

Dr. Height worked ceaselessly to bring attention to the struggle of African-American women. Some of these innovative programs include: Operation Woman Power, a project to expand business ownership by women; the Women's Center for Education and Career Advancement, a facility established to empower minority women in nontraditional careers; and the Bethune Museum and Archives, a museum devoted to the history of African-American women.

Among her other roles, Dr. Height was the only female member of the "Big Six" civil rights leaders, alongside James Farmer, Roy Wilkins, Whitney Young, A. Philip Randolph, and Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. She was a mainstay at countless civil and human rights events in the 1960s and organized "Wednesdays in Mississippi," a program that brought together Black and White women from the North and South to create a dialogue of understanding.

Throughout her years of public service, Dr. Height has received numerous awards for her pursuit of equality including: the Spingarn Award, the highest honor given by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP; the Presidential Medal of Freedom, awarded by President Clinton; the William L. Dawson Award, given by the Congressional Black Caucus for decades of service to people of color and women; the Citizens Medal Award for distinguished service, presented by President Reagan; and her most recent honor, the Congressional Gold Medal, presented by the 108th Congress of the United States.

Dr. Dorothy Height has been a clear voice in expressing the needs of not only African-American women, but of all women. She is a living legend, a catalyst for growth and positive change in our great country.

I proudly congratulate Dr. Dorothy Irene Height on the awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal and for her commitment to equality and civil rights in America.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### THE GREEN STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I would like to take the opportunity to honor the 160th birthday of the Green Street Baptist Church in Louisville, KY.

The Green Street Baptist Church is one of the oldest and most established African-American churches in Kentucky. It has served as a spiritual focal point for Louisville since it was founded as the Second African Baptist Church by nine slaves. On September 29, 1844 it was opened as the Green Street Baptist Church by pastor Brother George Wells.

The Green Street Baptist Church is a historic place that has played a signifi-

cant role for African-Americans in Louisville. The present church was built in 1930 by the noted African-American architect Samuel Plato. In August of 1967, with H.W. Jones as pastor, the church hosted a rally for voter registration led by Dr. Martin Luther King.

As one of the U.S. Senators from Kentucky, I know how important a wonderful center like the Green Street Baptist Church can be to a community. One of the more prominent trustees and a treasurer of the church was a man named Ben Duke, who lived to be 100 years old. I have no doubt that his rewarding involvement with such a great organization like the Green Street Baptist Church contributed to his longevity.

I congratulate the Green Street Baptist Church on this momentous occasion of its 160th anniversary. I hope the church will continue to serve the Louisville community another 160 years and beyond.●

##### LEAGUE OF UNITED LATIN AMERICAN CITIZENS

• Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, this year marks the 75th Anniversary of the League of United Latino American Citizens, commonly known as LULAC. This national organization was founded in 1929 to fight for the civil rights of all Hispanic Americans. The LULAC founders saw a need for an organization that would strive for equality, fight discrimination and injustice, help Hispanics to claim their rights as United States Citizens and to have access to the American Dream.

Due to their success in the southwest, LULAC continued to open up chapters all over the United States. LULAC's first council was formed in Iowa in 1959 and continues to have a strong presence today. They have prospered over the past 45 years and continue to be a leader in Iowa, fighting for the rights of Latino Iowans.

LULAC has worked to affect national policy so that it better reflects the different cultures living in the United States. They continue to work tirelessly to reduce discrimination, close the achievement gap and improve the immigration laws and system.

LULAC seeks to reduce disparities in political representation. They work to develop leaders among the young Latino men and women in Iowa. Rita Vargas, a previous member of my staff, was nominated as "LULAC's Woman of the Year" in 2001, and has since been elected to the position of Scott County Recorder.

The Latino community is a vital, growing part of today's Iowa. In this great country, we find strength in our diversity. Iowa is stronger economically and richer culturally thanks to the many contributions of our Latino friends, neighbors and colleagues.

I would like to say thank you to LULAC for all their hard work in Iowa and throughout the country. I wish

them the best as they continue their community activism.●

##### TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JOELLEN de BERG, UNITED STATES AIR FORCE NURSE CORPS

• Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I wish to recognize a great American and true military heroine who has honorably served our country for over 31 years in the United States Air Force Nurse Corps: COL Joellen de Berg. Colonel de Berg began her military career as a reservist with assignments in Arizona, Pennsylvania, and Ohio. After serving as flight nurse, instructor, and evaluator in C-123 and C-130 aircraft, she entered active duty in July, 1978, at Malcolm Grow Medical Center, Andrews Air Force Base, MD. She quickly rose through the ranks and served throughout the world, including in the Philippines, Ohio, California, Oklahoma, Maryland, Illinois, Texas, Washington, District of Columbia, and Japan.

In each assignment, Colonel de Berg excelled and was rewarded with greater responsibilities. In 1983, her performances led to a below-the-zone promotion to the rank of major 3 years ahead of her peers. After serving as manager of emergency services at Wright-Patterson AFB, she transitioned from the clinical arena to medical readiness inspector, Air Force Inspector General, Norton AFB, CA. Once again, her exemplary performance led to a second below-the-zone promotion to lieutenant colonel. After serving as the associate director of nursing at Malcolm Grow Medical Center, she went on to serve as congressional fellow, U.S. Senate, Defense Appropriations Subcommittee. Her service in this capacity led to her appointment as chief of strategic plans, U.S. Air Force Surgeon General's Office, Bolling AFB, Washington, DC.

With her path to executive leadership clearly set, Colonel de Berg served as chief nurse at Tinker AFB and Andrews AFB. At Andrews, she assumed command of the Eighty-ninth Medical Operations Squadron. Her remarkable leadership earned her selection as group commander, Thirty-fifth Medical Group, Misawa, Japan. Colonel de Berg then assumed responsibilities as command nurse and chief, Primary Care Optimization, Office of the Command Surgeon, Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB, IL.

Colonel de Berg's last assignment was in the State she considers home. She returned to Texas, as chief, Nurse Utilization and Education Branch, Air Force Personnel Center, Randolph AFB. In this position, she was responsible for managing assignments, career progression, and sponsored educational opportunities for 4,000 Air Force nurses.

Colonel de Berg is a meritorious leader, administrator, clinician, educator, and mentor. Throughout her career she has served with valor and profoundly

impacted the entire Air Force Medical Service. Her performance reflects exceptionally on herself, the United States Air Force, the Department of Defense, and the United States of America. I extend my deepest appreciation to COL Joellen de Berg on behalf of a grateful Nation for more than 31 years of dedicated military service.●

#### NAVY AIRMAN JUSTIN TEAGUE

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I would like to take the opportunity to honor U.S. Navy Airman Justin Teague of Benton, KY. Eighteen-year-old Justin Teague shipped out aboard the USS *Enterprise* in October of 2003 as a teenager newly graduated from high school and returned March 28, 2004, as an American soldier.

The USS *Enterprise* was deployed October 1, 2003 and visited the northern Arabian Gulf, Afghanistan, Italy, Spain, as well as a few other countries. Teague's job on the flight deck, where he secured planes that had landed and towed them into position, is vital for the function of the carrier. Justin admits his position was stressful but the hardest thing he had to endure was losing his best friend from home in a car accident while at sea. Despite missing the funeral, he remained positive throughout his journey and hopes to make a career out of the military.

Justin Teague's parents are exceedingly proud of their son, and I am proud to have him as a fellow Kentuckian. In this time of conflict, it is important to remember the young people who risk their lives to ensure our freedom. Men like Justin should be commended for their dedication and hard work in the military. We need to remember to thank our soldiers whenever the opportunity arises.●

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION

● Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to extend my congratulations to the American Lung Association as it celebrates its 100th anniversary.

One of our Nation's foremost health advocacy groups, the American Lung Association was established in 1904 as the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis, a cause to which it remains very much devoted. From its early years during which it focused on promoting basic sanitation measures, the ALA has grown into a leader in the fields of health education and biomedical research, contributing over \$11 million in 2003 alone to the study of lung disease.

The American Lung Association has long been at the forefront of efforts to warn the American public of the dangers of smoking. In fact, the ALA predated the Surgeon General by 4 years in establishing a link between tobacco use and chronic lung disease, issuing a public health statement on the risks of tobacco use as early as 1960. Subse-

quent public information campaigns, especially those targeting America's youth, have helped cut smoking rates drastically over the past two decades.

In the hope of addressing a root cause of lung disease, the American Lung Association has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of the air we breathe. This organization played a crucial role in the development and implementation of the 1970 Clean Air Act, and since then has provided a strong voice for improving emissions standards and reducing children's exposure to poor air quality in schools.

Over the years, the American Lung Association has risen time after time to the task of combating new health challenges. Recognizing the growing problem of asthma, the ALA has initiated a number of programs to help local officials, parents, and their children combat and manage this disease. And in 1996, the ALA established their Asthma Clinical Research Center network, a program with an annual budget of \$3.5 million, consisting of 19 university and hospital centers and a coordinating center at the Johns Hopkins University.

I commend the ALA for its outstanding achievements over the past century, and I offer my best wishes for a successful future.●

#### OREGON VETERAN HERO

● Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, today I rise to honor an Oregon veteran who went above and beyond the call of duty in service to his country. On February 19, 1941, 16-year-old Mike Ryan left high school and voluntarily enlisted in the United States Army to serve in World War II.

Private Ryan underwent basic training at Fort Mills on Corregidor in Manila Bay. Japanese bombing attacks on the island intensified and ultimately led to the fall of Corregidor. U.S. forces surrendered on May 6, 1942. Pvt. Mike Ryan and other troops in the southern part of the Philippines became Japanese prisoners of war.

Ryan and hundreds of other prisoners were taken to Manila, were paraded through the streets and taken to prison, and transported to a prison camp in Cabanatuan, Philippines.

For the next 3 years, Mike Ryan suffered immensely, enduring hunger, fatigue, and sickness in a Japanese forced labor camp. The conditions were dismal; food and clothing were scarce and the heat was intense. After spending time in a holding area, which was nothing more than a cow pasture with no sanitary facilities, Ryan was sent out on work details and later transferred to prison.

Thirty-seven percent of the prisoners did not survive. Mike says he never gave up hope, saying he always knew he would come back someday. On September 13, 1945, Ryan and his fellow prisoners were released from captivity. Mike Ryan had spent a total of 3 years, 4 months, and 6 days as a prisoner of war.

After spending a short time in a military hospital in Denver, CO, Ryan was honorably discharged from the service on June 20, 1946.

On March 30, 1948, he married and moved to Oregon. Mike worked at a plywood mill in Lebanon for more than 40 years until it shut down in 1985. Ryan served as the department commander of American Ex-prisoners of War. Now retired, Ryan enjoys spending his time with his wife of 56 years and his family. He has two sons, four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren.

Mike Ryan made many sacrifices by entering the military at such a young age. He never had the opportunity to finish high school and receive his diploma. Last session, the Oregon Legislative Assembly passed S. 374 allowing World War II veterans who left school to serve in the war to receive their high school diploma. Ryan is hoping he will graduate this year with the Lebanon, OR class of 2004.

Now 79 years old, Ryan looks back on his life and gratitude, thankful for the opportunity to serve his country.

For his selfless service to others, and to the United States in time of war, I salute Mike Ryan as an Oregon veteran hero.●

#### NOTIFICATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S INTENT TO ENTER INTO A FREE TRADE AGREEMENT WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC—PM 74

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:*

Consistent with section 2105(a)(1)(A) of the Trade Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-210; the "Trade Act"), I am pleased to notify the Congress of my intent to enter into a free trade agreement (FTA) with the Government of the Dominican Republic.

This agreement will create new opportunities for America's workers, farmers, businesses, and consumers by eliminating barriers to trade with the Dominican Republic, the largest economy in the Caribbean Basin. At the same time, it will help bring to the Dominican Republic expanded economic freedom and opportunity, and it will provide an opportunity for regional stability, democracy, and economic development through closer ties of commerce, investment, and friendship.

Consistent with the Trade Act, I am sending this notification at least 90 days in advance of entering into an agreement with the Dominican Republic. My administration looks forward to working with the Congress in developing appropriate legislation to approve and implement this free trade agreement.

GEORGE W. BUSH  
THE WHITE HOUSE, March 24, 2004.