

thousands of hours of effort representing millions of dollars of volunteer service in support of ESGR programs, its services, and the men and women of our nation's Reserve forces.

The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve is smart government in action. The small ESGR staff in Arlington, VA under the direction of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs provides guidance and support to a network of 4,200 volunteer business, civic, and community leaders.

ESGR educates employers on their rights and obligations under the law and recognize employers who actively support employee participation in the Guard and Reserve. ESGR also educates members of the National Guard and Reserve in regards to their rights and responsibilities to the value of their employers support. Committees can be found in all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Guam.

With the end of the cold war, the Reserve components have been called with increasing frequency. During the Gulf War in 1990–1991, more than 250,000 Reserve component members were called to active duty to support military operations in the Persian Gulf. Since the start of Operation Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, more than 80,000 National Guard and Reserve troops have been activated and are playing a critical role.

Thousands of employers, local and State government officials, Active and Reserve component leaders, and military members from across the Nation and around the world request ESGR's employer support expertise on a daily basis. When Guardsmen and Reservists return home following mobilization, ESGR committee members are there to provide information and support services to those in need.

The U.S. Congress passed the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, USERRA, of 1994, and updated it in 1996. This law completely revised the Veterans Reemployment Rights Act of 1940. USERRA articulates the rights and responsibilities of Guard and Reserve members with regard to job protection and explains employer rights under Federal law. ESGR helps employers and Reservists understand this law and helps them informally resolve any employment conflicts that may arise.

Again, I want to congratulate ESGR and its 54 ESGR committees on their 30 years of service and commend this network of over 4,200 volunteer patriots for their time and talent. They are serving their country and maintaining the much needed support of our employers and communities for the Guard and Reserve. Through the efforts of agencies like ESGR, we can call on our Reserve forces to answer the Nation's call without the fear of job loss.

Thank you Madam President, and thank you ESGR.●

WE THE PEOPLE COMPETITION

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Madam President, I want to recognize the 20 students of Wilson High School in Florence, SC, who will be visiting the Capitol in early May to compete in the national finals of the "We The People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" program. Right now the students are conducting research and preparing for the contest, which will test their knowledge of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights against 1,200 students from across the country. They have earned the trip by showing they were the best of the best in a statewide contest in February.

Obviously, I hope my fellow South Carolinians win it all, but whatever happens, we are all winners in this country. When young people, on their own, want to understand the fundamental principles and values of our democracy, they are more likely to vote. They are more likely to participate in political life. They are more likely to take serious the civic duties that this nation needs of our citizens in the new century.

I wish the very best to the Wilson Tigers: Jessica Anderson, Whitney Benjamin, Carol Chen, Cameron Coker, Katherine Collar, Joshua Croteau, Matthew Daniels, Leon Dock, Cara Dowling, Christine Gonzales, Latrese McElveen, Matthew Meggs, Philip Miller, Virginia Munson, Ashley Neel, Dacey Riley, Elinor Rooks, Gregory Schuetz, Priscilla Suggs, and Jingtian Yu.●

TRIBUTE TO RHONA CHARBONNEAU

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute to Rhona Charbonneau, of Hudson, NH. Charbonneau has been named the Greater Hudson Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year for her outstanding devotion and positive influence to the community.

I commend her active role in both the local and State governments. By serving as Town Selectman, and as Selectmen's Representative to the planning Board, Charbonneau has been able to serve her community in many capacities. Aside from these positions, she currently serves as a member of the Board for the Salvation Army as well as the Advisory Board to the Community Council. Even more eager to serve the community of Hudson, she also works as a representative on the State level, serving on the Hillsborough County Board of Commissioners and the New Hampshire Finance Authority.

Aside from serving in advisory capacities for numerous organizations and boards, Charbonneau has worked hard to improve the Lion's Hall. Under her request, the Department of Corrections sent a community service group to paint and do repairs, leaving the Lion's Hall with a fresh face. Because of her creative thinking, other departments

came together to make considerable improvements to the facility.

Rhona Charbonneau has set a positive example for not only the community of Hudson, but for the entire Granite State. By consistently working to improve her community she has shown a tremendous dedication to the community in which she and her family have lived for more than 50 years. She has brought high profile political figures to the town, whereby she allowed a forum for candidates to share their beliefs as well as bringing the spotlight to the ever growing town of Hudson. I applaud her commitment and congratulate her on being named this year's Citizen of the Year. It is truly an honor to represent her in the U.S. Senate.●

THE 110TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DAILY CARDINAL

● Mr. KOHL. Madam President, I am proud to rise today to honor the Daily Cardinal, one of the student newspapers at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, on this the occasion of its 110th anniversary. For 110 years, Cardinal reporters, photographers, and editors have educated and entertained their peers. As one of the nation's oldest student-run papers, it is truly a treasure of the State and its university.

Since the newspaper's establishment in 1892 by a University of Wisconsin-Madison student, thousands of young journalists have covered some of the most important issues and events facing the university, the community, and the country. Cardinal contributors have simultaneously developed strong journalistic skills and informed their community by covering such important events as the United States' declaration of war in 1941 to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and most recently, the events and aftermath of September 11. Furthermore, the staffs of the Cardinal have served their journalistic role as public watchdog throughout its history, and have undoubtedly made their university, community, and State better for it.

As an alumni of the University of Wisconsin, it is my great honor to congratulate the Daily Cardinal for 110 years of dedicated and quality student journalism, and I wish them all the best as they extend this tradition.●

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FRANKLIN ELECTRIC PLANT BOARD

● Mr. BUNNING. Madam President, today I rise to congratulate the Franklin Electric Plant Board for winning the Public Power Association's 2001 Electric Utility Safety Award for safe operating practices. The Franklin Plant Board earned this top honor in the category for utilities with 25,000 worker-hours of annual worker exposure.

The Franklin Plant was one of more than 200 utilities to enter the contest,

which has been held annually for the last 42 years. The various entrants were placed into separate categories based on their size and were judged according to their 2001 incident rate. This rate is based on the number of worker-related reportable injuries or illnesses and the number of worker-hours during 2001, as defined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

I ask that my fellow colleagues join me in recognizing the Franklin Electric Plant Board for its ongoing and unwavering commitment to safety and the community. Not only is the Franklin Plant focused on serving the electric needs of its 4,680 customers, but it has proven its dedication to providing a safe atmosphere where employees can work without fear of serious injury or illness.●

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT L. TUNSTALL

● Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, Mr. Robert L. Tunstall of Oregon has spent a lifetime in service to his fellow Americans—as a member of the U.S. Marine Corps, as a U.S. postal worker, and as a dedicated representative of his many colleagues in the Postal Service.

In November 1998, Mr. Tunstall was elected to the third-highest office of the American Postal Workers Union AFL-CIO, becoming the organization's secretary-treasurer. Prior to that election, Mr. Tunstall was twice chosen as director of the union's clerk division, serving from 1992 to 1998.

Mr. Tunstall's illustrious service record with the APWU spans more than three decades. He became president of the Portland, OR local in 1974 and served until 1976. He followed that service as a national representative from 1976–1978, national vice-president for the Seattle region from 1978–1985, and as assistant clerk division director from 1985 until 1992. Mr. Tunstall also represented APWU members as a member of the rank and file bargaining advisory committee in 1975 and as chairman of the appeals committee in 1982.

Mr. Tunstall's employment with the U.S. Postal Service began nearly 40 years ago. In 1963, after completing four years in the U.S. Marine Corps, Mr. Tunstall was hired as a distribution clerk. He went on to hold numerous positions, including stamp supply clerk, bulk mail clerk, postage due clerk, box section clerk and pouch rack clerk.

Mr. Tunstall was born in Sioux Falls, SD, but raised and educated in Portland, OR. After graduating from Portland's Jefferson High School, he attended Multnomah Junior College, where he made the dean's list in 1967; he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree at Portland State University in 1969. Later, in 1977, Mr. Tunstall earned a law degree at Northwestern School of Law at Lewis and Clark College. Mr. Tunstall has taught at the Labor Education Research Center of the University of Oregon.

In addition to a career of honorable service, Robert Tunstall has built a fine family as well. He is married to Rae Ann; they have a son, Brett, a daughter, Brooke, and a grandson, Matthew Martinez. I am proud to honor this fellow Oregonian today and I hope that Oregon and the nation benefit from many more years of his public service.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOAN R. LIETZEL

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Joan R. Lietzel, President of the University of New Hampshire. President Lietzel has been named this year's recipient of The Charles Holmes Pettee Medal for outstanding accomplishment and distinguished service to the State of New Hampshire.

The Pettee Medal was established in 1940 by the University of New Hampshire Alumni Association and the University Board of Trustees, in memory of the late Dean Pettee. This medal is awarded annually to a resident or former resident of the State of New Hampshire in recognition of outstanding accomplishment or distinguished service of any form to the State, Nation, or world. The Pettee Medal represents a rare devotion of service as was expressed by the life commitment and service of Dean Pettee.

I applaud the contributions that Dr. Lietzel has made to the University of New Hampshire since her appointment in 1996 as the President of the university. Since her arrival, Lietzel has worked tirelessly to raise the level of excellence in academic programs as well as the day to day operation of the university. During her tenure, Lietzel has successfully run the most aggressive capital campaign in the history of the university, as well as implementing new financial and fiscal management policies. Her vision and commitment have taken the university's academic standard to a higher level, as well as successfully increasing the amount of research funding the university receives.

Previous to her stay at UNH, Dr. Lietzel served as the Senior Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where she was an accomplished educator and worked to improve the program and budget planning. Dr. Lietzel also served as a professor at Ohio State University, in the Department of Mathematics.

On behalf of the citizens of New Hampshire, I would like to thank Dr. Joan Lietzel for her endless dedication to academic excellence. She has set a positive example for educators across the Granite State, as well as the Nation. My congratulations to Dr. Lietzel as she accepts this year's Pettee Medal for her distinguished service in the State of New Hampshire. It is truly an honor to represent her in the U.S. Senate.●

EULOGY FOR LORAL JOHNSON

● Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Madam President, while I was home in Nebraska, a great Nebraska citizen passed away. Loral Johnson was a newspaper publisher in southwestern Nebraska and a pillar of his community.

He began working in the newspaper business at age 9 as a "printer's devil." He started at the Imperial Republican newspaper as a linotype operator following graduation from high school in 1952. He purchased the paper with his wife, Elna, in 1968.

Loral Johnson was well respected and known by his colleagues as an innovative newspaperman. Johnson's editorial pages were often positive and progressive, calling on community members to move forward and always striving to make Imperial a better place for current and future generations. He was inducted into the Nebraska Journalism Hall of Fame and was named a master-editor publisher, the highest award of the Nebraska Press Association. Johnson's Imperial Republican was also among the first weekly papers to print on an offset press and to use computers.

However, Loral Johnson will be remembered as far more than just a newspaper publisher. He was also a key leader in his community and his church. He was a member of the school board for 28 years, a co-founder and board member of the local nursing home for 33 years, and secretary for the Imperial Planning Commission for 21 years. His important contributions to education and health care will be remembered for many years to come.

While we will miss Loral Johnson greatly, it is comforting to know that his two daughters and a son-in-law are continuing the tradition of excellent journalism in Imperial. His family and the devotion to community that he has passed on to them and so many others are his greatest legacy.●

TRIBUTE TO RAY BURKE

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Madam President, I rise today to congratulate and thank Ray Burke of Berlin, Vermont, for over 30 years of service as Vermont's highway dispatcher. Ray retires at the end of this month from the Vermont Agency of Transportation and he will be missed heartily.

Humorist Kin Hubbard once said, "Don't knock the weather; nine-tenths of the people couldn't start a conversation if it didn't change once in a while." I suppose then that the art of conversation is easiest for Vermonters, especially during the winter months. For most of us, that conversation often turns into complaining futilely about the weather, except, of course, when Ray was talking. And Ray, as dispatcher, is known for his talking.

For 32 years, Vermonters have relied on Ray's constant updates and information on which roads were being treated with salt and sand, which