

may simply redirect the flow of the threat.

That assumes, that we actually have a missile defense system that works. We are a long, long way from that capability, a fact that I hope that we in the Senate and the American people fully understand. I am pleased that the President did not announce the unilateral abrogation of the ABM Treaty in that regard. It would be foolhardy, in my opinion, to step back from our legal obligations under that Treaty without having the means to defend ourselves—a missile defense system that works. Make no mistake, my colleagues, the unilateral abrogation of the ABM Treaty will have major negative security consequences for the United States and our allies and friends. I urge my colleagues, regardless of how they feel about the ABM Treaty, to join me and other senators to insist that any missile defense system be successfully tested in realistic operational conditions before making any decision to deploy it. The American taxpayer being asked to provide tens of billions of dollars to support that effort, not to mention the men and women in uniform who would operate it, deserve nothing less than a system that works.

I applaud the President's desire for building cooperative relationships that should be "reassuring, rather than threatening . . . premised on openness, mutual confidence and real opportunities for cooperation, including the area of missile defense." There are many important ways to achieve those goals that are currently at risk in the worsening climate of U.S.-Russian relations, particularly if the President chooses to abrogate the ABM Treaty either in word or in deed. Cooperation and reassurance are important byproducts of our nonproliferation programs in Russia that have yielded major dividends in preventing the loss of weapons and materials of mass destruction to those who would be our enemies. Greater emphasis, not less, is needed for such programs. In addition, we have made important confidence-building progress in cooperative approaches regarding early warning of missile attacks through the establishment of a data center and research being conducted on the Russian American Observation Satellite program. I am deeply concerned that such confidence-building programs will be at risk should confrontational relations with Russia continue to increase. If that occurs, the ultimate loser could be ourselves in a less secure world of our own making.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Tuesday, May 8, 2001, the Federal debt stood at \$5,647,881,033,420.09, five trillion, six hundred forty-seven billion, eight hundred eighty-one million, thirty-three thousand, four hundred twenty dollars and nine cents.

One year ago, May 8, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,662,693,000,000, five

trillion, six hundred sixty-two billion, six hundred ninety-three million.

Five years ago, May 8, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$5,094,597,000,000, five trillion, ninety-four billion, five hundred ninety-seven million.

Ten years ago, May 8, 1991, the Federal debt stood at \$3,440,039,000,000, three trillion, four hundred forty billion, thirty-nine million.

Fifteen years ago, May 8, 1986, the Federal debt stood at \$2,015,014,000,000, two trillion, fifteen billion, fourteen million, which reflects a debt increase of more than \$3.5 trillion, \$3,632,867,033,420.09, three trillion, six hundred thirty-two billion, eight hundred sixty-seven million, thirty-three thousand, four hundred twenty dollars and nine cents during the past 15 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

NATIONAL PET WEEK

• Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I often rise on the floor of the Senate and put on my "veterinarian hat" when talking about food safety, animal science or even small business issues. Today, I rise to recognize this week as National Pet Week and say a brief word about the role of pets in our lives. Events taking place all over the Nation this week are designed to remind us of the value of pets.

Sponsored by several leading veterinary organizations, principally the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), National Pet Week gives those of us in the animal health field an opportunity to celebrate the bond between pets and their owners and address the importance of responsible pet ownership. Pets are important members of over half the households in America. They can be many different things to many different people. A pet can be a hunting companion, someone to play catch with, something warm to curl up on your lap, an additional ranch hand, a guide, a guardian, or a child's best friend. Indeed, companionship is often the most important aspect in the relationship between pet and owner.

In the past 25 years, we have come to accept the human-animal bond as an important force. We understand that the bond exists, but it is hard to define. The AVMA gives us this definition:

The human-animal bond is a mutually beneficial and dynamic relationship between people and animals that is influenced by behaviors that are essential to the health and well-being of both. This includes but is not limited to, emotional, psychological and physical interaction of people, animals and the environment.

The fact is, the addition of a pet to someone's life can do amazing things. Studies have shown that the recovery time and survival rate of people with serious illness can be improved when a pet is part of the equation. The benefits of pets to the blind and disabled are also well known. All over the

world, dogs are trained to complete a variety of tasks to assist the disabled in living their lives. Programs to train dogs and place them with disabled owners thrive in every State. The work that they do and the good that results should not go unnoticed. These organizations build new bridges using the human-animal bond formula and enrich lives in so many ways.

Connections between pets and children are well known. Pets can help teach children responsibility, respect and compassion. They can add to a child's growth and development in so many ways. Most of us can certainly remember our first family pet with fond memories. The other part of National Pet Week is pet health. It is certainly true that a healthy pet is a happy pet. Regular veterinarian visits are indeed important and are part of the responsibility as an owner and as a family member. Nutritional care, adequate exercise and proper attention to general health concerns are all necessary in the ownership of a pet and can go a long way in increasing the quality of an animal's life.

So I would like to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing National Pet Week, and if you have a pet at home, give it an extra hug, a pat on the head or a good scratch in that favorite spot when you get home. •

NATIONAL DANCE INSTITUTE IN NEW MEXICO

• Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to commend a friend, Val Diker, for her unflagging efforts in support of the National Dance Institute in New Mexico. As many of my colleagues know, the NDI was founded by the renowned dancer, Jacques d'Amboise, to introduce school children to dance. His dream has been extremely successful in New Mexico in the eight years since it was started here. This year alone there are 2400 students in 32 schools involved in the program.

This weekend, five hundred of these students will appear on the stage of the newly-refurbished, historic Lensic Theatre to honor the program and Val Diker, the Founding Chairman. Making our state her "second home," Val is a leading contributor with her time, talent and treasure to institutions New Mexicans love. Her leadership in NDI, however, is particularly appreciated by all who value those who give and do so much to help children. Val has made a difference in lives of children she'll never see, and for that she deserves our heartfelt thanks. She, and this wonderful institute, certainly have mine. •

IN RECOGNITION OF JOE B. MURRAY

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I recently received a copy of *To Be as Brave*, a collection of memoirs of Joe B. "Bob" Murray. This fine book tells the story of a great American, who evolved from an East Texas farm boy

into a valiant soldier who defended his nation during World War II. Bob grew up in Spring Hill, Texas, and shortly after his high school graduation in 1944, he left Texas for Europe and the heart of World War II. Although he was trained for combat against the Japanese in the Pacific, Bob was sent to the Alsace region of France to join a regiment that had been devastated by Hitler's counteroffensive.

Bob proudly served in B Company of the 157th Infantry Regiment of the 45th Division. His regiment was given the herculean task of breaching the Siegfried Line and entering Germany. The young men succeeded beyond anyone's expectations by breaking the Siegfried Line in less than a week, when the high command predicted that it could take up to three months. After entering Germany, his regiment continued to move eastward to protect General Patton's right flank by clearing the territory of enemy troops. The division was so successful that General Patton lauded them as "one of the best, if not the best, division in the history of American arms."

The 45th Division later entered Dachau and liberated tens of thousands of prisoners in several concentration camps. Bob was proud to bring hope and freedom to thousands of captives. Bob's regiment was then assigned the often difficult task of maintaining law and order in Munich, as the war was brought to an end.

After World War II, Bob continued to demonstrate his patriotism by enlisting as a paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division during the Korean War. He later had a successful career as an oil and gas consultant in my home state of New Mexico. Bob is married to his childhood sweetheart, Dulcia, and last year, they celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

To Be as Brave is an excellent book and it celebrates the life of an outstanding patriotic American, Mr. Joe B. Murray. I thank Joe for my copy of his book and salute his exceptional service to our Nation.●

IN HONOR OF GLADYS AND ABRAHAM BARRON

● Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, it is a special honor for me today to ask all of my colleagues in the United States Senate to join me in commemorating the 60th Wedding Anniversary on April 3, 2001 and the Bat- and Bar-Mitzvah on May 18, 2001 of Gladys and Abraham Barron of Centerville, Massachusetts.

Gladys, born in Roxbury, Massachusetts, of immigrant parents on May 19, 1921, spent her youth in Revere, MA, and graduated from Revere High School. When she was 20, she married Abraham Barron on April 3, 1941.

Abraham had emigrated from Kiev, Russia when he was two-years old and settled in Chelsea with his mother. He graduated from Chelsea High School and began to learn the welder's trade. Following his marriage to Gladys in

1941, his father-in law introduced him to the hat-maker's trade. Abe became so proficient and so gifted in the art of fashioning caps and hats that his colleagues bestowed on him the sobriquet "Golden Hands."

Eventually, Abe began his own business while Gladys raised their two children, Melanie and Jeffrey. Gladys' love for painting inspired her to enroll in art courses and indeed both she and Abe could be called life-long students not only of the arts but also of their Jewish heritage. Gladys was a tireless worker for Hadassah while Abe was a dedicated member of the synagogue. Their respect for others led them to become dedicated to the civil rights movement and to the cause of Israel.

On May 18, 2001 they will at long last celebrate their Bat and Bar Mitzvah, Gladys for the first time and Abe to renew his commitment to his religion. The Bar Mitzvah ceremony; such an essential part of Jewish life is a distinct honor and Abe and Gladys are to be commended for their continued dedication to the Jewish faith throughout their lives. Ordinarily, a rite of passage for young Jewish children about to enter their teens, the ceremony has been adapted so that Gladys and Abe can celebrate that which was denied them so long ago.

It is a true honor to see Abe and Gladys reach this momentous day. Congratulations to you Abe, Gladys and your family as you share in this meaningful and important milestone in your lives.●

GOODBYE TO ARCHBISHOP FRANCIS T. HURLEY

● Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to honor someone who has done so much good for his adopted State, it makes any politician blush with envy at his list of accomplishments. I speak of Roman Catholic Archbishop Francis T. Hurley, who is retiring on May 16, 2001 as the Archbishop of Anchorage, after a 25-year career as head of the Roman Catholic Church in Alaska.

It is a great honor to speak about the Archbishop. I first met the Reverend Hurley in late winter of 1970. I and my family were living in Juneau, the capital of Alaska, serving as Alaska State Commissioner of Commerce and Economic Development, and attending church at the Cathedral of the Nativity, built on the hillside overlooking downtown Juneau and the lovely Gastineau Channel. Reverend Hurley had just been named in February by Pope Paul VI as the Bishop of Juneau. He arrived in town on March 20, 1970.

From his first sermon delivered in America's smallest Catholic Cathedral, it was clear of his admiration for Alaska and of his love for and concern for the physical and spiritual well-being of the people of Alaska—not just the 4,000 Catholics of the Diocese of Juneau in the Panhandle of my State—or 6 years later, of the tens of thousands of

Catholics who live in all of the 49th State, but of all Alaskans regardless of race or creed who live and work and learn and play in the far north.

While Bishop of Juneau, he quickly founded Catholic Community Services to help the poor of the Panhandle. He founded St. Ann's Nursing Home in Juneau to provide health care for the elderly, and centers for senior citizens in Juneau, Ketchikan and Tenakee Springs to help the elderly deal with the daily concerns of aging. He also began the "Trays on Sleighs" program to provide hot meals to senior citizens, Alaska's version of the national Meals on Wheels program.

In 1970, after serving on President Richard Nixon's National Advisory Commission on Minority Enterprise, the Bishop, with a group of local Juneau residents, formed the Alaska Housing Development Corp. to foster low-income housing in the region, a desperate need to this day in Alaska.

On May 4, 1976, the Bishop was named the second Archbishop of Anchorage. Under his leadership for the past 25 years, Catholic Social Services has established a day care center for the handicapped, built the Brother Francis Shelter in Anchorage to care for the more than 1,000 homeless who used to live and seek food in the subfreezing winter temperatures on the streets of Alaska's largest city. He helped develop Clare House, a shelter for women and children; McAuley Manor, a home for young women; and also helped found Covenant House of Anchorage.

In both sectarian and religious ways he has excelled in improving education both in Alaska and nationwide. The Archbishop, a native of San Francisco, Calif., was born on Jan. 12, 1927. He received his education in San Francisco and at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park, Calif. After being ordained to the priesthood on June 16, 1951, he served as assistant pastor in a San Francisco parish and worked as a teacher at Serra High School in San Mateo, Calif. He undertook his graduate studies in sociology from The Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C. and later at the University of California in Berkeley.

In 1957, he was assigned to the national coordinating office for the Catholic Bishops of the United States, now known as the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. From 1957 to 1970 he served as Associate General Secretary of the conference and worked long hours to help craft the national Elementary and Secondary Education Act during the Presidency of Lyndon Johnson, to this day the landmark legislation governing federal funding for elementary and secondary education in America.

Given his knowledge of education it was only natural for him to serve on the board of trustees of Alaska Pacific University, starting in 1977, and to have worked to establish the Cardinal Newman Chair of Catholic Theology at the Anchorage campus of the Methodist institution.