

grades and across ethnic lines for reading and math, proving that we are closing the achievement gap.

Much of what we have accomplished in Delaware, and at the East Side Charter School, serves as a model for our Nation.

I rise today to offer my full support as future generations of students and educators at East Side Charter School ready to face the challenges of the 21st century and overcome them.●

IN RECOGNITION OF LTC JOHN BURKE'S RETIREMENT

● Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of LTC John Burke upon his retirement from the U.S. Air Force. John is the longest certified C-5 pilot in the history of the U.S. Air Force, and has served his country with distinction for 32 years.

Since 1995, Lieutenant Colonel Burke has served as Chief Pilot for the 709th Airlift Squadron at Dover Air Force Base. Assigned to overseas mission support, joint service exercises, humanitarian relief, Presidential movement and aircrew training, he has been indispensable to his squadron's success.

In his latest position, Lieutenant Colonel Burke was responsible for evaluating procedures and techniques that ensured the safety and efficacy of the C-5 in its strategic airlift missions, as well as evaluating its pilots.

As you may know, the C-5 is the Air Force's largest cargo aircraft, capable of quickly moving large numbers of men, women and materiel to troubled areas around the world.

The C-5 will ensure our military readiness for generations to come, as will Lieutenant Colonel Burke's legacy of leadership and heroism.

Lieutenant Colonel Burke is a well-rounded, seasoned officer with a record for consistently combining effective leadership and professionalism. He leads by example—motivating people, making key decisions, producing results and maintaining high morale. He has amassed an impressive 7,400 flight hours and frequent accolades.

Throughout his distinguished career, Lieutenant Colonel Burke flew in vital missions and earned numerous decorations. In a career that spans three decades, Lieutenant Colonel Burke has served in significant military campaigns, such as Nickel Grass, Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, and Operation Just Cause.

On May 30, 1972, barraged by anti-aircraft fire flying over Southeast Asia, Burke landed in Song Be to deliver much needed fuel and ammunition to allied troops fighting hostile forces, earning the Distinguished Flying Cross. Additionally, he has garnered numerous other medals and commendations, including the Meritorious Service Medal, the Aerial Achievement Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, the Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon, and Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross.

Military service runs in the New York native's blood. Lieutenant Colonel Burke's father was a World War II Army Air Force navigator and bombardier, and his mother was an Army nurse. Joining the U.S. Air Force in 1970, Lieutenant Colonel Burke carried on the family tradition of military allegiance.

LTC John Burke marked his career with consistent, exemplary leadership in service to his Nation, earning a reputation for loyalty, dedication, integrity, and honesty. Upon his retirement he leaves a legacy of commitment to freedom that generations will follow. I commend him for his remarkable service and wish him the best in his future endeavors. He is a patriot in every sense of the word.●

NATIONAL GUARD COUNTER DRUG STATE PLANS PROGRAM

● Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to commend the National Guard and urge my colleagues to support the National Guard Counter Drug States Plan Program.

The National Guard role is to provide counterdrug and drug demand reduction support as requested by local, State, and Federal law enforcement agencies and community-based organizations with a counterdrug nexus. The National Guard provides this support in consonance with the Office of National Drug Control Policy and Department of Defense guidance.

The mission of the National Guard Counter Drug Program is to assist and strengthen law enforcement and community-based organizations in reducing the availability of, and demand for, illegal drugs within the State and Nation through professional military support. The principal elements of counter-drug military support include highly skilled personnel, specialized technology, facilities, and diverse types of military training and skills. Operationally, this translates into port security assistance, operating non-intrusive inspection devices, aerial and ground reconnaissance, technical support, general support, community anti-drug coalition support, youth drug awareness programs, and use of training facilities.

The National Guard offers numerous military-unique skills to the counterdrug mission. These include linguist and translator support, investigative case and analyst support, communications support, engineer support, diver support, marijuana eradication support, transportation support, maintenance and logistical support, cargo and mail inspection, training of law enforcement and military personnel, surface reconnaissance, and aerial reconnaissance. In addition, the National Guard provides command, control, communications, computers, and information, C4I, integration; logistics planning; tactical and strategic operational and intelligence planning; the ability to support around-the-clock oper-

ations; liaison skills with civilian authority and interagency cooperation; resource integration; force protection training; operational security enforcement; communications security enforcement; and risk management skills.

We must fully fund the National Guard Counter Drug States Plans Program. The National Guard's success in interdicting drugs and other contraband contributes to the security of the Nation as a whole. Using my home State as an example, Florida has valid support requests from law enforcement and community-based organizations that would require approximately 250 personnel. Under the constraints of the estimated fiscal year 2003 budget, the National Guard was able to field 111 personnel, resulting in unfunded requests for 139 personnel and an unfunded requirement of 99 personnel based on an optimal program size of 210 personnel. In fiscal year 2002, the State of Florida fielded 148 personnel, and unfunded personnel requests totaled 102.

I am also a great believer in a balanced counterdrug program, both interdiction and demand reduction. The National Guard does some of the finest demand reduction work in the country. Young people look up to these citizen-soldiers and listen to what they say.

Counterdrug personnel assigned to perform drug demand reduction activities utilize numerous military skills including command, control and communication skills, tactical and strategic planning, liaison skills and training design and implementation skills. These assist communities with work plans, realistic time lines and assigned responsibilities. This support is essential for many community-based organizations in order to mobilize and sustain their efforts.

Additionally, the military value system and discipline instilled in all counterdrug personnel creates a significant demand to serve as role models and mentors supporting a wide array of prevention activities. Community based prevention organizations rely on National Guard personnel to incorporate this unique military orientation into activities such as youth camps, ropes challenge courses, high adventure training, high school drug education, Drug Education for Youth, mentoring, and other prevention and skill training activities.

The National Guard also provides unique facilities and equipment such as armories, training sites, obstacle courses, aircraft and wheeled vehicles in support of community prevention strategies. These facilities and equipment are often the only resources available to conduct youth camps, coalitions meetings or experiential learning initiatives. The leadership skills and military values embedded within our youth hopefully provide a morale foundation for future generations, as well as conveying to many thousands of youth the value of military service.

The National Guard Counter Drug States Plan Program benefits not only the States, but also the Department of Defense. The primary benefit is increased combat readiness, as well as significant Guard experience in Military Operations Other than War, MOOTW, within the continental United States and abroad. Service in the counterdrug program also provides members with joint experience and inter-service cooperation skills for immediate response to national emergencies. The National Guard, in many communities, is the only real connection the public has to our armed services. The visibility of uniformed National Guardsmen provides a deterrence to the smuggling of drugs, arms, explosives, weapons, aliens, and other contraband, as well as direct support for interdiction operations.

I can not say enough good things about what the National Guard does for the State of Florida and the Nation. I am grateful that it appears we have avoided personnel reductions for fiscal year 2003, which we struggled through in fiscal year 2002, but I am concerned that we may have a funding shortfall and personnel reductions in fiscal year 2004. I urge my colleagues to review the great merits of the National Guard Counter Drug State Plans Program, given the National Guard's integral role in both the National Drug Control Strategy and Homeland Defense Strategy. Please help us fully fund and deploy the National Guard for the protection of our United States.●

WELCOMING BOETTGER BABY

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I rise today to announce the birth of a fine young lady, Emily Copeland Boettger. Emily is the first child of Scott and Sally Boettger, and was born on May 8, 2002. Scott and Sally live in Hailey, Idaho, and are active in natural resources and environmental issues in the state. Scott serves as the Executive Director of the Wood River Land Trust, and Sally serves as the Director of Development of The Nature Conservancy in Idaho. I have spent time in the Boettger's home and enjoyed their expertise and experience in outdoor activities. I'm happy to report that mother, father, and baby are doing well, although Scott and Sally are probably getting used to fewer hours of sleep.

Emily is the granddaughter of Cherry and William F. Gillespie, III, of Wilmington, DE, and Doug and Gail Boettger of Spring City, PA. I know they join with me in sending best wishes and welcome greetings to young Emily.

It is always a joyous event to bring a new family member into the world. Emily has been much-anticipated and has held a place in the hearts of her parents and family for many months now as they have awaited her arrival. As the father of five myself, I know that Scott and Sally are in for a most

remarkable, frustrating, rewarding, and exciting experience of their lives. Emily will make certain of that. Our best wishes go out to the Boettger family on this most auspicious occasion.●

IN MEMORIAM OF BRIAN HONAN, COUNCILLOR, BOSTON CITY COUNCIL

● Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, Tuesday evening the Boston City Council lost one of its most capable and well-liked members, Councillor Brian Honan. I rise today to join with his family, constituents and staff in mourning the loss of this universally loved man. His brief time with us proved that politics can make a difference in people's lives, that the values of a small neighborhood can help guide a city, and that integrity and humility can transcend disagreements and carve out common ground.

You don't have to search far to see what Brian stood for. There are two structures in the Allston neighborhood of Boston that stand as the pillars of his dedication and commitment he brought to public service. The West End Boys and Girls House sits on the opposite side of Ringer Park from Mary and Patrick Honan's home on Gordon Street, and together these two buildings symbolize the values of family and community that guided Brian through the public life he led and loved.

Prior to being elected to the Boston City Council in 1995, Brian served as a Suffolk County Assistant District Attorney for six years under District Attorney Ralph Martin. Brian coordinated the prosecution of 15,000 cases a year in the Roxbury District and through his dedication and tenacity rose to be a supervisor in both the Roxbury and Dorchester District Courts. Motivated by a fierce instinct to bring violent criminals to justice, Brian created fast-track prosecutions for domestic violence and gun-related crimes and helped bring swift justice to those who put our families and communities in danger.

Once sworn-in to the Boston City Council in 1996, Brian served with distinction as Chair of the City Council's Committee on Banking & Community Investment and the Committee on Residency. Through these committees, Councillor Honan co-sponsored an order to provide relief from costly prescription drug costs for Boston's seniors and helped increase housing and commercial opportunities by increasing much-needed capital improvement funds. Brian also fought for the Living Wage Amendment, sponsored legislation to preserve affordable housing for seniors, and co-sponsored the Domestic Partnership legislation.

It is on the streets and in the homes of Allston-Brighton where Brian's most lasting achievements can be seen. After becoming a member of the West End House when it first opened its Allston Street location in 1971, Brian stood with his older brother Kevin as its

most passionate advocates and defenders. As a councillor, he helped Allston-Brighton build a shining new library in Allston and a brand new Oak Square YMCA facility in Brighton, which will stand as two enduring symbols of the dedication he brought to elected office. As a leader on such initiatives as the Allston-Brighton Area Planning Action Council and the Allston-Brighton Healthy Boston Coalition, Brian demonstrated his enduring commitment to helping children, seniors and families have an enjoyable and productive life.

From the classrooms of St. Patrick's High School to Boston's courtrooms, Brian demonstrated a quiet strength that makes his premature departure all the more painful. Together with my constituents across Boston, I treasure the time we shared with him. I join with his family and friends in mourning his passing.●

RECOGNITION FOR THE NATIONAL HEALTH CENTER WEEK 2002

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I recognize the National Health Center Week that will be celebrated from August 18, to 24, 2002. Health centers provide services to over ten million people living in under-served areas throughout the United States, with about 50 percent of the users being from rural areas such as South Dakota. It gives me great pride to have been selected for the National Association of Community Health Centers' "2002 Community Super Hero" award which was presented to me earlier this year.

Community health centers have a long-standing history of providing quality primary health care services to medically under-served populations. Providing care to one of every 12 rural Americans, health centers provide medical attention to those who would otherwise lack access to health care. For less than one dollar per day, these health centers provide care to both individuals and families. Today, there are 23 community health centers serving 31,000 individuals across my State and I am working, along with the President and my colleagues in Congress, to greatly increase the number nationwide. I am pleased, as a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, to have recently voted to increase funding by \$190 million for a total of \$1.53 billion for the Nation's community health centers next year. This funding level represents a \$76 million increase over the President's Fiscal Year 2003 budget request.

A unique aspect of community health centers allows them to individualize their center to meet the specific needs of a particular community. By partnering with community organizations, schools and businesses, health centers are able to best meet the health care needs of individuals in each respective community.

Let me also pay special recognition to John Mengershausen, Chief Executive Officer of Horizon Health Care in