

Twenty-four-year-old John Minaya was accosted and fatally shot outside a busy Dairy Queen ice cream shop in Providence's West End early on the evening of May 21, 1999. Officers found Minaya lying on the pavement in the parking lot shortly after 7:00 p.m. He had been hit more than once, and people were ministering to him. He was taken to Rhode Island Hospital, but he died within minutes.

Though it was still springtime, Minaya was Providence's 13th homicide victim of 1999, a year in which there were ultimately 26 murders in the city, up from 15 in 1998 and 13 in 1997. The majority of these killings were committed with firearms, and most of these were handguns.

The children and families who witnessed the shooting of John Minaya in broad daylight at a Dairy Queen in Providence will carry the horrific memory of that day with them for as long as they live. We should do our part to ensure that fewer Americans experience gun violence by passing common sense gun legislation without further delay.●

A TRIBUTE TO OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM

● Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, Saturday, May 20th was Armed Forces Day and I can think of no better time to honor those who serve this great country in the United States military. The millions of active duty personnel who have so unselfishly dedicated their lives to protecting freedom deserve the highest degree of respect and a day of honor.

I recently had the privilege of being invited to tour the U.S.S. *Enterprise* during a training mission off the Florida coast. My experience abroad the *Enterprise* reminded me of the awesome power and strength of the United States military. But more importantly, it reminded me of the hard work and sacrifice of the men and women serving in our armed forces.

The U.S.S. *Enterprise* was commissioned on Sept. 24, 1960 and was the world's first nuclear-powered aircraft carrier. This incredible ship is the largest carrier in the Naval fleet at 1,123 feet long and 250 feet high. While walking along the 4.47 acre flight deck with Captain James A. Winnefeld, Jr., Commanding Officer, it was amazing to learn that "The Big E" remains the fastest combatant in the world.

Spending two days touring the *Enterprise* showed me what a hard working and knowledgeable military force we have. As I moved through the ship I was greeted with enthusiasm, as sailors explained the ship's equipment and their role as part of the *Enterprise* crew. At full staff, the "Big E," as it is affectionately known, has over 5,000 crew members from every state of the Union, most of whom are between 18 and 24 years old. These young adults are charged with maintaining and operating the largest air craft carrier in

the world and guiding multimillion-dollar airplanes as they land on a floating runway. I was in awe of these men and women who work harder and have more responsibility than many people do in a lifetime.

"The Big E" is a ship that never sleeps, it operates twenty four hours a day, seven days a week. I watched as a handful of tired pilots sat down for 'dinner' at 10:30 p.m. on a Sunday night. Hungry and tired, they wanted it no other way. I had the privilege of joining Captain Winnefeld in honoring the 'Sailor of the Day' for spending three consecutive days repairing broken machinery, taking only a few 30 minute breaks to sleep. I witnessed the same degree of commitment in a separate part of the ship as an eager technician showed me how the cables on the flight deck operate and are maintained below. His task for the past two days was to create the metal attachment which holds one of the four arresting tailhook cables together and his voice was filled with pride as he explained the entire 8 hour process. Between giving orders to his crew, he pointed out a few tiny air bubbles that formed during the cooling process of the metal attachment. Although he started his shift at 4:30 a.m. and probably won't sleep for the next 24 hours, he smiles and tells me it will be redone, that it must be perfect—the lives of our pilots are at risk if it is not. The amazing thing is, they all do it with a smile.

When I think about Armed Forces Day, I think about two events I experienced on the *Enterprise*. First, are the sailors from across Colorado who sat down for breakfast with me in the enlisted mess hall, who gleamed with pride for the job they do and the important role they play in our nation's defense. Second, was the "Town Hall meeting" I held, where I responded to questions and concerns ranging from military health care to Social Security, from members of the crew. These one on one interactions were extremely valuable to me and I learned as much from these events as the crew did.

I have never witnessed a more dedicated or hard working group of people than the crew of the U.S.S. *Enterprise*. It makes me proud when I realize that the "Big E" crew is representative of the millions of American military personnel throughout the world. Nevermind that many of them could be paid more money for less work in a civilian job, may not get eight hours sleep each night or see their families for weeks at a time—they make those sacrifices for the country they love.

I hope that Coloradans will join me in using Armed Forces Day to thank those who are serving in the best military force in the world.●

S. 2581

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I am pleased to cosponsor legislation introduced by Senator SESSIONS, S. 2581, the Historically Women's Public Colleges

or Universities Historic Building Restoration and Preservation Act.

There were seven historic women's public colleges or universities founded in the United States between 1884 and 1908 to provide industrial and vocational education for women who at the time, could not attend other public academic institutions. These schools are now coeducational but retain some of the significant historical and academic features of those pioneering efforts to educate women.

Let me take this time to tell you about one of these schools, Winthrop University, located in South Carolina. Winthrop's history dates back to 1886 when 21 students gathered in a borrowed one-room building in Columbia, S.C. David Bancroft Johnson, a dedicated and gifted superintendent of schools, headed up the fledgling institution whose mission was the education of teachers. Winthrop has changed considerably since moving to its permanent Rock Hill, S.C. home in 1895, growing from a single classroom to a comprehensive university of distinction. The institution became coeducational in 1974 and assumed university designation in 1992.

Like similar institutions founded as historically women's colleges and universities, the Winthrop University campus hosts numerous historic buildings—buildings that are expensive to adapt and/or maintain for modern-day uses essential to public higher education in the 21st century. Also, like similar institutions, many of Winthrop's alumni were women of modest means who were unable to make the kind of substantial private donations that would have enabled the University to build a strong endowment throughout its history. Nonetheless, this campus is significant and is worthy of federal support to assure that its distinctive role in U.S. history is not lost.●

NATIONAL SMALL BUSINESS WEEK

● Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to America's small businesses—the backbone of our Nation's vibrant economy. As my colleagues may know, the week of May 21-27 is recognized as "National Small Business Week."

Small businesses have always been one of the leading providers of jobs in our country. According to the Small Business Administration, small businesses employ 52 percent of the private workforce and account for 35 percent of federal contract dollars. Small businesses produce 38 percent of jobs in high-technology industries, and small- and medium-sized companies comprise 96 percent of all exporters and 30 percent of all exports. These statistics underscore the important role the small business community will have toward developing a 21st century economy that is global and technologically driven.

In particular, I am very pleased with the tremendous growth in women-

owned businesses over the last several years. According to the National Foundation for Women Business Owners, there are more than 9.1 million women-owned businesses in the United States, employing more than 27.5 million people and generating \$3.6 billion in sales. Between 1987 and 1999, the number of women-owned firms increased dramatically, by more than 103 percent.

During "National Small Business Week," I am proud to share with my colleagues the special recognition granted by the Small Business Administration to two of Minnesota's small business persons: the 1999 Minnesota Small Business Person of the Year, Nancy L. Fogelberg, President of American Artstone in New Ulm, Minnesota; and the Financial Services Advocate of the Year, Iric Nathanson, Project Coordinator for the Minneapolis Community Development Agency.

To be named a recipient of the Small Business Person of the Year award is not an easy task. The Small Business Administration has selected Nancy for this unique recognition based on her personal achievements and important contributions to our economy. Nancy has demonstrated growth in the total number of company employees; innovative products and services; growth in sales and financial position; an ability to effectively address problems confronting the company; and community service.

In 1993, Nancy Fogelberg became President of American Artstone, an 86-year-old manufacturer of architectural stone castings. Nancy quickly modernized her plant through financing provided by the Small Business Administration, and quickly made American Artstone more competitive and profitable. I also congratulate Nancy on recently being named president of the National Cast Stone Institute.

I am also proud to recognize the important achievements of Iric Nathanson, who has worked to provide financing opportunities for small businesses. Among his many achievements, Iric developed a capital-loan program that uses city-backed guarantees to help small businesses access revolving credit lines and working capital loans. Iric also coordinated the development of a micro-enterprise loan program in Minneapolis through the establishment of a partnership between the Minneapolis Community Development Agency and the Minneapolis Consortium of Community Developers. Small businesses in Minneapolis have been well served by Iric's efforts on their behalf.

I again congratulate the National Small Business Week winners from Minnesota and every small business owner who helps make our communities better places to work and live. I look forward to working with them on small business public policy issues during the 106th Congress.●

TRIBUTE TO FRANK A. AUKOFER

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President I rise today to honor the dean of the congressional print reporters here in Congress. Frank A. Aukofer has worked in the Washington Bureau of the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel and its predecessor, the Milwaukee Journal, since 1970. Frank has also served in other capacities for the paper since 1960. Sadly, for those of us who have read his stories through the years, Frank has decided to retire at the beginning of next month.

During his long and distinguished career, Frank has reported on the issues that have defined the last 40 years in America and around the world. He was the civil rights reporter for the Journal at the height of the civil rights movement in the 1960s. Since arriving in Washington, Frank's coverage of State, national, and international issues has included stories on six Presidents, 15 Congresses, and the nomination hearings of 11 Supreme Court justices, including every member of the current Court.

Coverage of these important events has not kept Frank tied to his desk here in the press gallery. In the 1980s, he traveled to Mexico, Colombia, Cuba, and Central America to cover such stories as the trial of Eugene Hasenfus in Nicaragua which led to a nomination for a Pulitzer Prize. He was also one of the first journalists to report from Saudi Arabia in 1990 when U.S. troops were deployed after Iraq invaded Kuwait. On top of all this he has still found time to write a weekly automobile review column entitled, "Drive-Ways."

I thank Frank Aukofer for his years of service to the Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel, and the people of Wisconsin and I wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO FATHER EDWARD RANDALL

● Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Father Edward Randall on the occasion of his Golden Jubilee and in recognition of 20 years of priesthood in Letcher County.

During Father Randall's 20 years in Letcher County, he has served at both St. George Catholic Church in Jenkins and Holy Angels Catholic Church in McRoberts. People throughout the community have come to know Father Randall for his dedication to parishioners and generosity to everyone, both inside and outside the Church walls.

The Letcher County community also boasts of Father Randall's artistic talent, which he graciously uses to enhance church buildings and to teach free art classes open for all to attend. Father Randall also helped establish, along with the late Mother Teresa, an order of the Sisters of Charity in Jenkins, which will endure as an honor to his philanthropic contributions.

Father Randall continues to display an unswerving commitment to his pa-

rishioners and possesses the love and respect of many in the community. Those who know him in Letcher County describe him as a man with great strength of character who demonstrates honesty and integrity, and who serves as a role-model to young and old alike.

I am certain that the legacy of commitment to faith that Father Randall has left will continue on, and will encourage and inspire those who follow. Congratulations, Father Randall, on 50 years of priesthood and 20 years of service to Letcher County. Best wishes for many more years of service, and know that your efforts to better the lives of your parishioners and those in Letcher County will be felt for years to come. On behalf of myself and my colleagues in the United States Senate, thank you for giving so much of yourself for so many others.●

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

● Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business Friday, May 19, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,673,912,681,580.44 (Five trillion, six hundred seventy-three billion, nine hundred twelve million, six hundred eighty-one thousand, five hundred eighty dollars and forty-four cents).

One year ago, May 19, 1999, the Federal debt stood at \$5,593,798,000,000 (Five trillion, five hundred ninety-three billion, seven hundred ninety-eight million).

Five years ago, May 19, 1995, the Federal debt stood at \$4,883,152,000,000 (Four trillion, eight hundred eighty-three billion, one hundred fifty-two million).

Twenty-five years ago, May 19, 1975, the Federal debt stood at \$520,328,000,000 (Five hundred twenty billion, three hundred twenty-eight million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,153,584,681,580.44 (Five trillion, one hundred fifty-three billion, five hundred eighty-four million, six hundred eighty-one thousand, five hundred eighty dollars and forty-four cents) during the past 25 years.●

TRIBUTE TO TODD ROSSETTI

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Todd Rossetti for receiving his high school diploma from Concord High School.

For some, a high school diploma is taken for granted. For Todd Rossetti, it is a celebration of the trials and tribulations that he has endured his entire life.

Although Todd was born with cerebral palsy, his illness has not prohibited him from accomplishing anything that he has set his mind to. In the Concord School System, Todd was immersed in a new "inclusion" program, allowing him to participate in the mainstream curriculum.

Though Todd's illness hinders his ability to communicate, his peers,