

ice and hypothesized ocean water underneath, and relay this data back to Earth. The team's project included scale drawings of the tool, and a science fiction story highlighting the tool being used by explorers on Europa.

As a Stellar Design Challenges Team, the Iverson students will attend the national Space Day 2004 ceremony and meet former Senator John Glenn and NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe. They will also have the opportunity to share their knowledge by displaying their project to more than 1,200 sixth graders in the Washington, DC, area on Space Day.

Their efforts reflect a lot of hard work, dedication and creativity as well as Iverson Elementary School's strong commitment to academic excellence. Please join me in congratulating Iverson Elementary School and its Stellar Design Challenges team on their impressive accomplishment.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN LUNG ASSOCIATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I congratulate the American Lung Association as it celebrates its centennial year.

The American Lung Association, established in 1904 as the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis, was the first nationwide, voluntary health organization aimed at conquering a specific disease.

While still committed to its initial cause, the Lung Association has expanded its research, education, and advocacy to combat other challenges to the respiratory health of the American people.

In the 1950s, the ALA realized that it was becoming increasingly difficult to concentrate on the eradication of tuberculosis without paying attention to other related illnesses. So it expanded its program goals to include the elimination of all forms of lung disease and their causes.

In 1960, long before the dangers of smoking were understood, the ALA established a link between cigarette smoking and lung cancer. It subsequently began an aggressive campaign to educate the public—especially young people and those with chronic respiratory disease—about the hazards of cigarette smoking.

In the 1970s, the ALA sought to reduce the harmful effects of air pollution and played a major role in the adoption of the landmark Clean Air Act.

More recently, the ALA has partnered with schools to provide education programs for children with asthma and public information campaigns to prevent smoking among America's youth.

Today, more than 35 million Americans are living with chronic lung disease, and every year, close to 344,000 Americans die of lung disease, making it the Nation's No. 3 killer.

In Nevada, which has one of the highest rates of lung cancer in the Nation,

nearly 1,300 people died of the disease last year, and another 1,500 new cases were diagnosed. These numbers underscore the importance of the ALA's goal of a world free of lung disease.

I salute the thousands of volunteers and staff of the American Lung Association for their tireless work in fighting lung disease over the last century, and extend my best wishes for a successful future.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK

• Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, today marks the beginning of Public Service Recognition Week, which has been celebrated annually since 1985. It is a time in which we honor the hundreds of thousands of public servants who perform the essential services that Americans depend on every day.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of this event, and I thank my colleagues for their support in passing, under unanimous consent, legislation I introduced to commend public servants for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week. The resolution, which was cosponsored by the leadership of the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee, Senators COLLINS, LIEBERMAN, FITZGERALD, DURBIN, VOINOVICH, LEVIN, and COLEMAN, as well as Senator MURRAY, the ranking member of the Transportation, Treasury, and General Government Appropriations Subcommittee, was introduced on April 8, 2004.

Public Service Recognition Week provides us with an opportunity to acknowledge the work that public servants perform and their commitment to community and country. The work they do affects all of us. Public servants include teachers, members of the Armed Forces, civilian defense workers, postal employees, food inspectors, law enforcement officers, firemen, social workers, crossing guards, and road engineers.

These men and women are the backbone of what makes America great. They deserve our respect and gratitude; and yet for too long, public servants have not been given the recognition they deserve. We must do all we can to foster a better understanding of public service among all Americans and promote public service as an option for young people. As a former educator, I believe it is time to call on a new generation of Americans to consider public service, which is why I am pleased that some schools are now requiring a period of public service in order to graduate.

The Federal Government should be viewed as an employer of choice, not as a safe harbor in times of economic weakness. But to attract, retain, and train the best and the brightest, Federal agencies must have adequate fund-

ing for Federal employee incentive programs, such as the repayment of student loans. I call on my colleagues to ensure that Congress plays an active role in supporting the Federal workforce. Eliminating funding for these programs does not benefit Federal employees or the ultimate end user: the American taxpayer.

In closing, I wish to pay particular attention to the men and women who serve in our Armed Forces and the civilian employees who support military missions. All are key to the security and defense of our Nation. From the war against terrorism to the ongoing conflict in Iraq, our military and civilian support staff show courage in the face of adversity. As with the country's Armed Forces, Federal employees are ready, willing, and able to make the world safe.

As we begin Public Service Recognition Week, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting our Nation's public servants and thanking them for the jobs they do. •

NATIONAL TIRE SAFETY WEEK

• Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, today I wish to talk about tire safety. Just last week, we recognized National Tire Safety Week. Now in its third year, National Tire Safety Week is sponsored by the Rubber Manufacturers Association, and supported by numerous other organizations, to help educate consumers about the importance of tire safety.

Combined with safer roads and more responsible drivers, improved vehicle safety is essential to help reduce the tragic number of motor vehicle injuries and fatalities that occur each year. Tire pressure and tread depth are critical safety components of any automobile. Under-inflated tires and worn or damaged tread can cause tire blowouts and hydroplaning—both of which can lead to devastating accidents on our highways. The Rubber Manufacturers Association estimates that only 15 percent of drivers properly check their tire pressure, and only 30 percent of all drivers know how to tell when their tires are “bald.” Tire safety week is an important means to improve these numbers.

The goal of National Tire Safety Week is to raise public awareness of tire safety and provide consumers with simple, common sense, and inexpensive ways to help increase the safety of their tires and vehicles. Consumers can greatly maximize the safety of their vehicles by properly checking tire pressure, maintaining proper alignment and rotation of their tires, and replacing worn tires. These simple procedures can greatly reduce an individual's risk of a motor vehicle accident—and in some cases, save lives.

I thank the Rubber Manufacturers Association, as well as tire and auto service dealers and innovators in the tire safety community for participating in this important week and for

their sustained effort to increase automobile safety. I also encourage them to continue their significant progress on the development of safer tires and improved consumer awareness. Working together, we can all enhance tire safety and save lives.●

WE THE PEOPLE CIVIC EDUCATION PROGRAM

● Mr. DODD. Mr. President, today, and over the weekend, more than 1,200 students from across the United States came to Washington to take part in the national finals of "We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution," the most extensive educational program in the country developed to educate our youth about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the We the People program is funded by the U.S. Department of Education through the No Child Left behind Act, passed into law just 2 years ago.

I am proud to announce that a group of students from Trumbull, CT are in our Nation's Capital to represent my home State in this prestigious national event. These outstanding students, through their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution, won their statewide competition and earned the chance to come to Washington and compete at the national level.

Modeled after hearings in Congress, the "We the People National Finals Competition" gives students an opportunity to demonstrate their knowledge of the Constitution and Bill of Rights before a panel of adult judges. Students evaluate, take and defend constitutional positions on relevant historical and contemporary issues, and are subject to a barrage of questions designed to further probe their depth of understanding as it relates to our "founding documents."

Last year, Russell Berg, a student from Trumbull, testified at a Congressional hearing on civic education mentioning his participation in the "We the People" program. Russell said that civic education "is the key to comprehending, appreciating and eventually participating in our democratic process." I could not think of a greater endorsement for civic education in our schools. Clearly, an understanding of history and civics is critical to our ability as a nation to continue as a thriving, functioning democracy.

Our Constitution is a great document, but it is neither a simple nor self-implementing one. For it to work, it requires an educated populace, and a populace that understands that American citizenship brings with it both great benefits and great responsibility. If we want to ensure that our society remains faithful to democracy, and its underlying ideals, we must teach our children what those ideals are. "We the People" does just that.

I applaud the achievements of all the students who qualified for this year's competition and all of those students

who participated in local and State rounds of competition. We should all be proud that these students are learning and advocating the fundamental ideals that identify us as a people and bind us together as a nation.●

HONORING THE LIFE OF JEREMIAH GUMBS

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to publicly pay tribute to Jeremiah Gumbs. Jeremiah Gumbs was a patriot of both the United States and Anguilla, West Indies. Gumbs served in the U.S. Army in World War II and was a successful businessman in New Jersey, owning Gumbs Fuelers. He went back to his native Anguilla, opened a popular resort on beautiful Rendezvous Bay, and helped Anguilla become less dependent on Britain. Jeremiah and his wife Lydia educated their four children in the U.S.

I am pleased to submit for the RECORD, Jeremiah Gumbs obituary of his remarkable life, which appeared in the New York Times on April 10, 2004:

Jeremiah Gumbs, a hotel keeper who became a hero in Anguilla when that sliver of sand upended Britain's postcolonial design for the Caribbean islands known as the Lesser Antilles, died there on Thursday, his family announced. He was 91.

Mr. Gumbs, an institution on an island that today has a population of 12,000 people, reached a world audience in 1967 when he went before the United Nations with the islanders' objections to a British plan that lumped Anguilla's 35 square miles into a self-governing state, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, associated with Britain.

Considering the 70 miles of blue waters between Anguilla, the northernmost of the Leeward Islands, and the new authorities in St. Kitts, not to mention the many different flags that flew on the islands in between, such as St. Martin and St. Barthelemy, the Anguillians balked.

"After 300 years of neglect as a British Colony," Mr. Gumbs told the United Nations, "the people feel they are able to take care of their own affairs." Indeed, he said Anguillians wanted independence.

The people of Anguilla voted for it, 1,813 to 5, but Britain did not recognize either the referendum or Mr. Gumbs as a leader of the secessionist movement. But a special United Nations subcommittee on colonialism listened to his formal arguments for Anguilla.

It was a "natural paradise," Mr. Gumbs said of the island, but had been left undeveloped under British rule, without running water, electricity, phones, or a decent road. A new highway, built with European aid, has recently been named for Mr. Gumbs.

The British protested United Nations involvement, while other Caribbean commonwealth islands sought to mediate.

Britain asserted that the island was "completely dominated by a gangster-type element," referring to Mr. Gumbs

and the chosen leader of the rebellion, James Ronald Webster. It sent a troop of London's Metropolitan Police force to keep order and stop the secession movement.

But efforts to patch the link to St. Kitts failed. In the end, Anguilla got part of what it wanted, becoming a self-governing British dependent territory with its own elected officials, an arrangement codified in 1971 and brought up to date with Anguilla's new constitution in 1982.

Jeremiah Gumbs was born in Anguilla, the youngest of nine children; his mother was a baker and his father, a fisherman. He started school in Anguilla, but economic hardship drove him as a boy to work the cane fields in the Dominican Republic. Starting at age 15, he worked for 2 years in oil refineries in Aruba and Curacao before returning to Anguilla to teach himself tailoring.

At age 25, he went to live with a sister in Brooklyn and took night classes at City College on a scholarship. He hoped to become a dentist, but was drafted into the Army in 1941 and was given American citizenship at the time.

After the war, he married Lydia Gibbs of Perth Amboy, NJ, and, using his G.I. bill money, trained as a furnace installer. He started his own company in Perth Amboy, Gumbs Fuelers, and made a success of it.

When he took Lydia to show her Anguilla, it was she who planted the idea for another venture-tourism on the island's untouched beaches. They bought 14 acres, later doubling the amount, and in 1959 started building Anguilla's first beach resort with their own hands.

They rented the first rooms in 1962, opening what has become the Rendezvous Bay Hotel and Villas, a cornerstone of the island's growing tourism industry. As a businessman with local roots and a civic leader acquainted with the ways of the world, Jeremiah Gumbs became a natural choice to serve as the island's roving ambassador during the Anguillian revolution of 1967-1969.

He managed the hotel until about 5 years ago and remained a jovial host after that. Lydia Gumbs died about 3 years ago. Jeremiah Gumbs is survived by three sons, J. Alan, the managing director and owner of the Rendezvous Bay; Clyde, of Atlanta; and Duane, of Edison, NJ; a daughter, Una, of Edison and Anguilla; and seven grandchildren.

It is my honor to share Jeremiah Gumbs impressive life with my colleagues.●

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