

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

COMMENDING THE LADIES AUXILIARY TO THE VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

• Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to commend the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars for their great work on behalf of our military members and veterans, and specifically those veterans and military personnel in the State of Georgia.

For many years, the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars has been involved in supporting our brave men and women in uniform and their families. Throughout the country many Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars are providing support and well wishes at our Nation's airports as soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines leave and return from Afghanistan, Kuwait, and Iraq. Members of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars also help the families of deployed troops meet such challenges as trying to fill the roles of absent parents, learning to stretch a reduced paycheck, and dealing with loneliness.

In the last year, the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars has provided many families and troops with Operation Uplink cards, which allow our troops to make long-distance phone calls to loved ones during challenging times. Additionally, members of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars have personally helped deployed service members' families by babysitting, providing transportation, helping with weekly tasks like mowing the lawn and grocery shopping, but most of all by being good listeners.

The Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars also provides scholarship funds for civically minded youth. Through various scholarship funds, the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars awards \$37,500 annually. Young people benefiting from these awards have outstanding achievement in academics, volunteerism, and the creative arts, and these awards allow them to extend these achievements even further.

The Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars also offers a unique program to its members. All members are eligible to receive a cancer grant, which is a lump sum gift given to a member who has been diagnosed with cancer. Two Cancer Research Fellowships are also offered by the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars. These grants are 1-year, \$50,000 postdoctoral fellowships, which are awarded each year to eligible scientists. The auxiliary provides these fellowships so that researchers can devote one year full-time to the challenge of cancer research.

I hope my colleagues will join with me today in commending the ladies auxiliary for their service and contribution on behalf of our military personnel and veterans. The Nation should

be proud and appreciative to have such an organization active and operating. I am especially proud to have them active in the State of Georgia and congratulate them for their accomplishments and their service to our country.●

RECOGNIZING THE CHESTERFIELD COUNTY EMS, POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS

• Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I am honored today to recognize the Emergency Medical Services, EMS, Police and Fire Departments of Chesterfield County. It is through their brave and steadfast actions during the floods of Tropical Storm Gaston that the lives of many Virginians were saved.

Throughout the evening and overnight hours on Monday, August 30, 2004, the remnants of Tropical Storm Gaston entered the Central Virginia area. Although the weather forecasts called for 1-3 inches of rain, Chesterfield County residents found themselves under as much as 10 inches of rain in some areas that night. As a result, numerous roads began to flood and several swift-water rescues had to be made in the complete darkness. These rescues tested the knowledge, skills and abilities of the members of Chesterfield Fire, Police and EMS; their heroic actions under the extreme pressures they faced that night saved many members of their community from life-threatening conditions.

Today, I commend: David A. Stone, James B. Anderson, Richard A. Holmes, Daniel Juan Robertson, Jim Fitch, Stuart Smith, Curtis Sink, Steve Stump, Mike Larkin, William Smith, Steve Traylor, Chris Harrell, Bill Jeffords, Mark Berry, Frank Blankenship, Brian Riffe, Jack Speed, Roger Warden, Bryce Ford, Brook Keenum, Rick Bucher, Jim Stanley and the many other rescuers from Chesterfield County who saved so many lives at their own peril on that fateful night.

I am pleased to recognize the selfless actions of these tremendous men and women, which demonstrate the incredible dedication, determination and courage they have in serving their community. Virginia should be proud of the brave work undertaken by the rescue workers in Chesterfield County. Their community is a better and safer place because of the job they did that night and each and every day.●

A TRIBUTE TO REV. DR. JOHN HERBERT SPENCER, SR.

• Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, today I honor Rev. Dr. John Herbert Spencer, Sr. who passed away on October 1, 2004 at the age of 83. Dr. Spencer was a compassionate man whose selflessness and devotion to his faith, family and community will be remembered for generations.

Dr. Spencer, a native of Greene County, AL, was born on December 7, 1920, to Manuel and Annie Eatman Spencer.

A graduate of the public schools in Greene County and Tuscaloosa, Dr. Spencer also attended Stillman College and Union Seminary. He became the pastor of Morning Star Baptist Church in Holt, AL in 1946 and remained at the church for 58 years. His leadership and devotion to the church spurred tremendous growth, including a new sanctuary and increased congregation.

He also preached at the following churches: Antioch Baptist Church in Hulls, AL, Hopewell Baptist Church in Lowndes County, Pleasant Green Baptist Church in Whitehall, New Mount Moriah Baptist Church in Tyler, and the Old Kingston Baptist Church in Prattville. Dr. Spencer also dedicated much of his time and energy to the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. and the Alabama Baptist State Convention, particularly as Missionary for the Northwest District since 1976 and locally as Record Secretary of the New Antioch Bethlehem District, NABD, Association and instructor in both the local and State Congress of Christian Education. He was the oldest and longest serving pastor in the NABD Association.

Dr. Spencer's influence played a vital role in the completion of the NABD Association's Religious Center and the Science Building and Dinkins Hall at Selma University. He served as both Vice Chairman and Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Selma University and was instrumental in efforts to secure the school's accreditation. Honorary Doctorate Degrees from Selma University, Birmingham Baptist Bible College and Easonian Theological Seminary are among his numerous awards and citations for his contributions to Baptist work.

Dr. Spencer married Lillian Brown Johnson in 1946, and they were the parents of eight children. He later married Kay Frances Turner in 1980, who survives him. He is also survived by his children: Rev. John H. Spencer, Jr. and his wife Debra; Rev. Simeon D. Spencer and wife Glynnis; Dr. Marjorie Spencer Campbell and husband Willie, Lillian M. Spencer; Jannis M. Glover and husband Donald and Dr. Faye Spencer Maor and husband Terver. He is also survived by two step-sons: Dr. Otis S. Johnson and Paul L. Johnson and wife Angeline; twelve grandchildren, and one great granddaughter.

Indeed, Dr. Spencer's willingness to share his faith had a positive impact on everyone with whom he came in contact. He will be missed by his family, friends, and the many lives he touched through his ministry.●

THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OAKLAND LIVINGSTON HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the Oakland Livingston Human Services Agency. The mission of this agency is to help low-income, elderly and disabled individuals become self-sufficient, and OLHSA

has been extremely successful in this pursuit. With over 70 programs, OLHSA has assisted over 30,000 low-income, elderly and disabled individuals living in Oakland and Livingston counties become more self-reliant, thereby improving their quality of life. Over the last forty years, the efforts of OLHSA have improved the lives and livelihoods of Michigan citizens across the two counties.

Elderly citizens in Southeastern Michigan can turn to OLHSA for a variety of resources and services. Senior centers, located in Pontiac and Novi, provide facilities for older adults to eat nutritious meals, attend exercise classes and socialize. The Senior AIDES program provides employment and training opportunities for older adults, opening the door to career options that would otherwise be unavailable because of their age and/or inexperience. Volunteers are dispatched to homes around the community to assist elderly individuals with household chores and yard work that they can no longer perform themselves.

The Oakland Livingston Human Services Agency also provides support and advocacy to low-income families and other struggling individuals. If a family or an individual is in an emergency situation, they can turn to OLHSA for immediate help. OLHSA provides the necessary assistance to those in need through food banks, emergency utility assistance and emergency housing. In addition, the Oakland Livingston Human Services Agency provides long-term aid to the surrounding community. OLHSA's Financial Education Program offers informational classes on money management, tax law, insurance options and a variety of other topics. It also provides counseling on childcare, nutrition and other problems that face the community. Those who take advantage of these classes and counseling sessions acquire the knowledge and skills they need to make it on their own and overcome their problems. OLHSA has worked consistently to reduce the causes and consequences of poverty in Oakland and Livingston counties, and I know I can speak for my constituents when I say the people of Michigan sincerely appreciate the good work they have done.

I know my Senate colleagues will join me in offering congratulations to the Oakland Livingston Human Services Agency on its 40th anniversary. We recognize and thank the dedicated staff and volunteers who have made the organization successful over the years, and I wish them many more years of service to the community.●

THANK YOU, SENATE POSTMASTER HARRY GREEN

● Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, since September 11, 2001, outstanding members of our Senate family have stepped forward to deal with the many challenges this institution has faced. One such

leader is Harry Green, who I appointed to be the Senate Postmaster in January 1997.

I have known Harry Green all my life.

I rise today to wish Harry the very best as he plans to retire yet again at the end of October and return to our native State of Mississippi.

Harry began his career in 1961 with the United States Postal Service in Pascagoula, MS. After only 10 years, he was promoted into a supervisory role which led to his becoming the postmaster in Pascagoula. In 1985 he was transferred to Lafayette, LA, where he served as postmaster there until his retirement in 1992.

After I became majority leader, I coaxed Harry out of retirement in 1997 to become the postmaster of the United States Senate.

During his tenure with the Senate Post Office, he has been faced with two significant biological/chemical challenges, anthrax in October 2001 and ricin in February 2004. Because of Harry's experience and demeanor, both attacks on the Senate were met with calm leadership and competent direction and stability.

After the 2001 anthrax incident, Harry led the Senate Post Office team in a collaborative effort with U.S. Postal Service representatives to ensure the delivery of mail in a safe and timely manner. He and his team have received accolades for their performance and responsiveness in combating these threats to the Senate mail service.

Harry also has proven himself an outstanding steward of appropriated funds. By utilizing existing resources and without compromising customer service, he has improved the quality of the Senate Post Office's service, in normal times as well as during crises, while still managing to spend about 58 percent less than other similar government agencies.

I wish Harry well as he plans his retirement as postmaster of the Senate and leaves the Washington, DC area to be closer to his family. Harry has a lovely bride, Ilone, of 42 years, four children and five grandchildren. His post-retirement plans are to return to Pascagoula and its picturesque view of the Gulf of Mexico where he can enjoy full-time his hobbies of boating and watching SEC football and NASCAR racing.

We will all miss Harry's excellent leadership, gentle nature and good humor here in the U.S. Senate. Harry, I will see you, riding our bicycles on the beach.●

AN AMERICAN PATRIOT

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I rise today to honor an American patriot who, although not American by birth, demonstrated the best ideals of our country. Steen Christian Fischer was born in 1920 in Copenhagen, Denmark; he died in August in Boise, ID, and I

had the opportunity to get to know him during the last ten years of his life. Steen had a wonderful outlook on life and believed strongly in freedom and opportunity. Prior to the German occupation of Denmark during World War II he served in the Danish Navy. After the occupation, when the Navy was disbanded by the Germans, he joined the Danish Resistance and was a part of the remarkably successful evacuation of Danish Jews to neutral Sweden. He was ultimately captured by the Gestapo in Copenhagen, sentenced to be hanged, and transported to Neuengamme Concentration Camp near Hamburg. His sentence was not carried out as the paperwork never arrived. Of 106,000 inmates at Neuengamme only 55,000 survived. After 9 months in the camp, with the Allied army approaching, the surviving inmates were loaded onto a train to be transported to another camp, but he and some friends jumped off the train and escaped to freedom into the surrounding countryside. He spent the rest of the war hidden in various locations in Denmark. As soon as he could do so after the war ended, Steen emigrated to the United States and continued his quest for freedom and opportunity.

In New York State, he met a lovely young woman, Mary Anne Bruun, who also had Danish ancestry, and married her. Together they became the parents of seven children—Peter, Anne, Douglas, Barbara, Paul, Karin, and Mary. He called his children "the best thing in his life" and he passed his zest for life onto them. Steen was fearless and wanted to experience all that he could in the world. He told his children he wanted them to develop "wide horizons;" he was willing to go anywhere, do anything for the experience. Steen was the kind of guy who would take the dotted line on the map over the freeway every time. He was successful in passing down that philosophy to those seven children who have lived all over the world and are passing onto the next generation of Fischers that attitude of "wide horizons."

During Steen's last decade of life, he spent his time in Idaho where his commitment to freedom and his efforts during World War II were recognized by Idaho Governor Dirk Kempthorne. The Danish government considered him a hero and awarded him a war pension. His experiences were recorded for the U.S. Holocaust Museum and stand as a testament to the efforts of so many like him throughout the world who are committed to freedom.

Steen passed away in August of 2004 at the age of 83, having lived a remarkable, courageous life. He will be remembered by so many who loved him as well as many who had found freedom through his efforts during World War II. There is no higher compliment I can pay him that to call him a patriot who found freedom during some of the darkest times in our world's history. He will be missed, but never forgotten.●