

members worldwide working together to control arson are making a difference.

I send my congratulations to the IAAI during Arson Awareness Week. I am particularly proud of the Delaware Chapter of the IAAI. Some of the best that Delaware has to offer from the fire service, law enforcement, the insurance industry and the private sector work hard to protect and educate us about arson. As we go about our busy week, let us not forget that we must all work to snuff out the arsonist match.●

TRIBUTE TO A LEGENDARY PUBLIC OFFICIAL

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Mayor Gerald A. Calabrese of Cliffside Park, New Jersey as he is honored for a lifetime of distinguished service to the citizens of his community, county, and state by the Temple Israel Community Center, celebrating its 75th anniversary.

Gerry began his career in public service by enlisting in the Navy and serving his country during World War II. After returning to the United States, Gerry turned his focus to education and entered St. John's University where he was chosen as an All-American for basketball. Upon graduation, he continued playing basketball in the National Basketball Association for the Syracuse Nationals.

Gerry retired from his sports career and was quick to enter into public service as he was elected to the Cliffside Park Borough Council in 1955. In 1959, Gerry was elected to his first term as the mayor of Cliffside Park, a post he has retained for the past forty years. During his tenure, Gerry has been always ready and willing to meet with his constituents and listen to their concerns. He has raised the bar in constituent services, as he has always been ready and willing to help those in need. Continuing in this vein, Gerry served on the Bergen County Board of Freeholders from 1975 to 1985, as Bergen County Democratic Chairman from 1991 to 1998, the New Jersey Delegation to the National Democratic Convention in 1988 and 1992, on the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities from 1960 to 1987, and on the 1992 New Jersey Congressional Re-Districting Committee.

Gerry Calabrese is respected by all in and around his community and his activities extend beyond his public service career. He is a life member of the PBA Local 96, N.J. State Association of Chiefs of Police, Cliffside Park Little League, Polish American Democratic Club, Hackensack Unico and Cliffside Park B'nai B'rith named him "Man of the Year."

Mayor Calabrese is a legendary public servant in New Jersey and is most deserving of this distinguished honor. I am proud to recognize Gerry and his many years of distinguished service.●

CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC SCHOOL

● Mr. BROWBACK. Mr. President, I rise today to commend the fifth grade class at Christ the King Catholic School in Wichita, Kansas. On May 6, 1999, these students will attend the Drug Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) Program's graduation ceremony.

These students, under the guidance of Officer John Crane and their teacher Ms. Sylvia Eckberg, completed the D.A.R.E. program's 17 week course. At a time when our students are bombarded daily with temptations and harmful messages, it is refreshing to know that there are many students willing to serve as role models for others by leading drug free lives.

Unfortunately, there are many young people in our country addicted to illegal drugs. Programs such as the Safe and Drug Free School program and D.A.R.E. help to encourage students to stay off drugs. However, this is not enough. In order to win the battle over illegal drug use, it will take courageous students, such as this fifth grade class, to make the commitment to live drug free lives despite pressure from other individuals.

Therefore, I am proud to recognize the students of Ms. Eckberg's class at Christ the King Catholic School for their commitment to living drug free and serving as role models for young people in Kansas and throughout the nation.●

TRIBUTE TO PLAINFIELD, CT ON ITS 300TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. DODD. Mr. President, nestled in what is known as the "Quiet Corner" of northeastern Connecticut along the banks of the Quinebaug River lies the town of Plainfield. This year marks Plainfield's 300th anniversary and as its residents celebrate their history, it is important to reflect upon the invaluable contributions of those, past and present, who have made Plainfield a unique Connecticut town.

The first citizens of Plainfield were, much like the original colonists of New England, ingenious and resourceful. Settling in a land that was full of unknowns, these men and women were intent on providing a better life for themselves and future generations. The Plainfield of today is a testament to their strength and perseverance.

In May of 1699, some thirty families petitioned Governor Jonathan Winthrop to incorporate the disputed Quinebaug Plantation, which included land on both sides of the Quinebaug River, into the town of Plainfield. Eventually, in 1703, colonists living on the western banks of the river separated to settle what is now the town of Canterbury.

The construction of roads during the 1700's from Providence to Norwich which ran through Plainfield made the town an important trading post of surplus crops. Antiquated by today's

standards, the simple roads that connected Plainfield with other New England towns earned it the reputation as a vital crossroads throughout the region.

With Plainfield Junction serving as a stop on the Norwich to Worcester railroad, Plainfield's residents were exposed to travelers from abroad and bore witness to the impending technological boom of the next century. By the end of the 18th century, the town could credit its first village center and meetinghouse, shops, and taverns to the increased number of families choosing to make Plainfield their home.

The advent of the textile industry during the 19th century brought about significant changes for this town, forever changing the face of Plainfield and redefining the lives of its residents. With activity centered on the Moosup River, the cotton and woolen mills transformed Plainfield from a predominantly farming society to an industrial hub.

The introduction of industry into the community altered and enhanced the ethnic character of Plainfield. French-Canadians seeking temporary refuge and employment in Plainfield's mills ultimately made the bustling town their home, successfully contributing to the town's growth as shopkeepers and professionals. French-Canadians helped to define Plainfield's identity and their heritage is still very much alive in its townspeople today.

Despite its many transformations over the last 300 years, Plainfield has always remained a town that is distinctly New England in its character. Many of the mills are now gone, yet, much of Plainfield's historical landscape still survives. In 1994, Plainfield, together with 24 other northeastern Connecticut towns, was designated as the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor. This is an exceptional achievement that recognizes Plainfield's success in encouraging new economic development while preserving its rich history.

As we move toward the new millennium, the residents of Plainfield return to their past not only for the lessons that it holds but also to celebrate the people and events that have made them who they are today. Much is made of our history as a country, yet many of us overlook the important examples set by those in our own backyards. We all should seek within our own communities to embrace the past and recognize the significance of local heritage in shaping the modern character of our own families and towns. On behalf of myself, and the entire State of Connecticut, I offer Plainfield a very hearty happy birthday and my best wishes for another successful 100 years.●

HONORING FORMER SENATOR R. VANCE HARTKE

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I am pleased to submit for the Record a

statement in honor of one of our former colleagues, Senator R. Vance Hartke, (D-Indiana), who served in this body from 1959 to 1976. The statement is written by a good friend of mine, former Congressman Bob Mrazek, who worked for Senator Hartke from 1969 to 1971. Congressman Mrazek was thoughtful enough to submit this in honor of the Senator's 80th birthday, which takes place later this month. We wish him the best.

I ask that the statement be printed in the RECORD.

The statement follows.

TRIBUTE TO FORMER SENATOR R. VANCE
HARTKE

(By Hon. Bob Mrazek)

It was my privilege to serve on the staff of former U.S. Senator R. Vance Hartke (D-Indiana), from 1969 to 1971. These were tumultuous times for the United States in the bitter aftermath of the assassinations of Senator Robert F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. As the Vietnam War continued to cause deep divisions in the nation's social and political fabric, I was proud to witness Senator Hartke's courageous opposition to that war, which he began at great personal cost in 1965.

Throughout his 18 years of service as a U.S. Senator, Vance Hartke demonstrated absolute fearlessness and political courage in taking principled stands on the most important issues facing the nation, often at the risk of prematurely ending his career. His prodigious legislative achievements undoubtedly distinguish Vance Hartke as one of the greatest Senators of the 20th century.

From his contributions to creating the Head Start program and Medicare to the Guaranteed Student Loan Program and the International Executive Service Corps, Senator Hartke was a leader who made America and the world a better, more humane place.

I am honored to call this legendary legislator my friend. In what I believe is a long overdue tribute, I would like to present the highlights of a career that continues to have a positive impact on our country and the entire world.

Senator Hartke is credited by the definitive book on the Great Society, *Guns or Butter*, with being one of six Senators who passed Medicare, the crown jewel of the Great Society. He is often called the "Father of Medicare." The *Jeffersonville Evening News* wrote that he was, "instrumental in gaining passage of more legislation to benefit the elderly than any other senator."

Vance Hartke created his own Peace Corps, the International Executive Service Corps still going strong after 30 years, with activities all over the world. The U.S. "business peace corps" has been emulated in 23 developed countries in the world, with 35,000 business leaders participating, with each replicated version also having outreach to every developing country in the world.

His successful passage of the Kidney Dialysis Amendment saved 500,000 lives and continues to save lives today, earning him the following observation by Richard Margolis: "We can measure our greatness in compassion, too." Perhaps this quote best represents Hartke's legacy.

During his 18 years in the U.S. Senate, Hartke spearheaded the passage of every major educational bill, among them, the Guaranteed Student Loan Act and the Adult Education Act, which are still going strong today. He has a perfect voting record as rated by the National Education Association.

As a matter of personal conscience, he broke with President Lyndon Johnson in 1965

to oppose the war in Vietnam at a time when fewer than 300 Americans had been killed.

Senator Hartke was a Civil Rights champion—even in the face of death threats to his family in Indiana from the Ku Klux Klan.

Ralph Nader said of Hartke, "He was the most consistently effective advocate of the consumer in the Senate."

Ed Lewis, the well-known Indiana lawyer who died in 1996, called him "a visionary, an environmentalist before people knew how to spell the word." The national environmental community honored him with a "Special Tribute" at the 1997 Clinton-Gore Environmental Inaugural Ball.

Senator Hartke was a candidate for President of the United States in 1972.

In summation, this prodigious record of achievement represents not only a tremendous contribution to the people he represented for 18 years in Indiana, but to every citizen of this nation who has benefitted from the legacy he created for us.●

S. RES. 68

Whereas millions of women and girls living under Taliban rule in Afghanistan are denied their basic human rights;

Whereas according to the Department of State and international human rights organizations, the Taliban continues to commit widespread and well-documented human rights abuses, in gross violation of internationally accepted norms;

Whereas, according to the United States Department of State Country Report on Human Rights Practices (hereafter "1998 State Department Human Rights Report"), violence against women in Afghanistan occurs frequently, including beatings, rapes, forced marriages, disappearances, kidnappings, and killings;

Whereas women and girls under Taliban rule are generally barred from working, going to school, leaving their homes without an immediate male family member as chaperone, and visiting doctors, hospitals or clinics;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, gender restrictions by the Taliban continue to interfere with the delivery of humanitarian assistance to women and girls in Afghanistan;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, under Taliban rule women are forced to don a head-to-toe garment known as a burqa, which has only a mesh screen for vision, and many women found in public not wearing a burqa, or wearing a burqa that does not properly cover the ankles, are beaten by Taliban militiamen;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, some poor women under Taliban rule cannot afford the cost of a burqa and thus are forced to remain at home or risk beatings if they go outside the home without one;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, the lack of a burqa has resulted in the inability of some women under Taliban rule to get necessary medical care because they cannot leave home;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, women under Taliban rule reportedly have been beaten if their shoe heels click when they walk;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, under Taliban rule women in homes must not be visible from the street, and houses with female occupants must have their windows painted over;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, under Taliban rule women are not allowed to drive,

and taxi drivers reportedly have been beaten if they take unescorted women as passengers;

Whereas according to the 1998 State Department Human Rights Report, women under Taliban rule are forbidden to enter mosques or other places of worship; and

Whereas women and girls of all ages under Taliban rule have suffered needlessly and even died from curable illness because they have been turned away from health care facilities because of their gender: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the President should instruct the United States Representative to the United Nations to use all appropriate means to prevent any Taliban-led government in Afghanistan from obtaining the seat in the United Nations General Assembly reserved for Afghanistan so long as gross violations of internationally recognized human rights against women and girls persist; and

(2) the United States should refuse to recognize any government in Afghanistan which is not taking actions to achieve the following goals in Afghanistan:

(A) The effective participation of women in all civil, economic, and social life.

(B) The right of women to work.

(C) The right of women and girls to an education without discrimination and the reopening of schools to women and girls at all levels of education.

(D) The freedom of movement of women and girls.

(E) Equal access of women and girls to health facilities.

(F) Equal access of women and girls to humanitarian aid.

ORDER FOR STAR PRINT

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent there be a star print of S. 74, with the changes that are at the desk.

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

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ARLENE
SIDELL

Mr. McCAIN. Before we begin to consider items on today's agenda for our Executive Session, I would like to take a moment to acknowledge and extend my heartfelt thanks to Arlene Sidell. Arlene, sitting before us, is the Director of the Commerce Committee Public Information Office, and our official clerk for committee executive sessions. This will be the last time we will see Arlene at one of our mark-ups, as she will soon be retiring from an exemplary career in public service.

Arlene began her tenure with the Commerce Committee 36 years ago, in March of 1963. She has served the Senate and our Committee with distinction ever since, and will certainly be missed. Again, Arlene, please know how grateful I am for your dedication, commitment and tireless efforts on behalf of the Members, both past and present, of this Committee.