

In having this honor bestowed upon them, Jodie, Kaitlin, Jessie, Sara, and Michelle have shown that they are dedicated and committed to these qualities, and, just as important, that they enjoy what they are doing. For their parents, family and friends, this is a proud moment—and, as a Mainer, I share this feeling.

To reach this goal a Girl Scout must earn four interest project patches, the Career Exploration Pin, the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, and the Senior Girl Scout Challenge, as well as design and implement a Girl Scout Gold Award project. A plan for fulfilling these requirements is created by the Senior Girl Scout and is carried out through close cooperation between the girl and an adult Girl Scout volunteer. All of the girls throughout the United States who have earned this award have fulfilled a personal goal which will benefit them in the years to come.

For their project, Jodie Comer, Michelle McLaughlin, and Sara Agouab researched, designed, and produced a booklet on auto care and maintenance for women. In addition, they put on an auto care workshop for cadette and senior Girl Scouts. Kaitlin Coffin and Jessie Mellott produced a video to help recruit and retain younger girls in Girl Scouting.

I have always been, and will continue to be, supportive of the Girl Scouts and recognize the important values that it instills in young people, such as service, honesty and leadership. By helping to form the character of young women, the Girl Scouts makes a lasting contribution on the lives of people throughout Maine and the United States.

I know that my Senate colleagues join me in offering my congratulations to these young women for what they have accomplished. This prestigious award is a testament to their convictions and individual commitment to serve those in their community for the betterment of society.●

TEENAGE TRAGEDY

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, the city of Detroit is grieving over the loss of Cody High School sophomore Darryl Towns, who was fatally shot just days before his sixteenth birthday. Darryl was murdered in his own backyard over a minor dispute that eventually turned into a major tragedy. What started off as a fist fight between life long friends ended up in murder: three fatal shots with a semiautomatic pistol.

Now, Darryl's community is left in shock as they grieve over the "foolish" and "senseless" death of their friend, known among many as a "respectful," "responsible" young man. Friends and parents are forced to ask the troubling question: If a person like Darryl, who stayed out of trouble, isn't safe from gun violence, who among our teens is safe? Unfortunately, there is no one who can answer that question or predict the future. Yet, common sense

tells us that the widespread proliferation of guns will only result in additional tragedies like Darryl's.

I urge my colleagues to take up a meaningful debate on gun safety and end the easy access to weapons that results in the destruction of so many young lives. I submit for the RECORD a letter printed in the Detroit Free Press, written to Darryl's mother, Annette Towns, expressing sympathy over such a difficult loss.

The letter follows.

[From the Detroit Free Press, Sept. 15, 1999]

MOTHERS: TEACH SONS ABOUT LOVE, GUNS
(By Kim Kingston)

Darryl Towns, 15, died senselessly and tragically on Sept. 9 ("Slaying questioned: One teen in custody is a childhood friend," Sept. 11). Many of us knew of him only as "the baby." Most of us knew him through the stories from a mother's heart—of trials and tribulations, and the joys and challenges of trying to raise a son up right.

Some of us knew only his voice, as it changed over the years from that of a soft-spoken boy to that of a man, calling his mom every evening at work, just to check in. His mama was always saying with a glitter of pride in her eye: "He's such a good and responsible boy." Fifteen years of love and dedication were ripped away in an instant by a senseless act, so very irreversible.

For every mother of every son, teach your sons the magnitude of a mother's love, and how guns lead to the destruction of so many lives—but none so insurmountable as that of a mother's anguish at the loss of her son.

Guns have no place in untrained hands—your hand or my hands—let alone in the emotionally charged squabbles of teenaged boys. The only ones powerful enough to stop it are the young men themselves—young men like Darryl, who stood apart from some of his peers. He didn't carry a gun. He tried to do what was right.

If his death could change the heart of just one boy, then he would not have died in vain.

To Annette, his Mother: We, your friends at work, want to thank you for sharing a part of your dear son with us through your eyes.

To Darryl, forever "Mama's Baby": We dedicate you to a better, safer place in the loving arms of your Creator.●

U.S. JUNIOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

● Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, each week, each of us meets with dozens, even hundreds, of constituents from our home States. For some States, thousands of constituents will travel to Washington to advocate positions on issues of concern. Being a Senator representing a sparsely populated States means meeting with everyone of those constituents who visits the Capitol. It is always good to see the folks from home.

Two weeks ago was old home week for me. It was a special time for me to reminisce about my service in the Jaycees. The Jaycees—now called the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce—State presidents held a meeting in the Nations' Capitol to talk about their organization's priorities. Debra Jennings, State president of the Wyoming Junior Chamber of Commerce, and Larry Wostenberg, the sole

candidate for next years's State president of the Wyoming Junior Chamber of Commerce, were in town and I was fortunate to meet with them.

I'm a former Wyoming State Jaycee president. I served in 1973-74. That year and the activities that led to that year played a big role in forming my leadership skills. I took leadership classes, then I taught leadership classes.

As president, I emphasized that the Jaycees was not a service organization. The Jaycees were and are a leadership organization. The purpose has been and is to teach young people leadership skills. Members participate in the complete service projects to learn leadership skills.

My first project was a Christmas shopping tour. We raised money in order to take kids recommended by welfare shopping to buy presents for the other members of their families. We picked them up at their home. We took them shopping, took them to a restaurant where they wrapped the packages and had a little celebration, and then delivered them home. We also spent the year gathering toys, repairing them, and purchasing additional toys that were given to the kids we took on the shopping tour. Through activities such as the shopping tour, I developed leadership skills that helped me move up in the ranks within the Wyoming Jaycees—first as a committee chairman, then the local president, and State chaplain.

At one point in my experience, we noticed that many young businessmen were devoting so much time to the Jaycees that it was breaking up their families. I was part of a project for having one night a week devoted to families and family discussion. The name of that program, which became a national program, was "Family Life." I spent a year traveling to chapters and State meetings extolling the virtues of strong families. It is my understanding that 25 years later the program is still intact and still being conducted.

Another favorite program of that time was one called "Do Something." It could just as easily have been labeled "Do Anything." Chapters across the Nation were encouraged to survey their community, figure out what needed to be done and do it. They were encouraged not to do formal surveys. They were encouraged to have each Jaycee ask his neighbors and the people in his community what they thought the community needed, then to do it. The emphasis was on talking to each other, then taking action, and it worked. Never underestimate the ability of young people to achieve. Remember they haven't had enough experience to know yet what can't be done. As a result they find that anything can be done and they do it. Most of them haven't been taught yet that only government can get things done. So, they learn first hand that only individuals working together get things done.

Jaycees gave me my start in politics in a strange way. I was a businessman

operating a retail shoe store who was too busy to worry about politics. I had never anticipated going into politics. At the State Jaycee convention as I was finishing my year as State president, Senator Alan Simpson was our guest speaker. At that time he was a State Representative and majority floor leader. I gave my speech on Jaycee leadership training. He gave his customarily humorous speech. After the dinner he took me by the elbow, led me off to the side and said, "On this leadership thing, it's time you put your money where your mouth is. You need to get into politics. You ought to run for mayor of Gillette." Gillette, the community where I was from, was just beginning a boom. I was only 29. Not a good age to run for office in Wyoming. In addition, I had only lived in Gillette for 5 years. Nowhere near being a Gillette native. I wanted to see more city planning. Not an exciting or good issue to run on in the West. But the young people moving to Gillette in droves saw the need for an organizing force with new ideas, and I was elected. You could call that a "Do Something" project. I took a quick informal survey of what needed to be done followed by enlisting the help of everyone.

The United States Jaycees puts out an officer and directors guide. It's a manual for chapter management and leadership training. I've had a copy of that Officer and Directors Guide and a copy of the "Do Something" manual on my desk since 1975. I've found that you can run a city with them, that you can solve State problems with them, and that you can organize a United States Senate office and do legislation based on them.

Last week the U.S. Junior Chamber of Commerce—Jaycees—were in town learning leadership. They were learning about projects that will teach leadership and they were learning about laws that will affect their future and the future of this country. They have programs for getting young people into business. They have a national business network to help them when they are in business. They have a gun safety education program available to all youth. They have a program for teaching investing. And they get into some social issues, called "Touch one child and you touch the world" that helps provide care for infants affected by HIV/AIDS. They have a program called, "Wake up. Live Big. Be Smoke Free." It's the Jaycees against youth smoking.

The Jaycees are about people to people dialogue and communication. Neighbor to neighbor. Delivering a message by those who are trusted. Yes, these young people will make a difference. They have a message for us on Social Security. They've been holding townhall meetings across the country and have been surveying the Nation. They've been searching for solutions to our Social Security dilemma. Mr. President, I ask to have printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my re-

marks, a resolution that started them on this quest on March 16, 1996. It was revised and reauthorized September 23 of this year.

I also have an opinion editorial by the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare written by Mike Marshall who is the past president of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce, entitled, "Jaycees want Social Security Saved." I also ask that that document be printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks.

My fellow Senators, we've heard from the people on retirement. We've heard from the people almost ready to retire. We've heard from the baby boomers. Now we are hearing from the people at the beginning end of the spectrum of working for Social Security. These people will be paying into the system for 30 to 45 years and they want to be sure they get something back too.

Perhaps the serious condition of the Social Security system as an investment program can best be understood through an example. Let's suppose that only 2 percent of the present 15 percent is contributed from every paycheck to Social Security. If invested in the private markets, this 2 percent would produce the same result at retirement as the entire 15 percent gives them now. That's not much of a future for the current Social Security program. It would cause a revolution as these young people move into decision-making situations. If we listen to them now, if we work with them now, if we make changes in the system now, Social Security as we know it can be saved and extended for the benefit of our Nation's young people for years to come. If we wait very long, we will see pain. Please resolve with me now to join the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce in their quest to ensure the future economic solvency of the Social Security system for present generations and those to come.

I thank my colleagues.

The documents follow:

CALL FOR LEGISLATION TO ENSURE THE FUTURE ECONOMIC SOLVENCY OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM

(Revised and Reauthorized September 23, 1999)

Whereas, the membership of The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce as well as most Americans are concerned about the economic future of Social Security System.

Whereas, payroll deductions will have to be dramatically increased or benefits significantly decreased unless Social Security is reformed; and

Whereas, we need to meet our Social Security promises to existing and future retirees; and

Whereas, the number of retirees will almost double by the year 2030; or

Whereas, The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce has conducted surveys at seventy-five Social Security Town Hall Meetings in forty different states; and

Whereas, The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce has testified before congress to address these concerns; and

Whereas, as a result of The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce's Social Secu-

rity Town Hall Report, an overwhelming majority approved the establishment of individual retirement accounts; and

Whereas, The U.S. Congress has introduced legislation for the establishment and maintenance of individual retirement accounts; and

Whereas, The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce has invested considerable time and resources in the solvency of the Social Security System; and

Whereas, The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce sees the need to get the average young American involved in the interest of their government; and

Whereas, The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce should actively promote getting out the vote to secure these aims: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce Executive Board of Directors:

recognizes that Social Security is in need of immediate revision;

recognizes that the future of Social Security is a vital concern for young people and future generations in the United States;

recognizes the need for capitalization of the social security system;

recognizes the need for personal retirement accounts;

recognizes that a percentage of budget surpluses should go towards the solvency of Social Security;

recognizes a need for a national "Get Out the Vote" campaign;

gives authority to the USJCC staff to pursue a course to reform Social Security in local Junior Chamber communities and at the national level and organize a "Get Out the Vote" campaign.

JAYCEES WANT SOCIAL SECURITY SAVED

(By Mike Marshall)

Within the last year, Republicans and Democrats have expressed the necessity to take legislative action to strengthen Social Security. President Clinton, during his 1998 State of the Union address, announced plans for a series of public forums to be held across the country. He plans to hold a conference on Social Security in Washington, D.C., this December and then ask Congress to pass reforms in 1999. Senator Bob Kerrey, Nebraska Democrat, is urging President Clinton and congressional Republicans to begin "eating our national spinach" and reform government entitlements. Politicians are listening to their constituents and are coming to the conclusion that Americans want Social Security to be saved.

Members of The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce (Jaycees) completed a series of Social Security town hall meetings across America in 1997. They made some remarkable findings. Americans attending these town hall meetings indicated they want the Social Security system in this country reformed. With more than 1,400 town hall participants surveyed, 79 percent believe that the Social Security program will need radical or major changes to survive.

The Jaycee surveys also indicate that 76 percent of the town hall participants believe that they should be allowed to place their Social Security contributions into a personal retirement account. This coincides with a survey recently released by the Democratic Leadership Council which indicated that 75 percent of registered voters—regardless of political party—said they strongly or somewhat support letting workers take a third of the Social Security payroll taxes they now pay and invest them into private retirement accounts.

The Junior Chamber of Commerce believes any changes to Social Security should be

judged on whether the current hallmarks are maintained and remain dependable, universal, and available to the disabled as well as all elderly. In addition, we recognize the need for capitalization of the Social Security system. Americans need to have ownership in the system and politicians must have reduced access to the money they are taxing for our retirement savings. Some type of Personal Savings Retirement Accounts combined with the current system appear to be the best solution.

Some organizations would have you believe that Social Security can be saved with just a few adjustments. For 60 years, with little notice or fanfare, the government has been making adjustments to the system. If it was as simple as a slight adjustment, we would not have elected officials risking their political lives by addressing the need for dramatic, system-saving changes.

Now is the time honest debate and real reform. We are asking Congress and the President to leave a legacy of leadership behind them for this country. They must act to save the Social Security system for the elderly, the disabled, and current and future retirees. All Americans must take an active role on this issue, listen to all aides of the debate, and then call their elected officials and urge them to take action.

The United States Junior Chamber of Commerce is a volunteer, non-partisan, community service organization comprised of more than 100,000 men and women ages 21 to 39. 1-800-JAYCEES.●

SUPPORT OUR TEACHING HOSPITALS

● Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I rise today to express my strong support for this country's teaching hospitals.

These institutions provide the critical experiences of internship and residency by which raw medical school graduates, who have learned the science of medicine, are converted into seasoned physicians who have learned the art and practice of medicine. We are all going to face illness at one time or another in our lives, and we want to make sure that there will be well-educated, conscientious, and compassionate physicians to care for us during those periods. The critical role of the teaching hospitals in molding the doctors of the future cannot be overestimated.

These teaching hospitals also serve as key participants in the medical research advances from which we all benefit enormously. We tend to forget that medicine is a relatively young science. Antibiotics, which we all take for granted, have been in use for only about 50 years. Heart bypass surgery and kidney transplants, procedures so commonplace that we hardly give them a second thought, were virtually unheard of 40 years ago. These and other medical advances have led to a tremendous increase in life expectancy in this country over the past 100 years. Yet all of these innovations would have been virtually impossible without the ongoing participation of teaching hospitals in programs of medical research and development.

Finally, these teaching hospitals provide a tremendous service to our communities. For many of the most vul-

nerable among us, the teaching hospitals represent their major, and often only, source of medical care. The homeless, the indigent, the elderly, the new arrivals to our country: for many in these groups, there would be no medical care at all if not for the care provided by the teaching hospitals, such as Christiana Care in my home state of Delaware.

So we should all agree that teaching hospitals are an absolutely essential resource for our society; we don't want to go back to 19th century medicine, we want to move ahead to 21st century medicine.

But there is a problem: the teaching hospitals' financial underpinning has become very precarious, and a number of the most reknowned teaching hospitals in this country are now losing money each year. We have come somewhat late to the unsurprising realization that the time and resources which the teaching hospitals devote to the education of future physicians, the research we need for better and healthier lives, and the care of the indigent and working poor, costs a lot of money.

These costs are going up every year for our teaching hospitals: new technology costs money, dedicated employees must be paid a living wage, and so forth. But the income of teaching hospitals is not coming close to matching these cost increases. Health insurance companies are reducing their payments to health care providers, including teaching hospitals. Teaching hospitals, with their obligatory high costs, are not able to compete financially for contracts to take care of HMO patients. A significant percentage of teaching hospital costs has been paid in the past by Medicare, but as Medicare finds itself facing future insolvency, its payment to teaching hospitals for training interns and residents has also declined. We in Congress contributed to the decline in teaching hospitals' income with several provisions in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, particularly the reductions in payments for indirect medical education and disproportionate share hospitals.

Everybody who gets health care in this country benefits from the work of teaching hospitals, but in the face of the financial straits that have overwhelmed our health care system, nobody wants to pay for them.

Mr. President, it is absolutely essential that this country's teaching hospitals remain vital and viable. Medicare may no longer be in a position to continue paying a disproportionately large share of teaching hospital expenses. In the long run, we must carefully reevaluate the funding mechanism for teaching hospitals to ensure their stability; if we all benefit from them, then perhaps we should all pay part of their costs.

These long-term changes are important, but we in the Senate must also be concerned about the here and now. Teaching hospitals that are currently

losing money may not be able to wait for the "long run"; they need help in the next few months. Senator DASCHLE has just introduced the Medicare Beneficiary Access to Care Act, which contains provisions that would benefit the teaching hospitals and their patients, and I understand that the Senate Finance Committee is currently working on proposals to address some unintended consequences of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, including those that have impacted on teaching hospitals.

But time is of the essence, and the key word is urgency. Next year may be too late. The Senate is working furiously to pass the necessary appropriations bills in the few legislative days we have remaining this session, but I implore my colleagues not to move to adjournment until we take action to make sure that the teaching hospitals will still be around next session. The teaching hospitals spend 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, working to make sure we live long and healthy lives, and it's time for us to return the favor. If we don't have enough time this session to complete the necessary major surgery on the payment system for teaching hospitals, the least we can do is set aside the few hours or days it would take to administer a little life-saving financial CPR.●

IN RECOGNITION OF "NATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER APPRECIATION DAY"

● Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, October 17, 1999 is "National Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Day" and I want to take this opportunity to honor the 15 million American men and women who serve as Sunday school teachers. They are surely one of our nation's most valuable resources.

Since 1993, "National Sunday School Teacher Appreciation Day" has helped foster an increased awareness of the vital role Sunday school plays in the life of the local church and community. By marking this day, churches have an opportunity to nominate the cream of the crop of their Sunday school teachers for national recognition. An integral part of this campaign is the search for the "Henrietta Mears Sunday School Teacher of the Year." This award was established in honor of Dr. Henrietta Mears, a famous Christian educator who influenced the lives of such Christian leaders as Dr. Billy Graham, and many more.

Through their work, Sunday school teachers offer a wealth of information and guidance to America's youth. In the wake of incidents at Columbine High School and, more recently, at the Wedgewood Baptist Church in Texas, the importance of these volunteers, who help shepherd their communities through difficult times, only increases in value. Through community-based programs—and especially those deeply rooted in faith, such as Sunday School—our nation and my state of