

sensitivity with children, parents, and co-workers. These qualities are at the heart of what makes a good teacher special.

The mark of a great teacher is one who cares, unconditionally, about the success and well-being of students. Mr. President, as a former teacher and school board member, I understand the challenges, responsibilities and dedication involved with teaching. I admire and respect Constance for establishing herself as a devoted teacher and administrator in the Londonderry school district. Most importantly, she is helping to shape the lives of the young students who are the future of New Hampshire and the country.

I am proud to recognize Constance's achievements and it is an honor to represent her in the United States Senate.●

#### IN RECOGNITION OF MACOMB COUNTY'S TRIBUTE TO PRIVATE FIRST CLASS WALTER C. WETZEL

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Macomb County, Michigan for its tribute to a brave World War II soldier, Private First Class Walter C. Wetzel. With the dedication of a bust of Private Wetzel at the new county administration building, Macomb County will recognize the selfless actions of an American war hero.

Walter C. Wetzel entered the United States Army in Roseville, Michigan and served in European theater. Private Wetzel was an acting squad leader with the Antitank Company of the 13th Infantry in Birken, Germany, during the early morning hours of April 3, 1945, when he detected strong enemy forces moving in to attack. Private Wetzel alerted his comrades and immediately began defending their post against heavy automatic weapons fire. Under cover of darkness, the Germans eventually forced their way close to the American position, hurling two grenades into the room where Private Wetzel and others had taken up firing positions. Shouting a warning to his fellow soldiers, Private Wetzel threw himself on the grenades and absorbed their entire blast, suffering wounds from which he died. The supreme gallantry of Private Wetzel saved his comrades from death or serious injury and made it possible for them to continue the defense of their post. His unhesitating sacrifice of his life was in keeping with the highest traditions of bravery and heroism. Because of his actions, Private Wetzel was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Private Wetzel and his courageous deeds have considerable meaning to his family, and to the residents of Macomb County and the State of Michigan. Private Wetzel is the only person from Macomb County to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor. His life has been honored by the Michigan State

Legislature and an important street in Macomb County was named Pfc. Walter Wetzel Drive.

Mr. President, Private Wetzel is an example of the selfless and courageous commitment our soldiers display every day. I know my colleagues will join me in saluting Macomb County for its recognition of Private First Class Walter C. Wetzel and the sacrifice of the men and women of our Armed Services.●

#### ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL, SPRINGFIELD

● Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to commend St. John's Hospital in Springfield. This is National Hospital Week, when communities across the country celebrate the people that make hospitals the special places they are. This year's theme sums it up nicely: "People Care. Miracles Happen." It recognizes the health care workers, volunteers, and other health professionals who are there 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, curing and caring for their neighbors who need them.

An example of this dedication is the Parent Help Line of St. John's Hospital in Springfield, Illinois. The program won the American Hospital Association's prestigious Hospital Award for Volunteer Excellence, which highlights special contributions of hospital volunteers.

The Parent Help Line provides parents and agencies with easily accessible, low-cost parenting information and support to help strengthen families and prevent child abuse. Trained volunteers give parenting tips, support and referrals to about 100 callers a month. Volunteers also visit parents of newborns and offer information about infant growth and development and about the Parent Help Line services, and a volunteer nurse makes a follow-up call to each family one month after discharge. Volunteers taking part in an intervention program regularly call parents identified as high risk. Parenting classes, program and support groups are made available to parents, and a television show on parenting issues airs weekly on a local public access channel. A monthly newsletter is mailed to more than 1,500 individuals and agencies in central Illinois.

Mr. President, I want to congratulate St. John's Hospital for this award-winning program.●

#### TRIBUTE TO MAUREEN HEGG, THE 1999 LONDONDERRY CIVIC VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Maureen Hegg on being named the "1999 Civic Volunteer of the Year" by the Londonderry Business Council. I commend her outstanding accomplishments and I wish to congratulate her for receiving this distinguished award.

As President of the Londonderry Cares Organization, Maureen has worked diligently toward making a dif-

ference in the lives of Londonderry's youth. Under Maureen's guidance, the organization affords the town's young people a place to go in the evening for planned activities.

Along with a group of dedicated individuals, Maureen has been working to open a YMCA in the Town of Londonderry. As such, Maureen is the chairperson of the Nutfield YMCA Kickoff Fundraising Dinner, an event established to assist in attracting a YMCA.

There is no greater gift to a community than one's time, talent, and energy. Volunteerism is truly special and is at the heart of what makes this community and this nation a great place to live.

Mr. President, Maureen Hegg has demonstrated a deep commitment to the Town of Londonderry and its citizens. Her tireless efforts to improve the quality of life in the town and provide the youth of Londonderry with recreational programs is outstanding. I congratulate Maureen on being named "Civic Volunteer of the Year," and it is an honor to represent her in the United States Senate.●

#### MOUNT CARMEL MEDICAL CENTER IN PITTSBURG, KANSAS

● Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate National Hospital Week. During this week when we pay tribute to our nation's hospitals and health systems, I would like to recognize one particular facility in Kansas that has gone above and beyond the call of duty in order to meet the needs of the community—the Mount Carmel Medical Center in Pittsburg, Kansas.

Mount Carmel Medical Center is located in the southeast corner of Kansas. The community has 20,000 residents. About 25 percent of the town's children are from families who live at or below the federal poverty level. More than half of the families in Pittsburg are headed by single parents who often work two jobs.

As one of the largest employers in the community, Mount Carmel Medical Center recognized that the entire community was suffering from the lack of quality child care. Teachers noticed that children were unready to learn, they needed immunizations and hearing tests. After a confirmation by the hospital's employee assistance program and a staff-initiated community health assessment, Mount Carmel decided to take action. They formed a partnership with the Pittsburg schools and Pittsburg State University to establish the Family Resource Center to meet many of the community's needs. The Family Resource Center now provides child care to more than 200 children and offers a wide range of social services. It also serves as the site of a free clinic staffed with local physicians for those without health insurance coverage.

The Mount Carmel Medical Center has been nationally recognized for its achievements. The American Hospital

Association recently awarded the Mount Carmel Medical Center the 1999 NOVA award. NOVA awards recognize innovative community partnerships that address communities' needs.

The collaborative outreach efforts of Mount Carmel Medical Center demonstrates true dedication to the community. I am pleased and proud to recognize Mount Carmel Medical Center for its leadership, vision, and achievements. Mount Carmel is an excellent example of a hospital that has made a difference.●

#### NATIONAL HOSPITAL WEEK

##### WASHINGTON REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

● Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize National Hospital Week, when we pay tribute to our Nation's hospitals, and the millions of workers, health care professionals, and volunteers who have dedicated themselves to caring for those who are sick and in need.

I would like to give special recognition to Washington Regional Medical Center, located in Fayetteville, Arkansas, and a 1999 recipient of the American Hospital Association's NOVA award. This award highlights innovative community partnerships that respond to a particular community's needs.

Washington Regional Medical Center is a 1999 NOVA award winner for its outstanding commitment to the children in Washington County. Chronic disease and disability, which can lead to death, are often attributed to poor health habits that are formed during childhood. The Washington Regional Medical Center is working to reverse this trend through its Kids For Health program. By partnering with the Washington County school system, the medical center has been able to teach more than 8,000 children about the importance of general health, nutrition, fitness, hygiene, safety, environmental health, and self-esteem.

A sign of the program's success, Kids For Health is the recipient of a five-year grant from the Harvey and Beatrice Jones Charitable Foundation. Kids For Health is a stellar example of how a hospital can make a difference in its community, and I commend Washington Regional Medical Center and all those who have made this program possible for their excellent achievements.●

#### YAKIMA VALLEY MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

● Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, this week hospitals and communities across America are celebrating National Hospital Week. This week is set aside to celebrate the caring and commitment of our nation's hospitals and health systems and the workers, volunteers and other health professionals who are there 24 hours a day, 365 days a year for their neighbors who need them.

An example of this dedication is Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital in Yakima, Washington. I want to commend Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital for receiving the American Hospital Association's 1999 NOVA award. These awards spotlight innovative community partnerships that respond to local needs.

Yakima Valley Memorial was chosen as a NOVA award winner for creating the Children's Village for children with special health care needs. The entire building has the feel of an old western town. It features logs on the outside, stone floors, a covered wagon for a reception desk and an elevator disguised as a mineshaft stocked with treasure.

More important than the architecture is the integrated services of fourteen area health, education and service providers that work together at the Children's Village. Children that used to travel two hours or more for care now have access to specialty care in their local community. Parents can schedule a single appointment for their child that combines several treatments and therapies. The village also offers specialty clinics for fetal alcohol syndrome, cardiology, neurology, and cleft lip and palate.

I am proud to recognize Yakima Valley Memorial Hospital for its achievements. It is an outstanding example of a hospital that makes a difference in its community.●

#### TRIBUTE TO AMY LYMBURNER, THE 1999 LONDONDERRY YOUTH OF THE YEAR

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Amy Lymburner on being named the "1999 Youth of the Year" by the Londonderry Business Council. I commend her outstanding accomplishments and congratulate her on receiving this distinguished honor.

Active in both her school and community, Amy has set high standards of community involvement that is an example for others to follow. As a student at Londonderry High School, Amy is recognized by her teachers and peers as a role model for others. In addition to striving for academic excellence, Amy is a member of the National Honor Society, Student Council, Drama Club, and the Math League.

Attempting to make a difference in her town and state, Amy is President of Crossroads, a Christian youth group. Community leaders have commended Amy for her leadership abilities, integrity, spirit, and service to her school, church, and peers.

Mr. President, young people are our nation's greatest asset, and it is heartwarming to see people such as Amy taking an active role in the betterment of the community. I am proud to call her one of New Hampshire's own. I wish to congratulate Amy on her accomplishments, and it is an honor to represent her in the United States Senate.●

#### SPECTRUM HEALTH'S UNIVERSAL INFANT HEARING SCREENING PROGRAM

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, this is National Hospital Week, and one of Michigan's hospitals, Spectrum Health in Grand Rapids, Michigan, is being honored by the American Hospital Association (AHA). National Hospital Week gives health care workers, volunteers, and other health professionals the recognition that they deserve for all the care they provide.

Spectrum Health has been singled out by the AHA for its Universal Infant Hearing Screening program, located at Spectrum's Downtown Campus in Grand Rapids. This program is the recipient of the AHA's prestigious Hospital Award for Volunteer Excellence, an award which highlights special contributions of hospital volunteers.

Spectrum's Universal Infant Hearing Screening program identifies potential hearing loss in all babies born at or transferred to the Spectrum Health Downtown Campus. It is well known that such early identification and intervention can prevent a hearing problem from becoming a handicap.

Universal Infant Hearing Screening volunteers must undergo extensive training to prepare for this program. After the volunteers administer the screening, audiologists review the test results to identify infants with potential problems. Those infants with abnormal results are referred for re-screening or diagnostic testing. Without the work of the volunteers, it would be impossible to provide this vital service to the thousands of babies born at Spectrum Health every year.

Mr. President, I would like to congratulate Spectrum Health for its award winning program.●

#### NATIONAL COMMUNITY ACTION MONTH

● Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate a group of individuals and agencies whose cause represents the ideal of public service—the improvement of the lives of those who are less fortunate. The Maryland Association of Community Action Agencies (MACAA), which begins its annual conference Monday in Ocean City, is a group of seventeen Community Action Agencies (CAA) which combat poverty in cities, towns and rural communities throughout our State, and provide services to countless low-income families and individuals.

This year's MACAA conference is made even more significant as 1999 marks the 35th anniversary of the creation of Community Action Agencies. CAA's were developed as part of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 which was the centerpiece of President Johnson's War on Poverty. This Act also began other critical social service programs including the Head Start pre-school program and the Job Corps Training Center program.