

single out the Patient Summit that the Medtronic Foundation sponsored in Washington, D.C. last year. I had the honor of speaking at that meeting, whose purpose was to encourage a dialogue between patients, policymakers, and advocacy groups about the role patients can play in directing their own health care.

As a fellow Minnesotan, I've watched Bill's personal efforts in the community with much admiration. His service as chair of the board of the United Way of Minneapolis and vice chair of the board of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, as well as his work on the boards of the American Red Cross and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace show Bill's dedication and breadth of interests.

Bill's lifestyle, his mission, and his vision are all reflected in the recognition Medtronic regularly receives. Fortune Magazine designated Medtronic as one of the "Best Companies to Work for in America". Industry Week's ranked it as one of the "Best Managed Companies." Money magazine chose Medtronic as one of the "Best Investments in 2000 and Beyond." Business Ethics recognized the company for its demonstrated leadership in ethics and social responsibility with its "General Excellence in Ethics" award.

In his 10 years as CEO, Bill George has helped to expand Medtronic to an even higher plane as an organization that is dynamic, creative, and passionate about its mission of restoring people to full life and health.

As the Senior Senator from Minnesota, I thank him for his dedication to his work, for his service to his community—and I don't mean just Minneapolis or Minnesota, but the whole international community in which he is engaged, and for his friendship. I wish him well as he continues his active life which not only will include chairing Medtronic's board and involvement in community service, but also writing and teaching.●

TRIBUTE TO KEVIN GRAY

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Kevin Gray of Canterbury, NH, for being honored as the 2000 Sportswriter of the Year by the members of the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association.

A native of Plymouth, NH, Kevin is a sports communications graduate of the University of New Hampshire. He has been employed at The Union Leader newspaper for over six years and is a columnist and feature writer for the newspaper. Kevin writes a popular weekly column for the Union Leader on the paper's "Get Out" page and is also a member of the Union Leader's motor sports coverage team for Winston Cup events at New Hampshire International Speedway.

Kevin is known in high school and football circles in New Hampshire for his columns, "High School Hoopla" and

"Between the Lines". He has covered notable assignments in the sports arena including the NCAA men's basketball tournament, the Winter X Games at Mount Snow, VT and regular coverage of Boston Red Sox home games.

Active in community service, Kevin often speaks with English classes at journalism workshops throughout New Hampshire, ranging from middle school to college level audiences.

Kevin and his wife, Tareah, reside in Canterbury, NH. It is an honor and a privilege to serve Kevin Gray in the United States Senate. I wish him much success in his future endeavors.●

TRIBUTE TO THE MILFORD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to 13 students from Milford High School in Milford, NH, who were recently selected to compete in the national finals of the "We the People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution" program held April 21-23, 2001, in Washington, DC. These high school students competed on the State level for the opportunity to represent New Hampshire at the national competition, and were among more than 1,200 students from 49 States and the District of Columbia to participate.

The distinguished members of the team representing New Hampshire are: Catilin Allen, Jeremy Berger, Aaron Costa-Ganis, Mike Danner, Tiffany Fariole, Chris Lawler, Jason Lewis, Sean Parenti, Keith Parker, Todd Rounsaville, Sarah Rush, Dawn Staiti and Irene Drenko.

All 13 New Hampshire students were tested on the Constitution and Bill of Rights before simulated congressional committees to demonstrate their knowledge of constitutional principles and their relevance to contemporary issues. The competition in Washington consisted of 2 days of hearings; and 10 finalists, with the highest scores, competing for the title of national winner on Capitol Hill in a congressional hearing room.

David Alcox, a teacher at Milford High School and District Coordinator, also deserves special recognition for helping these students prepare for the intense constitutional testing. Kirsten Hale, the State coordinator, also contributed a significant amount of time and effort to help the students reach the national finals. As a former teacher myself, I applaud all of them on their commitment to enriching the lives of these students.

The "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" program provides an excellent opportunity for students to gain an informed perspective about the history and principles of our Nation's constitutional government. We are proud to have them representing New Hampshire, and wish them luck as they prepare to be America's leader in the 21st Century.●

TRIBUTE TO GENE AND JIM BURDICK

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Gene and Jim Burdick of Redfield, SD. The Burdick brothers are being honored this week as the South Dakota Small Business Persons of the Year.

Gene and Jim understand what many business owners have learned. Owning a business requires some talents, some know how, and a lot of hard work and perseverance. Like many small business owners, their enterprise is a family effort for the brothers and their wives, Lucy and Deborah. I congratulate the families and the employees of this company on their years of achievement.

In 1984, the brothers embarked on a business partnership and founded Burdick Brothers, Inc. They built a business constructing trailers and custom equipment for area farmers, businesses, and individuals. Through the years, they cultivated a reputation as a company dedicated to innovation and customer service.

In 1987, the company purchased its first building. Three years later, their successes were adding up and Burdicks were adding to the size of their building. In 1998, they moved into a second building with 12,000 square feet. This new facility allowed for additional equipment and space that the company quickly utilized on a bridge project helping the community of Redfield rebuild a needed facility following disastrous flooding in the region.

Burdick Brothers, Inc. has been a valued member of the Redfield community for over 15 years. It is truly a South Dakota success story. I know that all those who contributed to the company's many achievements take great pride in the personal and collective accomplishments celebrated and recognized through this honor.

It is with great appreciation that I join with the community, the employees, the customers, and the many people who interact with the company, to congratulate Burdick brothers on their years of service and success. I wish Burdick Brothers, Inc. enduring good fortune and prosperity in the continued pursuit of excellence.●

TRIBUTE TO THE 2000 AIR FORCE ACADEMY FOOTBALL TEAM

● Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the 2000 Air Force Academy football team and their outstanding head football coach Fisher DeBerry.

On May 4th, President Bush will present the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy to the members of last year's football team at the White House. The Commander-in-Chief's Trophy is the most prized possession of the three service academies. It is given annually by the President of the United States to the service academy with the best

record in the three-team competition between Army, Navy and Air Force. I am proud to say this is the fourth year in a row the Air Force Academy has captured the trophy and they have won 10 of the last 12 seasons.

The most important aspect of the 2000 Air Force Academy Football Team is each athlete on this team is a student first, and an athlete second. They play the game of football not to become an NFL star one day, but because they love the game of football.

Their leader is a modest southern gentleman named Fisher DeBerry whose life is driven not by football, but by his Christian faith and his family. In his 17 seasons as head football coach at the Air Force Academy he has guided his teams to an overall record of 135-72-1. He has won more football games than any other coach in service academy history and has taken the "fighting falcons" to an amazing 11 bowl games. In 1996, he served as president of the prestigious American Football Coaches Association.

The 2000 Air Force Academy football team demonstrated that hard work can overcome any obstacle. Despite being picked to finish in the lower half of their conference, they finished with an overall record of 9-3 and won a thrilling victory over Fresno State in the 2000 Silicon Bowl. Their perseverance is an inspiration to all us.

I commend the Superintendent of the Air Force Academy, General John Dallager and the Director of Athletics, Colonel Randy Spetman, along with all the coaches and players of the 2000 Air Force Academy football team for a job well done. You have set a standard of excellence that all of us should strive to achieve.●

TRIBUTE TO JIM O'NEIL

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Jim O'Neil of Merrimack, NH, on the occasion of his 30th anniversary as Superintendent of Schools in Merrimack, NN.

As a former teacher myself, I commend Jim's commitment to the young people of New Hampshire and the nation. Jim has been a dedicated member of the educational community for many years, beginning his teaching career in 1963. He has contributed selflessly to the betterment of education in New Hampshire, serving in teaching, athletic coaching and administrative positions for many years.

An exemplary community contributor, Jim has been actively involved in many educational associations and organizations. He has been a board member for the National Elementary Principal's Association, the New Hampshire School Administration Association, the New England Association of School Superintendents and was a member of the Governor's Commission on Public Education. He has also been faithful volunteer in Pop Warner football and Babe Ruth baseball in Merrimack, serving as a coach.

Jim received a Bachelor of Science degree from Boston College in Chestnut Hill, MA, and later earned a Master of Education degree from the State College at Boston.

Jim and his wife, Reggie, have four children and two grandchildren and have resided in the town of Merrimack, NH, for over thirty years.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve Jim O'Neil in the U.S. Senate. I wish him and his family Godspeed in his retirement and in all of their future endeavors.●

JUDGE WALTER M. HEEN—A LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENT

● Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I rise today to share with my colleagues the contributions of a fine jurist, tireless community leader, and native son of Hawaii. Nearly 50 years of public service excellence have made Walter Meheula Heen an acknowledged leading citizen, a "special treasure" of the State of Hawaii.

Judge Heen's dedicated drive to build a better Hawaii was awakened as a law student at Georgetown University in the mid-1950s. The seeds of his commitment and service were planted in childhood by his father and his uncle, Ernest and William Heen, respectively, two patriarchs of social reform in plantation-era Hawaii. It was the Heens, along with Johnny Wilson and David Trask, Sr. Who formed the core of the early Democratic Party in Hawaii.

Walter Heen's career as an elected official, state judge and U.S. district court judge includes remarkable accomplishments and historically significant achievements. Elected to the Territorial House of Representatives in 1958, the year before Statehood, Judge Heen served in the Hawaii legislature as a Representative until 1964 and was elected to the State Senate in 1966.

The "Democratic Revolution of 1954" was more than a headline or a slogan, is accurately conveyed the significant legislative agenda the new majority was committed to enact to affect fundamental changes to improve the social and economic character of the islands. Land reform, anti-trust, "Green Belt" land use, collective bargaining, and workers' compensation were to become the battle zones that would change the face of politics, legislation and the administration of justice across Hawaii. Walter Heen was on the front lines of those struggles. His cause, together with those whom he served, was to level the playing field of social and economic opportunities for all, regardless of race, class or religion.

Walter Heen served as a member of the Honolulu City Council from 1969 to 1972, including his selection as Council Chair in 1969-70. He left elective office in 1972 accepting an appointment to the State District Court, and then State Circuit Court in 1974-78.

Judge Heen's star continued to rise with his appointment as U.S. Attorney, District of Hawaii for 1978-80, and as

U.S. District Court Judge, District of Hawaii in 1981. He retired from a distinguished judicial career in 1994 after 12 years as Associate Judge of the State Intermediate Court of Appeals. During that period, Heen authored several opinions on important Hawaiian issues and had occasion to sit and add his voice to the deliberation of the State Supreme Court.

Always an active contributor to community affairs, Walter Heen was a founding member of the renaissance Democratic Party revolution beginning in 1950. It was a significant political movement that focused on changing the traditional unequal and unfair distribution of opportunities available to Hawaii's minority communities. Judge Heen carried this passion for leveling the playing field throughout his career of public service. More recently, Heen added his hand to exposing improper management and unethical practices at the Bishop Estate, a charitable trust charged with the responsibility of providing children of Hawaiian ancestry with educational opportunities and achievement. While controversial, his joint authorship of the milestone piece entitled "Broken Trust", successfully led to court ordered reviews of trust operations, and the ultimate improvement and accountability of the charitable trust.

Judge Heen's volunteer activities are broad and diverse, spreading across Hawaii's community concerns. As early as 1962, Walter was singled out as the Honolulu Junior Chamber of Commerce "Outstanding Young Man of the Year." Virtually at the same time, he was Chair of the State Bar Association Ethics Committee 1961-63, President of the University of Hawaii Alumni Association, and President of the Honolulu Hawaiian Civic Club. As a member of its Founding Board of Directors, Heen launched the Big Brothers of Hawaii program that has made an enormous contribution to supporting and mentoring thousands of youth in Hawaii.

Upon his retirement from the bench, Walter Heen has continued his public service. He served as a Director of the Native Hawaiian Bar Association, Advisor to the Native Hawaiian Advisory Council, co-counsel for Hawaiian water rights in the Waiahole Ditch dispute, member of the Public Access Shoreline Study Group, 1997-1998, and member of the Governor's Economic Revitalization Task Force. Currently, Heen is the acting Executive Director of the Office of Mauna Kea Management, lending a "community voice" and oversight to the maintenance and development of the University of Hawaii's astronomical facilities at Mauna Kea's summit.

In 1996, Walter Heen was tapped to serve as the Chairman of the Hawaii Democratic Party. It was a turbulent time for a political party that has dominated Hawaii's political scene for more than 50 years. Heen led us forward in a hotly contested gubernatorial election in 1998 and then a