

Zecchino served his orthopedic and fracture residency at Rhode Island Hospital, which he completed in 1940. Subsequently, Dr. Zecchino continued his medical training as a fellow at Harvard Medical School and as a resident at Boston's Children Hospital and Mass General until entering the United States Army in 1942. Dr. Zecchino served the United States in the China Burma-India Theatre as Chief of Orthopedic Surgery until his discharge as Lieutenant Colonel in 1946.

Upon completion of his military service, Dr. Zecchino returned to Rhode Island where he joined the orthopedic staff at Rhode Island Hospital and Miriam Hospital and the faculty of Brown Medical School. During his illustrious career, Dr. Zecchino also served as Chief of Orthopedics at the Veterans Hospital, worked and taught at Project Hope medical schools in Columbia, Tunisia and Sri Lanka, and was a member of the Tufts Medical School faculty.

Dr. Zecchino has authored and co-authored numerous articles in medical journals and textbooks. He was critically important in the development of knee prosthesis and its instrumentation, and invented the double-edged bone cutting "Z" blade bone saw. After such a long and distinguished career, it is especially noteworthy that Dr. Zecchino founded an orthopedic clinic for people in need after his retirement in 1982.

Throughout his medical career, Dr. Zecchino has benefited from the love, compassion and commitment of his wife, Julia, who was in a nurse-training program when they met. Together, Dr. and Mrs. Zecchino have improved the lives of thousands of people and with the dedication of the Julia and Vincent Zecchino Pavilion, future generations will continue to benefit from the Zecchino's goodwill, dedication and tireless effort to improve the world around them.●

IN RECOGNITION OF HARTFORD MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 85TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to recognize the members of the Hartford Memorial Baptist Church for 85 years of dedication and service to the Detroit community.

Since 1917, Hartford Memorial Baptist Church has established an environment of strength within the parish walls as well as throughout the surrounding community. Through commitment to social change, they welcomed the nonconformist insights of W.E.B. DuBois and Paul Robeson during the Civil Rights Movement and continue to make significant contributions to social development through extensive community outreach programs.

The establishment of the Hartford Agape House is one of their current initiatives dedicated toward an urban mission that provides needed social

services to the local community. Widely respected among the Michigan faith-based organizations, their exemplary programs take on the issues of poverty through hunger initiatives and free clothing; medical necessities through a public health consortium, Alcoholics Anonymous, and AIDS awareness; as well as educational assistance that provides both college preparation and scholarship programs.

I take great pride in recognizing the efforts of the Hartford Memorial Baptist Church throughout their 85-year history in the Detroit community. Their ministry attends to the entire person: mind, body and soul. I know my Senate colleagues will join me in saluting their contributions to society and wish them continued success in the future.●

SPINA BIFIDA AWARENESS MONTH

● Mrs. HUTCHISON. I rise today to let my colleagues know that October is National Spina Bifida Awareness Month and to pay tribute to the more than 70,000 Americans—and their family members—who are currently affected by spina bifida—the Nation's most common, permanently disabling birth defect. The Spina Bifida Association of America—SBAA—an organization that has helped people with spina bifida and their families for nearly 30 years, works every day—not just in the month of October—to prevent and reduce suffering from this devastating birth defect.

The SBAA was founded in 1973 to address the needs of the individuals and families affected by and is currently the only national organization solely dedicated to advocating on behalf of the spina bifida community. As part of its service through 60 chapters in more than 100 communities across the country, the SBAA puts expecting parents in touch with families who have a child with spina bifida. These families answer questions and concerns and help guide expecting parents. The SBAA then works to provide lifelong support and assistance for affected children and their families.

Together the SBAA and the Spina Bifida Association of Texas work tirelessly to help families meet the challenges and enjoy the rewards of raising their child. I would like to acknowledge and thank SBAA and the Spina Bifida Association of Texas for all that they have done for the families affected by this birth defect, especially those living in my State.

Spina bifida is a neural tube defect that occurs when the central nervous system does not properly close during the early stages of pregnancy. Spina bifida affects more than 4,000 pregnancies each year, with more than half ending tragically in abortion. There are three different forms of spina bifida with the most severe being myelomeningocele spina bifida, which causes nerve damage and severe disabilities. This severe form of spina

bifida is diagnosed in 96 percent of children born with this condition. Between 70 to 90 percent of the children born with spina bifida are at risk of mental retardation when spinal fluid collects around the brain.

We must do more to ensure a high quality of life for people with spina bifida so more families choose the blessing and joy of having a child with this condition. Fortunately, spina bifida is no longer the death sentence it once was and now people born with spina bifida will likely have a normal or near normal life expectancy. The challenge now is to ensure that these individuals have the highest quality of life possible.

Today, approximately 90 percent of all babies diagnosed with this birth defect live into adulthood, approximately 80 percent have normal IQs, and approximately 75 percent participate in sports and other recreational activities. With proper medical care, people who suffer from spina bifida can lead full and productive lives. However, they must learn how to move around using braces, crutches, or wheelchairs, and how to function independently. They also must be careful to avoid a host of secondary health problems ranging from depression and learning disabilities to skin problems and latex allergies.

The Spina Bifida Association of Texas has four chapters in San Antonio, Austin, Dallas, and Houston. These chapters serve the individuals and their families with spina bifida in the great state of Texas through a number of programs and services including providing emergency assistance; running a summer camp for children and a weekend retreat for adults; scholarships; and medical seminars. In addition, the Texas Scottish Rite Hospital is the largest single-site interdisciplinary center for the treatment of spina bifida in the United States and provides ongoing treatment for more than 13,000 children annually, without charge.

During the month of October, the SBAA and its chapters make a special push to increase public awareness about spina bifida and teach prospective parents about prevention. Simply by taking a daily dose of the B vitamin, folic acid, found in most multivitamins, women of child-bearing age have the power to reduce the incidence of spina bifida by up to 75 percent. That such a simple change in habit can have such a profound effect should leave no question as to the importance of awareness and the impact of prevention.

As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I am pleased that we provided \$2 million in much-needed funding to establish a National Spina Bifida Program at the National Center for Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities—NCBDDD—at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention—CDC—to ensure that those individuals living with spina bifida can live active, productive, and meaningful lives. In

addition, I am proud that we in the Senate recently passed by unanimous consent the Birth Defects and Developmental Disabilities Prevention Act of 2002, which takes many critical steps that will work to prevent spina bifida and to improve quality of life for individuals and families affected by this terrible birth defect. I am hopeful that the House will act shortly to pass the measure so it can be sent to the President for his signature.

I again wish to thank the SBAA and its chapters for all of their hard work to prevent and reduce suffering from this birth defect and for their commitment to improve the lives of those 70,000 individuals living with spina bifida throughout our Nation. I wish the Spina Bifida Association of America the best of luck in its future endeavors.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:34 a.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 bills and joint resolution, each without amendment:

S. 1010. An act to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project in the State of North Carolina.

S. 1226. An act to require the display of the POW/MIA flag at the World War II memorial, the Korean War Veterans Memorial, and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

S. 1843. An act to extend certain hydroelectric licenses in the State of Alaska.

S. 1907. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain land to the city of Haines, Oregon.

S. 1946. An act to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Old Spanish Trail as a National Historic Trail.

S. 2239. An act to amend the National Housing Act to simplify the downpayment requirements for FHA mortgage insurance for single family homebuyers.

S. 2712. An act to authorize economic and democratic development assistance for Afghanistan and to authorize military assistance for Afghanistan and certain other foreign countries.

S. 3044. An act to authorize the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency of the District of Columbia to provide for the interstate supervision of offenders on parole, probation, and supervised release.

S. 3156. An act to provide a grant for the construction of a new community center in St. Paul, Minnesota, in honor of the late Senator Paul Wellstone and his beloved wife, Sheila.

S.J. Res. 53. A joint resolution relative to the convening of the first session of the One Hundred Eighth Congress.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 628. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 440 South Orange Blossom Trail in Orlando, Florida, as the "Arthur 'Pappy' Kennedy Post Office".

H.R. 629. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1601-1 Main Street in Jacksonville, Florida, as the "Eddie Mae Steward Post Office".

H.R. 2458. An act to enhance the management and promotion of electronic Government services and processes by establishing a Federal Chief Information Officer within the Office of Management and Budget, and by establishing a broad framework of measures that require using Internet-based information technology to enhance citizen access to Government information and services, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3429. An act to direct the Secretary of Transportation to make grants for security improvements to over-the-road bus operations, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3747. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the site commonly known as Eagledale Ferry Dock at Taylor Avenue in the State of Washington for potential inclusion in the National Park System.

H.R. 3775. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1502 East Kiest Boulevard in Dallas, Texas, as the "Dr. Caesar A.W. Clark, Sr. Post Office Building".

H.R. 3955. An act to designate certain National Forest System lands in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4750. An act to designate certain lands in the State of California as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5097. An act to adjust the boundaries of the Salt River Bay National Park and Ecological Preserve located in St. Croix, Virgin Islands.

H.R. 5280. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2001 East Willard Street in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, as the "Robert A. Borski Post Office Building".

H.R. 5334. An act to ensure that a public safety officer who suffers a fatal heart attack or stroke while on duty shall be presumed to have died in the line of duty for purposes of public safety officer survivor benefits.

H.R. 5436. An act to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project in the State of Oregon.

H.R. 5495. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 115 West Pine Street in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, as the "Major Henry A. Commiskey, Sr. Post Office Building".

H.R. 5499. An act to reauthorize the HOPE VI program for revitalization of severely distressed public housing, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5504. An act to provide for the improvement of the safety of child restraints in passenger motor vehicles, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5512. An act to provide for an adjustment of the boundaries of Mount Rainier National Park, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5513. An act to provide for a land exchange in the State of Arizona between the Secretary of Agriculture and Yavapai Ranch Limited Partnership and a land exchange in the State of Colorado to acquire a private inholding in the San Isabel National Forest, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5586. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 141 Erie Street in Linesville, Pennsylvania, as the "James R. Merry Post Office Building".

H.R. 5604. An act to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at 46 East Ohio Street in Indianapolis, Indiana, as the "Birch Bayh Federal Building and United States Courthouse".

H.R. 5609. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 600 East 1st Street in Rome, Georgia, as the "Martha Berry Post Office".

H.R. 5611. An act to designate the Federal building located at 324 Twenty-Fifth Street in Ogden, Utah, as the "James V. Hansen Federal Building".

H.R. 5716. An act to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Public Health Service Act to extend the mental health benefits parity provisions for an additional year.

H.R. 5728. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide fairness in tax collection procedures and improved administrative efficiency and confidentiality and to reform its penalty and interest provisions.

H.R. 5738. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to special diabetes programs for Type I diabetes and Indians.

H.J. Res. 117. A joint resolution approving the location of the commemorative work in the District of Columbia honoring former President John Adams.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 466. Concurrent resolution recognizing the significance of bread in American history, culture, and daily diet.

H. Con. Res. 499. Concurrent resolution honoring George Rogers Clark.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 333) to amend title 11, United States Code, and for other purposes, with an amendment.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4628) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2003 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill, with amendments:

S. 990. An act to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to improve the provisions relating to wildlife conservation and restoration programs, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bill, with an amendment:

S. 2017. An act to amend the Indian Financing Act of 1974 to improve the effectiveness of the Indian loan guarantee and insurance program.

The message also announced that the House passed the following bill, with amendments:

S. 2237. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify and improve authorities relating to compensation and pension benefits, education, benefits, housing benefits, and other benefits for veterans, to improve the administration of benefits for veterans, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 1070. An act to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to carry out projects and conduct research for remediation of sediment