

proposed in the President's Fiscal Year 1996 Budget, is part of the Administration's ongoing effort to reinvent the Federal Government.

The Department of Energy recently announced the planned decommissioning of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve's Weeks Island site. Water seeping into underground storage chambers is compromising the structural integrity of the facility, which holds nearly 73 million barrels of oil. As a result the Department will transfer the oil to other sites in Louisiana and Texas, and sell up to seven million barrels of oil to finance the transfer and decommissioning, and other SPR activities. Currently, the Department has legislative authority to draw down and sell Strategic Petroleum Reserve oil only under emergency authorities vested in the President or as part of a test sale of up to five million barrels of oil. New authority is required for this proposed sale.

The proposed legislation would authorize to the extent provided in appropriations Acts the sale and drawdown of up to seven million barrels of oil from the Reserve for purposes of removing the oil and decommissioning the site. Seven million barrels is equivalent to less than one day of oil imports, and would not appreciably affect the mission of the Reserve. Proceeds from the sale would be deposited in a special account known as the "SPR Decommissioning Fund" and would offset the cost of decommissioning and other SPR activities. This bill would also allow the sale proceeds to be counted as offsets to spending. Authority to contract for sale of oil under this section would expire on September 30, 1996.

We look forward to working with the Congress toward enactment of this legislation.

The Office of Management and Budget advises that enactment of this proposal would be in accord with the program of the President.

Sincerely,

HAZEL R. O'LEARY.

MARJORIE S. ARUNDEL

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a most distinguished Virginian, Mrs. Marjorie S. Arundel, of The Plains, VA, who has devoted her life to the conservation of our natural resources.

As a member of the Garden Club of America, Marjorie Arundel has been recognized for her conservation efforts in the Commonwealth of Virginia and across our Nation. Her tireless work has throughout more than 30 years contributed much to preserve and enhance the natural beauty.

I have had the pleasure of knowing both Mrs. Arundel and her late husband, Russell M. Arundel, for a number of years in Fauquier County. The contributions which they have made to that community are immeasurable.

In the 1960's, the Arundel family donated over 600 acres of their own land to the Nature Conservancy, which created the first Nature Conservancy preserve in Virginia. It is now known as Wildcat Mountain Natural Area. Due to her endeavors in conservation, Mrs. Arundel was awarded the Governor's Certificate of Recognition from former Gov. CHARLES ROBB, my junior colleague in the Senate.

There are several projects that are trademark Marjorie Arundel with her

typical ingenuity and spirit. I recall fondly meeting with Mrs. Arundel in the 1980's regarding a highway widening north of Warrenton. Mrs. Arundel promptly brought to my attention a 200-year-old oak tree which stood directly in the proposed roadway. In an effort to spare the tree, Mrs. Arundel then met with officials from the Virginia Department of Transportation, who agreed to bypass the removal of the tree. Today, that "Loretta Oak" stands proudly and continues to live and be enjoyed by all.

As a gardener with a special interest in wild plants, Mrs. Arundel became aware that several species were being dug out of the wild and sold to commercial interests. These actions created serious wildflower depletions in the Virginia mountainside and our neighboring States. Her crusade to protect the wild populations from both trade domestic and abroad was truly a labor of love. Using her trademark ingenuity, Mrs. Arundel drafted the support of World Wildlife Fund, the National Resources Defense Council, and the Garden Club of America.

And with similar success, Mrs. Arundel has taken on other tough environmentally conscious issues, like pesticide and pollution abuses in the environment.

Mrs. Arundel's achievements include the Award of Honor presented by the World Wildlife Fund; an American Achievement Medal from the Garden Club of America; a Stewardship of the Land Award from the Virginia Chapter of the America Society of Landscape Architects; Communicator of the Year Award from the American Horticultural Society; and the Delacy Gray Memorial Medal for Conservation as "a conservation leader who demonstrates a love for the nature environment and a responsibility for its preservation."

There are many accolades bestowed upon this great lady, but "The Land Ethic" well speaks to Marjorie Arundel's testimony to natural integrity as, "Conservation is a state of harmony between men and land."

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES WEEK

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. President, it gives me great pleasure at this time to request the unanimous consent of my colleagues to have printed in the RECORD a proclamation by the Governor of my State of Tennessee; Don Sundquist.

On March 21 of this year, the Honorable Governor Don Sundquist signed the proclamation that the week of April 17-22, 1995, shall be known in Tennessee as National Association of Retired Federal Employees Week.

Our State's chapter of this national organization is very spirited and active. Many members of this association have volunteered their time and energy to help organize relief and recovery efforts in Oklahoma City.

It is this spirit of contribution that continues to distinguish all civil servants, retired and employed.

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

Whereas the United States Civil Service Act of 1883 was signed into law by then President Chester A. Arthur, thereby creating the United States Civil Service System; and

Whereas the United States Civil Service Retirement System was created in 1920 and signed into law by then President Woodrow Wilson; and

Whereas virtually every State, county, and municipal civil service system have developed from the Civil Service Act; and

Whereas untold thousands of United States Civil Service employees have worked diligently, patriotically, silently, and with little notice to uphold the highest traditions and ideas of our country; and

Whereas thousands of Federal employees are retired in Tennessee and continue to devote inestimable time and effort toward the betterment of our communities and State.

Now therefore, I, Don Sundquist, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim the week of April 17-22, 1995, as "National Association of Retired Federal Employees Week" in Tennessee, and do urge all our citizens to join in this worthy observance.

SOUTH DAKOTA SMALL BUSINESSMAN OF THE YEAR

Mr. DASCHLE. Mr. President, I may be a little biased, but I have always believed if you give South Dakotans an even break, they can make a living even under the toughest circumstances.

Yesterday I met with a man who proves my point. His name is Randy Boyd, and he was just named South Dakota's 1995 Small Business Owner of the Year by the Small Business Administration.

Randy lives in a town of 300 people called Geddes in southeast South Dakota with his wife, Sheila, and their two young children, Cassidy and Vincent.

He moved back to Geddes in 1982, after his dad had a heart attack and helped move his father's gunsmithing business from his garage into a 400-square-foot shop, where they worked together repairing guns. Later that year, Randy and his father bought a two-spindle carving machine that could make up to eight gunstocks a day.

Today, Boyd's Gunstocks Industries is one of the largest original-equipment manufacturers of gunstocks in the country. It has grown from 3 employees in 1986 to 22 full-time and 10 part-time workers, plus 10 who do contract work at home. Company sales have skyrocketed from \$29,000 in 1986 to more than \$1 million last year.

In 1992, with help from the Small Business Administration, Randy was able to obtain a new warehouse for raw materials, as well as new computerized equipment to improve efficiency. The business now occupies 13,500 square feet.

One of Randy's biggest challenges is finding enough skilled workers in a

town of only 300 people. He is exploring the possibility of opening a second facility soon in another town in order to hire new workers and take advantage of new international trade opportunities.

In addition to creating jobs and opportunities for South Dakota families, Randy has served on the Geddes City Council. He is a volunteer firefighter and emergency medical technician. He is also a black belt karate instructor.

In South Dakota, small business has always been big business. This week, as we celebrate Small Business Week in our State, I commend the Small Business Administration for the partnerships it is forging with South Dakota business owners. And I offer my congratulations to Randy Boyd for his hard work and his outstanding contributions to his community.

WAS CONGRESS IRRESPONSIBLE? THE VOTERS HAVE SAID YES

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, it doesn't require one to be a rocket scientist to realize that the U.S. Constitution forbids any President's spending even a dime of Federal tax money that has not first been authorized and appropriated by Congress—both the House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate.

So when you hear a politician or an editor or a commentator declare that "Reagan ran up the Federal debt" or that "Bush ran it up," bear in mind that the Founding Fathers, two centuries before the Reagan and Bush Presidencies, made it very clear that it is the constitutional duty of Congress to control Federal spending—which they have not for the past 50 years.

The fiscal irresponsibility of Congress has created a Federal debt which stood at \$4,855,154,897,104.21 as of the close of business Wednesday, May 3. This outrageous debt—which will become the debt of our children and grandchildren—averages out to \$18,430.25 on a per capita basis.

TRIBUTE TO TRACY CROWLEY

Mr. BUMPERS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a member of my staff who is leaving Washington to return to her home State of Connecticut, Tracy Crowley. Tracy came to Washington 12 years ago to work for the Small Business Committee, which at the time was chaired by Senator Lowell Weicker. I was fortunate that Tracy remained with the committee when I became chairman in 1987. In 1991 she joined my personal staff and has been a valuable member of the office for the last 4 years.

Mr. President, those of us fortunate to serve in the Senate are often blessed with loyal and dedicated staff that make us look good. However, very rarely do we show the gratitude that these staffers deserve. The hours are long, the pay, in comparison to the private sector, is not very good and the working conditions can be difficult.

There is no one on my staff that has been more dedicated or worked longer and harder than Tracy Crowley. Although she is not a native of Arkansas, she treated each and every appropriations project with great tenacity, fighting to make sure that the interests of Arkansans were preserved. There is not a fish farmer, park superintendent, forest ranger or environmentalist in the State of Arkansas that does not owe Tracy Crowley a great debt for her work on the annual Interior appropriations bills.

Twelve years is a long time for anybody to work in one place. For a congressional staff person, 12 years of service is above and beyond the call of duty. Mr. President, while I am sorry Tracy is leaving the office, I know that she will have great success in her future endeavors and I wish her the best. All of those who have worked with Tracy, and those she has so ably served in Arkansas and throughout the Nation, will miss Tracy greatly.

Mr. President, I know that you and the entire body wishes Tracy well.

OBSERVATIONS ON AGRICULTURE

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I have just returned from a trip through the agricultural region of my State and the farmers I represent are very worried about their own future and the future of their industry. By any measure, American farmers are one of this country's success stories. They have provided their fellow citizens with a stable food supply that is both safe and affordable. In fact, Americans pay less for food than any other industrialized nation in the world. They have also produced enough food to feed the world's hungry and are one of the few sectors of our economy that has consistently registered a positive balance of trade. Their success, however, seems to get lost in the discussions here in Congress and the political rhetoric of the Nation.

I visited with farmers in Pullman, Colfax, Walla Walla, and Moses Lake and they do not feel that the rest of the country or the U.S. Congress appreciates their efforts. After reviewing the spate of proposals advanced this Congress, I am forced to agree with them. There seems to be a misconception around here that farmers are the only beneficiaries of the commodity programs. Nothing could be further from the truth. In exchange for income protection, the farmers that sign up for the program agree to accept production controls and numerous other guidelines and regulations on the operation of their farms. While these conditions were often put in place to achieve a specific public policy goal, it is important to remember that it is an additional cost to farmers and it is a cost they will not be able to recoup from the sale of their commodity.

Because wheat farmers face many difficulties in providing the rest of us with our food, it is easy to understand

why almost 90 percent of them in Washington State sign up for the program. In addition to a regulatory environment that they often consider unfavorable, they face unfair trading practices by our competitors, nontariff trade barriers, escalation costs, and a price that is too low to cover their costs of production. On top of all this, weather conditions often wreak havoc on all the producers' hard work. Every economic analysis I have seen paints a very bleak picture of the future of rural America. I believe the conditions of American agriculture justify our continued support of the commodity programs, the export promotion programs, and the conservation programs.

The gloomy conditions in farm country are not the only reason to support these programs, however, and I am here talking on the floor of the Senate because I believe all Americans are well served by these programs, not just farmers. In my State, many of the jobs in urban areas depend on the exports provided by agriculture. If we, as a nation, wish to continue to guarantee that we have a stable food supply and continued economic growth in our cities, it is in our interest to continue to adequately fund this Nation's agricultural program. I know that I will have to continue to make that point in the urban areas of my State as well as here in Congress so that there will be a greater understanding of just how critical our agricultural industries are to all of us. We need to keep these things in mind as we consider the budget, the farm bill, and other legislation that impacts farmers.

ISRAELI INDEPENDENCE DAY

Mr. PRESSLER. Mr. President, I am pleased to join my colleagues and millions around the world in celebrating Israel's 47th year of independence. Israel's rapid economic progress and strength are testimony to the vigilance and determination of the Jewish people.

As we celebrate nearly five decades of Israeli autonomy, we call to mind the many of today, yesterday, and centuries past who share a common bond: The dedication of their lives to establish and maintain a country that every Jewish person can call home. As Israeli President Ezer Weizman recently stated, "The State of Israel achieved its position due to the fact that its people aimed for peace and fought for it, despite all difficulties." For the Jewish people, adversity has served as an incentive rather than a deterrent. According to Prime Minister Shimon Perez, "Israel will continue her quest for peace. At the same time, she will fight those who fight peace." As friends, the people of the United States salute the conviction and perseverance the Jewish people as we, on this occasion of independence, reaffirm our shared belief in Israel's sovereignty.

The tiny democracy of Israel thrives in a region historically barraged with