

Tiffanie Hawkins, Newtown; Anne Heller, New Holland; Kari Knight, Sugarloaf; Tabitha Kulish, Lancaster; Jennifer Michelstein, Kingston; and Lisa Podgurski, Washington.

These youth have exhibited a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary, and they deserve our sincere admiration and respect. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending these fine young people who have demonstrated that young Americans can, and do, play important roles in their communities and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.●

BOB WOOD—THINKER AND DOER FOR URBAN AMERICA

● Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, one of America's greatest leaders for our cities and metropolitan areas over the past half century has been Robert C. Wood.

All of us who know Bob Wood have enormous respect for his ability, his leadership, and his brilliant service to the country. He was an outstanding Under Secretary and Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for President Lyndon Johnson in the 1960's, and he pioneered the development of many of the nation's most important programs to enhance the vitality of our cities and improve the quality of life in metropolitan areas across the country.

In Massachusetts, we have special respect and affection for Bob Wood because of all that he has done for our state, especially for his service as a past chairman of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority and as a past Superintendent of the Boston Public Schools, and also for his brilliant academic leadership both at M.I.T. and the University of Massachusetts.

In an excellent column by Martin F. Nolan in yesterday's Boston Globe, Bob Wood reflected on his remarkable career of service to Massachusetts and the nation. I believe the column will be of interest to all of us in Congress who know and admire Bob, and I ask that it be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows.

[From the Boston Globe, May 5, 1999]

A THINKER AND A DOER ON AMERICA'S CITIES
(By Martin F. Nolan)

When he first put his ideas into practice, America was asking, "Can cities be saved?" That question today would sound preposterous during reflections on a 50-year career in public service from an eyrie high above Boston Harbor, where piers once rotted and urban dreams died.

"Cities were written off too soon," says Bob Wood. "Their commonality with suburbs is increasing, and people are realizing that a strategy against sprawl is not a direct assault on local governments."

Battling sprawl is nothing new for Wood. When President Lyndon Johnson created task forces on housing and urban policy in 1964, "Charlie Haar and I flew down every Saturday morning at 7:30. He headed the president's task force on environment, and I

was chairman of the task force on urban problems, so we became very good friends during those weekends. He became assistant secretary of metropolitan development and I became the first undersecretary of housing and urban development." Wood later became HUD secretary.

In the Great Society's efforts to save American cities, Cambridge played a major role. Haar taught at Harvard Law School, and Wood was the first chairman of the political science department at MIT.

"Sprawl was recognized in the '60s legislation," he recalls. "The idea of metropolitan development was to go hand in hand with urban renewal and what we were doing with the Model Cities program. It was explicit, but given Vietnam and the budget, we couldn't fund it and do well. We only did pieces of it."

"Vietnam took so much energy, time, money, and political capital," Wood remembers. Next week, when Lady Bird Johnson will be hostess at a Texas reunion of LBJ's Cabinet, Wood will not be eager to greet former Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara "and the rest of 'the best and the brightest.'" Wood sees similarities between Vietnam then and Yugoslavia today: "It's undeclared, slowly escalating, with an assumption of falling dominoes."

Wood does not praise President Clinton or Vice President Gore for tackling sprawl, crediting economic forces with highlighting the problem: "The Clinton administration had no real interest in tough decisions on urban issues or any other. Clinton took his polls from Dick Morris. But the country grew faster than predicted, and the cost of suburban development in housing, schools, and land became increasingly high. In the '80s, the recession had killed building development. In the '90s, with prosperity, people are building mansions in the suburbs. Overwhelmingly, political power is in the suburbs."

In 1958, long before he moved from Lincoln to the Boston waterfront, Wood popularized "Suburbia" with a book by that title in which he wrote that "transportation is the central reality of the metropolitan community." After his tenure at HUD he got a chance to put his ideas into action locally.

"When I can back from working for LBJ and got declared a war criminal by students at MIT, Governor Frank Sargent thought it would be a good idea for me to be chairman of the MBTA. It seemed a natural," he says.

One of his proudest achievements is "the basic transformation of Somerville. Because of the Red Line extension, we got Davis Square as we know it. That's why Tufts is blossoming and why Somerville is where grad students from Harvard and elsewhere settle. That's what transit can do. It happened in Quincy, too."

Wood has also been Boston school superintendent and president of the University of Massachusetts. A graduate of Princeton with degrees from Harvard, he was also director of Joint Center for Urban Studies at Harvard and MIT.

In 1949, this veteran of the 76th Army Infantry Division in World War II became associate director of Florida's Legislative Reference Bureau. He got to know and like politicians, which is why Robert Coldwell Wood, at 75, is unsurpassed as a thinker and a doer.●

THE LITTLETON TRAGEDY

● Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, all Americans are struggling with the meaning of the brutal murders in Littleton, CO, and the question of what we should do about school violence

generally. As we tackle these issues, we need to take advantage of the best thinking and writing about them.

The Columbus Dispatch had a very good editorial on April 22, which points out in a very clear way what the specific challenges are—and most especially the need for adults to provide understanding and discipline to young people. The best way to stop violence is to promote the alternative—an effective culture of life and respect.

I ask that this editorial be printed in the RECORD.

The editorial follows:

[From the Columbus Dispatch, Apr. 22, 1999]

SCHOOL KILLINGS ADULTS MUST SEE THEMSELVES AS SOLUTION

A gunman looked under a desk in the library and said "Peek-a-boo," then fired. . . . Anyone who cried or moaned was shot again. One girl begged for her life, but a gunshot ended her cries. . . . The shooter turned his attention to a black student, saying, "I hate niggers."—AP report out of Littleton, Colo.

Black trench coats. Hitler's birthday. Gothic Web sites. Guns and homemade bombs. Hatred.

Can any sense be made of the pieces emerging from the bloody halls of Columbine High School? Can the overwhelming why be answered?

The issues seem so broad and numerous that a bewildered nation expresses its inability to comprehend it, one of the deadliest school massacres in U.S. history.

Counselors propound; experts proclaim. The news media shifts focus from gun control to dress codes, violent movies to police in schools, materialism to racism.

Before a coherent thought forms, the lens shifts again.

Police who searched Harris' home said they found bomb-making material. Students said the group was fascinated with World War II and the Nazis and noted that Tuesday was Adolf Hitler's birthday.

But the real question is not why. Deep down, though we may not articulate it very well, we really do know why.

We may not know the exact circumstances that led juniors Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold to gun down their classmates, but we do know that the past three years have produced a series of school killings: Two dead in Pearl, Miss., three in West Paducah, Ky., five in Jonesboro, Ark., two in Springfield, Ore. And from this, we know that it will happen again. We know why.

We have produced a generation of children given too much freedom, too little direction; too much money, too little love.

The segment of society least capable of handling empowerment has been empowered within the rule of law but beyond common sense.

A litigious population demands that schools maintain discipline and instill values but sues teachers and administrators who dare tread upon a student's rights, be it searching a locker or insisting on proper attire.

Teenagers demand and are granted their own "space." Bedrooms become inviolable domains where the wild frontier of the Net can be browsed at will and every type of perversion checked out. If the child's character is far enough cracked, bombs can be made or guns can be stashed.

The so-called Trench Coat Mafia had boasted of its gun collection. Its members wore black everyday. They even wore black trench coats in class. When did parents and school officials descend to such levels of indifference? And "nobody thought" these kids were capable of killing in cold blood.

"They were laughing after they shot. It was like they were having the time of their life."

The question is not why but, "What do we do?"

Like recovering alcoholics, we first have to admit that we—all of us—have a problem. Not just our neighbors, not just Paducah and now Littleton, not just big cities or rural towns.

The good folks who have to live in crime-ridden neighborhoods used to rally around the cry, "Take back our streets!" Now, it's time to take back our children. Even the most dysfunctional families have aunts, uncles and cousins who can help.

Churches, mosques, synagogues, libraries and numerous civic- and social-service networks offer havens that too few people see as important enough to spend their time and money on. Much easier to give the kids some money and drop them and their cell phones off at the mall.

"Finally I started figuring out these guys shot to kill for no reason. . . . When he looked at me, the guy's eyes were just dead."

We are killing our children by insisting that they don't have to be children if they don't want to. We talk values to them but fail, on the whole, to live those values. We lead by example, often unaware that our example is pathetically shallow and certainly poor competition for the pervasive voice of the youth culture where simply buying khakis holds the promise of sex.

Littleton is an affluent suburb. This is an affluent nation. We have time and money to spend on our children. Individually, we must ask how our money and time is being spent. Collectively, we must decide to spend it more wisely and to share it with the larger neighborhood, the grand nation of the United States of America and its most valuable asset, the youngsters who will someday be the neighborhood.

Most of all, we must teach our children that freedom and independence are earned and that the rites of passage amount to more than clipping on a pager.

Neglect and indifference are forms of child abuse. Before we are shocked again by the next school shooting, we should devote more than a moment of thought to how much we overlook deviance and alienation; how so many of us are so little involved in providing direction.

Parents and all adults must provide understanding and compassion, discipline and clarity in a world of neglect, obfuscation and self-absorption.●

TRIBUTE TO FATHER HENNESSEY

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I would like to pay tribute and say goodbye to a long time friend, Father Ron Hennessey, whose recent passing is a great loss not only to his colleagues, his family, and his friends but to everyone who knew him. I'm saying goodbye to Father Ron, but we will never say goodbye to his heart, his spirit, or his soul.

Father Ron was a native of Iowa and graduated from St. Patrick's High School in Ryan, Iowa. After graduating, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and served as a mechanic and later a Motor Sergeant in Korea. While in Korea, he was awarded three Bronze Stars for valor during his military service. Under the Eisenhower Christmas Program, he returned to the United States and was released from

active service on December 9, 1953. He entered Maryknoll Junior Seminary in Pennsylvania and five years later graduated from Maryknoll College in Illinois in June of 1958. Father Hennessey was ordained at Maryknoll Seminary in New York on June 13, 1964.

Father Ron devoted his life to international peace and justice, Mr. President, dedicating almost 35 years of his life as a Maryknoll priest in Central America. Much of this time was spent in Guatemala and El Salvador. Soon after being ordained, he was assigned to the Diocese of Quetzaltenango, Guatemala. Several years later, he became the Pastor in San Mateo Ixtatan, Guatemala. It is during this time that Father Hennessey became very involved in the human rights struggle of the local Mayan Indians. He placed himself in great danger by smuggling letters out of Guatemala detailing the atrocities committed against the Mayan Indians in his rural parish. Those atrocities, Father Ron wrote, were being committed by the Guatemalan military under the orders of President Rios Montt. I remember one letter in particular in which Father Ron listed 20 instances in his parish alone in which military forces committed gross acts of violence.

Sadly, the United States Government at the time, supported this oppressive regime. In fact, our own State Department downplayed the human rights violations being committed in Guatemala, and in my view making us complicit in those heinous crimes.

By shining the spotlight on these atrocities, Father Ron's life was in constant danger. But that did not stop him. He stayed in Guatemala until 1986 despite having three opportunities to leave.

From Guatemala he went to El Salvador to re-establish a Maryknoll presence there after a five year absence. There he served in a parish on the outskirts of San Salvador that had had no priest since the Church was bombed in 1980.

In 1989, when the Salvadoran military murdered six Jesuit priests, their housekeeper and her daughter, Father Hennessey and his fellow Maryknollers chose to remain in the country even as scores of North American missionaries and aid workers decided to leave because the situation had become too dangerous for those who stood up for human rights and the rule of law. But Father Hennessey continued his work, standing side by side with his parishioners.

Father Hennessey once again took up residence again in Guatemala in 1992 until earlier this year when he was assigned to the Maryknoll mission in Los Angeles.

And so, Mr. President, Father Hennessey will be greatly missed by all of us. And while he may have physically departed, his spirit will never desert us.

Which is the second reason I rise today, Mr. President—to affirm an an-

cient native American saying: To live in the hearts of those you love, is not to die.

Father Ron, your spirit does live on through who knew you, whose lives you touched, and through them the countless thousands whose lives were enriched because of you. You will be remembered by us, each in a different way.

Finally, Mr. President, I can think of no better way to remember my friend Father Ron than with the words of Archbishop Oscar Romero: I have no ambition of power, and so with complete freedom I tell the powerful what is good and what is bad, and I tell any political group what is good and what is bad. That is my duty.●

ARSON AWARENESS WEEK

● Mr. ROTH. Mr. President, this is Arson Awareness Week in our nation. As Chairman of the Congressional Fire Service Caucus. I want to remind all Americans of the blight of arson that kills over 700 innocent victims each year and destroys millions of dollars of property. Additionally, firefighters who have been summoned to extinguish the blaze die needlessly.

Arson has many faces. The misguided youth that sets fires for excitement; criminals that use fire in an attempt to cover another crime; persons using fire as a weapon to intimidate; the property owner attempting to solve financial problems by defrauding an insurance company; or the terrorist who uses fire to attack our democracy.

No matter what the motive, arson in our society cannot be tolerated. Every level of our law enforcement community fights the war against arson. Local and state fire marshals are often assisted by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms in conducting investigations to bring the arsonist to justice.

The United States Fire Administration in FEMA and the Center for Fire Research at the National Institute of Standards and Technology in the Commerce Department are important federal partners in furthering research to learn how arson fires are started and how set fires can be detected. Our National Fire Academy provides training in arson investigation for many state and local law enforcement personnel.

But we should not assume that government alone can solve the arson problem. Private enterprise, especially the insurance industry has taken a much higher profile in attacking the arson problem by investigating claims and cooperating with law enforcement personnel. This trend must continue to take the profit out of arson. The insurance industry has also contributed to teaching the public about arson by sponsoring education programs such as Arson Awareness Week. The Fire Administration helps supports Arson Awareness Week by working with the International Association of Arson Investigators. This is the 50th Anniversary of the IAAI. Over seven thousand