

son, Lt. Shane Osborn, the Navy pilot whose leadership and piloting skills saved the lives of the crew detained in China for the first part of April.

Even at three years of age, Shane exhibited a fascination with planes. Shane's family lived on a farm near Rapid City, South Dakota, where the farmer owned a small, two-seat aircraft. The hangar wasn't far from the house, and Shane would often climb into the plane and pretend to take to the skies in flight. This lifelong interest led Shane to the Navy where he trained as a pilot and was commissioned an officer in 1996.

Shane eventually was transferred to Whidbey Island Naval Station in Washington where he was trained to fly naval reconnaissance. As his Navy EP-3E plane recently flew a routine mission near the Chinese coast, it is reported that a Chinese F-8 fighter plane made two passes near the American aircraft, flying within three to five feet of the plane. On the third pass, the Chinese pilot apparently ran into the American plane's propeller, sending Shane and his crew into a steep dive.

With two of the four propellers out of commission, a smashed nose cone, and destroyed navigational instruments, the American plane dropped nearly 7,500 feet toward the China Sea. With sheer will and brute force, Shane managed to bring the plane under control and land safely on the Chinese island of Hainan.

During the ensuing days as Shane and his crew were held by Chinese officials, I spoke with the Chinese Ambassador and urged his government to release the American crew as quickly as possible. I also passed along to the Ambassador an email message Shane's father, Doug, wrote to his son. As the parent of a son in the military, I understood the fear and uncertainty one feels when their child is suddenly placed in harm's way. However, when I spoke with Doug Osborn, I was reminded also of the immense pride and love that a parent feels for their son or daughter in the military.

I commend Lt. Shane Osborn for his heroism in safely landing the disabled American plane and his leadership as mission commander during the 11 days the American crew was detained in China. Shane symbolizes the very best that we have come to expect from the men and women in our military. I will continue to be an advocate on military issues in Congress and make sure that military personnel like Shane receive the "quality of life" benefits they and their families deserve. After the numerous sacrifices the men and women in our military make for our country, we in Congress can be expected to do no less.●

HONORING CADET CHIEF PETTY OFFICER THEA I. PECK AS NAVAL SEA CADET CORPS CADET OF THE YEAR

● Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I would like to extend my most sincere

congratulations to Cadet Chief Petty Officer Thea I. Peck. On April 28, 2001, she will be awarded the Willis E. Reed Cadet of the Year Award, which recognizes the Naval Sea Cadet who has excelled in all areas of Naval Sea Cadet Corps, NSCC, training. She was initially selected as Mid-Atlantic Cadet of the Year for 2000 out of six states including Pennsylvania, which then lead to her selection as the program-wide Cadet of the Year. This recognition is outstanding as it exemplifies Cadet CPO Peck's leadership, maturity, dedication, and patriotism.

The NSCC was established in 1958 in part of the Department of the Navy to develop an appreciation for the United States' naval history, customs, traditions, and its significant role in national defense. Its purpose is also to develop patriotism, confidence, and pride in our nation's youth and help them to develop strong moral character and good citizenship. It also gives participants a real-life look at military opportunities.

Cadet CPO Peck has been a member of the Naval Sea Cadet Corps Program for over five years. She has completed several training courses over her tenure in the program including time spent at the Foreign Exchange Program with the United Kingdom and Medical Staff Training at Bethesda Naval Hospital. In all of her training periods, Cadet CPO Peck earned the highest performance marks illustrating her dedication to the program and the United States Navy.

In addition to excelling in the Naval Sea Cadet Corps, Cadet CPO Peck is an impeccable student. With a high school grade point average of 3.95, and as a student in all advanced classes, she has mastered time management and the ability to balance academics and outside activities. She has received a number of achievements for her work in various science fairs, and she is also an outstanding athlete, lettering in indoor track, swimming, lacrosse and soccer.

Cadet CPO Peck is a superior, well-rounded young adult who has chosen to take advantage of all that life has to offer. As a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, I am grateful to Cadet CPO Peck for her dedication to the United States Navy through the Naval Sea Cadet Corps. With so many opportunities ahead after high school, I am confident that whichever avenue she chooses to pursue, she will bring great energy and leadership to it.

I ask my Senate colleagues to join with me in congratulating this fine young leader as she is recognized as the 2001 NSCC Cadet of the Year and recipient of the Willis E. Reed Award.●

HONORING REVEREND DR. KENNETH L. SAUNDERS, SR.

● Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues a great man in the State of New Jersey, Reverend Dr. Kenneth L. Saunders, Sr.

Reverend Saunders is a man of integrity who is committed to the spiritual, mental, social, civil and economic well-being of his congregation and residents of the City of Piscataway.

Reverend Saunders has dedicated his life to public service. As Council President of the City of Piscataway, he insures that everyone has a voice. Reverend Saunders is also an outstanding advocate for children and their families.

Reverend Saunders is a true American, who believes that all people should have access to America's Promise. He has the enviable gift of being able to bring people together to work for a common cause. Reverend Saunders is an unselfish man whose motivation is not self-gratification. He possesses a higher calling.

This week, Reverend Saunders is celebrating 12 wonderful years of pastoral ministry at North Stelton A.M.E. Church in Piscataway. Under his unparalleled guidance, North Stelton A.M.E. Church has experienced enormous growth and is a warm congregation filled with joy and love.

I want to also mention his wife, Mrs. Shirley Saunders and want you to know that they make an exceptional team. Her devotion to the community is very well-known, and the State of New Jersey is a better place because of the leadership of Reverend and Mrs. Kenneth L. Saunders, Sr.

Lastly, I am a better man today because of my friendship with Reverend and Mrs. Saunders, and it is an honor for me to bring them to your attention.●

PIKE COUNTY INDIANA SCHOOL CORPORATION

● Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I am delighted to rise today with my colleague Senator BAYH to congratulate the Pike County School Corporation located in Petersburg, IN on being named "One of the Best 100 School Districts in the United States" for the year 2000 by the Wall Street Journal and Offspring magazine. The Pike County school administrators, teachers, and students should take great pride in this outstanding accomplishment. This award is based on academic excellence in standardized testing such as the SAT, ACT, Indiana's ISTEP+ test, the number of National Merit Scholars produced by the district, community living costs, and dollar expenditures per student.

In October 1996, I had the distinct honor of meeting with the student body at Pike Central Middle High School. I was able to address the student body and saw first hand the hard work and dedication of the school's administrators and teachers. After addressing the student body I had the pleasure of going for a run with a group of Pike County students. It's a high honor to be standing on the floor of the Senate today reflecting on that visit and recognizing Pike County schools for their outstanding achievements.

National recognition of Pike County's educational accomplishments is particularly timely as the Senate commences debate on President Bush's Education program. The schools of Pike County have set standards that all school districts across this great nation should strive to emulate. Five years ago, Pike County School Corporation developed and implemented a district-wide plan to improve scores at all grade levels. They aggressively used standardized tests at all grade levels to ensure classroom standards were being met and student weaknesses were being addressed. Their efforts resulted in a significant increase in the percentage of students from Pike County meeting Indiana's academic standards. Also, the number of students attending college after high school graduation nearly doubled during the 1998-99 school year, the year that was used for the national study conducted by *Offspring Magazine*.

Using Title 1 funds, the Pike County School Corporation developed an early-childhood program that targeted preschool and kindergarten children. Using a corporation-developed assessment process, four-year-old students were placed into the county's three elementary schools for half-day pre-school classes, with five-year-olds invited to participate in extended-day kindergarten. This program has played an important role in the dramatic rise of Pike County ISTEP+ test scores at the third grade level.

Additionally, and of particular note, Pike County School Corporation was able to accomplish these goals while spending approximately \$6,500 per student year, one of the lowest spending rates per student in the country. As quoted from *Offspring magazine*, "the hallmark of a top-rated school district isn't necessarily how much money it has to spend, but how it spends the money it has."

This great recognition is a tribute to the superlative efforts of the members of the local school board, the school administration, teachers, and support staff of the PCSC. I congratulate Pike County School Corporation and the Pike County community, and wish them continued academic success.●

NALC FOOD DRIVE STATEMENT

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, this year marks the ninth anniversary of "Stamp Out Hunger," the largest one-day food drive in the United States. I strongly commend and congratulate the National Association of Letter Carriers, NALC, for sponsoring this annual event, and marvel at its rapid expansion, beginning in only ten cities in 1992, it now spans over 10,000 cities and towns across our nation.

More than 1,500 NALC branches, including the California State Association of Letter Carriers in my home State, will participate in this year's "Stamp Out Hunger." On May 12, the second Saturday in May, residents

across the country will be asked to place boxes and bags of food next to their mailboxes, where postal workers will pick them up, sort them, and deliver them to community food banks, shelters and pantries.

The success of this program can be seen in the staggering volume of donations: more than 392 million pounds of food have been collected in the program's history. However, what impresses me most is the strong commitment of our nation's postal workers and citizens to end hunger. The only way we will put an end to poverty is to follow their example and take action, become involved, make a concerted effort. I urge all Americans to participate in "Stamp Out Hunger" on May 12 to put an end to the poverty that is plaguing far too many children, men and women in our communities and across our nation.●

EISLEBEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise to make a few comments on the 150th anniversary of the Eisleben Lutheran Church in Scott City, MO.

Since the first congregation of nineteen members gathered on April 30th 1848, Eisleben Lutheran Church has grown to become a part of Missouri history. Eisleben Lutheran Church's first house of worship was a log cabin built in the area now known as Scott City. The area surrounding the church was mostly wooded hills and large swamps which were impassable much of the year. In 1867 the second facility known as Rock Church was built.

Today the congregation worships in a church that was completed in 1913 using the stones from the original Rock Church. The congregation of the Eisleben Lutheran Church have maintained a long history of service to the Scott City community, as well as the international community by supporting missionary efforts all over the world.

Over the past 150 years Eisleben Lutheran Church has witnessed and been a part of many historical events. Their devotion to the preservation and continued growth of the church is commendable. I am pleased to join with the Scott City community and the State of Missouri in congratulating the congregation of the Eisleben Lutheran Church.●

WILSON H.S. STUDENTS EXCEL IN COMPETITION

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I would like to recognize a group of students from Wilson High School in Florence, SC who recently participated in the "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" national finals in Washington, D.C. April 21-23. They tested their knowledge of American constitutional government against 49 other student groups from across the country in a familiar format to those of us in the Senate, a congressional

hearing. During the simulated hearing, students testified as constitutional experts before a panel of judges. Fifteen students, led by their teacher Yvonne Rhodes, represented Wilson at the competition. They were: Lakisha Boston, Lynette Carr, Christine Chen, Rebecca Derrick, Ashunti Drummond, Elizabeth Fortnum, Albert Hayward, Anthony Henderson, Benjamin Ingram, Janny Liu, Christina Moss, Jason Owens, Anna Stewart, Tyler Thomas and Dheepa Varadarajan. I commend these students for their impressive performance in the "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" program administered by the Center for Civic Education. Their interest in the foundation of our government is refreshing and will prepare them to become active, responsible citizens and community leaders.●

GARFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL 50TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Garfield Middle School in Albuquerque, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary today, April 26. Built to serve Albuquerque's growing North Valley, the school first opened for the 1950-51 school year. First built with the intention of serving as an elementary school, Garfield actually became the fourth public junior high school to open in my hometown.

Mr. Walter McNutt was Garfield Middle School's first principal. It was under this distinguished man that I served as a public school teacher shortly after graduating from the University of New Mexico. I taught math and coached baseball at the school in the 1955-56 school year.

The Garfield Middle School's long-held mission has been to foster a sense of community among its students, parents and school staff as a means of boosting pupil achievement.

With a multi-cultural enrollment ranging over the years from 650-1,200 students, Garfield has earned a number of award-winning and nationally-recognized programs.

I am proud to also point out that Garfield is actively involved in a program that is close to my heart, Character Counts. The school is nationally recognized as having one of the finest Character Counts programs in the United States. At the school they teach the six pillars of good character: responsibility, respect, trustworthiness, fairness, citizenship, and caring.

I applaud Garfield Middle School for its accomplishments and as it celebrates its 50th Anniversary, we wish them much continued success in the future.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to