

On March 17, I was joined by Senators LEAHY, HATCH, ALLARD, CANTWELL, GREGG, ROCKEFELLER, BINGAMAN, BIDEN, BUNNING, COCHRAN, ALLEN, THOMAS, and HUTCHINSON in introducing S. Res. 221, to keep alive in the memory of all Americans the sacrifice and commitment of those law enforcement officers who lost their lives serving their communities. Specifically, this resolution would designate May 15, 2002, as National Peace Officers Memorial Day. These heroes have established for themselves an enviable and enduring reputation for preserving the rights and security of all citizens. This resolution is a fitting tribute for this special and solemn occasion.

As a former deputy sheriff, I know first-hand the risks which law enforcement officers face every day on the front lines protecting our communities. Currently, more than 700,000 men and women who serve this nation as our guardians of law and order do so at a great risk. Every year, about 1 in 9 officers is assaulted, 1 in 25 officers is injured, and 1 in 4,400 officers is killed in the line of duty. There are few communities in this country that have not been impacted by the words "officer down."

On September 11, 2001, 70 peace officers died at the World Trade Center in New York City as a result of a cowardly act of terrorism. This single act of terrorism resulted in the highest number of peace officers ever killed in a single incident in the history of this country. Thirty-seven of those fallen heroes served with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Police Department; twenty-three were New York City police officers; three worked for the New York Office of Court Administration; five were with the New York Office of Tax Enforcement; one was an FBI special agent; and one was a master special officer with the U.S. Secret Service. Before this event, the greatest loss of law enforcement life in a single incident occurred in 1917, when nine Milwaukee police officers were killed in a bomb blast at their police station. Yet the incredible bravery and selfless sacrifice our officers displayed that day was no different than any other day of the year in communities across America.

In 2001, more than 230 federal, state and local law enforcement officers gave their lives in the line of duty. This represents more than a 57 percent increase in police fatalities over the previous year. And, in total, nearly 15,000 men and women have made the supreme sacrifice. We owe all of our police officers a huge debt of gratitude for the invaluable work they do.

As we gather on this special day here in Washington, D.C. and nationwide to honor our fallen heroes, we must be ever vigilant and remember those outstanding men and women who continue to put their lives on the line so that we may continue to enjoy the freedom we have.

RECOGNITION OF ALAN B. MILLER

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I have sought recognition today to acknowledge my constituent and friend Alan B. Miller of Gladwyne, PA, who on Sunday, May 19, 2002, will be honored with the George Washington University's prestigious President's Medal.

This award, which has been bestowed upon such distinguished and varied figures as Soviet statesman Mikhail Gorbachev, renowned journalist Walter Cronkite, and political humorist Mark Russell, will serve to recognize Alan's many achievements as a leader in the health services industry.

In 1978, Alan founded Universal Health Services, Inc., based in King of Prussia, PA, which was then the third-largest proprietary hospital management company in the Nation and now operates 100 facilities in 22 States, plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and in France. He currently serves as the company's president and chairman.

Alan is an authority on hospital management and has served as health care adviser to the Federal Mediation and Coalition Service. Among the pioneering activities developed under his direction was the founding of an industry mutual insurance company that provided malpractice insurance to over 200 hospitals at a substantial savings, thereby lowering health care costs.

He is a graduate of the College of William and Mary in Virginia and earned his M.B.A. at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, where he now serves on its executive board. He also holds an honorary doctorate from the University of South Carolina and is the recipient of the Federation of American Health Systems' Industry Award and the Anti-Defamation League's Americanism Award. He was named Entrepreneur of the Year in 1991 and C.E.O. of the Year in Hospital Management in 1992. He serves on the boards of Broadlane, Inc., CDI Corporation, the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company, and is chairman of the Opera Company of Philadelphia. He served his country as Captain in the U.S. Army's 77th Infantry Division.

For his accomplishments and many contributions to the corporate community, I salute him, and I congratulate Alan for the distinctive honor that will be bestowed upon him this coming Sunday.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

MALMSTROM AIR FORCE BASE WINS THE 2002 BLANCHARD TROPHY

• Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the men and women of Malmstrom Air Force Base, AFB, Montana for being awarded the Blanchard Trophy as the United States Air Force's best intercontinental ballistic missile wing.

This is the eighth time Malmstrom has won this weeklong competition,

called Guardian Challenge. There are several areas scored in this competition including missile operations, satellite operations, remote space tracking, security forces, helicopter operations, food services, missile maintenance, communications, and missile codes.

The men and women who compete in Guardian Challenge are the best of the best from their respective Air Force Bases. This year marks the 35th anniversary of the competition, boasting some 200 participants. Besides the competition, Guardian Challenge helps sharpen the skills of and improve our military personnel's effectiveness and combat capability, while showing the world that the United States is the world's premier space force, second to none. The 341 Space Wing of Malmstrom AFB controls 200 Minuteman III missiles. This award is just one of several that Team Malmstrom has won over the years. They are truly the best of the best.

I am very proud of the men and women from Malmstrom AFB. As Operation Enduring Freedom continues, our military personnel are being tasked with increased missions and more time spent away from their families to support the war on terrorism. As a former member of the U.S. Marine Corps, I understand and appreciate the sacrifices these people and their families make in the name of freedom. Military people are special freedom-loving people.

Montana is fortunate to have Malmstrom AFB, and I know that I speak for all Montanans when I congratulate Malmstrom AFB for being the best intercontinental ballistic missile wing in the world.●

LEONARD KNIGHT AND SALVATION MOUNTAIN

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, there are areas of the California desert near the Salton Sea that can best be described as dry, desolate and forlorn. Indeed, there are those who describe the area around Niland off Highway 111 as godforsaken. But rising out of this sere, super-heated desert is the multi-colored and textured Salvation Mountain, a unique and visionary sculpture encompassing five acres. Salvation Mountain is Leonard Knight's personal statement on the love and the glory of God.

Leonard Knight, a one-time snow shoveler from Vermont, came to Salvation Mountain from the sky. His hot-air balloon crashed into the site and he decided to stay, believing the experience to be a sign from God. Here he produces his unique creation, using adobe, straw, and thousands of gallons of paint to color and reshape the desert landscape. Seen from afar, Salvation Mountain is an unlikely mass of technicolor shapes and textures. Up close, it is an iridescent fusion of doves, clouds, flags, flowers, hearts, streams, biblical messages and countless other images.

In the last 16 years, Knight's creation has been visited by thousands of people from all over the world, artists and art lovers, journalists, students on field trips, retirees, newlyweds and just plain curious people come by the mountain each day. The Folk Art Society of America has declared Salvation Mountain a national folk art shrine. The American Visionary Art Museum has embraced Leonard Knight and his mountain monument.

Salvation Mountain is the product of the vision and non-stop labor of one dedicated man. Leonard lives alone at the base of the mountain, sleeping in a converted school bus that is as colorful as his desert creation. He uses paint constantly supplied by visitors, local residents and others willing to be a part of this stunning work-in-progress. He figures that he has used close to 60,000 gallons of donated paint over the years.

American folk art is found in all corners of our nation. Perhaps one of the least likely locations would be the desert where Salvation Mountain is found. Leonard Knight's artwork is a national treasure, a singular sculpture wrought from the desert by a modest, single-minded man. It is a sculpture for the ages—profoundly strange and beautifully accessible, and worthy of the international acclaim it receives.●

HONORING KENTUCKY REFUGEE MINISTRIES

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the 23 members of Kentucky Refugees Ministries, Inc. (KRM) for all they have done to bring and welcome refugees to Kentucky.

Kentucky Refugee Ministries, Inc. is the refugee resettlement office in the Commonwealth of Kentucky for two national church-based programs: Church World Service and The Episcopal Migration Ministries. This group, which has offices in both Louisville and Lexington, is authorized by the U.S. Department of State to assist refugees legally admitted to the United States as victims of warfare, or other forms of persecution related to their religious or political beliefs. Since their inception in 1990, KRM has placed over 3,000 refugees representing 25 different nationalities and ethnic groups, in various communities throughout the Commonwealth. Once the refugees have been admitted, KRM provides them with housing, furnishings, food, and clothing. They also offer educational opportunities such as English and cultural orientation classes in order to help refugees adapt to their new life. In virtually every instance, these individuals have become productive and active citizens, willing to work their way up from the bottom in an effort to live the American dream.

One fact we as Americans must never forget is that our forefathers were also political and religious refugees in search of a better life. The system they established was specifically set up so

people could live their lives without fear of endless persecution. Late last year, President Bush signed the Presidential Determination authorizing the United States to admit 70,000 refugees in 2002. I applaud President Bush's efforts concerning refugees. Only 8,100 refugees, a quarter of the number admitted at the same time last year, have so far been admitted. This slowdown in admittance has obviously occurred because of security matters resulting from the September 11 tragedies. However, I hope that soon we can begin expediting refugee admittance again after we put the proper security and safety procedures in place. The principles of freedom and democracy our nation lives by must serve as our guide in this extremely important matter. If we let these individuals languish in deplorable conditions in refugee camps or hostile lands, we will be turning our backs on the principles we so cherish. We cannot let this happen.

Once again, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking and honoring KRM. I am grateful to know that Kentucky's adopted refugees and their families are being looked after in such a careful and caring manner.●

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY'S DEBATE TEAM

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask that the Senate join me in congratulating Michigan State University's Debate Team. These bright young men and women recently won this year's Cross Examination Debate Association Seasonal National Championship—the most prestigious national college debating title.

As I am sure many of my colleagues in this room can appreciate, debating is a skill that requires enormous preparation, great intelligence and the ability to think and speak quickly. Michigan State University's Debate Team has repeatedly excelled in these areas, establishing itself as one of the finest debate teams in the nation. In fact, since 1994 the team has finished no worse than fifth in the competition, and it recorded another first place finish in 1996. This is a spectacular record of achievement that is the source of great pride for the University and for the State of Michigan.

We often come to this floor to congratulate the hard work and dedication of the student athletes from our states who have won national championships on the basketball court or the football field, whose competitions are shown on television and whose victories are written about in newspapers. However, the young men and women who compete with their quick minds and sharp wit deserve just as much of an accolade as those who compete with quick legs or strong arms. The debate season lasts virtually the entire academic year. From August to April the team spends countless hours every week studying, analyzing, researching and practicing.

The commitment that these young people have shown to competition is unrivaled.

Director of Debate Jason Trice, Head Coach William Repko and Assistant Coaches Alison Woidan and Michael Eber did an excellent job of preparing this year's team. The full roster of that team is Anjali Vats, Geoff Lundeen, Maggie Ryan, Job Gillenwater, John Rood, Austin Carson, Calum Matheson, Greta Stahl, Suzanne Sobotka, John Groen, Gabe Murillo, Amber Watkins, Aaron Hardy and David Strauss. I can think of no better place for these young men and women to be congratulated than in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the U.S. Senate, an institution known for its history of great debaters.

I know that all these individuals, as well as their families and friends, are incredibly proud of their accomplishments. I also know that Michigan State University is thrilled to have this honor. In addition to adding my own congratulations I would also like to wish these young men and women the best of luck in defending their championship next year and extending the proud record of accomplishment for which this team has come to be known. I know that my Senate colleagues join me in congratulating Michigan State University's Debate Team for their victory as National Champions of the Cross Examination Debate Association.●

HONORING LTG THOMAS J. KECK

● Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a member of our military who has faithfully served the United States for over 30 years. LTG Thomas J. Keck is to retire this Friday and I think it is appropriate that we honor him here on the Senate floor today.

Lieutenant General Keck graduated from the Air Force Academy in 1969. After completing flight training, he was sent to Vietnam. While there, he flew B-52 missions over North Vietnam, and distinguished himself in combat numerous times. In recognition of his gallantry, Lieutenant General Keck was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal. The bravery he displayed in Vietnam is demonstrative of the characteristics that define the Air Force Officer's Core Values: Integrity first, Service Before Self, Excellence in all that is done. He has certainly displayed these values throughout his career.

After the War, Lieutenant General Keck came back to the U.S., and served in a variety of commands in the Air Force. Throughout his career, Lieutenant General Keck has flown twenty-two different planes in several different missions. He logged over 4,600 flying hours, 886 of which were in combat. He has certainly shown himself to be an able and adaptable pilot, perhaps one of the finest that the Air Force has produced.