Torrieri family illustrate both the strong work ethic displayed by so many immigrant families and the bonds of love and devotion that connect their family.

Domenico Torrieri, then a young man far from his home of Abruzzo, labored day in and day out all for the benefit of his family. Peter's poem shows the highest respect and esteem for his father and for all of the fathers and mothers who made this pilgrimage to the New World, hopeful that their journey would lead them to a bright future.

Peter and his wife Mary are leaders in Maryland's Italian-American community, playing important roles in preserving and passing on their heritage to the next generation as well as working tirelessly on behalf of community, health and civic organizations. As the son of immigrants and as an American who remains deeply devoted to my ethnic heritage, I invite all of our colleagues to read Peter's poem, which pays homage to his father and to all those who sailed the seas in search of a new life in America.

I ask unanimous consent the poem be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the poem was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

TO MY FATHER

I praise you, my father, and all your brothers
a million strong,
You, dauntless ones who crossed the ocean
vast at the early dawn of the century,
Came from distant lands, and gained free access
to our friendly shores,
You, challengers of water and wind and the
unknown in search of bread and honest
toil.
I praise you, Domenico, my father, who
shared
Your scant bread with me and gave me the
sweat of your brow.
I praise you and your brothers a million
strong,
You, anonymous, unrecognized, unsung ones,
The laborers, the toilers, the workers, the
builders of America.
I honor you, my father, and all your brothers
a million strong,
You, amorphous neglected masses who slept
on the earth bare,
Tamed the sooty demons in the coal mines,
pushed the plows in the furrows,
Made the deserts bloom, and the stingy soils
yield copious crops,
Hammered the spikes that held the rails that
span the continent,
And raised the skyscrapers that flirt with
the sky.
I honor you, my father, and all your brothers
a million strong,
The laborers, the toilers, the workers, the
builders of America.
I acclaim you, my father, and all your brothers
a million strong,
You, red-eyed-from-soot-and-sweat, bare-
chested smiths
Who wrought the steel that forged the spine
and backbone of our mighty cities
And powerful industries and ships that sailed
the seven seas;
Who dug the subways and laid the roadbeds
of the spacious highways;
Who quarried the stones that raised the
monuments, the cathedrals, the museums,
And the schools that taught brawn and
brain, races and creeds to amalgamate.
I acclaim you, my father, and all your brothers
a million strong,
The laborers, the toilers, the workers, the
builders of America.
I bow before you, my father, in both humil-
ity and pride.
You were just sixteen when your mother,
crying,
Gave you her blessings and kissed you good-
bye.
Good-bye. You never saw your mother again
alive.
You were still a boy when you waved fare-
well
To the seagulls on the Adriatic shores of
Abruzzo,
A boy unbearded, unschooled, unskilled,
But unafraid of the heights and depths,
Driven only by unbending will to find your
place in the sun.
I'll always remember you with love, my fa-
ther,
The barrel-chested, broad-shouldered, five-
foot-five
With thick, callus-gloved hands and sinewy
biceps,
Face scorched by fierce summer suns and
winter icy winds,
But face that greeted friends as well as
strangers with a smile.
You, my father, and all your brothers a mil-
lion strong

May have passed by unnoticed, unrecognized,
unappreciated, and anonymous,
But in the juster spheres above, your names
are carved on immortal granite.
Millions of you have come and gone
But Someone keeps making you and growing
you by the millions more,
Because that Someone loves you, my father,
And all your brothers a million strong.

SHERIFF JOHNNY MACK BROWN: A
TRIBUTE

Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to a leader in the law enforcement field, Sheriff Johnny Mack Brown from Greenville, SC.

Sheriff Brown's community-oriented approach to law enforcement has proved an effective and innovative way to help maintain law and order. Thanks to Sheriff Brown, agencies from across the country travel to observe this concept of bringing law enforcement back into the community.

Mr. President, it gives me great pride to see South Carolinians hard at work insuring that our State remains a safe place to raise a family and conduct business. Sheriff Brown has taken a bold stance against crime.

"We must not, we cannot fall into the trap of believing we are there to do law enforcement work for the community. We are there to do law enforcement work with the community," advised Sheriff Brown in a 1993 newsletter for the National Sheriff's Association.

Johnny Mack Brown has been recognized as a leader by his colleagues both at the national and State level. In 1993 he served as president of the National Sheriff's Association and from 1989-91 he was commissioner for the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. And, under the leadership of Sheriff Brown, the Greenville County Sheriff's Department was the first to achieve accreditation from the commission in 1988. He also served as president of the South Carolina Sheriff's Association in 1983.

Mr. President, I am delighted to commend Sheriff Johnny Mack Brown's dedication to improving the community. His efforts will have a lasting effect not only in South Carolina but across the country.

Recently, the Greenville News wrote of the Greenville County sheriff's exemplary law enforcement methods as a model for the country. I ask unanimous consent that the article be made a part of the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

NATIONAL STUDY LOOKS AT SHERIFF'S OFFICE
(By Bryan Gilmer)

The Greenville County Sheriff's Office is one of 12 law enforcement agencies nationwide being studied for its innovative use of community law enforcement strategies, a researcher said.

Community law enforcement includes getting law officers heavily involved with communities where they work a permanent beat. Then, rather than just responding to calls

when trouble arises, the officer can work with community members to solve underlying problems that cause crime.

Gerald L. Williams, who teaches at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas, spent Thursday and Friday interviewing deputies and their commanders at the Sheriff's Office and touring the county.

In his research project, Williams and a colleague from the University of Kentucky are each examining six agencies. Their research is funded by a grant from the National Institute of Justice.

"This was the only sheriff's department that was selected," Williams said. "It's difficult to be objective when you come into an organization like this one and you see the wonderful things they're doing. It's difficult to remain distant and not become a real cheerleader."

Williams said he's gathered good information during his visit.

"One of the things that is really key to me is that I've been absolutely impressed with the amount of enthusiasm that exists in the people I've talked to, and a commitment toward community-oriented law enforcement here. There's a true sense of, 'We're going to make this work.'"

TRIBUTE TO COMMISSIONER
TILLMAN HILL

Mr. HEFLIN. Mr. President, on March 16, a community committee will hold a special event to recognize the many contributions and hard work of Madison County, AL District One Commissioner Tillman Hill. Proceeds from this most-deserved event honoring an outstanding public servant will go to the Hazel Green Public Library Building Fund. Commissioner Hill opened this library at its temporary location in 1991.

The library is Tillman Hill's pride and joy, and it is entirely fitting and appropriate for his community to thank him by raising funds for the facility he has supported and been instrumental in establishing. He has always remembered his roots and has never forgotten his people's needs. Today, the Hazel Green Library checks out more books than any other rural branch in Madison County—over 40,000 volumes in 1994. Tillman's dream is to build a permanent building for the library on 2 acres of donated land. Plans for a 4,500 square foot facility have already been prepared.

Tillman Hill has dedicated his life to serving his community. He is a native son of Madison County, AL, born there, and having attended high school and college there. During the Korean war he was a noncommissioned officer with the 151st Engineering Battalion. Over the years, he has been a member of the Alabama Housing Authority; the Chamber of Commerce; the Jaycees; and the Lions Club. He is a past president of the Alabama Association of Counties.

Tillman is best known as a veteran county commissioner. He was first elected in 1976 and has served as a commissioner for 19 years. His quest to bring about a county building inspection function is only the most recent of