

to those Hispanic Americans who have overcome a myriad of obstacles to establish themselves as a prominent force in our Nation's economy.

Hispanic Americans also have succeeded in the political arena. The number of Hispanic elected officials has increased, and many States across the Nation have fielded Hispanic candidates at local and national levels. For example, earlier this month Georgia voters elected their first Hispanic State senator, Sam Zamarripa, and New Mexico's next Governor will undoubtedly be Hispanic.

In addition to recognizing the significant contributions Hispanics have made in politics and to our economy, we honor those Hispanic Americans who sacrificed their lives on September 11, 2001. Hispanic Americans were among the very first to respond to the terror attacks against our Nation. Twelve Hispanic firefighters lost their lives trying to save others.

As America continues to remember those Hispanic Americans who gave their lives on that tragic day, others in the Hispanic community have helped bring our Nation together. For example, Daniel Rodriguez, a Brooklyn-born Latino policeman, captured America's hearts with his rendition of "God Bless America" at numerous September 11 memorial services. Contributions like this from our fellow Americans have helped many of us heal and have instilled a deeper, greater pride in our Nation.

Other Hispanic Americans may not have received as much media attention but have equally contributed to every aspect of our American life.

In my home State of Illinois, where over 1 million Hispanic Americans reside, numerous individuals have had a significant impact on the Hispanic American community. Consider Theresa Gutierrez, a reporter for ABC News in Chicago. She was one of the first Hispanic women to break into television journalism, and since she began her media career in 1971 she has been the recipient of numerous awards. In 1999, she was recognized by Chicago Woman Magazine as one of 100 "Women Making a Difference." She was also selected as one of the six outstanding broadcasters in the country by Hispanic USA Magazine.

Another similar example is Anna Zotigh, a 16-year-old girl working on a mural at the Instituto del Progreso Latino in Chicago. Anna, along with other teams of students across the country, works 8- to 9-hour days with local artists to help promote Latino culture, specifically the pivotal role played by women in Hispanic culture. These are just some of the extraordinary Hispanic American individuals who contribute to the vibrant life of our country.

The Hispanic American population has made significant strides in the last decade to help strengthen America's ideals of democracy, freedom, and opportunity. We have seen their contribu-

tions time and time again, from their impact on our economy to their service in law enforcement.

Hispanic Heritage Month is a time to celebrate, experience, and honor the Hispanic culture. I urge all Americans to actively participate in the many festivities across our Nation, as we deepen our appreciation for a community that has helped shape America today, and will continue to do so tomorrow.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CHARLIE MYRICK

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Charlie Myrick and his over 25 years of service to children across this country. Over the years, Charlie Myrick has performed magic tricks in schools across the nation and has spoken to over 6 million school children. Resisting drugs and gang pressures as well as the importance of leadership and studying diligently in school are a few of the points Charlie emphasizes in his program. He inspires and motivates children to pursue their dreams while challenging parents to support and encourage their children in this pursuit. Charlie has been beaten and held at knife point by disgruntled students but his dedication to children has not wavered. Many children claim Charlie's encouragement and motivation changed their life. One child stated, Charlie motivated him to persistently strive to achieve his dreams. I commend Charlie for his years of service to children in need.●

#### TRIBUTE TO LEE MACE'S OZARK OPRY

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Lee Mace's Ozark Opry. The Lee Mace's Ozark Opry has entertained audiences for years and is a tribute to Lee's dream to share country music with the public. Lee and his wife, Joyce Mace began the Opry in an effort to preserve the real flavor of the Ozarks through music and dance. Giving talented young people from nearby towns the opportunity to perform was a dream of Lees and many performers have stood on stage as a result. The format developed for the show has been emulated in Branson, Missouri and over the years has spread to opry houses across the country. Although, Lee Mace passed away several years ago, the sounds of the Ozarks can still be heard at Lee Mace's Ozark Opry. Today, we honor Lee Mace's dream of preserving the tradition of country music in the Ozarks.●

#### HONORING STATE REPRESENTATIVE CLAIRE LEUCK

● Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a fellow Hoosier, Indiana State Representative, retired farmer, teacher, mother and loving wife, Claire Leuck, who will be retiring from the Indiana legislature this year.

Representative Leuck, who was first elected to the Indiana House of Representatives in 1986, has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of Hoosiers from all walks of life. As a representative of District 25, Claire was a voice for rural communities and worked in a bipartisan manner. Prior to her service in the legislature, Claire served as the Benton County Clerk from 1974-1982.

As chair of the House Agriculture Committee, she advocated for the interests and needs of the agricultural community, giving farmers a voice and enabling family farms to retain a vital role in the Indiana economy. Claire has worked to increase funding for rural schools and improve the quality of rural life. She has devoted her energies to improve health care by authoring legislation that created the CHOICE home health care program for the elderly. Claire has continually worked to secure state funding for Lakes Shafer and Freeman, allowing these lakes to remain safe and friendly destinations for tourists. She has also worked on behalf of veteran's interests to ensure that local veterans had the necessary means and equipment to pay tribute to their fallen friends.

Claire's outstanding work in the Indiana House of Representatives was acknowledged by House leadership when she was appointed to the powerful House Ways and Means Committee. During my time as Governor, I had the privilege to work with Representative Leuck to balance Indiana's budget, cut taxes for Hoosier families, increase funding for Indiana's public schools and protect Indiana's natural resources.

Everyone that has ever encountered Representative Leuck knows she exemplifies her famous campaign slogan "everybody likes Claire."

Along with her husband Richard, Claire's strong dedication to the State of Indiana is evident in the work she accomplished during her tenure in the legislature. She is to be commended for her 16 years of service to her community, her district and her State.●

#### TRIBUTE TO THE WORLD WAR II MEN OF THE USS KIDD

● Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the World War II men of the USS *Kidd*, DD 661, a Fletcher-class destroyer which was named after Rear Admiral Isaac C. Kidd, Sr., who was killed aboard his flagship, the USS *Arizona*, at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. *Kidd* was commissioned at the New York Navy Yard in Brooklyn, New York, on April 23, 1943. She was placed under the command of Lieutenant Commander, later Admiral, Allan B. Roby.

*Kidd* served with great distinction in the South Pacific during World War II, earning eight battle stars while participating in such historic engagements as the air raids on Wake Island, the strikes against Rabaul and Bougainville, the Gilbert Islands invasion

at Tarawa, the Marshall Islands, the occupation of Aitape and Hollandia in New Guinea, the occupation of Saipan, the bombardment of Guam, the invasion of the Philippines, the raids against the Japanese home islands, and the invasion of Okinawa.

On April 11, 1945, *Kidd*, by then affectionately known as "The Pirate of the Pacific", was on patrol and picket duty off of Okinawa. During a Japanese attack that day a Kamikaze struck *Kidd* amidship just above the water line. Thirty-eight men were killed and another fifty-five were wounded, and *Kidd* suffered extensive structural damage. Notwithstanding these circumstances, the crew managed to keep the ship afloat while returning fire and continuing to engage the enemy in the ongoing attack. *Kidd* was saved and, following major repairs, continued to serve the Nation with distinction for another twenty years.

In the aftermath of World War II, the surviving men of *Kidd* did not forget their shipmates who perished during that epic conflict. In August of 1949, just a few years after the end of World War II, survivors of the Kamikaze attack on *Kidd* gathered in New York City for the solemn purpose of remembering and honoring their lost shipmates. Ever since that original gathering in 1949, for fifty-two straight years, survivors of the World War II attack on *Kidd* have traveled from far and wide and assembled together to pay homage to their friends and shipmates who died on April 11, 1945. This remarkable unbroken string of remembrances now extend over half a century.

This weekend, the remaining survivors of the World War II crew of the USS *Kidd* are preparing to gather together for their 53rd consecutive annual reunion to be held here in the Washington Metropolitan Area from October 4–6, 2002. At that gathering, as in their past gatherings, these men, accompanied by their families and friends, will honor the memory of their departed shipmates. For the benefit of the historical record, the names of those men killed aboard *Kidd*, heroes all, were Lieutenant George B. Grieshaber, Ensign Robert A. Berwick, Seaman 1st Class Dorsey C. Bridgewater, Chief Quartermaster Addison F. Smith, Chief Water Tender Sylvester W. Hansen, Chief Steward John F. Hamilton, Gunner's Mate 1st Class Morgan A. Payne, Water Tender 1st Class James C. Carmody, Water Tender 1st Class Felix P. D'Amico, Machinist 2nd Class William M. Abernethy, Water Tender 2nd Class Jack L. Walsh, Seaman 2nd Class Eugene E. Gothreau, Baker 2nd Class Richard W. Hyde, Steward's Mate 2nd Class Solomon Thompson, Steward's Mate 2nd Class Charles E. Green, Torpedo Man 3rd Class Bernard Gutterman, Seaman 3rd Class Milford A. Faufaw, Electrician's Mate 3rd Class James N. Olen, Fireman 1st Class Charles N. Allwhite, Fireman 1st Class Clifford A. Hoeft, Fireman 1st

Class Clifford E. Kemmerer, Fireman 1st Class Robert F. Walker, Seaman 1st Class John W. Canada, Jr., Seaman 1st Class Louie C. Higginbotham, Seaman 1st Class Lester B. Hodges, Seaman 1st Class Harold G. Kelsey, Seaman 1st Class George R. Kraisinger, Seaman 1st Class William J. Wall, Seaman 1st Class Lawrence Bynog, Fireman 2nd Class Fredric B. Heaton, Fireman 2nd Class Dennis M. Kornowski, Seaman 2nd Class Virgile A. Henson, Seaman 2nd Class Charles K. Jenkins, Seaman 2nd Class Bernard V. Kostelnik, Seaman 2nd Class Arthur Lee, Seaman 2nd Class Russell J. Leonard, Seaman 2nd Class John Miller, Jr., and Apprentice Seaman Darvin R. Lee.

On the eve of the 53rd consecutive gathering of the surviving members of the World War II crew of the USS *Kidd*, I take to the floor of the Senate to recognize and honor all of the World War II men of *Kidd*. By their sacrifices and courageous conduct on April 11, 1945, in defending their ship and the national interests of the United States, the men of the USS *Kidd* demonstrated exceptional valor and courage. By their remarkable determination to keep the memory of their lost shipmates alive, as demonstrated by their continuing course of conduct over the last fifty-three years, the surviving members of the World War II crew of the USS *Kidd* have brought honor to themselves, to the United States Navy, and to a grateful Nation that understands better, because of the conduct of all of these men, the true meaning of faithful commitment and patriotic citizenship. A young sailor myself in 1945, I proudly ask the Senate to join me in saluting the World War II men of the USS *Kidd*. Their deeds and sacrifices are an untold story that should serve as an inspiration to all Americans.●

#### HONORING RICHARD "DICK" HAGEN

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I am saddened to report the passing of one of South Dakota's most exceptional public leaders, Richard "Dick" Hagen.

Dick was a widely respected leader and representative in South Dakota. He served in the State House from 1983 until 2000 and was elected to his first term in the State Senate in 2000. He was greatly admired by his peers for his honesty and unwavering dedication to the people he represented. A member of the Oglala Sioux Tribe, Dick strived to promote a better understanding of Native American culture among his colleagues in the state legislature. His tremendous contributions to the community and public leadership set him apart from other outstanding public representatives, and lead to a Legislator of the Year award in 2001 and the West River Legislator of the Year award in 2002.

Dick entered Coast Guard boot camp at Cape May, NJ in 1957. He was stationed in Morgan City, LA and later in Unimak Island, Alaska before being

honorably discharged from Sheboygan, WI in 1961. After his discharge from the Coast Guard, he returned to South Dakota and served with the Bureau of Indian Affairs for one year, the Shannon County School Board for two terms, and the Tribal Council for two terms.

Dick lent his leadership and good nature to many activities and events throughout the Pine Ridge Reservation. He announced countless ball games, parades, and rodeos, and was a familiar face at numerous sporting events over the years. Through his outstanding community involvement in these, and many other activities, the lives of countless South Dakotans were enormously enhanced.

One of the most important pieces of legislation Dick initiated was his bill to fund reservation nursing homes. Elderly Native Americans, living on South Dakota's reservations, are often forced to leave their families to find nursing home care far from home. Dick believed all South Dakotans deserve the right to convenient quality health care service. Although he did not live to see his dream realized, his work continues to inspire all those who knew him.

Dick's legislative achievements were extraordinary, but it was his dedication to helping others that serves as his greatest legacy. I am proud to have been a friend of Dick and of Mona, his deceased wife. Our Nation and South Dakota are far better places because of Dick's life, and while we miss him very much, the best way to honor his life is to emulate his commitment to public service and community.●

#### NATIONAL OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE WEEK

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, October 6–12, 2002 is National Osteopathic Medicine, NOM, Week, a week when the nation's 49,000 osteopathic physicians, D.O.s are focused on increasing the public's awareness of access to care issues for patients across the nation.

For almost 25 years now, the American Osteopathic Association, AOA, and its members have celebrated the osteopathic medical community's unified effort to educate the nation about issues influencing the American health care system. I am especially pleased the theme of this year's NOM Week is "Access to Care."

When osteopathic physicians, medical students, interns, residents and supporters of osteopathic medicine travel to Las Vegas, NV to attend the AOA's 107th Annual Convention and Scientific Seminar, nearly 8,000 will receive the latest information on issues impacting patients access to care quality and timely health care. The program covers such topics as professional liability insurance reform, rural health, the uninsured, SCHIP and other access to care programs for children, bioterrorism and mental health.