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ALCOA'S MASSENA OPERATIONS

• Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, I would like to acknowledge the contribution to this nation provided by the workers and management of Alcoa's Massena, New York Operations. The Massena Operations make aluminum ingot—which is the raw material that is used in a variety of applications—and fabricated aluminum products.

I hope many of my colleagues will have the chance to visit the town of Massena, NY, because it is a wonderful community. Massena is located on the St. Lawrence River in St. Lawrence County, serving as a gateway to America's Fourth Coast, including the St. Lawrence Seaway, the Thousand Islands and the Great Lakes.

This year, Massena is celebrating its 200th birthday, and along with it a century of Alcoa involvement in the community. Alcoa is celebrating an incredible 100 years of aluminum production at its Massena location. As part of its celebration, Alcoa will establish the Massena Operations Memorial Park. Earlier this year, Alcoa-Massena officials also announced their contribution of \$100,000 to the Massena Bicentennial.

The history of Alcoa's Massena Operations is a true American success story. A century ago, the Pittsburgh Reduction Company, a predecessor of Alcoa, built a smelting plant at Massena. The products manufactured at Massena have included wire and electric transmission cable. Consumer products with aluminum components made in Massena have harnessed the power of electricity for the home. The Massena Operations have also made significant contributions to our Nation's military and aerospace efforts.

For a century, Alcoa's Massena Operations has upheld the proud American tradition of quality manufacturing. I wish to thank you for the opportunity to highlight their fine work and the important role that Alcoa's Massena Operations plays in their community in New York. ●

$\begin{array}{c} \text{LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT} \\ \text{OF 2001} \end{array}$

• Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY in March of last year. The Local Law Enforcement Act of 2001 would add new categories to current hate crimes legislation sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred September 12, 2001, in Boston, MA. Three teenagers, claiming they wanted to "get back at Arabs," threw three Molotov cocktails onto a convenience store the day after the September 11 terrorist attacks. The teenagers thought that the store was owned by an Arab. The owner of the store, Aswin Patel, an Indian man, escaped unharmed. The three perpetrators face Federal hate crimes charges and have been charged with assault with intent to murder and arson.

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

CONGRATULATING INDIANAPOLIS ON BECOMING DIGITAL TELE-VISION ZONE

• Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the city of Indianapolis on its recent designation as a "Digital Television Zone." Viewers in Indianapolis are fortunate to be served by local television broadcast stations that have been and continue to be leaders in the digital television transition. These stations are: WTHR, a dispatch broadcast-owned NBC affiliate; WISHTV, a LIN television-owned CBS affiliate; WRTV, a dispatch broadcast-owned ABC affiliate; and WXIN, a tribune broadcast-owned FOX affiliate.

As the broadcast industry undertakes its transition to digital television, I am proud to say that our local Indianapolis affiliates are already fully on the air in digital.

For those not familiar with digital television, it is the next step in the evolution of television. Those of us old enough, remember the move from black and white to color. Now, the next exciting step in the process is digital. Just as the other communications mediums are moving from an analog to a digital world, so too is television.

This past spring, Indianapolis' local CBS station, WISH-TV, granted the wish of many of my constituents. Through digital television, the station was able to simultaneously broadcast four NCAA basketball tournament games. Our local ABC affiliate, WRTV, has expanded its primetime digital line up. Today, Indianapolis viewers can watch popular programs such as "Drew Carey," "Alias," and "NYPD Blue"all in high definition. The local NBC affiliate, WTHR, airs "Crossing Jordan" and "The Tonight Show" in highdefinition nightly. This year, they broadcast the Olympics' opening ceremonies in digital. It is compelling programming like this that will propel the transition forward and encourage consumers to invest in digital technology—like their local broadcasters have done already.

In January, Indianapolis earned the distinction of being named a "Digital

TV Zone." As Mayor Bart Peterson said at the ribbon cutting ceremony, "Our designation as a Digital TV Zone—being one of only a handful of cites to have all local network affiliates broadcasting in digital—is evidence that Indianapolis is where it needs to be to compete in the digital world."

Through the Digital TV Zone Program, Indianapolis broadcasters pooled their resources over the past year to educate Indianapolis consumers—my constituents—about digital TV technology and its benefits.

The local stations cooperated with electronics manufacturers and retailers to post digital sets in high traffic areas throughout the city. If you walked through Indianapolis International Airport, or if you went to Conseco field house, or the NCAA Hall of Champions over the last 5 months, you would have seen the local Indianapolis stations in digital being displayed on high-definition digital television sets.

Clearly, Indianapolis broadcasters are doing their part to launch the digital television future. All of these different activities are designed to educate my constituents about the promise of this new technology.

There will, of course, be many challenges before all consumers can fully benefit from digital television. Despite any outstanding issues, I am proud to say that Indianapolis broadcasters are leading the charge into the digital television future and giving local viewers the opportunity to experience digital television now.●

LETTER TO HARVEY PITT, CHAIR-MAN, SECURITIES AND EX-CHANGE COMMISSION

• Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I ask that a letter, sent today, to the Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission, Harvey Pitt, from Senator BREAUX and myself be printed in the RECORD.

The letter follows:

U.S. SENATE,

Washington, DC, June 28, 2002.

Hon. HARVEY L. PITT,

Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN PITT: We are writing out of

DEAR CHAIRMAN PITT: We are writing out of deep concern regarding recent reports about a variety of abuses in corporate accounting scandals by companies and corporate executives. In particular, the accounting practices at WorldCom that led to an error of more than \$3.5 billion is unforgivable and inexcusable.

We are pleased to have taken steps to investigate several recent disturbing disclosures and encourage you to pursue initiatives to improve corporate responsibility and shareholder protections. We fear that these reports of corporate fraud may just be the tip of the iceberg, and the need to improve accountability in America's public companies is imminent.

American business is built upon an integrity and trust in business relationships that bolster our currency and provide a shining face of transparency that supports western values and spreads capitalism and corporate

responsibility across the globe. We can't emphasize how important it is for you to continue to work to improve corporate disclosure, make corporate officers more accountable and develop a stronger, more independent audit system. American businesses must be trustworthy, transparent and able to withstand the light of any audit.

We look forward to working with you and the Securities and Exchange Commission as you fully investigate the companies and individuals who abuse the system and prosecute them to the full extent of the law Your role is crucial as we work to restore confidence in American business and restore integrity and trust in our stock market.

Sincerely,

GORDON H. SMITH, JOHN BREAUX, U.S. Senate.●

COMMUNITY HERO

• Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise to salute a community leader in my home State of Oregon. Today, I want to recognize the efforts of Susan Abravanel, Education Coordinator at SOLV, a non-profit organization in Oregon, in advocating for service-learning, one of the most exciting educational initiatives taking hold in our Nation today.

Service-learning gives students the opportunity to learn through community service, but it is important to note that it is much more than just community service. It is a method of classroom instruction that engages a student's intellect through hands-on work outside the classroom that benefits the community at large. Research shows that students participating in gains service-learning make on achievement tests, complete their homework more often, and increase their grade point averages.

In addition to producing academic gains, service-learning is also associated with both increased attendance and reduced dropout rates. It is clear to educators across the country that service-learning helps students feel more connected to their own education while strengthening their connection to their community as well. It is for all of these reasons that Susan Abravanel is working so hard to advocate for service-learning in classrooms in Oregon and across the nation.

Ms. Abravanel is working closely with my office and with education leaders in Oregon to ensure that my home State remains a national leader in service-learning. Just 2 months ago, I introduced a bill with my colleague, Senator EDWARDS, to strengthen our Nation's commitment to service-learning. I feel confident that this bill will soon become law and that with Ms. Abravanel's continued efforts both here in Washington, DC, and at home in Oregon, students will continue to benefit from an education tied to civic engagement.

Ms. Abravanel exemplifies the type of engaged citizen our schools must endeavor to produce, and her persistence will ensure that future generations of Americans will give back to their com-

munities just as she has. I would also like to note that Susan isn't just concerned about education, her interests and efforts in Portland's Jewish community are well known and highly appreciated, she is the new President of the Oregon chapter of the American Jewish Committee. I look forward to working with Susan in her new role at the AJC and thank her for her continuing devotion to service-learning.

COMMUNITY HEROES

• Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President I rise today to recognize some community heroes in my home State of Oregon. The Agape House, which has been serving needy families in the Hermiston area for 15 years, is one of those rare organizations that dedicates its efforts entirely to the service of others.

Founded in 1987, Agape House began as a small group of volunteers providing food and clothing to approximately 100 families a month. Over the years, Agape House has been able to expand its reach, and last month was able to help 644 families in need. Food and clothing still constitute the majority of the assistance provided by Agape House's volunteers, but they are often able to help local residents with energy bills, prescription drug bills, emergency shelter, and any number of other unmet daily needs.

Perhaps the most encouraging aspect of Agape House's work is that it is done by a large number of area volunteers who take turns staffing the Agape House. On any given day, six to eight volunteers work at Agape House, but they are seldom the same six to eight people who were there the day before. Not only do its many volunteers come from the community, but Agape House relies primarily on food, clothing, and financial donations from local citizens. Agape House is truly a community effort, and, for that reason, has been uniquely successful in providing assistance to the needy families of western Umatilla County.

One recent and extraordinary example of Agape House's effectiveness involves a young single mother in the Hermiston area. As a young single mother with three mouths to feed, this jobless Hermiston woman relied on Agape House for many of her family's daily needs. When she was finally able to find work, she struggled to get to and from her job because she could not afford a car, and was at risk of finding herself jobless once again. Seeing her problems, Agape House stepped in and gave her a car. A car is not a typical charitable gift to a young woman in need. With her new car, this young woman flourished at her job, and Agape House, which once served this woman nearly every day, has not had a visit from her since the day she received her car. This is just one example of how Agape House goes the extra mile to help people truly become self-sufficient, which takes much more dedication than simply providing temporary relief.

I think it is important to recognize organizations like Agape House here on the Senate floor. The staff and volunteers associated with Agape House are heroes to their community, and are shining examples of what can be accomplished by a generous group of civic-minded citizens. I appreciate the important work they do each and every day, and want them to know that their efforts do not go unnoticed by those outside Umatilla County.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting a withdrawal and sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:34 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 bill, without amendment:

S. 2578. An act to amend title 31 of the United States Code to increase the public debt limit.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 125. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives.

At 11:31 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 bill, without amendment:

S. 2594. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to purchase silver on the open market when the silver stockpile is depleted, to be used to mint coins.

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

H.R. 3034. An act to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 89 River Street in Hoboken, New Jersey, as the "Frank Sinatra Post Office Building."

H.R. 5010. An act making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5011. An act making appropriations for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2003, and for other purposes.