

Family Literacy, NCFL, a non-profit organization located in Louisville, KY, recognized world-wide for their effectiveness and innovativeness in teaching children and adults to read. The NCFL, founded in 1989, has worked diligently year after year in an attempt to bring about a positive change in the level of family literacy rates. This group has been soulfully dedicated to placing family literacy on the national agenda and has been very successful through their efforts. The NCFL rightly understands that to live without an education is to live without a future.

Sharon Darling got her start in education 35 years ago in the basement of the Ninth & O Baptist Church. The basement of this Baptist Church is where she first began to teach illiterate adults to read. It was also the first time she began to realize that she could make a difference in people's lives. She recognized that without access to knowledge, these people would never possess the ability to fight their way out of poverty or empower themselves with the gift of rational thought. If they cannot read, no amount of money or Federal assistance will help.

Throughout her career in education, Sharon has spent time as a teacher, administrator, and educational entrepreneur, constantly working to develop new and improved strategies for teaching children and adults how to read and how to interpret what they read. She has served as an advisor on issues dealing with education to governors, policy makers, business leaders, and foundations across the country. She has been and remains an invaluable resource to the educational community.

The National Humanities Medal will not be the first time Sharon has been recognized for her work. She received the 2000 Razor Walker Award from the University of North Carolina for her contributions to the lives of children and youth; the Woman Distinction Award from Birmingham Southern University in 1999; the Albert Schweitzer Prize for Humanitarianism from Johns Hopkins University in 1998; the Charles A. Dana Award for Pioneering Achievement in education in 1996; and the Harold W. McGraw Award for Outstanding Educator in 1993. She has also received several honorary doctorate degrees for her contributions to education and has been featured on the Arts & Entertainment television network's series, "Biography." Her latest accolade places her in the company of such great men and women as Stephen Ambrose, Ken Burns, and Toni Morrison. The National Humanities Medal is the Federal Government's highest honor recognizing achievement in the humanities.

Sharon Darling has been a shining star for the literacy movement throughout her career as an educator, guiding the unfortunate into a land of opportunity. I congratulate Ms. Darling for this much deserved distinction and thank her for striving to make the

world a better place to live and to learn.●

TRIBUTE TO MICHIGAN'S OLYMPIANS

● Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise to commend the residents of the State of Michigan who participated in the recently concluded 2002 Winter Olympics.

"Swifter! Higher! Stronger!" That's the Olympic motto.

I am proud to say that at least 13 athletes who call or have called Michigan their home followed that motto and competed with the world's best in this year's Winter Olympics. Among them was Naomi Lang, the first Native American to compete in the history of the Winter Olympics and who placed 11th in ice dancing.

Athletes included members of the men's Silver Medal hockey team: Chris Chelios, of Detroit; Mike Modano, of Livonia; Brian Rafalski, of Dearborn, Brian Rolston, of Flint; Doug Weight, of Warren, and Mike York, of Waterford.

Other athletes from Michigan were: Women's hockey team Silver Medalists Shelley Looney, of Brownstown Township and Angela Ruggiero, of Harper's Woods; Mark Grimmette, of Muskegon, and Chris Thorpe, of Marquette, who won the Silver and Bronze medals respectively in the men's luge doubles; Jean Racine, of Waterford, who placed 5th in the women's bobsled, and Todd Eldredge, of Lake Angelus, who placed sixth in men's singles figure skating.

I am so proud of all of them!

Besides these wonderful athletes, I am pleased to say that another 15 Olympic competitors and one coach came from the U.S. Olympic Education Center based at Northern Michigan University in Marquette.

These athletes didn't just do Michigan proud, or the Nation proud; they made the whole world of amateur athletics proud.

They, and all the great athletes who participated, gave us a chance to share together in another motto of the Winter Olympics, "Celebrating Humanity."

It was impossible to watch these games without marveling at all the hard work and dedication these young people brought to the games.

So, again, let me congratulate the athletes from Michigan as well as the athletes from across our Nation and around the world who gave us a chance to watch the best compete against each other and together celebrate the spirit of humanity, the spirit of the Olympics.●

TRIBUTE TO MR. CLIFFORD C. LAPLANTE

● Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American who has served his country well. For over five decades, Cliff LaPlante has dedicated himself to supporting the defense needs of the Nation. Born in

upstate New York, Cliff entered the service of his country as an Air Force officer during the Korean War. During his 20 years of Air Force service, Cliff specialized in acquisition matters where he helped ensure that our troops were provided with the best equipment our industrial base could provide.

Cliff became well known to this body long before leaving the Air Force in his role as a legislative liaison officer to Capitol Hill. He truly distinguished himself as a trusted and admired representative of the Air Force.

Selected to be a full Colonel in 1970, Cliff decided to forgo this much deserved promotion and instead served for eight years as the Boeing Company's first full-time liaison representative to Capitol.

In 1979, Cliff joined the General Electric Company where he has remained for the past 23 years helping General Electric to "Bring Good Things to Life."

Now, after more than 50 years of service, Cliff is retiring from General Electric, to begin yet another chapter in his life. Together with his wife, Cecilia, Cliff has established a charitable foundation called "Children Come First." This foundation is dedicated to helping underprivileged children. In the same spirit that has exemplified all of Cliff's past undertakings, he will devote much of his time lending a helping hand to kids to ensure they have a chance filled with hope for tomorrow.

I will miss this jaunty man with the fast walk and warm, charming personality. Along with all my colleagues who have enjoyed his friendship over the years, I wish him well in his latest "retirement" and the best of luck with his "Children Come First" Foundation.●

IN RECOGNITION OF MAYOR DOUGLAS H. PALMER

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Mayor Douglas Palmer of Trenton, NJ who is being honored by the Mercer County Chamber of Commerce as its Citizen of the Year.

Mayor Palmer has achieved a long list of accomplishments since becoming the mayor of his hometown. Under Mayor Palmer's leadership, tremendous strides have been made in the Trenton area. He has overseen the construction and rehabilitation of hundreds of new homes for working families and created numerous economic development projects that have led to the lowest unemployment rate in a decade.

Some of Mayor Palmer's most impressive achievements include the work he has done for the children of Trenton. He established the "Trenton Loves Children" program, representing the city's first comprehensive program for children that ensures preschoolers will receive free immunizations against childhood diseases. He also brought the

country's first federally funded Weed and Seed anti-drug program to Trenton.

In light of Mayor Palmer's achievements as mayor of Trenton, he serves as an exemplar of the positive goals that can be achieved by a mayor who is a tireless advocate for his community.●

TRIBUTE TO DESIGNER TICKETS & MORE

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a very special teacher and group of students from Estill County High School. Yesterday in Frankfort, Connie Witt and her students received a Springboard Award and a \$2,000 grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission. Ms. Witt and her students were recognized for their success running Designer Tickets & More, a school-based printing business, which prints designs on everything from bumper stickers to ball caps.

Six years ago, Connie Witt, who has taught business classes at Estill County High School for nine years, received free ticket-making software in the mail. Ms. Witt, an entrepreneur at heart, thought it would be a shame to let this software go to waste, so she decided that, with the help of a few students, she could be in charge of printing tickets for the district basketball tournament. Soon, Ms. Witt and her student staff realized the value of their work and were suddenly printing designs on business cards, buttons, mousepads, and mugs. Today, the business known as Designer Tickets & More serves more than 300 customers in Estill County. They have been lauded by their customers as efficient, creative, and affordable. The students redirect their profits back into the business as an insurance policy for progressive thinking.

Students who wish to participate in this business venture must submit resumes and go through an interview process just as if they were applying for a job in my office. From among the applicants, Ms. Witt chooses chief executive officers, department heads, and employees. The students are held responsible for clocking in and out and must inform their boss if they will be unable to come to work due to sickness or vacation. Up to 30 students are in charge of running the business each semester. They are required to make sales calls, fill out order forms, design creative products, and prepare invoices. I applaud Ms. Witt for the phenomenal job she has done creating an educational atmosphere where students can learn not only about business basics such as inventory and sales but also life-skills such as leadership and responsibility.

I ask that my fellow colleagues join me in congratulating Designer Tickets & More on receiving a Springboard award and for their hard work and dedication. I believe Ms. Witt has discovered an effective and educational way to teach Kentucky's future busi-

ness leaders the importance of teamwork, commitment, and responsibility.●

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to honor The Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. At the forthcoming 132nd Mercer County Chamber of Commerce annual awards dinner, the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital will be recognized with the Mercer County Chamber of Commerce's Distinguished Corporation of the Year Award for its outstanding efforts in providing support for the postal workers facing the potential exposure to anthrax.

As our nation's Capitol, Florida, and the New York/New Jersey Area faced the fallout of anthrax laced letters, the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital did its part to help our nation. After it came to light on October 13th that the anthrax-tainted letter sent to the NBC offices was processed at the United States Post Office on Route 130 in Hamilton, the Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital stepped forward to meet the needs of the community. Under the dynamic leadership of Christy Stephenson, the hospital assessed the potential need for Cipro within the community and took steps to secure the amount of Cipro the situation required.

Further, understanding the urgent need for its services, the hospital accommodated its schedule to treat the patients from the anthrax exposure area while continuing to keep its appointments with regular clients.

As an exemplary corporate citizen of the Mercer County community, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital's efforts during this time of crisis were of life saving importance to over sixteen hundred individuals. I am proud to know that we have such fine institutions looking after the healthcare of New Jersey residents.●

PERIODIC REPORT ON THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO NATIONAL UNION FOR THE TOTAL INDEPENDENCE OF ANGOLA (UNIT) FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 26, 2001 THROUGH MARCH 25, 2002—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 77.

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit here-

with a 6-month periodic report prepared by my Administration on the national emergency with respect to the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) that was declared in Executive Order 12865 of September 26, 1993.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 19, 2002.

THE 2002 TRADE POLICY AGENDA AND 2001 ANNUAL REPORT ON THE TRADE AGREEMENTS PROGRAM—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 78.

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

To the Congress of the United States:

As required by section 163 of the Trade Act of 1974, as amended (19 U.S.C. 2213), I transmit herewith the 2002 Trade Policy Agenda and 2001 Annual Report on the Trade Agreements Program, as prepared by my Administration as of March 1, 2002.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 19, 2002.

MEASURE HELD AT THE DESK

The following resolution was ordered held at the desk by unanimous consent:

S. Res. 227. A resolution to clarify the rules regarding pro bono legal services by Senators.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-5784. A communication from the Regulations Officer of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Motor Carrier Identification Report" ((RIN2126-AA57)(2002-0002)) received on March 12, 2002; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5785. A communication from the Chief of Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Drawbridge Regulations: Saugatuck River, CT" ((RIN2115-AE47)(2002-0025)) received on March 14, 2002; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5786. A communication from the Chief of Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Drawbridge Regulations; Harlem River, NY" ((RIN2115-AE47)(2002-0024)) received on March 14, 2002; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5787. A communication from the Chief of Regulations and Administrative Law, United States Coast Guard, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Drawbridge Regulations; Three Mile Creek, Alabama" ((RIN2115-AE47)(2002-0023)) received