

many people to lead a more "normal" life. Our job is not done, however, until we have made certain that all people have access to these life-prolonging medications.

The work we were able to accomplish in San Francisco for people living with HIV/AIDS is one of my proudest achievements as Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco. In 1981, when there were only 76 diagnosed cases, we provided \$180,000 for prevention and social services for people living with HIV/AIDS. These were some of the first public funds allocated for AIDS in the United States. In 1987, during my last full year as mayor, 20,000 AIDS deaths were reported in San Francisco and we increased funding to \$20 million. There was no federal Ryan White program then; I struggled to find this money in the city budget. Fortunately, for cities and States across the country, we now have the Ryan White CARE Act.

I pledge to do all I can to eliminate AIDS. As I have said time and time again: I was there in the beginning and I plan to be there in the end. In the meantime, we must make certain that the uninsured and under-insured have access to life-prolonging HIV treatments. The Ryan White CARE Act has proven to be an essential and effective Federal program for the uninsured and under-insured. We must ensure the continuation of the Ryan White CARE Act.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, June 6, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,647,513,754,741.07 (Five trillion, six hundred forty-seven billion, five hundred thirteen million, seven hundred fifty-four thousand, seven hundred forty-one dollars and seven cents).

Five years ago, June 5, 1995, the Federal debt stood at \$4,904,369,000,000 (Four trillion, nine hundred four billion, three hundred sixty-nine million).

Ten years ago, June 5, 1990, the Federal debt stood at \$3,127,273,000,000 (Three trillion, one hundred twenty-seven billion, two hundred seventy-three million).

Fifteen years ago, June 5, 1985, the Federal debt stood at \$1,776,407,000,000 (One trillion, seven hundred seventy-six billion, four hundred seven million).

Twenty-five years ago, June 5, 1975, the Federal debt stood at \$524,448,000,000 (Five hundred twenty-four billion, four hundred forty-eight million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,123,065,754,741.07 (Five trillion, one hundred twenty-three billion, sixty-five million, seven hundred fifty-four thousand, seven hundred forty-one dollars and seven cents) during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

STAFF SERGEANT ANA V. ORTIZ

• Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a well-respected and remarkable public servant, Staff Sergeant Ana V. Ortiz, who has been chosen to receive the 2000 National Image Salute to Hispanics Award. Not only is Staff Sergeant Ortiz an upstanding and dedicated member of the Connecticut Air National Guard, but she is also the principal of the Betances Elementary School in Hartford and an active and vital member of her community.

Staff Sergeant Ortiz has dedicated nine years of service to the Connecticut Air National Guard, displaying the qualities of a natural leader and setting an example for others to follow. She participated in three Air Force contingency operations that have sent her around the world. In 1996, she supported Operation Decisive Endeavor in Italy; 1998 found her in Panama playing a role in Constant Vigil; and just last year she worked in Southwest Asia for Operation Guarded Skies. Staff Sergeant Ortiz previously attended the Air National Guard Diversity Conference, as well as the National Guard Bureau's National Diversity Program. A vocal advocate for diversity within the Air National Guard, she worked to build a solid foundation for minorities in the military, as well as a better understanding of the armed forces among both minorities and non-minorities. Her work in the Guard has earned her the Armed Forces Reserve Medal and two Air Force Achievement Medals.

Although her military feats are impressive, Staff Sergeant Ortiz is further known for her strong commitment to the Hartford schools and community. As the principal of Betances Elementary School she keeps actively involved with her students and community. Staff Sergeant Ortiz is a member of the Language Arts Committee for the State of Connecticut, and a contributor to the Center for Youth After-School Programs, the Center City Churches, and the Charter Oak Cultural Center. She also encourages and maintains a partnership program with suburban schools in the surrounding area, and is constantly working to improve education and educational opportunities for her students.

Ms. Ortiz' commitment to her students extends far beyond the school grounds. She was selected to serve on the Hartford Police Department Task Force for students at risk in the community, which strives to encourage children to find positive ways to overcome the dangers of drugs and violence that face our communities today. Furthermore, Ms. Ortiz is actively involved in protecting Connecticut's park attractions through her membership on the board of directors of the Bushnell Park Foundation, again promoting the well-being of her school children, as well as the entire community.

Ms. Ortiz' professional achievements are matched by an impressive educational background. She earned a Bachelors of Science degree in Education with an English major from Central University in Puerto Rico, a Masters degree in Reading from the University of Hartford, and a six year degree in Supervision and Administration from the University of Connecticut. Her wide range of expertise has enabled her to better excel in all aspects of her life, and the surrounding community has clearly benefitted as a result.

Staff Sergeant Ortiz strives to make the world a better place for all—through her military service, community work, and involvement with Connecticut schools. Her dedication and commitment appear to be boundless, and she is wholly deserving of the 2000 National Image Salute to Hispanics Award. Staff Sergeant Ortiz will travel to San Juan, Puerto Rico on Thursday, June 8, 2000 to receive her prestigious award.●

RETIREMENT OF RICHARD W. CANNON

• Mr. L. CHAFEE. Mr. President, on June 16th, family, friends and colleagues will gather to honor Richard W. Cannon, who has served the Social Security Administration for 39 years, and is retiring as District Manager of the Providence, RI office.

Mr. Cannon has demonstrated an exemplary record of service to New England and the Social Security Administration (SSA). He began his career with SSA as a Claims Representative in the Pawtucket, RI office in September, 1961. He quickly rose through the ranks, receiving promotions to field Representative, Operations Supervisor, Branch Manager, Assistant District Manager, and finally to District Manager by 1976. He has held the position of District Manager for 24 years in three offices: New London, CT; Cambridge, MA; and since May 1987, Providence.

Not only has Rhode Island benefited from Richard's services, but regions across the country have as well. He served stints in Social Security Administration offices in New York, California, and Hawaii. But, it has been our good fortune that he continues to return to his home state of Rhode Island.

He has shared his knowledge and expertise not only with his office colleagues, but with members of the Rhode Island Federal Executive Council, which he led as chairman for two years, and the New England Social Security Managers Association, where he also held office.

Lest we think that Richard's life was dedicated solely to the Social Security Administration, he also enjoys the outdoors. I have it on good authority that he can often be seen leaving his home in Snug Harbor to cruise the waters of Narragansett Bay, hoping to entice a fish or two to join him in his boat.

As Richard prepares for his private life away from the duties of his terribly

demanding job, I want to congratulate and thank him for all that he has given to the Social Security Administration and his community.●

KANSAS CITY SESQUICENTENNIAL

● Mr. ASHCROFT. Mr. President, I rise to honor one of the great cities in Missouri: Kansas City. On June 3, 1850, the Town of Kansas was incorporated. Three years later, the town was re-incorporated as the City of Kansas and renamed Kansas City in 1889. Today, Kansas Citians are celebrating the sesquicentennial of Kansas City, Missouri.

Kansas City is situated at the point of entry at the confluence of the Missouri and Kansas Rivers. In the beginning, Kansas City was known as the last point of civilization before venturing into the untamed West. The settlement quickly prospered as an outfitting post for gold prospectors and homesteaders who were moving west.

Because of its geographical location in the middle of the United States, Kansas City was destined to develop into one of our nation's most important trading markets and distribution hubs for goods and services.

As Kansas City began to grow and prosper it became a major region for raising and sending cattle to market. Kansas City quickly emerged as the largest cattle market in the world. Since that time, each Fall, the American Royal Festival is held to pay tribute to this rich cultural heritage.

Two words come to mind when people talk about Kansas City. Those two words are Jazz and Barbecue. Kansas City is world renowned for both. One also must not forget the grandeur of the Christmas lights that adorn Country Club Plaza, viewed annually by thousands.

Kansas City is home to the Liberty Memorial which honors America's sons and daughters who defended liberty and our country through their service in World War I. This Memorial serves as a tribute to ensure that the sacrifices made by those brave men and women are not forgotten.

Union Station was the gateway for many World War II service men and women passing through Kansas City on their way to service. Now newly refurbished it still stands tall and stately as a major tourist attraction.

In the 1960s, Kansas City emerged as a powerhouse in professional sports. Lamar Hunt brought the Chiefs NFL football team to Kansas City, and Ewing Kauffman was awarded a major league baseball franchise. The Kansas City Chiefs and the Kansas City Royals have both captured world pennants.

From its vibrant past to its glowing future, Kansas City is a community that remains on the cutting edge of technology, industry, medical research, manufacturing, and sports. At the dawn of a new century, Kansas City will continue to grow and prosper and rise to her highest and best.

Mr. President, it is a distinct privilege to represent this great city in the

United States Senate. I request that my colleagues join me in recognizing Kansas City for its 150 years of contributions to our great land and paying tribute to the KC150 celebration, Kansas City's sesquicentennial.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CHARLIE HOWELL

● Mr. COVERDELL. Mr. President, I am pleased to inform my colleagues that a young man from my state, Charlie Howell, won the individual National Collegiate Athletic Association golf championship this past weekend. Charlie hails from Augusta, home of the Masters Golf Tournament, and his achievement marks the beginning of another chapter in the great golf tradition of the Augusta area.

Charlie, a junior at Oklahoma State University, finished the event with a final score of 265, a full 23 strokes under par. His score shattered the previous championship record of 17 under. Given the number of talented players who have won the title, including Tiger Woods, Charlie's accomplishment is nothing short of phenomenal.

Along with his win in the individual tournament, Charlie helped the Oklahoma State team win the National Championship as well. This marks the first time since 1990 that the individual champion was also apart of a national championship team.

While success on the professional golf circuit almost certainly awaits Charlie, he has decided that his future can wait. Charlie will return to OSU for his senior year, helping to lead his team in defense of their title, and more importantly, to complete his college education.

Charlie's hard work and dedication to the sport have paid off handsomely. He now joins an elite group of golfers that can call themselves NCAA champions. I commend Charlie for his tremendous accomplishment, and wish him well in all of his future endeavors.●

HONORING STUDENTS FROM GREEN RIVER HIGH SCHOOL

● Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, on May 6-8, 2000, more than 1200 students from across the United States came to Washington, D.C. to compete in the national finals of the We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program. I am proud to announce that the class from Green River High School in Green River, Wyoming, represented my state in this national event. These young scholars worked diligently to reach the national finals and through their experience have gained a deep knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy.

The participating students were Richard Baxter, Natalie Binder, Katharine Bracken, Cameron Kelsey, Sandra Newton, Jacque Owen, Jeremy Pitts, Benjamin Potmesil, Meagan Reese, Rachel Ryckman, Ryan Stew-

art, and Steven Ujvary. I also want to recognize their teacher, Dennis Johnson, who deserves much of the credit for the success of the team.

The We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The three-day national competition is modeled after hearings in the United States Congress, during which a panel of judges from a variety of appropriate professional fields probes the students for their depth of understanding and ability to apply their constitutional knowledge.

The class from Green River represented the state of Wyoming well during the finals, and I wish these "constitutional experts" the best of luck as they continue to cultivate their interest in the principles upon which our great country was founded.●

REGARDING THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR CONSTITUTION

● Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I want to take a moment to recognize some special students from my home state of Wyoming, Green River to be specific, who have been spending a lot of their time studying our Constitution. They got so good at it, in fact, that they entered a national competition here in Washington to test their knowledge against the best of their peers and had a remarkable result.

Earlier this month students from around the country came to the nation's capital to compete on their understanding of our Constitution and our American Government. The students of Green River High School did very well in that event. In fact, their understanding and grasp of the fundamental principles of our Democracy and the meaning of our Constitution was judged to be among the best of the 50 teams that participated.

Programs like the one the students of Green River participated in are vital if we are to ensure that our future leaders have an understanding of the principles of our Constitution and the beliefs and values our Founding Fathers brought to the creation of our government. Such an understanding is an important part of our children's education for it will help them understand that the rights and freedoms afforded by our Constitution bring with them certain duties and responsibilities - the duties and responsibilities of citizenship. That will help them understand their role as they become our local, state and national leaders and face the challenges of the new millennium.

Good work, Green River High School! Led by their teacher, Dennis Johnson, and supported by their State Coordinator, Dick Kean, and their District Coordinator, Matt Strannigan, they did a great job and made Wyoming proud.