

aware, this week—May 4–May 10—is Arson Awareness Week. All over the Nation, people are coming together to combat arson and take back their communities. One such place where this has been happening is Utica, a city of about 70,000 people in upstate New York. Utica is a pilot city in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's [FEMA] Partnership for Arson Awareness and Prevention. FEMA Director James Lee Witt is heading up the National Arson Prevention Initiative [NAPI], a combined effort of FEMA and the Departments of Housing and Urban Development, Justice, and the Treasury. President Clinton asked Director Witt to create the NAPI in response to the many church fires which recently occurred in the South.

In March, Utica Mayor Edward Hanna and Oneida County Executive Ralph Eannace formed a local arson prevention coalition and have been working with FEMA officials. Throughout this week and in the future, the people of Utica will band together to take back their city from scourge of arson fires which it has recently seen.

On Tuesday, students at the Martin Luther King School heard a public education program on arson from officers of the Utica Fire Department and the New York State Office of Fire Prevention. On Wednesday, risk assessments were conducted at senior citizen's centers, and on Friday, the Utica National Insurance Co.'s. are presenting a fire prevention grant to residents of the neighborhood near the intersections of South and Steuben Streets.

On Saturday, Director Witt will cap off the week with a visit to Utica. The day's activities will include boarding up abandoned structures to make them less susceptible to arson and conducting fire drills at several churches in the morning and having a parade and arson prevention rally in the afternoon. I would like to thank Director Witt for making Utica a pilot city in this program and for visiting Utica. Working together, the people of Utica will reclaim their city from arson.

Mr. President, I ask that an article by Director Witt on Arson Awareness Week be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

WHAT ARE YOU DOING TO TARGET ARSON IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

WASHINGTON.—IN THE WAKE OF THE CHURCH FIRES LAST SUMMER, THE PRESIDENT ASKED ME TO LEAD A NATIONAL ARSON PREVENTION INITIATIVE. HE WANTED TO FOCUS THE EFFORTS AND THE RESOURCES OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ON SUPPORTING COMMUNITY-BASED ACTIVITIES TO PREVENT ARSON.

The initiative the President implemented was national in regional, and not focused on houses of worship exclusively. This effort represents the commitment by numerous Federal agencies, governments at all levels, the private sector, and the voluntary community to greatly reduce the 750 fatalities and over \$2 billion in losses caused by arson in this country every year.

National Arson Awareness Week, which begins Sunday (May 4) and runs through Saturday, May 10th, is the culmination of this ini-

tiative. In a very real sense, it marks the first anniversary of an unprecedented crusade to combat a national problem that far too often maims and kills and can destroy the fabric of our communities. The theme of this week is "Target Arson," and each community should ask themselves what they are doing in the fight against arson.

Arson is preventable. What is disturbing is that one out of every four fires is intentionally set. That means that someone—a fellow human being—consciously decides for whatever reason to destroy a home, a car, a house of worship, or a business. And in that moment they have attacked the lives, the livelihoods, and the spirit of a community. Arson is a national problem, but it is fundamentally a local problem. This war—like most wars—must be won in the trenches. Local fire and police departments are well-trained and ready to mount heroic efforts. But when the doors of the fire station go up to respond, you have already lost the battle to prevent that fire from happening. In the end, the real responsibility for stopping arson lies with the community—with students, teachers, business leaders, parents, the clergy, and civic organizations.

Arson does affect everyone—and every taxpayer should be vitally concerned about arson's destructive and deadly toll. Think of the cost of rolling out fire trucks to deal with a toilet paper fire at a school. Consider that teenagers account for more than 55 percent of all deliberately set blazes, and if you include youth 20 years and younger that figure climbs to 61.2 percent. Then think of the cost of teachers and students killed or scarred for the rest of their lives and a smoldering school that must be rebuilt. Think again of the houses and businesses that disappear from the tax rolls because of arson, and the services that suffer in a community as the result. Imagine what it's like to pull up outside your church or house of worship, and realize that it disappeared in flames the night before.

As we observe National Arson Awareness Week, three communities—Charlotte, NC; Macon, GA; and Utica, NY—will be launching grassroots arson prevention coalitions that could well become models for other American cities. These are communities that took firm hold of their arson problems and have put together a partnership from across their community to prevent future arson fires.

These communities will step forward as model arson prevention partnerships with a flurry of week-long activity, that includes boarding up abandoned buildings, cleaning up litter and debris from vacant properties, conducting arson prevention training programs in schools and community centers, and promoting arson awareness through public education campaigns and neighborhood watch rallies. Dozens of other cities across the country will also be hosting National Arson Awareness Week events.

The most effective way of combating any problem, including arson, is to prevent it from happening. That takes more than federal agencies and federal dollars. It takes you and your family and your friends. It takes your entire community.

So ask yourself this week—what you are doing to "target arson" in your community? Then get involved—organize a neighborhood watch, assess arson risks in your community, participate in prevention training programs, call your local fire department or call the National Arson Prevention Clearinghouse at 1-888-603-3100 for some arson prevention ideas. Remember fire stops with you.

CAPT. JAMES HUARD

• Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to pay my respects to Air Force

Capt. James Huard, buried on Thursday, May 1 with full military honors at Arlington National Cemetery. The day was long overdue; 25 years, in fact, since the Dearborn, MI native's plane disappeared in a mission over North Vietnam.

In July 1972, Captain Huard's death left behind a young wife, three small children, and countless other family and friends. His memory lives on today, however, evident in the attendance at Arlington of a number of members of the Vietnam Veterans of America James L. Huard Chapter 267, named in his honor.

As fitting and well deserved a tribute as last week's ceremony was, it also serves as a stirring reminder of those who still wait for return of the remains of their loved ones. For one quarter of a century, over 2,000 families have so far been denied the opportunity to properly bring closure to this difficult period in their lives.

As Paul Kane, one of Captain Huard's fellow veterans told the Detroit News, "This ends the Vietnam war for Dearborn, finally. Today, the good captain comes home to rest."

It is my sincere hope the other families and communities across this country waiting to honor those servicemen still missing in action will one day, if they have not already, find a similar peace themselves. Until then, we cannot and will not waver or rest in our solemn task of returning every American home for recognition as heroes by the country in whose service they made the ultimate sacrifice.●

NATIONAL SAFE KIDS WEEK 1997

• Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize May 10 through 18 as National Safe Kids Week 1997. The National Safe Kids Campaign is a joint effort of the Children's National Medical Center and its founding sponsor Johnson & Johnson to promote basic child safety precautions among America's parents.

To illustrate the importance of this cause, consider the following facts. Unintentional injury is the number one killer of children ages 14 and under. Every day, more than 39,000 children are injured seriously enough to require emergency medical treatment. That is more than 14 million each year. These statistics are all the more tragic because so many of these accidents could have been prevented with adequate basic child safety education.

Earlier today, the National Safe Kids Gear Up Games kicked off here in Washington. The Gear Up Games will move to New York tomorrow, Los Angeles on Saturday, and on to communities across the country in the days ahead. The primary awareness program of National Safe Kids Week 1997, the Gear Up Games are an interactive safety obstacle course with events centered around the childhood injury risk areas depicted in the Safe Kids Gear Up Guide.

Mr. President, I am honored to say my wife Jane is a honorary chairperson of the Detroit Safe Kids Campaign. She joins such respected national figures as former United States Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, our distinguished colleagues from Connecticut and Ohio, CHRIS DODD and MIKE DEWINE, respectively, and countless others in this worthwhile initiative.

During National Safe Kids Week 1997, and beyond, I plan to have available in both my Washington and Michigan offices copies of the Safe Kids Gear Up Guide. Jane and I join Senators DODD and DEWINE in urging other Senators to do likewise. As the parents of three children, all under the age of 4, my wife and I believe there is no more important task than working to ensure all of America's children have safe home and play environments in which to grow up.

I commend those involved in the National Safe Kids Campaign and the good works they do, and look forward to the day accidental childhood injuries are eliminated entirely.●

HOPE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge and commend the State of Georgia's HOPE Scholarship program. The HOPE Scholarship, which stands for helping outstanding pupils educationally, has served as a model of excellence in education for a number of other States, and indeed the entire Nation. I am honored to represent a State, which in my opinion, has one of the most innovative educational programs in the country.

The HOPE Scholarship provides eligible students wishing to attend a Georgia Public College or University with tuition, mandatory fees and a \$100 book allowance. The HOPE Scholarship also provides eligible students wishing to attend a Georgia Private College or University with \$3000 per academic school year and an additional \$1000 in Georgia Tuition Equalization Grants per academic year. To be eligible, students must be a Georgia resident, graduated from high school after a certain date and have completed high school with a "B" average. Students must continue to perform well academically and maintain a "B" average while in college to continue to receive the HOPE Scholarship.

Students wishing to attend a Georgia Public Technical Institute are also eligible for the HOPE Scholarship. The HOPE scholarship provides tuition, mandatory fees and a \$100 book allowance for students attending these technical institutions.

Since the program began in September of 1993, more than 238,500 Georgia students have been awarded HOPE Scholarships. Because of the HOPE Scholarship college enrollment is up 1.2 percent, full-time private college enrollment is up 32 percent and technical school enrollment is up 24 percent in Georgia. At the University of Georgia,

97 percent of the entering in-state freshman were on HOPE Scholarships for the Fall 1996 quarter. At the Georgia Institute of Technology, 96 percent of in-state entering students in 1996 were on HOPE Scholarships.

The HOPE Scholarship has given, and will continue to give, thousands of Georgia students the financial encouragement both to attend college and to persist and gain a degree. Students in Georgia know that if they work hard and do well academically, despite the rising cost of higher education, they will be provided the resources needed to further their education. Not only does the HOPE Scholarship reward those students who are willing to work hard with tuition money, but it also serves as incentive to keep Georgia's best and brightest in the great state of Georgia.

A lack of financial resources should not prevent any American from pursuing a college education and thanks to the Georgia HOPE Scholarship, in Georgia, it doesn't. Unfortunately, however, the lack of financial resources remains the number one obstacle to higher education for many American students and their families. This is why it is so important that the necessary financial resources are provided to all students pursuing a higher education and why the importance of current education legislation, such as S. 12, that addresses this crucial need cannot be overlooked.

I believe that federal support for education is one of the best investments our nation can make to ensure future security and prosperity. In keeping with this commitment to education I am a proud co-sponsor of S.12. The goal of S. 12 is to make higher education more accessible and affordable for all students. S. 12, "The Education for the 21st Century Act," includes two new forms of assistance to help families meet the costs of higher education. The first form of assistance, also called the HOPE Scholarship, is a \$1500 per year refundable tax credit for the first two years of post-secondary education. To qualify for the credit, students must have a "B" average and be drug-free. S. 12 also includes a tax deduction of up to \$10,000 per year for qualified education expenses.

In these days of budget cuts, we must not forget that the future of our country depends on the youth of today. If we deny our youth the necessary tools to grow and learn we deny ourselves a better tomorrow. The Georgia HOPE Scholarship is a shining example of how the people and the government can come together to create an efficient, highly successful program that benefits everyone.

The Georgia HOPE Scholarship has been an overwhelming success and Georgians have been very fortunate to have reaped such a wealth of benefits from this innovative program. S. 12 is an attempt to provide similar opportunities for all Americans. We must work together as a nation to ensure that

barriers to higher education continue to fall for all Americans. It is my sincere hope that the entire nation will follow Georgia's lead and make education a top priority. The future of our country depends on it.●

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE SENATE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

● Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Rules of Procedure for the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Governmental Affairs, as adopted, April 28, 1997, be printed in the RECORD.

The rules of procedure follow:

105TH CONGRESS—RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE SENATE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS AS ADOPTED, APRIL 28, 1997

1. No public hearing connected with an investigation may be held without the approval of either the Chairman and the ranking minority Member or the approval of a majority of the Members of the Subcommittee. In all cases, notification to all Members of the intent to hold hearings must be given at least 7 days in advance to the date of the hearing. The ranking minority Member should be kept fully apprised of preliminary inquiries, investigations, and hearings. Preliminary inquiries may be initiated by the Subcommittee majority staff upon the approval of the Chairman and notice of such approval to the ranking minority Member or the minority counsel. Preliminary inquiries may be undertaken by the minority staff upon the approval of the ranking minority Member and notice of such approval to the Chairman or Chief Counsel. Investigations may be undertaken upon the approval of the Chairman of the Subcommittee and the ranking minority Member with notice of such approval to all members.

No public hearing shall be held if the minority Members unanimously object, unless the full Committee on Governmental Affairs by a majority vote approves of such public hearing.

Senate Rules will govern all closed sessions convened by the Subcommittee (Rule XXVI, Sec. 5(b), Standing Rules of the Senate).

2. Subpoenas for witnesses, as well as documents and records, may be authorized and issued by the Chairman, or any other Member of the Subcommittee designated by him, with notice to the ranking minority Member. A written notice of intent to issue a subpoena shall be provided to the Chairman and ranking minority Member of the Committee, or staff officers designated by them, by the Subcommittee Chairman or a staff officer designated by him, immediately upon such authorization, and no subpoena shall issue for at least 48 hours, excluding Saturdays and Sundays, from delivery to the appropriate offices, unless the Chairman and ranking minority Member waive the 48 hour waiting period or unless the Subcommittee Chairman certifies in writing to the Chairman and ranking minority Member that, in his opinion, it is necessary to issue a subpoena immediately.

3. The Chairman shall have the authority to call meetings of the Subcommittee. This authority may be delegated by the Chairman to any other Member of the Subcommittee when necessary.

4. If at least three Members of the Subcommittee desire the Chairman to call a special meeting, they may file in the office of