

Society of Wisconsin Week, which will take place the week of September 9–15, 1996.

Frank Mots was a kite flying enthusiast, and it was in his memory that the Kite Society of Milwaukee was created in 1976. The festival that bears his name was founded in 1978 and has drawn people from around the country every year. I invite everyone to celebrate this event on September 14 and take some time out to enjoy the simple pleasures of kite flying. The Frank Mots Memorial Kite Festival has something for everyone, and I am proud of the Kite Society's accomplishments. ●

JEANNE O. BUSSE—THE MARCH OF DIMES' 1996 ALEXANDER MACOMB CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, on September 25, 1996, the March of Dimes will honor community activist Jeanne O. Busse as its 1996 Alexander Macomb Citizen of the Year. Established in 1984, this award is presented annually to "deserving individuals who have demonstrated outstanding contributions and commitment to improving the quality of life in his/her community, the county, and the State of Michigan."

As a community servant, Jeanne Busse has fulfilled this criteria and then some. The litany of positions Mrs. Busse has held over the years is surpassed only by the list of awards that have been showered upon her. Her years of commitment to her church, St. Anne Parish in Warren, includes a stint as president of the Council of Catholic Women for the Archdiocese of Detroit. Her involvement with the Boy and Girl Scouts of America spans more than six decades, and just a small sample of the other civic organizations in which she has served include the United Community Services, Warren Friends of the Public Library, Michigan Cultural Commission, and the Warren Consolidated Schools Board of Education.

Mrs. Busse's exceptional good deeds have garnered her recognition as the Warren Jaycees Woman of the Year and the Macomb County Council for the Arts Volunteer of the Year. Some of her other awards include: the Council of Catholic Women/Archdiocese of Detroit Beatrice Zilly Award, the Warren Consolidated Schools Honorary Scholastic Letter Award, the United Community Services Tracey McGregor Volunteer Award, and the James Coughlin Award for Service to Scouting, to name just a few. In addition, "For Service to the Citizens of Warren, Michigan," Busse Park has been established and named in her honor.

For her selfless commitment to her fellow citizens Jeanne Busse is more than deserving of the accolades that come her way. I salute her for her public service, and applaud the March of Dimes for choosing such a deserving figure on whom to bestow this honor. ●

THE NEWBORNS AND MOTHERS HEALTH PROTECTION ACT

● Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, yesterday, by unanimous vote, the Senate passed the Newborns and Mothers Health Protection Act as an amendment to the VA-HUD appropriations bill. There is no more important issue before this Congress than the health of mothers and their newborns, and so I applaud the Senate. This amendment is vital. I want to express my pride in being a cosponsor, and my thanks to Senator BRADLEY and Senator FRIST for all of their hard work.

This amendment will require health insurers to allow moms and their newborns to stay in the hospital for a minimum of 48 hours after a normal delivery and 96 hours after a cesarean section, unless the mother and her attending health care provider decide a shorter stay is in the child's best interest.

I sent a letter, along with Senator SNOWE of Maine, to Senator Dole back on May 1 of this year, asking for a vote on this bill. That letter was signed by all the women Senators, from both parties. I am glad we have finally had a debate and approved this language.

This amendment has many cosponsors from both sides of the aisle, and has the support of numerous organizations from around the country. These organizations represent the broad range of health care providers that work with mothers, newborns, and the full range of their health concerns. There are experts from every corner of the country who will attest to the importance of this amendment, and as Senator BRADLEY has noted, more than 80,000 Americans have sent in letters asking us to pass this legislation, because they know it can mean the difference between life and death for a loved one.

Protecting mothers and their infants is the right thing to do, and is overdue. Many States already provide these protections, and hospitals such as Tacoma General in my State are already allowing these decisions to be made by the mother and her care provider, which is the way it should be.

We know from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention that hospital stays for new mothers decreased by almost half between 1970 and 1992—from 3.9 days to 2.1 days. We know the length of stay has continued to decrease, and is now about 24 hours after normal delivery. We know there can be serious health complications within the first 48 hours even after a normal delivery. Most important, we know these decisions should be in the hands of the mother and her attending health care provider.

I am glad the Senate has taken this action, and I think it is a good first step toward improving the health of infants and other children in this country.

We need to give all newborns every advantage possible. In my mind, a healthy start on life is a good start on life. ●

EXPANSION OF THE FARMINGTON FAMILY YMCA

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate the grand opening on October 12, 1996, of the expanded Farmington Family YMCA. On this day, an organization with a record of community service spanning more than three decades will open the doors of a new 15,000 square foot facility to the families of Novi, West Bloomfield, Farmington, and Farmington Hills.

Chartered in 1965, the Farmington Area YMCA has over 4,200 members and more than 30,000 users annually. The completed expansion, for which all construction funds were raised privately, includes a second swimming pool to service physically challenged individuals. The new facility is also better equipped to aid the rehabilitation efforts of patients participating in an existing partnership program with Providence, Botsford General, and Sinai Hospitals.

This institution can truly be characterized as a family serving YMCA. While it currently provides all latchkey programs for students in the Farmington and Farmington Hills school districts, the YMCA can now offer greater babysitting and child care services in addition to a special "Kids Zone." Not only will families benefit from the expansion; the State of Michigan recently awarded the city of Farmington Hills a special grant to initiate a collaborative program with the YMCA and the Farmington public schools to serve the needs of young teens to assist in a community wide effort to prevent juvenile delinquency.

Finally, while expanding the physical structure provides the space to implement these programs, without the dedication of the exceptional volunteers involved with the YMCA, the completion of this ambitious project would have been impossible. Their efforts truly are commendable, and on this upcoming October 12 I salute these community servants and congratulate the families of the Farmington area on the many years of enjoyment they will receive from their expanded YMCA. ●

TRIBUTE TO THE CHEMICAL MORTAR BATTALION OF THE 3D ARMY

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I want to take a moment to pay tribute to a group of very special people. During the last weekend in this month of September, the 91st Chemical Mortar Battalion of the 3d Army will be celebrating their 51st reunion in the fine town of Wheeling in my State of West Virginia. These men gather each year in their respective States to celebrate their outstanding efforts in the Second World War.

While this Nation has many fine heroes from those years, these men are very unique because they are part of the Allied Forces who served under

Gen. George S. Patton and fought in the Battle of the Bulge. As we all know, that battle is very important because it was the last German offensive on the Western Front during World War II. It gets its distinct name from the bulge or wedge of Germans that drove into Allied lines in December 1944 and January 1945. The Battle of the Bulge became an unsuccessful attempt to push the Allies back from German home territory. By January 8, 1945, the Germans made an orderly withdrawal having used all their resources they could afford trying to regain the west. These men kept the force and prevented Hitler from repossessing lands that were not his. They even assisted in the liberation of Hitler's labor camps and saw the faces of those who survived. The Battle of the Bulge was one of great magnitude and as a result there were 77,000 Allied and 130,000 German casualties. These heroes should be proud to celebrate and tell their stories.

These men caused the height of General Patton's career as they made the dramatic sweep in his 3d Army across northern France in the summer of 1944. Under Patton, these men played a strategic role in defending Bastogne, Belgium in the Battle of the Bulge in December of that year. By January 1945, they had reached the German frontier and the United States counteroffensive began. George Patton was an outstanding practitioner of mobile tank warfare in World War II. His strict discipline, toughness, and sacrifice were well known within his ranks, leading to his being referred to by his men as "Old Blood-and-Guts."

Mr. President, I just wanted to take this time to have us all reflect and think about those men who fought for world peace during World War II. As the ranking member of the Senate Veteran's Affairs Committee, I hold a special place in my heart for every man and woman who serves our country. While every veteran of war is unique and deserves our Nation's honor, these 80 or so men gathered in Wheeling, WV, this month merit a special tribute. It is now 1996 and there is no more Hitler, there are no more concentration camps, and Patton no longer lives. These men fought and lived in a time that has now become history. May they meet, share their stories, and rejoice for who they are and what they have done. Let us all be proud to have these men come to West Virginia and celebrate their 51st reunion as the 91st Chemical Mortar Battalion of the 3d Army.●

CONGRATULATIONS TO MICHIGAN'S MEDAL WINNING ATHLETES IN THE 1996 SUMMER OLYMPIC GAMES

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, from July 19 to August 4 over 10,000 athletes from 197 countries competed in the Centennial Olympic Games in Atlanta, GA. For 17 days, the athletic exploits

of these individuals captivated the entire world.

While all performed with distinction and deserve our recognition, such is the nature of Olympic competition that only a select few can rise to the medal stand. From my State of Michigan the following 10 exceptional men and women can now be added to the elite ranks of Olympic champions:

Gold medals: Tom Dolan, Ann Arbor, 400m IM, swimming; Grant Hill, Detroit, forward, basketball; Annette Salmeen, Ann Arbor, 800m FR, swimming; Sheila Taormina, Livonia, 800m FR, swimming.

Silver medals: Dana Chladek, Bloomfield Hills, whitewater slalom K-1, kayak; Tom Malchow, Ann Arbor, 200m fly, swimming; Eric Namesnik, Ann Arbor, 400m IM, swimming.

Bronze medals: Mark Lenzi, Ann Arbor, 3m springboard, diving; Floyd Mayweather, Grand Rapids, featherweight, boxing; Jeffrey Pfaendtner, Detroit, men's lightweight four, rowing.

Mr. President, most of us can only dream of Olympic competition, or watch it from the sidelines. These dedicated men and women worked, trained, and sacrificed to make their dream a reality. They practiced until their God-given talents were honed to their fullest. They were rewarded with victory and the knowledge that they had performed, under intense pressure, up to their full potential.

I offer my congratulations to these fine Michiganders. I also offer my thanks, on behalf of my State, for making us proud of them for a job well done.●

LAWYERS FOR CHILDREN

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of the Lawyers for Children, an organization whose roots are in my home State.

Lawyers for Children is a nonprofit organization founded to address the critical issues of youth and violence. Highly trained, talented, and compassionate private sector lawyers volunteer their time to serve as advocates through Lawyers for Children for abused and neglected children. Lawyers for Children also works in our schools to teach our kids that there are alternatives to violence—that the power of the spoken word can get you much further than joining a gang or carrying a gun.

Lawyers for Children began in Hartford 2 years ago. Since then, offices were added in Washington, DC and Miami, FL. I am confident that I speak for all the citizens of Connecticut when I express my pride and sincere gratitude for this organization. Lawyers for Children American recognizes that lawyers are in a unique position by virtue of their training to help kids deal with the perils of violence, drug abuse, and, in many cases, the lack of a sufficient education. I sincerely thank Lawyers for Children for all their hard work and

dedication to future of America—our children.

Mr. LOTT addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I thank the distinguished Senator from Iowa for allowing me to do some unanimous-consent requests and some Executive Calendar issues. It will not take but a moment, and then we will go ahead and do the wrapup, and then Senator GRASSLEY and Senator GRAHAM of Florida can make their remarks at that time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate immediately proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations on the Executive Calendar, en bloc, Nos. 686, 718, 720.

Mr. President, I further ask unanimous consent that the nominations be confirmed, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and that the Senate then return to legislative session.

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

The nominations were considered and confirmed, en bloc, as follows:

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Franklin D. Raines, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

AIR FORCE

The following-named officer for appointment to the grade of lieutenant general in the U.S. Air Force while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, United States Code, section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. David J. McCloud, 000-00-0000.

NAVY

The following-named officer for appointment to the grade of Admiral in the U.S. Navy while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, United States Code, sections 601 and 5035:

VICE CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS

To be admiral

Vice Adm. Harold W. Gehman, Jr., 000-00-0000.

Mr. LOTT. I want to note, Mr. President, that Calendar No. 686 is Franklin D. Raines to be Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I want to thank Senators for cooperation in getting this concluded. Senator DOMENICI, the chairman of the Budget Committee, has been very interested in this. I think this is the right thing to do.

I am satisfied he is eminently qualified for the position. And the President should have his Director of the Office of Management and Budget in place. I think this should be completed. The others were military nominations that had been reported by the Armed Services Committee. And there was a great need for those to be in place.