

of the individual. National Veterans Awareness Week also presents an opportunity to remind ourselves of the contributions and sacrifices of those who have served in peacetime as well as in conflict; both groups work unending hours and spend long periods away from their families under conditions of great discomfort so that we all can live in a land of freedom and plenty.

Mr. President, last year, my resolution designating National Veterans Awareness Week had 66 cosponsors and was approved in the Senate by unanimous consent. Responding to that resolution, President Bush issued a proclamation urging our citizenry to observe National Veterans Awareness Week. I ask my colleagues to continue this trend of support for our veterans by endorsing this resolution again this year. Our children and our children's children will need to be well informed about what veterans have accomplished in order to make appropriate decisions as they confront the numerous worldwide challenges that they are sure to face in the future.

VICTIMS OF DRUNKEN DRIVERS MEMORIAL WALL FOUNDATION

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, in April of 2000, more than one hundred people gathered to dedicate a memorial for the victims of drunk driving. The memorial, created by The Victims of Drunken Drivers Memorial Wall Foundation, was constructed in Pacific Memorial Park in the city of Anaheim. The Victims of Drunk Drivers Memorial Wall has helped people remember those who were tragically lost, brought comfort to loved ones, educated the public and taught valuable lessons to students about this senseless crime. I salute the founders and the many volunteers who helped create this memorial.

In 2003, 17,401 people died in alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes. It is estimated that alcohol-related crashes kill someone every 30 minutes. The memorial reminds us that these victims are real people with families and loved ones left behind.

The Victims of Drunken Drivers Memorial Wall Foundation has honored victims and raised awareness since the year 2000. A wide range of individuals contributed to the memorial and helped make the project a success. For 4 years they contacted the thousands of families who lost loved ones and accepted small contributions to successfully raise \$25,000. Law enforcement agencies have educated area children about drunk driving using the memorial and have held sessions at the memorial.

Judges also require convicted drunk drivers to visit the memorial and reflect on their actions.

I commend The Victims of Drunken Drivers Memorial Wall Foundation for their hard work. The memorial continues to reach families and serves as a

constant reminder of the consequences of drunk driving. I wish the foundation continued success.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MELISSA GAYLE BRIDGES

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I pay tribute and congratulate Melissa Gayle Bridges of Mayfield, KY on being awarded the Kentucky Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Company scholarship from the Kentucky Farm Bureau Education Foundation. This academic scholarship will provide Melissa with \$2000 toward her education.

Melissa has proven to be a very able and competent student by winning this prestigious award. She will represent the graduates of Graves County High School very well when she enrolls at Murray State University in the fall. She plans to study Education.

The citizens of Mayfield should be proud to have a young woman like Melissa Gayle Bridges in their community. Her example of dedication and hard work should be an inspiration to the entire Commonwealth.

She has my most sincere appreciation for this work and I look forward to her continued service to Kentucky. •

DARFUR HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

• Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to address the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Darfur. The facts in this case are, in my view, clear. Sudanese refugees have been flooding into Chad as a result of the coordinated policies of local militias and the Government of Sudan. The conditions that have forced the refugees to flee their home and their country are beyond horrific, including systematic murder, rape, torture, and abduction. Although it is impossible to know the exact figures, up to 30,000 individuals have been killed and over a million have been displaced. The United States, the United Nations, and many international organizations are predicting that over a million will die with the change of seasons in the region, the lack of food and water, and the onset of disease.

At a minimum, these atrocities amount to ethnic cleansing on the part of the local militias and the Sudanese Government. At worst, they constitute genocide. In either case, the atrocities should have been stopped much earlier. Furthermore, they can and should be stopped now.

Within the last few weeks, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell and U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan have visited the region. I consider this an extremely belated effort on the part of the United States and the United Nations to address a series of problems that were both predictable and preventable. Unfortunately, the administration's attention and resources are so

focused elsewhere that it lost sight of a humanitarian crisis of catastrophic proportions. Sadly, Sudan is where it is today because no one at a high level felt the region and its people mattered enough to pay attention and do something. Sadly, the administration only paid attention when Congress wrote letters in June—letters that I signed—requesting that they do so.

These letters—one to President Bush and one to Secretary-General Annan—requested that very specific steps be undertaken to stop the current crisis, in particular committing additional human and financial resources to the region, identifying the individuals and governments responsible for the actions, requiring a U.N. Security Council resolution that condemns the atrocities that have occurred, and delineating a viable multilateral effort to bring them to an end.

Let me emphasize that at present there are 260 individuals in Sudan attempting to monitor the crisis, this in a region the size of the State of Texas. The brutality continues unabated because the collective will to stop it has been nonexistent. It is time for President Bush to say clearly what his intentions are. It is time to offer a clear strategy. It is time for him to make this a priority. It is time to organize international action to bring the crisis to an end. •

MARGUERITE'S PLACE CELEBRATES ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

• Mr. GREGG. Mr. President, I rise today in honor of a remarkable organization in Nashua, NH. For the past 10 years, Marguerite's Place, Inc. has provided safe, affordable housing for women and their children. More importantly, it has been a critical stop on the road for those families who are fighting to rebuild their lives and brighten their futures.

Although there are many words which can be used to describe Marguerite's Place, the one which best captures why it is so special is "Hope". During my first visit in 1997 and on countless others I have made since then, I have been amazed by the overwhelming positive spirit filling every room there. The women who have come to Marguerite's Place have been through very difficult situations and yet they are actively reaching to retake control of their world. In almost all cases, they succeed. Of course, the reason for this impressive track record is the staff and supporters do not let them fail. Marguerite's Place gives these women a warm and safe home, the needed assistance in finishing school or launching a career and an energetic daycare center for their children. Most of all, these women learn they have unique abilities and skills which will take them far. In short, they are given the hope they need to take back their lives.

One of my favorite spots at Marguerite's Place is the child care center.

Many of the children there have probably been homeless for a time or have experienced situations no child should be forced to endure. But, watching them playing together in the center and interacting with each other and their teachers, it is easy to sense they have found a home. It is here where one can witness the fundamental impact Marguerite's Place is having on the greater Nashua community. Through their programs and support, the staff here pass on to our youngest generation of citizens the feeling they too have a wide open future.

The leader of Marguerite's Place, and its heart and soul, is Sister Sharon Walsh. Her firm commitment to insuring the residents meet the expectations set for them is near legendary. Yet, she is profoundly upbeat in her vision that people can change for the better. She is continually seeking ways they can be part of the American Dream. It is this combination of optimism and determination that make Sister Sharon so inspirational. In turn, her enthusiasm is what makes Marguerite's Place so unique and so effective. Of course, Sister Sharon is modest and would deflect much of the praise and credit to her staff for the successes they have achieved. In my conversations with them, I have learned they share Sister Sharon's vision and skill in bringing out the best in people. Sister Elaine Fahey, for example, runs the daycare center. It is obvious the children love her and view her as a role model.

So, as Marguerite's Place celebrates its 10th anniversary this year, I want to thank Sister Sharon, her staff and all the supporters for the remarkable work they have done to restore dignity and self-esteem to those who may have lost it. They have made Nashua a better place to live. I am proud to be a supporter of Marguerite's Place and am happy to extend my deepest wishes for continued success.●

IN RECOGNITION OF THE MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY DEBATE TEAM

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the tremendous accomplishment of Michigan State University and its debate team. On April 6, 2004, Michigan State University won the National Debate Tournament hosted by Catholic University in Washington, DC. This date was a milestone in that it marked the first National Championship awarded to the Michigan State Spartans in the field of debate. In addition, the Spartans demonstrated the high quality of Michigan's public institutions of education, as it was only the third occasion in 20 years that a public university has won the title.

During the tournament, the Spartans defeated many of the Nations' most respected academic universities. These include Harvard, Dartmouth, Emory, Northwestern, and finally, long-time rival UC Berkeley in the championship match. It is also worth noting that

Michigan State was represented by two separate teams in the tournaments final four. However, as they were matched against one another, the higher ranked team advanced while the other willingly conceded.

In the final round, the Spartan team consisting of Dave Strauss and Greta Stahl, defeated the team from Berkeley that was ranked No. 1 overall entering the tournament. Michigan State was declared the winner 4-1 by the 5 judges scoring the debate. The Sigurd S. Larmon Memorial Trophy is awarded annually to the National Debate Tournament Champion and will remain in East Lansing until the 2005 tournament.

Michigan State University's debate team, led by head coach Will Repko, is now the reigning national champion. This accomplishment was made possible through the hard work and dedication of all those who support Michigan State's debate program. The university's first national championship signals the beginning of what will surely become a great tradition.

It is with great pleasure that I offer my sincerest congratulations and appreciation to Michigan State University as it celebrates its victory at the National Debate Tournament. Those who participated should be very proud of the manner in which they represented their school. I know my colleagues in the Senate join me in honoring MSU, the team, and its staff as they continue with their pursuit of academic excellence.●

HONORING THE LIFE OF REVEREND CHARLES WILLIAMS

● Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of my fellow Hoosier, Reverend Charles Williams, who lost his battle with cancer on Monday, July 12, 2004. Reverend Williams dedicated his life to serving our state of Indiana by bringing together the Hoosier community and demanding of everyone the potential greatness that he saw in us all.

Reverend Charles Williams was born in Indianapolis in 1948. From a humble upbringing in Indiana and Chicago, Reverend Williams returned to his home town as an adult to become one of the city's most respected civic leaders, using every life lesson and experience, including his battle with cancer, to improve the quality of life for Indiana's African-American community and for all Hoosiers across the state.

Reverend Charles Williams served his country first for 3 years as a member of the U.S. Navy and then as the executive coordinator for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's national convention in Indianapolis. Following his work with the NAACP, he was appointed special assistant for then-Mayor William Hudnut. It was from here that Reverend Williams received an invitation to help a struggling Indiana African-American association, marking the be-

ginning of his work with what would become his lasting legacy and crowning achievement, the Indiana Black Expo.

Through his work with the Indiana Black Expo, from the early 1980s until his death this summer, Reverend Williams turned the Expo into a full-fledged community organization that promoted greater education, cooperation and opportunity for all Hoosiers. What began as a single-event celebration has grown into a year-round operation, with the Summer Celebration described today as one of the Top 100 Events in North America. Reverend Charles Williams was tireless in his efforts to make a better life for Hoosiers. Even during his 2-year battle with cancer, he used his experience to educate other men about the importance of cancer screening.

The 34th annual Black Expo Summer Celebration is taking place this week in Indianapolis. This year, the celebration will take on greater meaning, as a celebration not only of the strong community that has been built in Indiana, but a celebration of the man who did the building. While the sense of loss to all those who knew Reverend Charles Williams is tremendous, the energy and selflessness with which he faced this and every challenge in his life remains as an example to all of us who are left behind to carry on his work.

It is my honor to enter the name of Reverend Charles Williams into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.●

IN MEMORY OF REVEREND CHARLES WILLIAMS

● Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I pay heartfelt tribute to the Reverend Charles Williams, a visionary Hoosier friend who passed away yesterday at the age of 56.

I have looked forward to visiting with Charles Williams for many years. His dynamic leadership was best exemplified through his work leading the Indiana Black Expo, Inc., a not-for-profit community service organization comprised of ten chapters throughout the State of Indiana. Since 1983, he has been an effective advocate of an expanding number of Indiana Black Expo programs.

His accomplishments included founding the Circle City Classic football game, an annual event that raises funds for minority college scholarships. Most recently, Reverend Williams has worked diligently to inform men, especially African-American men, on the importance of prostate cancer screening. Afflicted with this terrible disease, he shared his personal testimony on struggles with prostate cancer in an effort to encourage other men to consider personal healthcare more seriously.

The Indiana Black Expo was founded in 1970, while I served as Mayor of Indianapolis. Each year, the Indiana Black Expo hosts the Summer Celebration. Currently underway, this event is the longest-running cultural showcase of