

heritage and humble roots—and all of Rhode Island was proud of him. Not only did he embody the contributions made by Italian-Americans to our state and nation, his life and career were a source of pride and hope for immigrants from all nations.

A child when his father died, leaving his mother and siblings impoverished, the future Senator and Governor struggled to overcome the many daunting obstacles that life had laid in his path. Indeed, the true meaning of Senator Pastore's later personal and political achievements can only be understood when highlighted against the background of his own poignant memories of his childhood, which I would like to quote.

We lived in the ghetto of Federal Hill. We had no running water, no hot water. I used to get up in the mornings and have to crank the stove, to go out in the back yard and sift out the ashes and come back with the coal that I could recoup. I had to chisel with the ice pick the ice in the sink so that I could wash up in the mornings. And that was everybody in the family. That wasn't me alone. That was my wife's family, that was everybody's family.

A man who never forgot these humble beginnings, Senator Pastore captured the hearts and minds of Rhode Islanders in his conviction that if one worked hard enough and long enough, one's dreams would come true. As one who lived the American Dream, had risen from poverty to political prominence, Senator Pastore strived to extend those same opportunities to all in this country.

While Senator Pastore was a gentleman in everything he did, his convictions were equally strong. Whether he was standing up for the rights of the underprivileged, or warning of the dangers of nuclear proliferation, Senator Pastore was not afraid of a political fight. This was a man who, if asked an honest question, always provided an honest answer.

Perhaps for his family there is some comfort in knowing that Senator Pastore's career in public service has made the world a better place. He helped guide our state and nation through some of our most tumultuous times—from his pivotal role in the struggle for civil rights legislation to his efforts to protect mankind from the threat of nuclear weapons. Indeed, many in our nation may have marvelled at how a state so small could produce a man so great.

As the floor manager for the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Senator Pastore demonstrated his deep devotion for maintaining and promoting the rights of all people, regardless of their race, color or background. As a key player in the negotiation and ratification of the Nuclear Proliferation Treaty and the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, Senator Pastore helped significantly reduce the dangers of thermonuclear war. On issues as diverse as civil rights and nuclear proliferation, Senator Pastore worked successfully to tighten the sinews of peace against a background of conflict.

On a personal note, my father, John Chafee, who followed John Pastore to the Senate in 1976, held his predecessor in the highest esteem. Their relationship consisted of mutual respect, admiration, and a never-ending series of personal kindnesses, great and small.

Upon his retirement in 1976, Senator Pastore addressed the Senate one final time. He expressed his love for this great institution and laid out the philosophy that had guided his career.

Whatever you do, keep that torch of opportunity lighted. Protect that flag. Maintain our institutions. Debate your differences if you have them. But always realize what that insignia says, "E pluribus unum"—from the many there are one.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, July 18, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,680,376,489,658.94 (Five trillion, six hundred eighty billion, three hundred seventy-six million, four hundred eighty-nine thousand, six hundred fifty-eight dollars and ninety-four cents).

Five years ago, July 18, 1995, the Federal debt stood at \$4,929,786,000,000 (Four trillion, nine hundred twenty-nine billion, seven hundred eighty-six million).

Ten years ago, July 18, 1990, the Federal debt stood at \$3,160,432,000,000 (Three trillion, one hundred sixty billion, four hundred thirty-two million).

Fifteen years ago, July 18, 1985, the Federal debt stood at \$1,796,027,000,000 (One trillion, seven hundred ninety-six billion, twenty-seven million).

Twenty-five years ago, July 18, 1975, the Federal debt stood at \$533,511,000,000 (Five hundred thirty-three billion, five hundred eleven million) which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion—\$5,146,865,489,658.94 (Five trillion, one hundred forty-six billion, eight hundred sixty-five million, four hundred eighty-nine thousand, six hundred fifty-eight dollars and ninety-four cents) during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

THE JAPAN-AMERICA STUDENT CONFERENCE

• Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, today I would like to offer a special tribute to the oldest university student exchange forum between Japan and the United States, the Japan-America Student Conference (JASC). Founded sixty-six years ago at the initiative of a group of Japanese students who were concerned about deteriorating U.S.-Japan relations, the month-long Conference has since convened on fifty-two annual occasions, alternating between the two countries.

This year, the Conference will open on July 21st at Tokai University's Honolulu campus, then move on to the Uni-

versity of North Carolina, Washington, DC, and New York City, and will conclude at the Reischauer Institute for Japanese Studies at Harvard University on August 21st. The sixty-two delegates, half from each country and, representing some thirty-four university campuses, will address such topics as: business practices, environmental issues, philosophy and religion, historical perspectives, and third world policies, against the thematic backdrop of "Developing New Approaches to Promote Social Change."

JASC is completely designed and implemented by students. Delegates elect Japanese and American Executive Committees at the conclusion of each Conference who manage, plan, and select delegates for the next year's event. Many alumni of the conference have gone on to distinguish themselves in the business, academic, and governmental arenas of their respective societies. Most notable among them is Kiichi Miyazawa, former Prime Minister and current Finance Minister of Japan, who participated in the 1939 and 1940 Conferences, and Henry Kissinger, former U.S. Secretary of State, who participated in the 1951 Conference. A common denominator among the highly diverse delegate community is a deep interest in knowing more about the U.S. and Japan, which can lead to careers relevant to the bilateral relationship.

Thirty intense days of travel and dialogue with each other foster better understanding and trust between the cultures, and, more importantly, friendships that endure for decades. As one delegate observed, "JASC is not a destination; it is a journey that does not conclude."•

ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CROMWELL CHILDREN'S HOME

• Mr. DODD. Mr. President, for 100 years the Cromwell Children's Home in Cromwell, Connecticut has provided a nurturing and supportive environment for children. Although the Home has evolved from its initial origins as an orphanage, its dedication and devotion to helping children in need has not wavered. I am proud to rise today to recognize this praiseworthy institution and, on behalf of the people of Connecticut, extend a heartfelt thank you on its centennial anniversary.

On any one day in Connecticut, there can be over 5,000 children in need of the services so selflessly provided by institutions like the Children's Home. Those children staying at the Children's Home benefit from a positive environment created by the dedicated and skilled staff. From my experience of working on children's issues in the United States Senate, I know how important it is to provide a constructive and therapeutic atmosphere for children.

The Children's Home is special because it is a comprehensive residential

treatment center that can help many children who are emotionally disturbed, behaviorally challenged or socially maladjusted. Through the residential component of the treatment regiment, children develop social skills and learn to positively interact with others. Children also benefit from the educational opportunities provided by the Learning Center because every student's educational experience is designed to personally suit his or her needs and to complement his or her learning style. The extensive outdoor learning opportunities, coupled with access to computers, help to provide balanced, quality learning. In addition, family therapy is a prominent feature at the Home because it is crucial to facilitate effective interaction between children and their families.

All of these wonderful features contribute to the successful completion of the Children's Home goal of "returning each child to his or her community with a more positive attitude." For 100 years, the Children's Home has succeeded in its endeavor and has positively contributed to the lives of its residents.

One such former resident who symbolized the success of the Children's Home was John Russell Bergendahl. Known to his friends as Russ or "Red," John Bergendahl honored the Cromwell Children's Home, the state of Connecticut and our nation by his service in World War II. An only child whose parents died when he was a boy, Russ became a resident of the Cromwell Children's Home in 1932. The supportive environment at the Home enabled him to overcome his tragedy and live with a positive attitude. Russ quickly developed an outgoing personality that was complimented by his physical and mental discipline. As Russ matured, he became a model resident of the home, owing much to the caring environment and dedicated staff.

During high school, Russ excelled in athletics at Middletown High School and even played on the Cromwell town baseball team. Upon graduating from Middletown High School, he enlisted in the military to fight for his country in World War II. John entered military training and was assigned to the 504th Parachute Infantry Unit (PIR) of the 82nd Airborne Division. His unit fought courageously throughout Northern Africa and Italy during the early years of the War. The 504th's ranks were so depleted from these battles that they were retained as a reserve unit and did not participate in the D-Day invasion.

However, John was one of only 50 volunteers of the 504th to serve as pathfinders on D-Day. His 50-man unit courageously preceded the main airborne divisions behind enemy lines to protect the vulnerable beach landings and to prevent an enemy counterattack. John did not survive this hazardous mission and died serving his country on June 6, 1944. His death was undoubtedly heroic although the exact circumstances can not be verified. He is buried alongside

his fellow pathfinders at the United States Military Cemetery at Omaha Beach.

On this, the 100th anniversary of the Cromwell Children's Home, it is only right that we recognize this special institution. As the story of John Russell Bergendahl demonstrates, the Cromwell Children's Home has nurtured a number of remarkable Americans, many of whom have served with distinction in the U.S. Armed Forces. But whether its residents go on to become heroes or just good neighbors and positive members of the Community, the Cromwell Children's Home is making an important difference. I hope the case of John Russell Bergendahl serves as an inspiration to the past and future residents of the Cromwell Children's Home and that they understand that their lives and their potential are limitless. Once again, I congratulate the Cromwell Children's Home on this 100th anniversary and I encourage them to carry forward the good work for another 100 years.●

IN RECOGNITION OF REVEREND NICK HALL, JR.

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable person from my home state of Michigan, Reverend Nick Hall Jr. On July 23, Rev. Hall will retire after 48 years of service to the Bethesda Baptist Church in Saginaw.

Reverend Hall's history of public service is truly deserving of recognition. After serving his country in the Navy during World War II, he received his Bachelor of Theology from the Chicago Baptist Institute in 1950. He then moved to Saginaw, Michigan and organized the Bethesda Baptist Church in 1952, where he has ministered there for nearly five decades. In 1990, he furthered his studies in Theology by earning his Doctor of Divinity from Urban Bible College in Detroit. In addition to his career in the ministry, Rev. Hall has dedicated himself to civic leadership through his work with many community organizations. From civil rights activist to County Commissioner, he has won many hats in his long public career, but all of them have shown a true dedication to his community. For the last 48 years, Rev. Hall has served with integrity and compassion.

Rev. Hall's departure from Bethesda Baptist Church will certainly mark a new chapter in his life. I can only hope it is as successful as this previous one. Though I am sure he will remain active in his many church and community activities, I hope that he will be able to spend more time with his wife, Marie, and their children and grandchildren. I am pleased to join his family, congregation, and friends in offering my thanks for all he has done.

Mr. President, Reverend Nick Hall, Jr. can take pride in his long and honorable career to Bethesda Baptist Church. I hope my colleagues will join

me in saluting Rev. Hall's commitment to his community and religion, and in wishing him well in his retirement.●

OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP IN FRANKLIN COUNTY, VERMONT

● Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I rise today to extend my congratulations to Franklin County, Vermont, one of five counties recently honored with the 2000 Community of Excellence Award from the organization Communities Can!

Franklin County is a small, sparsely populated area in northwestern Vermont. This county's close proximity to Lake Champlain and its rolling hills make it ideal for agriculture. In fact, the county has long been known as a state leader in dairy and maple syrup production. As with many rural areas, Franklin County has limited resources, but with the innovation and sense of community responsibility that has characterized Vermonters for centuries, leaders in the community have established a comprehensive network of educators, health care providers, and mental health workers to coordinate vital services for area children.

Communities Can! is a network of communities committed to ensuring that all children and families, including those with disabilities and special needs, have the services and support they need. Franklin County has been a part of this exemplary collaboration since its inception. Each year the organization recognizes five counties from across the country with the Community of Excellence Award. In order to be eligible for this prestigious award, a county must show that it identifies young children and families in need of services; provides affordable, convenient assistance; and includes family members in all levels of decision making. Receiving this award is a significant achievement.

It takes strong teamwork to bring all of these essential human services together to improve the lives of children and their families in a community. Thanks to the work of Mark Sustic, Coordinator of Early Childhood Programs; Peggy Durgin, Early Intervention/Team Coordinator; Paula Irish, Mental Health and Disabilities Coordinator for Head Start; Pam McCarthy, Director of the Family Center; and Tracey Wagner, Chair of the Regional Interagency Coordinating Council, children and families in Franklin County receive the support and services they need to develop and flourish. I had the pleasure of meeting these remarkable community leaders this spring when they came to Washington to receive their award. These dedicated Vermonters make the most of the limited resources in their rural county by coordinating a comprehensive set of services including pre-kindergarten education, health care, parent education, special needs services, day care, and prenatal care.