

the Jennifer Steensen Field of Dreams Therapeutic Riding Program of Granger, IO. This outstanding program provides therapeutic riding and driving programs for individuals with physical and mental disabilities and children in at-risk situations.

The program has provided over 2000 hours of horseback riding lessons to clients aged two to 80 with disabilities that include cerebral palsy, intellectual disabilities, spinal bifida, blindness, ADHD, learning disabilities and brain injury. On average, 80 individuals participate in this program every year.

I would like to pay tribute to the dedicated volunteers who make this program successful. One such individual is Lisa Quam, who volunteers once a week at the stables to share her laughter and love of horses with the riders. Matthew Vujnovich of Des Moines is one of the many clients who have benefited from the time and talents of the program's volunteers. Matthew has autism and Lisa's friendship and guidance with the horses has helped develop his fine motor skills, muscles and independence.

I am dedicated to the principles of the Americans with Disabilities Act: equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for millions of Americans with physical and mental disabilities. The Jennifer Steensen Field of Dreams Therapeutic Riding Program advances these principles and helps clients develop critical life-skills. I applaud their efforts and thank them for all that they have accomplished.●

#### ZACH HEBL'S ACHIEVEMENT ON BEHALF OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, as we all know, this is an election year. Whether you are a Democrat or a Republican, both parties recognize the importance of civic engagement this year. That is why I want to recognize the efforts of Zach Hebl, an Eagle Scout from Cedar Township, IA. When 15-year-old Zach learned that his parents' polling location was not accessible to people with disabilities, he coordinated an effort to construct a sidewalk, parking lot, and wooden access ramp at Cedar Township Hall, a Johnson county polling location, so that everyone in his precinct had an equal opportunity to cast their ballot.

Zach's achievement is particularly important because as of September of 2003, there were approximately 300 precincts in Iowa that did not meet the standards of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Without renovation, these locations will shut down in 2006 and close their doors to voters. Thanks to Zach, Cedar Township Hall was the first site to be removed from this list. I would like to print in the RECORD this article from the Cedar Rapids Gazette which describes Zach's project in great detail.

The article follows:

Cedar Rapids Gazette, August 26, 2003:

Fifteen-year-old Zach Hebl didn't want to see the one-room schoolhouse become just a symbol of the past.

The old schoolhouse, which closed in the 1950s, has served as the township's polling place for at least 60 years but was in danger of no longer being an allowable voting site because it failed to meet Americans With Disabilities Act, or ADA, requirements.

That's when Hebl got the idea to bring the old building up to current standards by building a ramp and deck onto the building.

"I've always figured I could be voting here one day and wanted to do something so that I could do that," said Hebl, who lives on a farm in Cedar Township about two miles south of the schoolhouse.

Hebl began working on the project, which he will use as an Eagle Scout project, in mid-April. He developed plans for multiple ramps and made a presentation to the Cedar Township Board of Trustees. He researched the ADA requirements and prepared cost estimates. By mid-July, both the Scouts and trustees approved the project.

"We were glad somebody came along to take this project over," said Don Brannaman, a trustee who has lived in Cedar Township for 55 years. "We were going to have to find a way to do this."

Hebl worked with his Eagle Scout adviser, Jim Jacob, 51, a structural engineer with Van Winkle-Jacob Engineering in Coralville, to conduct site elevations and choose the best design.

"This building has got a lot of significance," said Jacob, who lives in Cedar Township and has voted at the building since 1983. "If people couldn't vote here, nobody would take care of the building, and it would fall into disrepair."

On Saturday, it was evident many residents didn't want that to happen. A group of 25 kids, mostly fellow members of Troop 120, and 19 adults arrived at the job site to help build the 24-foot-long ramp and deck. Installation of the posts began Friday, and the final touch on the project, a large concrete parking slab and sidewalk to the ramp, will be installed in September.

"We wouldn't want to vote anyplace else," said Loretta Basten, 58, who attended the one-room schoolhouse until third grade when it closed in the 1950s. She was bringing snacks to the site.

"There are students who go to college and come back just so they can cast a ballot here," Basten said.

In August, Chet Culver, Secretary of the State of Iowa, and I had the privilege of attending a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new polling place. There to support Zach were his parents, Boy Scout Troop 120, and many members of the community. It was a proud moment for Cedar Township as Zach cut that ribbon. He is a wonderful example of how one person can truly impact a community simply by acting upon an idea.

As the author of the ADA, I am always glad to see progress toward its four great goals—equality of opportunity, full participation, independent living, and economic self-sufficiency for individuals with disabilities. Zach's work is critical to ensuring equality in voting and full participation in our democratic system, which formerly was not available to the people in his County and still is not available for many Iowans. Even though Zach is too young to vote, he serves as a role

model to Eagle Scouts and young people across the country. He proves that one person can make a tremendous difference.●

#### HONORING LT. COLONEL JOHN McCANCE, USAF

● Mr. MILLER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Lt. Colonel John McCance, who will complete his 3-year tour of duty with the United States Air Force's Office of Legislative Affairs at the end of this year.

Most people don't know that our services have liaison offices within Congress. Even many servicemembers don't know these offices exist. And, yet, they are a vital link between the United States Senate and the Department of Defense.

Liaison officers are chosen because of their wealth of knowledge, ability to handle a pressure-packed environment with high-maintenance staffers, and their discernment in making tough decisions. They generally have significant experience and a long track record of outstanding performance. Simply put, Service liaisons are the best of the best.

The Air Force has been fortunate to have Lt. Colonel John McCance as a vital member of its liaison team here in the Senate. He has demonstrated the superior caliber and quality of Air Force officers with which we are all familiar. I know I speak for many of my fellow Members in expressing our profound regret at his departure. Yet I know that the Air Force Reserve has many good things planned for John and that our country will surely benefit from his experience in his future assignments.

On behalf of the Senate, I thank John McCance for his service to the Nation and to the United States Air Force Reserve, and I thank his wife, Wendy, and his daughters, Lauren and Katie, for their steadfast support while he fulfilled this essential duty. We in the U.S. Senate, and I personally, wish them all the best as Lt. Colonel McCance returns to his civilian career and tackles new challenges.●

#### TRIBUTE TO WAYNE BERRY

● Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I rise today to take this opportunity to honor Wayne Berry from Dallas, TX, as he celebrates his 50th anniversary working for Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control and its predecessor companies on November 3, 2004.

In 1954, at the age of 24, Mr. Berry began his career with Lockheed Martin as a machinist from Temco Electronics and Missiles. After graduating from the University of Texas at Arlington in 1968, he joined the Environmental Test Lab as an Environmental Test Technician. Over the next 38 years, Mr. Berry contributed significantly to the growth of the Environmental Test Lab and, for the past 10 years, he has been assigned responsibilities as Quality Engineering Project Manager.

Over his tenure, Mr. Berry has set a high standard with his dedication to his job and has acquired knowledge and experience which has been valuable to his company and its work for the United States government. Fifty years with an organization is a remarkable testament of this tireless Texan. I know my colleagues will join me in honoring Mr. Berry on his accomplishments and wishing him continued success with Lockheed Martin.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CHARLES WOODS

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I rise to commemorate the recent death of one of Alabama's most remarkable men, Charles Woods of Dothan, AL. Mr. Woods, who was 83 years old, died October 17 in Dothan after an extended illness. Mr. Woods lived an extraordinary life. Orphaned until age 6, he worked hard and became a decorated World War II pilot who was severely burned in a plane crash in India as he and his crew were on their way to China over the Himalayan Mountains. Mr. Woods was riding as check pilot in a C-109 supply aircraft when the accident occurred. The plane crashed off the end of the runway, and Captain Woods was able to open the window on his side of the cockpit and stumble away from the flaming aircraft. The training pilot and two other crew members perished. That crash left Mr. Woods scarred but not beaten. His powerful drive to survive his burns was the same drive that made him a highly successful businessman.

After the war, Mr. Woods established successful real estate and media businesses that included the launching of Dothan's first television station, WTVY-TV. Still, he had a deep interest in politics and ran a number of high profile races that did not lead to victory but captured the attention of the people of Alabama and certainly his opponents. I well remember as a teenager watching his dramatic story produced as part of his first campaign for Governor. It was a powerful piece. I believe this early "infomercial" was a breakthrough in political campaigning and now, with the advent of cable television, has become more common.

He ran a strong race for the U.S. Senate in 1996 and his surge in the polls got the attention of all of us in that Republican primary. After I got in the runoff, I was very pleased that he chose to immediately endorse my candidacy. He was gracious and affirming. I valued that highly because everyone knew that Charles Woods was a courageous and independent minded person whose goal was to improve the lives of all Alabamians. His endorsement gave my campaign a real boost. Since that time, I had the opportunity to talk with him on a number of occasions, to appreciate his insight and decisiveness, and to become friends. He spoke to me of his faith on more than one occasion.

Mr. Woods' 10 children, 17 grandchildren and one great grandchild have received a tremendous legacy. Charles

Woods was truly a giant of a man who overcame tremendous adversity to achieve extraordinary things. His was an American story of almost unbelievable achievement.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, 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 sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

#### AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND JAPAN ON SOCIAL SECURITY—PM 96

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Pursuant to section 233(e)(1) of the Social Security Act, as amended by the Social Security Amendments of 1977 (Public Law 95-216, 42 U.S.C. 433 (e)(1)), I transmit herewith the Agreement between the United States of America and Japan on Social Security, which consists of two separate instruments: a principal agreement and an administrative arrangement. The Agreement was signed at Washington on February 19, 2004.

The United States-Japan Agreement is similar in objective to the social security agreements already in force with Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Korea, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. Such bilateral agreements provide for limited coordination between the United States and foreign social security systems to eliminate dual social security coverage and taxation, and to help prevent the lost benefit protection that can occur when workers divide their careers between two countries. The United States-Japan Agreement contains all provisions mandated by section 233 and other provisions which I deem appropriate to carry out the purposes of section 233, pursuant to section 233(c)(4).

I also transmit for the information of the Congress a report prepared by the Social Security Administration explaining the key points of the Agreement, along with a paragraph-by-paragraph explanation of the provisions of

the principal agreement and the related administrative arrangement. Annexed to this report is the report required by section 233(e)(1) of the Social Security Act, a report on the effect of the Agreement on income and expenditures of the United States Social Security program and the number of individuals affected by the Agreement.

The Department of State and the Social Security Administration have recommended the Agreement and related documents to me.

I commend to the Congress the United States-Japan Social Security Agreement and related documents.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, November 17, 2004.

#### REPORT RELATIVE TO THE NON-SUITABILITY OF THE SQUIRREL RIVER IN ALASKA AS AN ADDITION TO THE NATIONAL WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS SYSTEM—PM 97

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

I transmit herewith the enclosed study, findings, and report for the Squirrel River in Alaska. The report and my recommendations are submitted pursuant to my authority under Article II, section 3, of the Constitution of the United States, and consistent with section 5(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSR) Act, Public Law 90-542, as amended. The Squirrel River suitability study was authorized by Public Law 96-487 (Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act).

The study conducted by the Bureau of Land Management determined that all 100 miles of the river are nonsuitable for inclusion in the National WSR System. Consistent with the study, I recommend that the Congress take no action to designate the river. The withdrawal provided by section 5(a) of the WSR Act would expire within 3 years of the date of this message (unless other action is taken by the Congress). Approximately 81,501 acres of State-selected lands would be opened to mineral entry although mineral potential has been assessed as very low and there are no past or active mining claims.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, November 17, 2004.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:21 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.J. Res. 110. Joint resolution recognizing the 60th anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge during World War II.