

or been convicted of fraud. Senator BAYH has recently introduced another bill, S. 3025, the Combating Fraud Against Seniors Act, which includes the part of the Seniors Safety Act that establishes the clearinghouse for telemarketing fraud information.

Third, the Seniors Safety Act punishes pension fraud. Seniors who have worked hard for years should not have to worry that their hard-earned retirement savings will not be there when they need them. The bill would create new criminal and civil penalties for those who defraud pension plans, and increase the penalties for bribery and graft in connection with employee benefit plans.

Finally, the Seniors Safety Act strengthens law enforcement's ability to fight health care fraud. A recent study by the National Institute for Justice reports that many health care fraud schemes "deliberately target vulnerable populations, such as the elderly or Alzheimer's patients, who are less willing or able to complain or alert law enforcement." This legislation gives law enforcement the additional investigatory tools it needs to uncover, investigate, and prosecute health care offenses in both criminal and civil proceedings. It also protects whistle-blowers who alert law enforcement officers to examples of health care fraud.

I commend Senators BAYH, GRAMS and CLELAND for working to take steps to improve the safety and security of America's seniors. We have done the right thing in passing this bipartisan legislation and beginning the fight to lower the crime rate against seniors. I also urge my colleagues to consider and pass the Seniors Safety Act. Taken together, these two bills would provide a comprehensive approach toward giving law enforcement and older Americans the tools they need to prevent crime.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO LOCAL 1945, AFGE

• Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President I rise to day to pay tribute to the Local 1945 Chapter of the American Federation of Government Employees.

On December 1, 1959 the charter of the American Federation of Government Employees (Local 1945) was established at Anniston Army Depot. Of the seventy-eight charter members that established Local 1945, only nine survive today.

These nine leaders in government service, through their courage and dedication, were instrumental in the development of a proud and professional workforce for Anniston Army Depot and the Department of Defense. The workforce these individuals cared for and inspired has supported United States soldiers around the world during times of conflict, crisis and war. In the jungles of Vietnam, along the thirty-eighth parallel, and in the sands of Ku-

wait have been evidenced the dedication of the Anniston Army Depot employees to their nation's soldiers. Tanks, small arms, and munitions did not leave the hills of Alabama alone but were accompanied by the thoughts and prayers of a humble and caring group of federal employees shaped in many ways, by these special nine men.

Today, while we seek to honor these fine men in the sunset of their lives it must be noted that the traditions of excellence and integrity they gave to their co-workers still survives in youthful exuberance, rekindled by this remembrance.

In homage to: Billy Bean; Elmer Graham; Raymond Guthrie; Atwell Burgess; William Hammond; Raymond Lusk; George Hunt; J.B. Perry; and William Hagan.●

RECOGNIZING CALIFORNIA'S OLYMPIANS

• Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize California's participants in the Games of the XXVIIth Olympiad for their outstanding efforts and accomplishments. I am so proud of their performances and the dignity with which they carried themselves.

This year, the United States had another spectacular Games, and I am particularly pleased that Californians had much to do with our success. Some of this year's most memorable moments involved athletes from California: Marion Jones was the first woman ever to medal in five track and field events, Sean Burroughs helped our baseball team snatch gold from a heavily favored Cuban Team, Eric Fonoimoana and Dain Blanton won gold in the beach volleyball tournament, Venus Williams was the second woman ever to win gold medals in both singles and doubles tennis, and Lisa Leslie led the women's basketball team to its 34th Olympic championship.

The Olympics have long been the world's premiere stage where athletes compete; their performances are inspiring and, sometimes, heart-breaking. And while the world enjoys two weeks of drama and intense competition, we must remember that these athletes have chased their Olympic dreams for years, even decades, with perseverance and courage. I thank each athlete—qualifier and medal winner alike—for giving us the privilege of witnessing their triumphs. Each performance was a very personal moment in these athletes' lives, and I am inspired by their courage and resolve to pursue their Olympic dreams. These athletes competed with all their heart and they make California proud.

Mr. President, I ask that the following names of the medal winning athletes from California be printed in the RECORD.

Aaron Peirsol, Silver medal, Swimming—Men's 200 Meter Backstroke.

Amanda Beard, Bronze Medal, Swimming—Women's 200 Meter Breaststroke.

Venus Williams, Gold Medal, Tennis—Women's Singles; Gold Medal, Tennis—Women's Doubles.

Serena Williams, Gold Medal, Tennis—Women's Doubles.

Gunter Seidel, Bronze Medal, Equestrian Team Dressage Grand Prix.

Christine Traurig, Bronze Medal, Equestrian Team Dressage Grand Prix.

Eric Fonoimoana, Gold Medal, Men's Beach Volleyball.

Dain Blanton, Gold Medal, Men's Beach Volleyball.

Sean Burroughs, Gold Medal, Men's Baseball.

Marion Jones, Gold Medal, Track and Field—Women's 100 Meters; Gold Medal, Track and Field—Women's 200 Meters; Gold Medal, Track and Field—Women's 4x400 Meter Relay; Bronze Medal, Track and Field—Women's 4x100 Meter Relay; Bronze Medal, Track and Field—Women's Long Jump.

Chryste Gaines, Bronze Medal, Track and Field—Women's 4x100 Meter Relay.

Torri Edwards, Bronze Medal, Track and Field—Women's 4x100 Meter Relay.

Mari Holden, Silver Medal, Cycling—Women's Individual Time Trial.

Lisa Leslie, Gold Medal, Women's Basketball.

Gary Payton, Gold Medal, Men's Basketball.

Alonzo Mourning, Gold Medal, Men's Basketball.

Jason Kidd, Gold Medal, Men's Basketball.

Mark Reynolds, Silver Medal, Sailing—Men's Open Sail Star Fleet Races.

Lorrie Fair, Silver Medal, Women's Soccer.

Kaitlin Sandeno, Bronze Medal, Swimming—Women's 800 Meter Freestyle.

Bernice Orwig, Silver Medal, Women's Water Polo.

Joy Fawcett, Silver Medal, Women's Soccer.

Mark Crear, Bronze Medal, Track and Field, men's 110 Meter Hurdles.

Jason Lezak, Silver Medal, Swimming—Men's 4x100 Meter Free Relay.

Jenny Thompson, Gold Medal, Swimming—Women's 4x100 Medley; Gold Medal, Swimming—Women's 4x200 Meter Free Relay; Gold Medal, Swimming—Women's 4x100 Meter Free Relay; Bronze Medal, Swimming—Women's 100 Meter Freestyle.

Lenny Krazelburg, Gold Medal, Swimming—Men's 100 Meter Backstroke; Gold Medal, Swimming—Men's 200 Meter Backstroke; Gold Medal, Swimming—Men's 4x100 Meter Medley.

Anthony Ervin, Gold Medal, Swimming—Men's 50 Meter Freestyle; Silver Medal, Swimming—Men's 4x100 Meter Free Relay.

Anthony Ervin, Silver Medal, Swimming—Men's 4x100 Meter Free Relay.

John Godina, Bronze Medal, Track and Field, Men's Shot Put.

Pease Glaser, Silver Medal, Sailing, Women's 470 Fleet Races.

Tom Wilkens, Bronze Medal, Swimming—200 Meter Individual Medley.

Dara Torres, Gold Medal, Swimming—Women's 4x100 Medley; Gold Medal, Swimming—Women's 4x100 Meter Free Relay; Bronze Medal, Swimming—Women's 100 Meter Butterfly; Bronze Medal, Swimming—Women's 100 Meter Freestyle; Bronze Medal, Swimming—Women's 50 Meter Freestyle.

Sheila Douty, Gold Medal, Softball.

Kathy Sheehy, Silver Medal, Women's Water Polo.

Calvin Harrison, Gold Medal, Track and Field—4x400 Meter Relay.

Alvin Harrison, Gold Medal, Track and Field—4x400 Meter Relay; Silver Medal, Track and Field—400 Meters.

Stacey Nuveman, Gold Medal, Softball.

Yolanda Griffith, Gold Medal, Women's Basketball.

Lisa Fernandez, Gold Medal, Softball.

Danielle Slaton, Silver Medal, Women's Soccer.

Brandi Chastain, Silver Medal, Women's Soccer.

Kimberly Rhode, Bronze Medal, Shooting—Women's Double Trap Final.

Nicole Payne, Silver Medal, Women's Water Polo.

Maurice Green, Gold Medal, Track and Field—100 Meters; Gold Medal, Track and Field—4x100 Meter Relay.

Robin Beauregard, Silver Medal, Women's Water Polo.

Nikki Serlenga, Silver Medal, Women's Soccer.

Crystal Bustos, Gold Medal, Softball.

Julie Foudy, Silver Medal, Women's Soccer.

Laura Berg, Gold Medal, Softball.

Dot Richardson, Gold Medal, Softball.

Erica Lorenz, Silver Medal, Women's Water Polo.

Adam Nelson, Silver Medal, Track and Field—Men's Shot Put.

Lindsey Benko, Gold Medal, Swimming—Women's 4x200 Meter Free Relay.

Heather Petri, Silver Medal, Women's Water Polo.

JJ Isler, Silver Medal, Sailing—470 Fleet Races.

John Drummond, Gold Medal, Track and Field—4x100 Meter Relay.

Julie Swail, Silver Medal, Women's Water Polo.

Coralie Simmons, Silver Medal, Women's Water Polo.

Ellen Estes, Silver Medal, Women's Water Polo.

Brenda Villa, Silver Medal, Women's Water Polo.

RECOGNIZING ROBERT A. ELLERD

• Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to recognize Robert A. Ellerd—a great Montanan, a great Marine, and a great man.

This year, Bob will be honored as Marine of the Year by the Gallatin Valley Detachment of the Marine Corps League. Every year these Marines get together for the Marine Corps Birthday Ball in Bozeman to honor the tradition of the Marines as well as recognize one of their own. Bob certainly deserves to be the one honored.

Bob enlisted in the Marines in December 1941, even though he worked in an essential industry—meat packing—and could have accepted a deferment. After training in San Diego, he left for the South Pacific. There he helped guard the Samoa Islands and took part in the fierce combat in the Allied efforts to take Guadalcanal and the Marshall and Gilbert Islands.

Later in the war, Bob used his combat experience to train other infantry before they headed to the front lines. No doubt his work helped save hundreds of lives and contributed to the victory that saved the world from tyranny.

There really are no words that I can say to adequately thank Bob Ellerd, but I can express my appreciation from a grateful nation. Bob is one reason we now call it the Greatest Generation, and they couldn't have picked a better Marine of the Year. Thank you Bob, and Semper Fi.●

TRIBUTE TO JOHN F. GARDE UPON HIS RETIREMENT

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today I would like to pay tribute to a con-

stituent from Illinois, John F. Garde. Mr. Garde will soon be retiring as the Executive Director of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, AANA, after 17 years of service. I am very pleased to honor the distinguished career of John F. Garde for his contributions to the practice of anesthesia from my state of Illinois.

The AANA is the professional association that represents over 27,000 practicing Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs). Founded in 1931, the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists is the professional association representing CRNAs nationwide. As you may know, CRNAs administer more than 65 percent of the anesthetics given to patients each year in the United States. CRNAs provide anesthetics for all types of surgical cases and are the sole anesthesia provider in two-thirds of all rural hospitals, affording these medical facilities obstetrical, surgical and trauma stabilization capabilities. They work in every setting in which anesthesia is delivered including hospital surgical suites and obstetrical delivery rooms, ambulatory surgical centers, and the offices of dentists, podiatrists, and plastic surgeons.

John received his anesthesia training in 1957 from St. Francis Hospital School of Anesthesia in LaCrosse, WI and began practicing at the U.S. Public Health Hospital in Detroit, Michigan the following year. Having been a provider of anesthesia for numerous years he became an Associate Professor and Chairman of the Department of Anesthesia at Wayne State University, College of Pharmacy and Allied Health in 1975. Using this experience, he then became the Education Director of the AANA in Park Ridge, IL in 1980 before taking his current role as Executive Director in 1983. He accolades range from propelling nurse anesthesia programs into a graduate framework resulting in 50 per cent of them moving into the College of Nursing, as well as establishing the International Federation of Nurse Anesthetists (IFNA) during his tenure with the AANA. John has served the AANA as a member, board member, past president, and now will be retiring as a very celebrated executive director among his peers.

Mr. Garde has many honors to follow his list of career accomplishments. John was inducted as a fellow of the American Academy of Nursing in 1994. In 1999 the Association of Chicagoans recognized him for his outstanding contributions to the Association community, presenting him with the John C. Thiel Distinguished Service Award.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Mr. John F. Garde, CRNA, MS, FAAN, for his notable career and outstanding achievements.●

TRIBUTE TO VAUGHAN TAYLOR

• Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Vaughan Taylor, a Jacksonville, North Carolina, attorney and his wife

Linda for their heroic efforts to help save the lives of three of the crew members aboard the *Frisco*, a Virginia Beach fishing vessel.

Avid sailors, Vaughan and Linda are no strangers to the perils of the sea. As Vaughan navigated their 40 foot sailboat, *Legacy*, off the shores of North Carolina, he encountered a pile of floating wreckage. What he did not expect to find were three members of the Lynnhaven based scalloper, *Frisco*. It had been more than eight hours since a freighter had emerged from the fog, crushing the *Frisco* and leaving its crew of four clinging to debris in the dead of night.

Knowing that their boat was not only low on fuel in bad weather, but also dangerously testing the limit to his radio's frequency, Vaughan and Linda pushed ahead, determined to rescue these men. After radioing for help from anyone who could hear his plea, Vaughan sprang to action aboard the sailboat and began to haul the first member of the crew out of the water. Time was of the essence as he struggled to pull the other crew member from the water. Unable to fight against the weight of his water logged survival suit, Vaughan secured the survivor to the boat with a life preserver and tight line.

Using their years of experience at sea, Vaughan and his wife risked their own safety to save the lives of these men. By treating them for hypothermia, they were able to avoid a fatal tragedy for these men. Concentrating on getting the men the five miles back to shore safely, Vaughan hoisted the sails, kept in touch with the U.S. Coast Guard and began cruising at top speeds towards the Chesapeake Bay. Ending the heroic crusade with the credit of saving these lives, and only a mere .8 gallons of gas to spare, Vaughan Taylor serves as a positive role model for all those who venture into the high seas.

In all that Vaughan Taylor approaches, he gives unbridled efforts, and stops at nothing short of success. As has been the case in his work for U.S. personnel missing in action and their families, Vaughan continuously fights for the rights of others. He is also one of the most well-respected attorneys representing military personnel who need help, and his knowledge of the uniform code of military justice is second to none. It comes as no surprise that he would risk his own life with his wife by his side, to save his fellow man. I am proud to call Vaughan Taylor a close friend of mine, and I applaud his devotion to humanitarian causes.

Mr. President, also let me express my sympathy to the family of Captain Charlie Peel, the owner of the *Frisco*, who, unfortunately was never found. He was very much respected by all of the waterman in Lynnhaven Inlet, and was like a father to the others aboard the *Frisco*. I am sure he will be missed, and is in our thoughts and prayers.●