

this—the program encourages participating schools to infuse their regular curriculum with the six core values. There is no set curriculum—schools create individualized programs to fit their needs. Character education can be quite simple—as one Connecticut educator commented, “Any good teacher or good coach is probably doing it anyway.” Character Counts spotlights and inspires these efforts.

A 1992 survey of 9,000 high school and college students conducted by the Josephson Institute of Ethics revealed that 65 percent felt that values should be taught in school because some parents fail to do so in the home, and 45 percent felt that character education should begin as early as kindergarten. This tells me that kids not only need guidance, because it is often not received at home, but that they want guidance. A responsible society will work together to fulfill this obligation.

Schools participating in the program have experienced a dramatic improvement in their behavioral problems. The Devereux Glenholme School in northwest Connecticut, the first school in the State to adopt Character Counts, saw a 50-percent drop in behavioral problems. And I know of at least three children in Connecticut who found sums of money, and instead of keeping it, turned it into the authorities. These children attributed Character Counts with helping them make the decision to turn in the money.

I believe that our youth reflect the broader society as it is revealed to them by adults and that they will rise to our expectations. If expectations of ourselves and of our children are low, then kids will fulfill those low expectations. If we communicate to our youth that they are bad kids, then they will be bad kids. If we recognize their potential for being good kids and then show them and teach them what it means to have character, then they will grow up to be adults of character, and it is our obligation to see that this happens. Character Counts helps us meet that charge.●

#### THE BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

● Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, a lot of folks don't have the slightest idea about the enormity of the Federal debt. Ever so often, I ask groups of friends, how many millions of dollars are there in a trillion? They think about it, voice some estimates, most of them wrong.

One thing they do know is that it was the U.S. Congress that ran up the enormous Federal debt that is now over \$5 trillion. To be exact, as of the close of business Tuesday, February 27, the total Federal debt—down to the penny—stood at \$5,016,697,045,327.39. Another sad statistic is that on a per capita basis, every man, woman, and child in America now owes \$19,041.81.●

#### TRIBUTE TO VICE ADM. J.M. (MIKE) MCCONNELL

● Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, it is always an honor and a privilege to recognize the men and women of our Armed Forces who have diligently and faithfully maintained the security of this great Nation. We do this on Armed Forces Day and on Veteran's Day, but I believe everyone would agree that we do not recognize these individuals as frequently as their deeds would warrant. Today, I stand to recognize and pay tribute to one of the Nation's outstanding military leaders and unsung heroes, Vice Adm. Mike McConnell, Director of the National Security Agency [NSA], who will retire on March 1, 1996 after having unselfishly served his country for over 29 years.

Vice Admiral McConnell's life is truly an American success story. Being the product of humble roots, he attended Furman University in Greenville, SC, also the place of his birth, and was commissioned as a line officer in the Navy in 1967. He served tours in Vietnam, Japan, the Persian Gulf, and Indian Ocean as an intelligence officer before being nominated for flag rank and being selected as the Director for Joint Staff Intelligence, J-2. In this critical assignment, he served as the senior military intelligence advisor to the Secretary of Defense and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff [CJCS]. Vice Admiral McConnell's leadership skills and expertise were immediately put to use to keep the Nation's senior policymakers informed of developments during the turmoil and revolutionary changes that swept the former Soviet Union during 1990. More important, however, were his contributions to the Nation during the 1991-92 Persian Gulf crisis. Vice Admiral McConnell's service to the Nation during the gulf war, which included keeping Gen. Colin Powell [CJCS] informed of all enemy activity, was instrumental in saving U.S. and coalition lives and directly contributed to bringing about a quick and decisive victory for allied forces. Realizing that Vice Admiral McConnell had much more to offer the Nation, the President recommended him for a two-star elevation to vice admiral and nominated him to serve as Director of the National Security Agency in 1992.

Vice Admiral McConnell's greatest contributions to the Nation were yet to come. Becoming NSA's 13th Director in May 1992, he committed himself to ensuring that the United States had the world's best cryptologic organization. Vice Admiral McConnell streamlined NSA's operations while ensuring that the Agency had the requisite skills and resources to meet the quickly evolving technological challenges that faced the Nation. His candor and openness with the Congress and its oversight committees helped ensure that the Nation's legislators were well informed of the Agency's operations and how taxpayer dollars were being spent. Realizing that NSA's support saves lives, he also

ensured that the Agency provided matchless support to every major military operation undertaken by the United States during his tenure. Most importantly, he crafted a strategy that will enable NSA to ensure that its people will remain its most critical resource.

Mr. President, I close by stating that everyone who calls this great Nation home owed a debt of gratitude to Vice Admiral McConnell. He has quietly, yet dutifully, served the Nation during four different decades and under seven different Commanders in Chief. Those of us who have been fortunate enough to know him personally can attest to his dedication, peerless integrity, and unwavering loyalty to this Nation. It is with a sense of great pride and honor that I salute Vice Adm. Mike McConnell.●

#### GIRL SCOUTS AND BOY SCOUTS OF RHODE ISLAND

● Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, it is with pride that I present to you the outstanding individuals who have achieved the highest honors as a Girl Scout or Boy Scout. These young people possess qualities of leadership and hard work that distinguishes them from the rest.

Since the beginning of the century, the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts have provided a positive outlet for young men and women to develop leadership skills, make new friends, explore new ideas, as well as gain a sense of self-determination, self-reliance and team work.

The highest honors that can be received by a Girl Scout are the Gold and Silver Awards. These awards are presented to those Girl Scouts who have demonstrated their commitment to excellence, hard work and the desire to help their community. The Eagle Scout Award is the highest honor given to a Boy Scout. Recipients display outstanding leadership in outdoor skills, and in community service that is helpful to religious and school institutions.

It is with great honor that I congratulate the recipients of these awards. The accomplishments of these young people are certainly worthy of praise. The skills they have learned as Scouts will allow them to help the world become a better place.

We also pay tribute to the parents, Scout leaders, and Scouting organizations that have guided these young people to achieve such greatness. Without their time and energy none of this would be possible.

It is a privilege to submit to you the list of the young men and women who have earned these awards, so I ask that it be printed in the RECORD.

The list follows:

GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR  
1995

Cranston: Amanda Toppa.  
East Greenwich: Kimberly Gaffney.  
Johnston: Amy Crane, Bonnie Renfrew.  
Kenyon: Kimberly Pierce.

North Providence: Heather Konicki.  
Pawtucket: Tanya Coots, Heather Davis.  
Portsmouth: Elizabeth Goltman, Julia Kohl, Janessa LeComte, Jennifer McLean, Bridget Sullivan.

Rehoboth, MA: Nicole Swallow.  
Riverside: Cochetta Dolloff.  
West Kingston: Cheryl Berker.  
West Warwick: Heather LaBelle.  
Wood River Junction: Shayna Horgan.  
Woonsocket: Kimberly Hebert.

#### GIRL SCOUT SILVER AWARD RECIPIENTS FOR 1995

Barrington: Heather Bianco, Nicole Daddona, Caroline Danish, Alison Fodor, Emilie Hosford, Ashley Humm, Stephanie Mailloux, Carly Marsh, Amy Poveromo, Sarah Richardson, Adrian Schlesinger, Emily Wetherbee.

Carolina: Amanda Bouressa.  
Cranston: Sara Carnevale, Shannon Corey, Louise Humphrey, Elizabeth Kronenberg, Sarah Lavigne, Stacey Lehrer.

Middletown: Jennifer Hancock, Elizabeth Jump, Amy Kobayashi, Marie Kobayashi, Sarah Peter, Aimee Saunders, Mary Saunders.

North Smithfield: Jessica Cavedon.  
Narragansett: Caroline Cutting, Shauna Dickens, Katie Webster.

Newport: Andrea Innes, Meredith Innes, Jennifer Matheny.

Pawtucket: Amy Medeiros, Valerie Poisson, Bree Smith.

Richmond: Emily Hisey.  
West Kingston: Michelle Berker.  
Wakefield: Ruth Anderson.

Warwick: Bethany Ascoli, Lynn Summers.  
Woonsocket: Danielle Auclair, Tina Brin, Jessica Cousineau, Sarah Doire, Diane Ferland, Alicia Gamache, Stephanie Joannette, Melanie Labrecque, Lynn Turner.

#### BOY SCOTTS OF AMERICA EAGLE SCOUT RECIPIENTS FOR 1995

Ashaway: Chris Dumas.

Barrington: Jonathan T. Belmont, George William Campbell, Morgan Huffman Densley, Scott D. Harrison, Patrick Charles Keenan, Matthew Joseph Stoeckle, Jonathan Larrison Vohr, Russell Aubin Wallis, Rory W. Wood.

Blackstone Massachusetts: Joseph E. Niemczyk.

Bristol: Jason M. Bloom.

Charlestown: Jesse Rhodes.

Chepachet: John F. Valentine, IV.

Cranston: Matthew Erik Anderson, Benjamin J. Caito, Peter W. Caito, Peter Eli Jetty, Michael R. Kachanis, Anthony Mangiarelli, Christopher N. Reilly, Bryan Rekrut, Kevin A. Silva.

Coventry: Brian K. Martin, Matthew Walters.

Cumberland: Chad Michael Dillon.

East Greenwich: Christopher Joseph Cawley, John J. Doyle, Frederick W. Lumb, Kevin Allen Schwendiman, James M.R. Sloan.

Greene: Jeremy P. Skaling.

Greenville: Kenneth C. Collins, Charles Bradley Daniel, Scott E. Hopkins, Mark S. Wong.

Harrisville: Steven B. Mendall, Jr.

Hope: Stephen Raymond Pratt, Jr., Steven Etchells.

Hope Valley: Andrew J. Horton.

Hopkinton: James Romanski, Corey Small.  
Jamestown: Scott E. Froberg, Alan D. Weaver, Jr.

Johnston: Neal R. Bradbury, Edward Albert Darragh, William P. DeRita, III, Michael L. Porter, Jr., Guy S. Shaffer.

Manville: Jason Michael Allen, David Raymond Levesque.

Middletown: Todd Michael Fisher, Michael A. Henry, Luke Allen Magnus, Eric Oldford, Brian J. Paquin, Jason F. Soules, Aaron M. Wilbur.

Millville, Massachusetts: Jeffrey Dean.

Narragansett: Matthew W. Maruska.

Nasonville: Brian D. Lafaille.

Newport: Aaron Hauquitz, Douglas Everett Jameson.

North Attleboro, Massachusetts: Raymond Gauthier, Jr.

North Dighton, Massachusetts: Joshua N. Labrie.

North Kingston: William C. Mainor, Walter E. Thomas, IV, John T. Walsh, III.

North Providence: Kevin M. Brault, Matthew William Thornton.

North Scituate: Thomas D. Alberg, Paul L. Carlson, Peter Charles Carlson, Matthew P. Koehler.

North Smithfield: James E.K. Doherty.

Pawcatuck, Connecticut: Patrick K. Cryan, James D. Spaziantie.

Pawtucket: Dominic Chirchirillo, III, Ramiro Antonio Dacosta, Peter Fleurant, Albert Joseph Prew, Joseph Edward Sullivan, Joshua Brian Waldman.

Portsmouth: Jeremy Sawyer Brown, Benjamin Gorman, Kent D. Rutter, Colin B. Smith.

Providence: John James Joseph Banks, Matthew Charles Bastan, Luke C. Doyle, Andrew Frutchey, Christopher A. Goulet, Patrick J. Horrigan, Vincent R. Iacobucci, Jr., Adam Ryan Moore, Thomas J.W. Parker, Peter Scheidler, Jr.

Rumford: Tony Poole.

Seekonk, Massachusetts: Nathanael J. Greene, Brett Marcotte, Jeffrey C. McCabe, Christopher R. Nicholas, William J. Wood, Jr.

Smithfield: Brian P. Breguet, Michael J. Hogan, Nathan Moreau, Colin M. Segovis.

Sutton, Massachusetts: Matthew John Zell.

Uxbridge, Massachusetts: Brian M. Zifcak.  
Warren: William Garcia.

Warwick: Ryan W. Arnold, Steven L. Bailey, Christopher A. Bissell, James R. Caddell, Jr., Fred Crossman, Jr., Joseph G. Diman, Ian T. Fairbairn, Sean R. Guzeika, Matthew L. Lutynski, Michael Marsegia, Andrew P. McGuirl, Adam J. Morelli, Matteo D. Morelli, Gerald Theroux, Bradley Thompson, Robert A. Wilcox.

Westerly: Shane Matthew Belanger, Vincent Anthony Fusaro.

West Kinston: Benjamin T. Brillat, Jacob Casimir Sosnowski.

West Warwick: Linton S. Wilder, IV, Frank M. Caliri.

Woonsocket: Adam Christopher Crepeau, Dominique Dolron.●

#### AGREEMENT TO CREATE TV RATING SYSTEM

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, a popular TV show in the 1960's, The Outer Limits, began each episode with these words: Do not attempt to adjust your television set. We control the horizontal. We control the vertical. . .

Those words symbolized the kind of control the TV industry has had over what viewers could watch in living rooms all across the country. For a long time, we didn't mind, as TV offered plenty of quality shows, with a few inoffensive bombs sprinkled in here and there.

But in recent years, the domination of the broadcast industry over what we see on TV has grated on the sensibilities of the American people, especially as TV has gone beyond the outer limits of good taste and decency, and into a twilight zone of immorality and degradation.

The Outer Limits TV show ended each week with the announcer telling viewers, "We now return control of your television set," and that is what has begun to happen today.

This is an historic day for millions of American families. The major television networks and the people responsible for most of what we see on TV have agreed to create a rating system for their programs. This rating system will be compatible with the V-chip that television sets will carry in the near future. I would like to commend the entertainment industry leaders who have taken this step forward and agreed to implement a rating system and embrace the V-chip. I have no doubt that this will be seen as both a socially responsible and a good business decision in the long term. I have no illusions however, about how difficult it was for the entertainment leaders who met with the President to take this step.

Today's news means parents will have a new tool to use as they struggle to raise their children in a healthy, moral environment. Parents will be able to block out programs that they deem inappropriate for their children.

As co-sponsor of the V-chip legislation with Senator KENT CONRAD and Representative ED MARKEY, I am very pleased that the V-chip will soon become reality. President Bill Clinton deserves a lot of credit for making this major step forward possible. Beginning with his support for the V-chip last July, and continuing through his strong endorsement in the State of the Union Address, President Clinton, along with Vice President GORE, has helped move this issue front and center, and encouraged the television industry to abandon their opposition to ratings and the V-chip.

We all will be watching what the television industry does to implement this new rating system. I have some concerns about how the ratings will be structured, because the credibility of that system is essential if parents are going to be able to use and trust the V-chip. The ratings must be tough enough to allow parents to prevent their kids from seeing too much violence, sexual activity, vulgarity, and even sexual innuendo, which has inundated many prime time television shows in recent years. A Seinfeld or Friends episode about masturbation or orgasms might qualify for a PG rating in a movie theater but should get the equivalent of an R when it comes on at 8 o'clock at night.

We must also guard against a rating system becoming a cover for even more inappropriate content in television programming. The parents of America will not stand still if the networks use the existence of ratings as an excuse to produce even more explicit and offensive shows.

But, if properly designed and widely used by parents, a rating system operating through a V-chip can change the economics of the television industry,