

recently, this one from a Korean War veteran and his wife in Alderson, WV. They were upset to learn that when the wife turned 65, she lost all of her CHAMPVA benefits. As a result, she was forced to pay more than \$300 per month for her diabetes and heart medications, in addition to all the other new costs for care not covered by Medicare. With Social Security and disability compensation as their only income, this couple is struggling to absorb this enormous new expense in their modest budget. The husband, a 100-percent disabled veteran, wrote poignantly to me, ". . . it would help us out so much if CHAMPVA would continue to cover my wife's medical care."

In closing, I thank the Gold Star Wives Association for their dedication and for bringing this issue to my attention. We must never forget that the costs of military service are borne not only by the servicemember alone, but by their families as well.

I hope the Committee on Veterans' Affairs will expedite passage of this bill out of committee. CHAMPVA beneficiaries are depending upon it.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, March 27, 2001, the Federal debt stood at \$5,736,074,141,495.08, five trillion, seven hundred thirty-six billion, seventy-four million, one hundred forty-one thousand, four hundred ninety-five dollars and eight cents.

One year ago, March 27, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,731,796,000,000, five trillion, seven hundred thirty-one billion, seven hundred ninety-six million.

Five years ago, March 27, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$5,069,500,000,000, five trillion, sixty-nine billion, five hundred million.

Ten years ago, March 27, 1991, the Federal debt stood at \$3,460,809,000,000, three trillion, four hundred sixty billion, eight hundred nine million.

Fifteen years ago, March 27, 1986, the Federal debt stood at \$1,981,848,000,000, one trillion, nine hundred eighty-one billion, eight hundred forty-eight million, which reflects a debt increase of almost \$4 trillion—\$3,754,226,141,495.08, three trillion, seven hundred fifty-four billion, two hundred twenty-six million, one hundred forty-one thousand, four hundred ninety-five dollars and eight cents, during the past 15 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMADA FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise to congratulate the residents of Armada and the Armada Free Public Library on the occasion of its one-hundredth anniversary. Residents in my home State of Michigan will be gathering this Sunday, April 1, 2001 to celebrate this important milestone.

The Armada Free Public Library is a dynamic community institution, with

a proud tradition of serving the needs of all residents of the growing community in which it is located. This commitment to community service is manifested in the library's efforts to provide access to over 25,000 books and many periodicals, as well as access the World Wide Web. In addition, the Armada Free Public Library serves as a barrier-free gathering place for community and civic groups.

The Armada Free Public Library was established on April 1, 1901. It was on this day that village residents approved a mill tax to fund the library by a resounding vote of 144 to 48. The library opened on August 10th of the same year with 87 books on its shelves.

In the ensuing years, the library grew from these humble origins to continue serving the needs of area residents. In particular, the early library emphasized its ability to serve as a meeting place for conferences, clubs and children located in this bustling farming community. Given its central role in the community, it is only natural that as Armada grew the Free Public Library needed to grow with it. Were it not for the efforts of philanthropists and concerned voters, the Armada Free Public Library may not have reached this historic anniversary. A grant provided by the Carnegie's enabled the library to move into a new facility in 1915, and subsequent efforts by local voters and philanthropists, such as the estate of the late Elizabeth Pomeroy, ensured both the growth of the library and its continued economic viability.

Mr. President, I have mentioned only a small portion of the dynamic history of the Armada Free Public Library and the many ways in which the library has remained committed to this community. I know my colleagues will join me in honoring the Armada Free Public Library for its service to the people of Armada and the State of Michigan.●

RECOGNITION OF ROSARY HIGH SCHOOL

• Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise to recognize Rosary High School's outstanding accomplishments and to congratulate them on their 40th anniversary and rededication which will take place on April 29, 2001.

Originally Archbishop Joseph Ritter dedicated the building for Rosary High School in St. Louis on April 29, 1962. Since its first graduating class in 1965, Rosary High school has proudly graduated 8,000 students. Over the years its students have done an outstanding job of serving the St. Louis community by completing more than 100 hours of community service per student.

Rosary High School continues to maintain an excellent academic record with average ACT scores that are above the state and national norms. Fifty percent of their graduating class has received scholarships to college.

Rosary High School has excelled in their athletic programs. Over the past 40 years they have repeatedly won the State championship in soccer, as well

as championships in volleyball and basketball.

Rosary High School is an exemplary High School. The School, faculty, and students are an asset to the St. Louis community. It is my sincerest hope that the next forty years are as successful as the last.●

TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA MULROY

• Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a distinguished Nevadan, a good person and a good friend, Patricia Mulroy. Pat will be receiving the National Jewish Medical and Research Center's Humanitarian Award on April 28, 2001.

The Humanitarian Award honors people who have made significant civic and charitable contributions, people who have chosen to devote their lives to making their communities better places to live.

Pat first moved to Las Vegas in 1974, and began making her mark almost as soon as she arrived as a young student at the University of Nevada-Las Vegas by being admitted to Phi Kappa Phi and being listed in Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities.

After college, Pat began her career in public service by working in the Clark County Manager's Office. She was appointed the county's first Justice Court Administrator in 1984, and later was appointed General Manager of the Las Vegas Valley Water District.

Those of us who live in the southwestern United States know how important, and scarce, water is to our States. Pat took over as General Manager of the Water District during one of the most difficult periods in Southern Nevada's water history, a year when the community began growing at the rate of 3000 to 5000 residents per month, a trend which has only increased. In response, in 1991, Pat was appointed the first General Manager for the Southern Nevada Water Authority, an agency created by the state legislature to oversee competing governmental interest in water.

Since then, Pat has become known nationally as an expert on water issues. She is a member of the American Water Works Association and currently sits on the Board of Directors of the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies. In 1992 she helped found and was the original chairman of the Western Urban Water Coalition. She is also a member of the Colorado River Water Users Association and has served on its Board of Directors. She serves on the Desert Research Institute Research Foundation Board of Trustees and received the University and Community College System of Nevada Board of Regents' 1999 Distinguished Nevadan Award.

Those of us who have had the privilege of knowing Pat personally know her as more than a public advocate and expert on water issues. We also know her as a loving wife to her husband Robert, a devoted mother of two children, Ryan and Kelley, and a leader

who is active in her church, on her school board, and in her community. Nobody deserves this award more than Pat.

I extend my congratulations to you, and the appreciation of all Nevadans for your good work on their behalf.●

DR. M. GRAHAM CLARK

• Mr. BOND. Mr. President, today I would pay tribute to Dr. M. Graham Clark, of Point Lookout, MO, who died earlier this month and will be sadly missed by his family and all of us who were privileged to be counted among his friends.

Dr. Clark was a tremendous educator, businessman and community leader. He came to what was then known as the School of the Ozarks in 1946, a high school, as vice-president and became its president in 1952.

On his watch of nearly a half century, the institution grew from a high school into a junior college and then a four-year college, and was brought into regional accreditation. Dr. Clark was proud, and deservedly so, of the fact that the College was accredited even before it issued its first full degree. The school Dr. Clark built was also nationally recognized for its adherence to Christian principles and the strong work ethic of its students. He viewed the school as his mission, and tirelessly raised funds for its improvement, even when he was well into his eighties.

During his more than 50 years of service to College of the Ozarks, and to all of Southwest Missouri, Dr. Clark touched millions of people's lives. His leadership will be remembered for generations to come. Those who knew him best know that his commitment and love of the College was second only to his dedication to his Lord and Savior, and to his family.

Our culture is quick to glorify the here and now, the "flash in the pan" celebrities, the "cause" of the day. By that measure, Clark stood apart. While he could no doubt have made a fortune in the for-profit sector, he devoted his considerable intellectual and business skills to the work of building a top-notch educational institution. He was a strong Christian who never hid nor apologized for his beliefs. He spent his entire life making life better for young people in the Ozark region, his family, his church, and his community. His love for others knew no social boundaries. We are in his debt, and remember him fondly.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive sessions the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate

messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:30 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 801. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve programs of educational assistance, to expand programs of transition assistance and outreach to departing servicemembers, veterans, and dependents, to increase burial benefits, to provide for family coverage under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance, and for other purposes.

H.R. 811. An act to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out construction projects for the purpose of improving, renovating, and updating patient care facilities at Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers.

At 7:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 83. A concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2002, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 801. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve programs of educational assistance, to expand programs of transition assistance and outreach to departing servicemembers, veterans, and dependents, to increase burial benefits, to provide for family coverage under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 811. An act to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out construction projects for the purpose of improving, renovating, and updating patient care facilities at Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 83. Concurrent resolution establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2002, revising the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2001, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2011; to the Committee on the Budget.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

From the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, without amendment:

S. 1: An original bill to extend programs and activities under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (Rept. No. 107-7).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. JEFFORDS:

S. 1. An original bill to extend programs and activities under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965; from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; placed on the calendar.

By Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself and Mr. HUTCHINSON):

S. 636. A bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a decommissioning pilot program to decommission and decontaminate the sodium-cooled fast breeder experimental test-site reactor located in northwest Arkansas; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mr. McCAIN):

S. 637. A bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.) to authorize the establishment of individual fishery quota systems; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DOMENICI (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. BENNETT):

S. 638. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide the same capital gains treatment for art and collectibles as for other investment property and to provide that a deduction equal to fair market value shall be allowed for charitable contributions of literary, musical, artistic, or scholarly compositions created by the donor; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BYRD (for himself and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

S. 639. A bill to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of certain hydroelectric projects in the State of West Virginia; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. THOMPSON (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. NICKLES, and Mr. MURKOWSKI):

S. 640. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to include wireless telecommunications equipment in the definition of qualified technological equipment for purposes of determining the depreciation treatment of such equipment; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TORRICELLI:

S. 641. A bill to amend section 842 of title 18, United States Code, relating to explosive materials; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TORRICELLI:

S. 642. A bill to amend part Q of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide assistance for unincorporated neighborhood watch programs; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. INOUYE, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):