

From a small station in the community center, officers monitor the community using cameras that are mounted throughout the neighborhood.

In 1994, the last year Lafayette was fully operative, there were 39 robberies. In Pleasant View, there have been three. In 1994, there were 108 assaults; Pleasant View had seven. Lafayette had nine rapes, Pleasant View none.

Four hundred of the 500 people who lived in Lafayette Towers have returned to live in Pleasant View, among them Eva Riley. After a childhood in the high rises, she left as soon as she could afford subsidized housing in another part of the city, vowing never to raise her children in a place like Lafayette Towers.

But when she visited Pleasant View shortly after its construction, she decided to return to her old neighborhood with her children, Jerod, 13, and Lakeisha, 11.

"It's much safer," she said. "I don't mind my kids playing outside in the evening."●

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VERMONT COUNCIL ON THE HUMANITIES

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I am pleased today to recognize the Vermont Council on the Humanities on the occasion of its 25th anniversary.

In 1965, Congress created the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) with the goal of promoting and supporting research, education, and public programs in the humanities. The mission of the NEH was to make the worlds of history, language, literature and philosophy a part of the lives of more Americans. Over the past three decades, the NEH has lived up to its founding mission and has made the humanities more accessible. As Chairman of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, which has jurisdiction over the agency, I have been extraordinarily proud to support NEH during my years in Congress.

NEH brings the humanities to our lives in many unique and exciting ways. NEH makes grants for preserving historic resources like books, presidential papers, and newspapers. It provides support for interpretive exhibitions, television and radio programs. The agency facilitates basic research and scholarship in the humanities. And NEH strengthens teacher education in the humanities through its summer institutes and seminars. Yet, in my view, one of the most important ways that NEH broadens our understanding of the humanities is through the support it provides for state humanities councils. These state humanities councils, at the grassroots level, encourage participation in locally initiated humanities projects. Every state has one, but few are as innovative, creative and self-sufficient as the Vermont Council on the Humanities.

Early on, the Vermont Council on the Humanities determined that the first step in engaging Vermonters in the humanities was to ensure that all Vermonters were able to read. The Vermont Humanities Council met this challenge head on and provided support

for reading programs and book discussions targeted at people of all levels of literacy—from the Connections programs which serve adult new readers to the scholar-led discussions held in public libraries. In 1996, the Council initiated the Creating Communities of Readers program. Five Vermont communities received grants to help them achieve full literacy for their communities. This undertaking of "creating a state in which every individual reads, participates in public affairs and continues to learn throughout life," involves an enormous commitment. Yet, undaunted by the enormity of the challenge, the Vermont Humanities Council stepped to the plate and hit a home run.

Vermont has taken quite literally the mission of bringing the humanities to everyone and, in doing so, the Vermont Council has distinguished itself as a national leader in promoting reading as a path towards participation in the humanities. Recently, the Vermont Council received a national award of \$250,000 from the NEH to implement humanities based book discussions for adult new readers nationwide. Through this national Connections program, 14,000 children's books will become part of the home libraries of adults who are learning to read.

There is much we can gain from studying the humanities. The small amount of money that the federal government spends on NEH goes a long way toward building a national community. Coming together to learn from literature, learn from our past, and learn from each other is, in my view, an extraordinarily valuable use of our public dollars.

Twenty-five years ago, the Vermont Humanities Council chose the road less traveled, and that has made all the difference in Vermont and in the nation. The Council, with its focus on literacy, chose to experiment by developing new and different ways of bringing the humanities to all Vermonters. By choosing to move to the beat of its own drum, the Vermont Humanities Council has become a unique and independent actor promoting the importance of literacy as a means of pursuing the humanities.

In honor of this twenty-fifth anniversary, I offer my sincere congratulations to the Vermont Council on the Humanities for a job well done. I would also like to offer a special note of gratitude to Victor Swenson and the Council's extraordinary Board of Directors. Victor's leadership and the commitment of the Board has made our Council a shining example of excellence. Keep up the good work.●

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, as we enter the twilight of the Twentieth Century, we can look back at the immense multitude of achievements that

led to the ascension of the United States of America as the preeminent nation in modern history. We owe this title as world's greatest superpower in large part to the twenty-five million men and women who served in our armed services and who defended the principles and ideals of our nation.

Before we embark upon the Twenty-First Century, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) will celebrate an historic milestone. On September 29, the VFW will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the organization's founding. For over one hundred years, the VFW has supported our armed forces from the battlefields to the home front. From letter-writing campaigns in WWI to "welcome home" rallies after the Persian Gulf War to care packages sent to Bosnia, the VFW continues to take pride in supporting American troops overseas.

The VFW's support for our nation's armed forces has been exemplary over the last one hundred years, but it is the VFW's work with our nation's veterans that has been most impressive. The original intention of the VFW, in fact, was to ensure that the veterans of the Spanish-American war would not be forgotten and that they received medical care and support in return for their service and sacrifice. The VFW's motto, "Honor The Dead By Honoring The Living", resonates to this day and will carry forth into the next century. Since organizing the first national veterans service office in 1919, to today's nationwide network of service offices, the VFW provides the assistance veterans need in order to obtain much-deserved benefits.

To celebrate this prestigious occasion, a resolution, S. J. Resolution 21, has been introduced in the United States Senate designating September 29, 1999 as "Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Day", and the President of the United States is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon all Government agencies and the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities. I am a proud cosponsor of this resolution which honors the VFW's recognition of military service and remembrance of the sacrifices made in our nation's defense. I feel this resolution presents an opportunity to recognize, honor, and pay tribute to the more than 2,000,000 veterans of the armed forces represented by the VFW, and to all the individuals who have served in the armed forces.

Throughout my service in Congress, I have long appreciated the leadership of both the South Dakota VFW and the Ladies Auxiliary for their input on a variety of issues impacting veterans and their families in recent years. Their insight and efforts have proven very valuable to me and my staff, and I commend each and every one of them for their leadership on issues of importance to all veterans of the armed forces. I was honored to have the

VFW's strong support when I offered my amendment to increase veterans health care in this year's budget to \$3 billion. Even though it wasn't the full amount of my amendment, the final Budget Resolution contained a \$1.7 billion increase above what the Clinton Administration had requested for veterans health care. This never would have been possible without the grassroots support of the VFW.

Mr. President, as Americans, we should never forget the men and women who served our nation with such dedication and patriotism. I close my remarks by offering my gratitude and support for all the achievements performed by the Veterans of Foreign Wars. For a century, this organization has been the standard bearer in the representation of our veterans, as well as their undying patronage to our armed forces and support for the maintenance of a strong national defense. ●

TRIBUTE TO ANTONIO J. PALUMBO

● Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Antonio J. (Tony) Palumbo, a coal miner from Western Pennsylvania who humbly represents the generous spirit of community.

President and owner of the New Shawmut Mining company, Mr. Palumbo was born in Pennsylvania on June 14, 1906 and actively serves as a Trustee for La Roche College, Duquesne University, Carlow College, Gannon College, the Villa Nazareth School in Rome, Italy, and the Mayo Clinic Foundation for Medical Education and Research. He has also developed unique relationships with the Catholic Diocese of Erie, Elk County Christian High School, the Nicaraguan-American Nursing Collaboration, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, the Holy Family Institute and the Boy Scouts of St. Marys, PA.

Throughout his years of involvement at these institutions, Mr. Palumbo has gained the admiration and respect of the many students that he has come in contact with. His influence in their lives will be felt for many years to come.

Mr. Palumbo was recently presented with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the National Society of Fund Raising Executives. His efforts have helped build educational and health care facilities, endow research, provide scholarships, deliver care to the poor and support community initiatives. As varied as each of these causes are, they all reflect Tony Palumbo's compassion for the needs of others and his commitment to using his time and talents to enrich the lives of those around him.

Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join with me in commending Tony Palumbo for the leadership and compassion that he has portrayed, as well as the platform that he has created for motivating the stewardship of others. ●

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOREIGN SERVICE

● Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, on May 24, 1924, President Calvin Coolidge signed into law the Rogers Act, establishing a unified corps of career diplomats to represent the United States abroad. Based on the principles of professionalism, non-partisanship and merit-based promotion, thus was born the modern foreign service.

This year we join in commemorating the 75th anniversary of the foreign service. Over the years there have been many changes: it has become more diverse, more specialized, and has been called to deal with an ever-expanding list of issues. While this milestone is an occasion for celebration and congratulations, there are some sobering reminders of the task that still awaits us. 1998 saw the worst attack on American diplomats in history, with two tragic bombings that resulted in the deaths of over 220 persons, twelve of them Americans. Here in Washington, we continue to contend with budget cuts that handicap the ability of our foreign service officers to perform their duties safely and effectively.

On the occasion of this anniversary, Secretary Albright hosted a dinner at the State Department as a tribute to the efforts of the brave men and women who have served over the past three-quarters of a century. In her speech, she challenged the unfortunate and inaccurate stereotypes of the foreign service and emphasized the urgency of providing adequate resources to promote U.S. interests abroad. I strongly agree with the thrust of her remarks, and I ask that the full text of her statement be printed in the RECORD.

The statement follows:

REMARKS BY SECRETARY OF STATE MADEIRA K. ALBRIGHT, 75TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER OF THE UNITED STATES FOREIGN SERVICE, MAY 24, 1999

Secretary Albright: It is indeed a pleasure to be able to first congratulate Nicholas (Bombay) for winning the essay contest. It's never too early in life to learn the value of strong diplomatic leadership, and although I didn't meet you until tonight, I already like the sound of the name Bombay preceded by the term "Ambassador" or "Secretary of State." (Laughter.)

Congratulations, once again.

Thank you, Cokie, and good evening to all of you. It's a great pleasure to be able to spend the evening here with you, and I must say that a special pleasure for me to have had George Kennan on my right and Paul Sarbanes on my left—can't ask for much more. It has been a great evening to be able to exchange views.

Members of Congress and distinguished colleagues and friends, and so many of you who have contributed to the rich legacy of the modern US Foreign Service, as we mark our 75th anniversary, I want to begin by thanking Under Secretary Pickering for his remarks. There is really no better advertisement for what can be achieved in the Foreign Service than the career of Tom Pickering. From 1959 to 1999, as Cokie explained, he has served everywhere and done everything; and he's still doing it. Tom, the Foreign Service doesn't have a Hall of Fame, but it should, and you and others here tonight belong in it.

I also want to congratulate Ambassador Brandon Grove and Dan Geisler and Louise Eaton and our Director General, Skip Gnehm, our generous sponsors and everyone who helped to organize this magnificent event. It was a big job and everybody's done it terrifically well.

I especially endorse the conception of this anniversary as a challenge to look forward. Your goal of outreach through this essay contest and other initiatives is right on target, for if we are to match or surpass the accomplishments of the past 75 years, we must have the understanding and support of the American people. This requires that we tell the story of U.S. diplomacy clearly and well. It is to that purpose that I will attempt a modest contribution in my remarks here tonight.

Thank God I don't have to win any contests. [Laughter.]

I start with a simple request. Let us take the old, but persistent, stereotype of the diplomat as dilettante and do to it what one Presidential candidate wanted us to do to the tax code: let us drive a stake through it, kill it, bury it and make sure that it never rises again.

The job of the Foreign Service today is done with hands on and sleeves rolled up. It is rarely glamorous, often dangerous and always vital.

In my travels, I have seen our people at work not only in conference rooms, but in visits to refugee camps, AIDS clinics and mass grave sites. I have seen them share their knowledge and enthusiasm for democracy with those striving to build a better life in larger freedom.

I have seen them and their families give freely of their energy and time to comfort the ill and aid the impoverished. I have seen them provide incredible administrative support despite antiquated equipment, crowded workspace and impossible time constraints. And I've stood with head bowed at memorial services for heroes struck down while representing America or helping others to achieve peace. In the past 35 years, the number of names listed on the AFSA plaque has grown from 77 to 186. And the memory of those most recently inscribed, as Tom Pickering's toast reflected, is fresh and painful in our hearts.

So let us not be shy about proclaiming this truth. In a turbulent and perilous world, the men and women of the Foreign Service are on the front lines every day, on every continent for us. Like the men and women of our armed forces—no more, but no less—they deserve, for they have earned, the gratitude and full backing of the American people.

Now, having impaled that stereotype, let's proceed to the second challenge. Let us make clear to our citizens the connection between what we do and the quality of life they enjoy; let us demonstrate that there's nothing foreign about foreign policy any more.

Consult any poll, visit any community hall, listen to any radio talk show; it's no secret what Americans care about, fear and hope for the most. Certainly, foreign policy isn't everything. We cannot tell any American that our diplomacy will guarantee safe schools, clean up the Internet or pay for long term health care.

But we can say to every American that foreign policy may well help you to land a good job; protect your environment; safeguard your neighborhood from drugs; shield your family from a terrorist attack; and spare your children the nightmare of nuclear, chemical or biological war.

Our Foreign Service, Foreign Service National and Civil Service personnel contribute every day to America through the dangers they help contain, the crimes they help prevent, the deals they help close, the rights