

However, unlike its counterparts in the nation's four other military services, the Coast Guard Band has never been led by an officer over the military grade of O-5. Captain-Select Buckley's promotion demonstrates the ascendancy of an institution with a laudable and grand tradition. Once regarded as the Coast Guard Academy's local music ensemble, the Coast Guard Band now routinely tours throughout the United States. It also often represents the Coast Guard around the world and will certainly promote a distinguished image of the country's new Department of Homeland Security.

The Coast Guard could not have found a finer leader to oversee the ongoing evolution of this important institution. Captain-Select Buckley is an accomplished jazz trumpeter as well as music composer, arranger, and director. He is the recipient of the American Legion's Distinguished Service Citation and two Meritorious Service Medals.

Since his appointment as conductor of the Band in 1975, Captain-Select Buckley has led the Coast Guard Band to play more concerts on air on National Public Radio than any other wind band, military or civilian—a fine testament to his able leadership and to the musical talent of the Coast Guard Band's men and women.

Mr. President, I am proud that my colleagues acted to confirm this nomination, to honor my constituent, Captain-Select Lewis J. Buckley, and to pay tribute to an historic musical institution, headquartered in New London, Connecticut.

PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the dedication and sacrifice of the men and women who have lost their lives while serving as public safety officers.

Tonight, in a candlelight vigil, the names of 56 officers who lost their lives last year will be added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial here in Washington, DC. This is a somber time to remember the perilous duties that law enforcement officers take on each and every day to protect our communities. The Memorial is a fitting tribute to honor those we have lost in the line of duty.

Sadly, Wisconsin owes three officers a special tribute for their service. I would like to honor them by placing their names in the RECORD along with the date of their untimely passing.

Officer Robert Etter, Hobart-Lawrence, July 22, 2002; Officer Stephanie Markins, Hobart-Lawrence, July 22, 2002; Deputy Melvin Sharpless of Waushara County, December 16, 2002.

I hope that these moments of recognition bring some solace to the officers' families and express our appreciation for their service. We are forever in their debt.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

PLANNED PARENTHOOD: SHASTA-DIABLO'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to share with my colleagues my thoughts on the 40th anniversary of Planned Parenthood: Shasta-Diablo, located in my home State of California.

It is my great honor to recognize the extraordinary contributions of Planned Parenthood: Shasta-Diablo, PPSD, as it celebrates its 40th anniversary. The Planned Parenthood Federation of America was founded in 1916 by visionary social reformer Margaret Sanger. In 1962, PPSD began serving Contra Costa County and now provides essential reproductive health care and public education to more than 100,000 women, men, and teenagers in 13 northern California counties. During these 40 years, PPSD has shown an unwavering commitment to providing the highest quality reproductive health services, regardless of income. For many low-income residents in these 13 counties, PPSD may be their only source of health care.

PPSD's dedication and leadership place it at the cutting edge of Planned Parenthood affiliates. PPSD has the distinction of having the largest education department of any Planned Parenthood affiliate in the United States. PPSD has been at the forefront of the fight against the spread of HIV/AIDS because it was the first Planned Parenthood affiliate in the United States to provide HIV testing in 1987. In 1990, PPSD was also one of the first affiliates to begin providing prenatal services. PPSD recognized that it is critically important to the health of a woman and her baby that she receive health care as early as possible in the pregnancy.

In addition to providing services at traditional health centers, PPSD has the largest number of express sites in the United States. At these express sites, PPSD partners with a wide range of community groups to provide birth control, including emergency contraception. Through the express sites, PPSD is able to serve high schools and colleges, homeless shelters, social service offices, and rural health departments. Underserved populations are able to get lifesaving services that might not otherwise be available to them. And high-risk youth are well served by PPSD's express sites and teen peer educators who offer advice that youth can really relate to.

Planned Parenthood: Shasta-Diablo would not have reached its 40th anniversary without the outstanding and exemplary leadership of two very special women. It is my pleasure to recognize Rosalie Ross, who served as executive director of PPSD for 10 years, and current president and CEO Heather Saunders Estes. Their dedication, foresight, and compassion are extraordinary and inspirational.

PPSD is "Celebrating Our Past, Protecting Our Future: 40 Years of Service, 30 Years of Choice" because this year we also commemorate the 30th anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*. The *Roe* decision saved countless lives by getting women out of the back alleys and into clean and safe facilities. The *Roe* decision has kept women from being forced to continue pregnancies that could endanger their health or render them infertile. The 30th anniversary of *Roe* commemorates not an isolated event, but a long and unending struggle for women's equality.

PPSD is an important part of that struggle. For the past 20 years, I have been fighting in Congress for reproductive rights. PPSD has stood by me, working hand in hands to protect a woman's right to choose. Planned Parenthood: Shasta-Diablo has been there for women, men, and teens for 40 years and I wish them another 40 years of success.●

HONORING DEVELOPMENT OF SISTER CITIES

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize two communities that will become "sister cities" on May 31, 2003. This association began in 1986, by chance, between the communities of Webster, SD and the borough of Dewangen Germany, in the town of Aalen. Their friendship arose when the Dewangen wrestling team and their coach, Tony Abele, visited the city of Webster for one week. This "match" has grown and flourished through the efforts of several members of the Webster community and their Mayor, Mike Grosek.

The Contract of Friendship will improve the mutual understanding between the people of these two nations, with the exchange of information to include sportive, cultural and municipal events. It will focus, above all, on the young people of both communities, imparting to them the understanding of each other's world view, problems and achievements and the importance of mutual responsibility for a peaceful co-existence.

Both communities and their elected representatives have entered into this contract of friendship in the name of their respective citizens. It is their request to accept and honor the joint responsibility for global peace and environment; to support exchanges in the field of culture, sports and economy, and to deepen the good relations based on friendship and common understanding.

I commend the city of Webster for its diligence in pursuing this contract of friendship, and I welcome the citizens of Dewangen, Germany to the great State of South Dakota.●

CONGRATULATING THE KAHUKU HIGH AND INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

• Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise to congratulate the team of students from

Kahuku High and Intermediate School of Kahuku, HI, on logging yet another bright performance for their school at the "We the People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution" national competition recently held here in our Nation's Capital. The team traveled over 5,000 miles to represent Hawaii in this competition, and won the Unit 3 award, "How the Values and Principles Embodied in the Constitution Shaped American Institutions and Practices," for the second consecutive year. On behalf of the people of Hawaii, I am proud to congratulate the Kahuku team.

As my colleagues are familiar, the We the People competition, administered by the Center for Civic Education, is a comprehensive program that assists students in understanding the history and principles of the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights. The academic competition simulates a congressional hearing where students, acting as expert witnesses, testify before a panel of prominent professionals from across the country to demonstrate their knowledge of constitutional issues. The program provides an excellent opportunity for students to gain an appreciation of the significance of our Constitution and its place in history and our lives today. As a former teacher, it heartens me to see our young people taking interest in learning about the sacred document which we in this Chamber work to uphold and defend, every day. It is only through the understanding of our Constitution and the Bill of Rights that we are able to perpetuate the democratic foundation upon which this great Nation was built. I applaud all students who participate in this competition for their hard work and dedication to civic education. We might well have future Senators and Members of Congress who are encouraged to enter public service because of their experiences in the We the People competition.

I am pleased to enter the names of the Kahuku team members for the record: Adriana Alghusseini, Daniel Allen, Dexter Bacon, Nicole Cameron, Ariane Cameros, Li Shieh Chen, Anthony Ching, William Ellis, Brooke Jones, Shantel Kaululaau, April Kekaula, Helene Keys, Malia Love, Leilani Miller, Andrew Savini, Jessica Schiaretti, Kristen Sickler, Bethany Smith, Ericka Staples, and Elizabeth Torres. I also take this opportunity to recognize their teacher Sandra Cashman, State Coordinator Lyla Berg, and District Coordinator Sharon Kaohi for all of their contributions in helping the Kahuku team prepare for the national competition.

Again, I congratulate the students and the faculty of Kahuku High and Intermediate School for their outstanding achievements. I am pleased to note that a team from this school has represented Hawaii in 9 of the past 11 national competitions. I join the people of Hawaii in expressing my pride in their impressive achievement.●

GRUNDY CENTER RECEIVES PE4LIFE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the people of Grundy Center, Iowa for their hard work and success in developing one of the Nation's best-all around physical education programs, in their schools and in the entire community. As a result of their leadership and dedication to physical fitness, Grundy Center has been selected to receive the PE4LIFE Community Achievement Award. In addition, the community will now serve other Iowans and the rest of the Nation as the second PE4LIFE Institute.

This is a great achievement, thanks in large part to Beth Kirkpatrick and Rick Schupbach, who for 15 years have served this community and dedicated themselves to building an innovative physical education program. The PE4LIFE program effectively reaches and inspires every student, regardless of athletic ability or experience, to become physically active for a lifetime. It is the kind of inclusive approach that will make a difference in Iowa and throughout the country. The need for what Rick and Beth will do as codirectors of the new PE4LIFE Institute has never been greater.

Obesity has become our Nation's fastest rising public health threat. The number of overweight and obese Americans has more than doubled in the last 30 years. The problem is especially serious for children; the number of overweight children is growing at a rate faster than the number of adults. If we don't do something to halt and reverse the trend, we will face a significant health care crisis. If we don't do something, our children, as they grow into adults, will face greater threats from diabetes, heart disease and other serious maladies related to being out of shape and overweight. It is now estimated that the annual cost of treating obesity related diseases is over \$100 billion per year.

Unfortunately, the solution is getting away from us. Physical education in our Nation's schools has declined. In 1991, only 42 percent of our Nation's students had daily physical education. Today that number is around 29 percent.

Physical education and daily physical activity go a long way to improving the overall health of our children. We need to improve on cardiovascular endurance, muscle strength, flexibility, help with weight regulation, bone development and posture. Teaching active lifestyle habits to children will go a long way to helping our children grow up to be active and healthy adults. An active lifestyle also promotes the constructive use of leisure time. Improving physical education in our schools is a sure way to influence these behavior patterns in our children.

Our kids are not in shape. They spend too much time in front of the TV, playing video games or working on their computers. The best way to get them

back on their feet is to improve the physical education they receive while they are in school. Programs like the new PE4LIFE Institute in Grundy Center are critically important to tackling this problem.

Before he was inaugurated, President-elect John F. Kennedy wrote an article for *Sports Illustrated* entitled, "The Soft American." He wrote:

For physical fitness is not only one of the most important keys to a healthy body: it is the basis of dynamic and creative intellectual activity. The relationship between the soundness of the body and the activities of the mind is subtle and complex. Much is not yet understood. But we do know what the Greeks know: that intelligence and skill can only function at the peak of their capacity when the body is healthy and strong; that hardy spirits and tough minds usually inhabit sound bodies.

President Kennedy would have been impressed by the people of Grundy Center. We are proud of their accomplishments, and we look forward to working with them in the future as they help Iowa and the rest of the Nation become more physically fit.●

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS SHEPARDSON

● Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, on February 18, New York lost one of its finest citizens. Thomas Shepardson was a Syracuse funeral director who helped change the way our Nation responds to incidents of mass fatality.

The Disaster Mortuary Operational Rescue Team, D-MORT, plan was created because Mr. Shepardson was disturbed by news reports of the exploitation of victims' families after a Texas air disaster in 1986. He convened a group of local morticians, first responders, and medical professionals to create a strategy that would be humane and team-oriented. Fortunately, the plan would never be used locally, but State officials would enlist Shepardson to devise a similar plan for the State of New York. He subsequently worked with FEMA and other government agencies to incorporate the D-MORT model into our national disaster medical system.

Tom Shepardson responded to the major disasters of the last decade including the Oklahoma City bombing. On September 11, 2001, he oversaw the national D-MORT response in New York, Pennsylvania and the Pentagon. Tom Shepardson was described by Gary Moore, deputy director of the Federal Office of Emergency Response, as "a man who spent his whole life working to help everyone . . . He was a one-man show who brought so much energy and commitment to this that it now involves about 5,000 people nationwide and made him known all around the world." I am grateful for Tom Shepardson's legacy of personal sacrifice and leadership.●