

Education has been, and continues to be, the cornerstone of opportunity and advancement in American society. Preschool education provides the foundation and many of the basic tools that children need to succeed. Study after study has shown a direct correlation between high-quality early childhood education and success in life. All of these studies on the effects of preschool education have shown higher short-term and long-term gains such as higher I.Q. scores and a greater likelihood of graduating from high school and college.

Project Acorn has provided hundreds of families with the critical resources necessary to place their children in a variety of preschool programs. These scholarships defray the costs of preschool education and thereby "plant the seeds for a better community, one child at a time."

Project Acorn has helped many young individuals in Morris County. It serves as an excellent example of what can be accomplished by concerned citizens who have identified an urgent need within their community, and it is an honor to recognize their vision and compassion.●

#### U.S. CAPITOL POLICE OFFICER OLIVER ANDERS RETIRES

● Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, the Senate will be diminished considerably when one of my favorite U.S. Capitol Police Officers, Andy Anders, retires at the end of this month.

When I first met Andy, the day I was sworn in as a Senator, he was one of the so-called Fearless Five. Those were the officers who were stationed just outside the entrance to the Senate chamber near the elevators. That was his post for 19 years.

Even though he is called Andy, his real name is Oliver Anders. His hometown is Greer, South Carolina, and the first vote he ever cast was for Senator STROM THURMOND. As you can see, Andy is a man of very good judgment.

For the last five years Andy has been assigned to the fourth floor of the Capitol outside the Senate Security spaces. He is one of the most trusted and dependable members of the U.S. Capitol Police force.

He is also a well informed student of American history. When I learned he planned to visit my State during his vacation several years ago, I suggested some special sites for him to see in Vicksburg, Natchez and Jackson. My Administrative Assistant, at that time, Wiley Carter, who was also a great friend and admirer of Andy, went with him to the State Capitol and introduced him to the Speaker of the State House of Representatives and other officials and also arranged a tour of the Governor's Mansion. Of course, Andy enjoyed all of this special attention. But, he deserved it.

We don't do enough in my opinion for those who work hard and faithfully every day to make the Senate a safe

and secure place to work. Since he began his career with the U.S. Capitol Police on November 4, 1974, Oliver Anders has been one of those you could always count on to be at his post, carrying out his important responsibilities, with a smile and kind greeting for all Senators, and their constituents.

We will miss him greatly, but we won't forget him or the excellent way he performed his duties. I wish him much happiness and satisfaction in the years ahead.●

#### 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF VISTA

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I am very proud that VISTA is celebrating its thirty-fifth anniversary this year. VISTA is special for me because it was my work in VISTA that brought me to West Virginia and changed the course of my career.

Because of my work in Emmons, WV, as a VISTA worker, I decided to make West Virginia my home and public service in government my life. In Emmons, I worked for a community center, preventative health care, and fought to get a school bus so those teens would get a high school education. From the grassroots, I learned how government can improve the quality of life in a community. I pursued a career in government, beginning with a seat in the West Virginia House of Delegates. My work in Emmons was very meaningful, and it changed me. I have stayed in touch with the people of Emmons and joined them this summer to celebrate the community finally getting clean water.

I have also stayed in touch with VISTA and was delighted to participate in the VISTA anniversary events, as many former VISTA workers did.

Mr. President, I ask to print in the RECORD, the remarks of John E. Gherty, president and CEO of Land O' Lakes, Inc., and more importantly a former VISTA worker. His remarks outline the history of VISTA and capture its vision for the future.

The remarks follow:

OCTOBER 13, 2000

Good afternoon, and thank you for the opportunity to be with you to celebrate the 35th anniversary of VISTA—now a proud part of AmeriCorps.

I wanted to participate in this celebration for a couple of very important and very personal reasons.

First, because I truly believe in the principles behind VISTA and AmeriCorps. I take considerable pride in the program's 35 years of accomplishment—and in my own participation some 32 years ago. I'll tell you more about that in just a few minutes.

My second reason for being here is even more personal. It's because the youngest of my three daughters, ten-year-old Katherine, told me it was important for me to be here. Let me explain.

Originally, I thought I might be addressing this group on the weekend, and that I might bring Katherine with me. One evening about six weeks ago, I got home somewhat late and went up to her room to say goodnight. It seemed like the right time to ask her if she would like to take a trip to Washington, DC.

Like most ten-year-olds, she responded with a question of her own. "What for?"

I told her I was considering speaking to a group called AmeriCorps, which was the successor to VISTA.

Her response—and you parents will understand this, was another question of her own—"What's AmeriCorps or VISTA do?" I told her it was an organization formed to help people in need in the United States—and that it dealt with issues like poverty, hunger, health care and housing.

Her eyes lit up with understanding, and without hesitation, she said "Dad, you should go."

I tell you this story because I believe Katherine's almost instant understanding serves to reinforce the fundamental importance and value of what each of you has accomplished or is committed to accomplishing as VISTA alumni and AmeriCorps participants.

This afternoon's program brings together a unique mix of new AmeriCorps/VISTA participants and VISTA alumni.

As one of those alumni, I have a message for all of the new participants. What you accomplish during today's working sessions, and the work you put in during the coming year, will make a difference.

It will make a difference not just in the lives of those who benefit from the services you develop and provide—but in your lives as well.

That, in fact, is what this three-day celebration is all about . . . recognizing the ongoing difference VISTA has made in the lives of the millions of people who have been served by its programs, as well as in the lives of the 130,000 VISTA alumni who delivered those programs.

Let me take just a few minutes to reflect on my own VISTA experience.

I remember when President Kennedy announced the formation of the Peace Corps back in 1962. I was a student at the University of Wisconsin . . . an institution rightfully known for the quality of its education and the strength of its activism.

I recall being impressed with the concept of the Peace Corps, and being convinced it was something I wanted to do once I finished school. After graduating from business school and entering law school, I was even more convinced that public service was not only a personal opportunity, but—quite simply—just the right thing to do.

It was at about that time that VISTA—then referred to as "The Domestic Peace Corps"—was formed.

When I completed law school, I sought out public service opportunities and was offered the chance to serve with the Peace Corps in Ethiopia or Botswana. I felt very strongly, on a personal level, about the importance of giving a priority to addressing our needs here at home. So, I focused my energies on becoming part of VISTA.

I soon found myself—fresh out of law school at the University of Wisconsin and not really that far removed from my family's Western Wisconsin farm—on my way to Chicago to work out of the Henry Booth House, which was part of Hull House, in the Ickes public housing development on Chicago's South Side.

How much of a culture shock was that? For those of you who aren't familiar with the South Side of Chicago, Folk singer Jim Croce—in his song "Bad Bad LeRoy Brown"—referred to the area as "the baddest part of town."

On the surface, that was a pretty apt description. It was a tough, poverty-stricken, inner-city neighborhood, where Black Power was an influential and powerful force—and for good reason.

It was a pretty challenging environment for a fresh-out-of-school, Caucasian, farm-

kid from Wisconsin. I can tell you truthfully that there was considerable community skepticism regarding my intentions and my motives.

As you can imagine, my VISTA involvement proved to be a truly eye-opening experience.

It was also tremendously rewarding, knowing that I was contributing to the future of what I came to think of as my South Side community—that I was helping to establish programs and services that would continue to benefit the neighborhood after I was gone.

It was also a significant learning experience. In fact, I am absolutely convinced that my personal VISTA “take-aways” matched, and probably even exceeded, what I gave to the program.

When I think about what I learned during my VISTA involvement, five things come to mind almost immediately:

The absolute importance of taking responsibility and creating opportunity;

The essential role of teamwork and team building;

The importance of building effective alliances;

The strength that can be found in diversity; and

The need to identify leaders and build leadership skills.

These were critical elements in my ability to fulfill my role with VISTA ... and over the years I have found them to be the critical building blocks for success, no matter what the endeavor or organization.

Let's look at these five concepts—starting with the importance of taking responsibility and creating opportunity.

My VISTA involvement taught me that, to truly succeed, you must take personal responsibility for getting the job done. I saw the importance of sizing up the issues and—in an environment where there were not a lot of rules or precedents to follow—taking the initiative in ways that made a difference.

My participation in VISTA also taught me that long-term success depends on the ability to create opportunity. The success of VISTA programming is not based on “hand-outs,” it's based on creating opportunities for people to better themselves.

I can guarantee—from personal experience on Chicago's South Side—that given the opportunity to succeed, and even the slightest bit of sincere encouragement, people will take advantage of it.

For example, when I arrived at the Ickes public housing development back in 1968, food prices and food quality were significant issues. Poverty and mobility limited residents' choices.

Working with community residents, we formed a volunteer-led food buying club focused on bringing higher-quality, fairly priced groceries into the neighborhood.

Very quickly we had a crew of volunteers in each building taking weekly grocery orders from fellow residents and additional volunteers turning their apartments into food distribution centers.

We were able to leverage our volunteer force and our increased buying power to make higher-quality groceries available at better prices. Just as important, perhaps, the residents had a new sense of self-esteem—of knowing they could take control—that they could have a say in community quality of life.

The program gave them the opportunity to succeed and they took advantage of it.

VISTA also gave me new insight into the importance of teamwork and team building. I learned that one of the first elements in being successful at anything is to recognize that you simply cannot do it all alone.

In VISTA, I quickly recognized the importance of going out into the community and

identifying the team players—those with the skills, the commitment and the spirit to get the job done—and getting them on your team.

I also learned a great deal about the importance of building effective alliances—and that sometimes you find strong allies where you least expect them.

Going back to the issue of food quality and prices. There was a particular grocery chain which was taking advantage of its location and the limited resources of neighborhood residents. High prices and very poor quality meat and produce were the rule—not the exception.

In our wisdom—or perhaps our ignorance—our VISTA team decided to organize a picket line at the store to bring attention to its shortcomings. It was a tense situation, and we actually feared for our safety and that of the residents who were supporting us.

At that same time, a gang called The Blackstone Rangers—known for years as an intimidating “take no prisoners” organization—was making a real effort to change their image. The most outward signs of that effort were their donning of distinctive red berets and the changing of their name to the Peacestone Rangers.

Well, they decided to make our cause their cause—and with these allies on the picket line, the balance of power shifted in the community's favor.

My VISTA involvement also taught me the strength that can be found in diversity. I learned that by bringing together people of different cultures, different viewpoints and different skills in pursuit of common goals, you can bring even greater force to bear on those goals.

I also learned that when you are getting your hands dirty in pursuit of a common goal, people very quickly forget whether you are white, black, young or old, from the farm or the city.

Once you roll up your sleeves and get down to the task at hand—diversity is not a problem, it is a powerful problem-solving tool.

Finally, VISTA taught me a lot about leadership. I'm not talking just about how to best exercise my own leadership role—but also about identifying existing and potential leaders and building leadership skills in the community.

I learned that to succeed, you must drive leadership skills throughout the organization—and you must give those new leaders responsibility and authority.

Believe me, I met lots of strong, effective leaders on Chicago's South Side. Some were single mothers with babies balanced on their hips, others were experienced organizers from the Reverend Jesse Jackson's Operation Breadbasket, and still others were elderly couples who had lived their entire lives in a neighborhood they refused to give up on. Yes, and some were even wearing the red berets of the Peacestone Rangers.

They were all different, but they all shared a vision, and an ability to motivate others in pursuit of that vision. They were true leaders—and our team of VISTA volunteers would have accomplished very little without them.

Were these important lessons?

I think all the VISTA participants from the past 35 years would agree that the lessons they learned in VISTA—the insight they gained and the skills they honed while serving the community—helped prepare them for success, no matter what course their lives took.

To this day—more than 30 years later—my own service with VISTA continues to have an impact on my life and my career.

I continue to believe with a passion that corporate social responsibility is absolutely non-negotiable. No matter what business you

are in—the recognition of corporate social responsibility must be part of your core values and an essential element in your organizational vision.

And, I'm not just talking about corporate and foundation giving—or the encouragement of community service and volunteerism. I'm also talking about the way you treat employees, customers and owners; the ethics and values you bring to your business practices; the respect you show for the environment.

That's why, at the company I work for today—Land O'Lakes—we have included being our customers' first choice; our employees' first choice; responsible to our owners; and a leader in our communities as critical elements in our vision of being one of the best food and agricultural companies in the world.

Our extended vision statement states clearly that—We recognize our responsibilities to the communities in which we operate. And that we will be proactive in dedicating resources to build a better quality of life, operate in an ethical and environmentally sensitive manner and live by our values.

What about our internal community—our employees? Again, in our vision, we state clearly that “We believe in respecting diversity and in encouraging teamwork, involvement, development and empowerment of all employees.

What does all this sound like? It sounds very much like my personal takeaways from VISTA—taking responsibility; creating opportunity; building teams, teamwork and effective alliances; and developing leaders and leadership.

In just a few minutes, you are going to break into work groups and tackle the task of developing Pilot AmeriCorps VISTA projects for 2001 and beyond.

I urge you to be aggressive and ambitious in those deliberations. To recognize that, in a time of what many call unprecedented prosperity—there is still significant poverty in America. In fact, approximately 32 million Americans—one in nine—live on incomes below the poverty level.

I believe today's combination of prosperity and poverty makes each and every American's social responsibility even more demanding.

We must ask ourselves, in a nation as prosperous as ours:

Why do children still go to school hungry?

Why are so many still homeless?

Why are so many citizens isolated from health care by economics or geography?

Why is quality education or training still out of the reach of so many individuals desperately trying to better themselves?

In short, we must ask ourselves the tough questions—and then come up with the right answers—the programs it will take to address these issues—the programs that will close the gap between prosperity and poverty.

No one is going to do it for us. We must each take this responsibility, first as individuals and then as part of larger communities and organizations. But then again, that's why you are all here—because you are willing to take that responsibility, to act in ways that can truly make a difference.

I applaud that willingness and, seeing the spirit in this room, I am confident what you are doing will make a significant difference in communities across America.

Since we are meeting in our nation's Capitol, I'd like to close my remarks with a comment from a speech by former President Woodrow Wilson.

“You are not here merely to make a living. You are here in order to enable the world to live more amply, with greater vision, with a finer spirit of hope and achievement.

You are here to enrich the world, and you impoverish yourself if you forget this errand."

As VISTA celebrates 35 years of service, and embarks on year 36 as AmeriCorps VISTA, it is clear to me that the program and its people remain clearly focused on that task—on enabling the world to live more amply, developing a greater vision for all and generating a finer spirit of hope in communities across our nation.

Ultimately, the lives of each of you—and of the people you touch—will all be richer for it. I can guarantee it—and my daughter Katherine would agree.●

#### IN MEMORY OF DR. MICHAEL ASSEY

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr President, I rise today to remember one of South Carolina's finest doctors, Michael E. Assey, who passed away on October 28. A graduate of Georgetown University's School of Medicine, Michael joined the staff of the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) in 1979 and rose to the position of Professor of Medicine, Chief of Cardiology. In 1998, he was named to the "Best Doctors in America" list. He served as governor of the American College of Cardiology and as president of the S.C. affiliate of the American Heart Association. Michael also authored numerous medical articles and medical textbook chapters. While at MUSC, he received the prestigious Golden Apple Award for excellence in teaching. The President of MUSC, Raymond Greenberg, said, "his professional legacy lies in the generation of young doctors who, as Michael Assey's students, not only learned clinical skills, but compassion and commitment." With Michael's passing, the Medical University has lost a great doctor and great teacher and South Carolina has lost a great man. My wife, Peatsy and I send our thoughts and prayers to Michael's devoted wife, Valerie, and their two children.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 1999, the Secretary of the Senate, on October 30, 2000, during the recess of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2498) to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for recommendations of the Secretary of Health and Human Services regarding the placement of automatic external defibrillators in Federal buildings in order to improve survival rates of individuals who experience cardiac arrest in such buildings, and to establish protections from civil liability arising from the emergency use of the devices.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 120. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

A message from the House of Representatives, delivered by one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 120. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2001, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was signed subsequently by the President pro tempore (Mr. THURMOND).

#### ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, October 30, 2000, he had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 614. An act to provide for regulatory reform in order to encourage investment, business, and economic development with respect to activities conducted on Indian lands.

S. 835. An act to encourage the restoration of estuary habitat through more efficient project financing and enhanced coordination of Federal and non-Federal restoration programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1586. An act to reduce the fractionated ownership of Indian Lands, and for other purposes.

S. 2719. An act to provide for business development and trade promotion for Native Americans, and for other purposes.

S. 2950. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish the Sand Creek Massacre Historic Site in the State of Colorado.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-11369. A communication from the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on audit and investigative activities for fiscal year 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-11370. A communication from the Executive Director of the Committee For Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of additions to the procurement list received on October 26, 2000; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-11371. A communication from the Director of the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report concerning the inventory of commercial activities; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-11372. A communication from the Chief of the Policy and Rules Division, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Closed Captioning Requirements for Digital Television Receivers" (ET Docket No. 99-254, FCC 00-259) received on October 27, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-11373. A communication from the Chief of the Policy and Rules Division, Office of Engineering and Technology, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled

"Amendment of Parts 2 and 87 of the Commission's Rules Regarding the Radio-navigation Service at 31.8-32.3 GHz (ET Docket No. 98-197)" (ET Docket No. 98-197, FCC 00-353) received on October 27, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-11374. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Atlantic Highly Migratory Species Fisheries; Atlantic Bluefin Tuna; Adjustment of General Category Daily Retention Limit on Previously Designated Restricted Fishing Days" (I.D. 100300B) received on October 26, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-11375. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Removal of Commercial Haddock Daily Trip Limit" received on October 26, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-11376. A communication from the Director of the Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Highly Migratory Species; Pelagic Longline Fishery; Sea Turtle Protection Measures. Emergency Rule" (RIN0648-A067; I.D.091100A) received on October 26, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-11377. A communication from the Acting Assistant Administrator for Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management, National Ocean Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Coastal Ocean Program: General Grant Administration Terms and Conditions of the Coastal Ocean Program" (Docket No. 000817236-01) received on October 26, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-11378. A communication from the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to pilot records; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-11379. A communication from the Associate Administrator for Procurement, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Indirect Cost Rates" received on October 26, 2000; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-11380. A communication from the Director of the Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department to Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medical Devices; Exemption From Premarket Notification; Class II Devices; Triiodothyronine Test System" (Docket No. 00P-1280) received on October 26, 2000; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-11381. A communication from the Director of the Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department to Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medical Devices; Labeling for Menstrual Tampon for the "Ultra" Absorbency" (Docket No. 98N-0970) received on October 26, 2000; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.