

means healthier babies and stronger families and that is an accomplishment worthy of our praise and admiration.

Katherine Esterly grew up in Norristown, PA, knowing that she wanted to work with children. After graduating from Temple University's medical school in 1951, she moved to Delaware to work towards that goal. Delaware was truly blessed when she made this decision.

Despite her diminutive size and warm personality, Dr. Esterly has always approached her efforts to care for Delaware's babies with a steel will and an unwillingness to accept "no" for an answer. She demands high standards from her colleagues and has lived her life by this same commitment to excellence.

One of the hallmarks of her care is how she continually goes above and beyond the traditional role of simply caring for the newborn child. She uses a gentle hand and an open style of communication to develop a level of trust with parents that greatly improves their hospital experience during such difficult times. Whether it is a reassuring word or a simple explanation of a complex procedure, Kitty is always willing to do whatever it takes to assure parents that their newborn is receiving the best possible care.

Katherine Esterly became a practicing pediatrician in 1954 after completing her internship and residency at the Delaware Hospital. Dr. Esterly then served as an associate in pediatrics for the Children's Bureau of Delaware from 1954 until 1968. During this time, Kitty worked tirelessly to help adoptive and foster children. In 1968, because of her outstanding record of leadership and her dedication to her profession, she was named director of this organization.

After the merger of community hospitals in Wilmington in 1967, the Medical Center of Delaware was formed and a new department of pediatrics was created. Unfortunately, there wasn't a neonatologist on staff at this new institution. Dr. Esterly took the initiative to get the necessary training so she could fill this void in the department's neonatal intensive care unit. She went on to become the director of the neonatology division in 1975. Throughout the 1980s, Dr. Esterly expanded the division and added additional full-time neonatologists to her staff, resulting in a world-class practice where even the sickest of newborns could be cared for.

Dr. Esterly also advanced the cause of nurses by working with colleagues and government officials to highlight and promote the qualifications of professional nurses. Her actions led to nurse practitioners being able to treat patients and write prescriptions, which greatly reduces the workload of practicing physicians and allows for greater responsibility on behalf of nurses.

In addition, Katherine Esterly helped create a neonatal nurse practitioner program for schools in Delaware and New Jersey that continue to train the

next generation of caregivers. Her ability and willingness to share her knowledge has ensured that future generations will continue the work that Kitty pioneered so many years ago.

In 1995, while serving as Governor of Delaware, I appointed Dr. Esterly to serve as the chair of Delaware's Perinatal Board. In this capacity, she spearheads Delaware's efforts to promote the health and welfare of countless numbers of children. The First State and her children are better off because of her efforts.

Most recently, the Katherine L. Esterly Nursing Education Scholarship fund was established for the College of Health Sciences at the University of Delaware. When asked if she would allow her name to be used to distinguish this scholarship, Dr. Esterly, in her customary selfless fashion, not only agreed but also made a personal contribution to the very fund that now bears her name. Her generosity will help ensure that her legacy of caring for Delaware's youngest residents will be preserved and passed on to future generations of caregivers.

Kitty's dedication and innovation in the field of neonatology serves as an example to us all. I rise today to honor her achievements and to thank her on behalf of all Delawareans for her years of hard work, dedication, and constant championing of Delaware's youngest residents.●

RECOGNITION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, on Wednesday, the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education will present its Best Practice for Collaboration with a Community College Award to the University of Northern Iowa. This award recognizes outstanding collaboration between a university teacher education program and a community college—in this case, Des Moines Area Community College. This partnership is a wonderful example of two fine educational institutions working together to meet the needs of schools in rural Iowa, and I congratulate them for this accomplishment.

Eleven years ago, UNI joined forces with the DMACC campus in Carroll to develop a new approach to address the unique needs of rural school districts. The idea was simple—locate a teacher preparation program where you have the need. Instead of training teachers 160 miles away on its campus in Cedar Falls, UNI established a joint program with DMACC in the heart of rural western Iowa.

Rural communities face many unique challenges, including the need to recruit highly qualified teachers. At the same time, many rural residents have a need to upgrade their skills, but are unable to move to a larger community to attend college. The 2+2 program is a perfect solution. This homegrown approach allows individuals to obtain the training they need to fill the jobs that are literally in their own backyards.

Since 1995, UNI has awarded baccalaureate degrees to nearly 100 teachers at the Carroll campus. It is very important to point out that nearly all of these individuals continue to live in western Iowa, and are working for school districts in the surrounding area.

This program has been an enormous success and I am very proud to have secured Federal funding from the U.S. Department of Education to support this innovative program. UNI is building on this experience and will be expanding the 2+2 model to other fields of study, including technology management, general business and criminology. The University will also expand the partnership to include Western Iowa Tech Community College in Sioux City, Northeast Iowa Community College in Peosta and Calmar, Eastern Iowa Community College in Davenport, and Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs.

The success of this project is due to the creative energy and hard work of many individuals from UNI, DMACC and the community of Carroll including: Dr. Constantine Curris, former President of UNI; Dr. Joe Borgen, former President of DMACC; Dr. Robert Koob, President of UNI; Dr. Robert Denson, President of DMACC; Dr. Richard Hawkes, Professor of Teaching at UNI; Dr. Roger Kueter, Director of Community College Projects at UNI; Dr. Jim Knott, Provost of the DMACC Carroll campus; Steve Schultz, coordinator of the 2+2 program for DMACC; Art Neu, former mayor of Carroll and former Lieutenant Governor of the State of Iowa; and Jim Wilson, publisher of the Carroll Daily Times Herald.

I extend my congratulations to all of them on this outstanding achievement.●

IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM R. ROBERTSON

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I am deeply saddened to inform you of the passing of Bill Robertson, former secretary treasurer for the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO. I would like to take a few moments to recognize Bill Robertson's many important accomplishments and the tremendous impact he made on the labor movement.

Born in St. Paul, MN, Bill Robertson was a man with humble beginnings. He lost both his parents when he was a child and lived in an orphanage for a brief period. Growing up in difficult circumstances in the middle of the Great Depression shaped Bill's social and personal beliefs. He intimately understood the struggle that working men and women faced to achieve dignity in the United States.

Bill led the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor for nearly two decades. During his tenure, he fought for the rights of working people with passion and great success. In 1975, Bill

Robertson became secretary-treasurer for the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO. Under his leadership, The Los Angeles County Federation of Labor saw phenomenal growth. He coordinated many successful labor rights victories and spent a great deal of time building the labor movement and fighting for fairness and equality. In addition to his efforts to further the labor movement, Bill Robertson took steps to assist the city of Los Angeles' homeless population. In the winter of 1985, the city of Los Angeles had authorized a temporary tent shelter to be erected for the city's homeless population. Bill Robertson found this solution to be inadequate and successfully persuaded then Mayor Tom Bradley to authorize construction of a temporary structure to house the 138-bed shelter. Bill Robertson rallied volunteer laborers and secured union funds to buy the construction materials.

Bill also played a major role in bringing prominence and recognition to the city of Los Angeles. In addition to assisting city officials with securing the rights to host the 1984 Olympic Games, Bill also played a pivotal role in establishing a home for a professional football team in Los Angeles. It was through his role as chief negotiator in the \$6.7-million deal in 1980 that brought the Raiders football team from Oakland to the Los Angeles Coliseum. Bill Robertson considered this achievement as one of the proudest of his career.

I invite all of my colleagues to join me and the many members of the labor community in recognizing and honoring Bill Robertson for his guidance and lifelong effort in fighting to improve the lives of working people. He is survived by his wife, Dresden Graham Robertson; his two sons, William and Robert; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.●

IN MEMORY OF JUDGE WILLIAM MATTHEW BYRNE, JR.

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I am deeply saddened to inform you of the passing of Judge William Matthew Byrne, Jr. I would like to take a few moments to recognize Judge Byrne's many important accomplishments and the tremendous impact he made on the judicial system.

William Byrne was born in East Los Angeles in 1930 and attended Loyola High School and the University of Southern California. Before becoming a Federal prosecutor in Los Angeles, he served as a judge advocate from 1956 to 1958 in the U.S. Air Force. In 1967, he was appointed as U.S. attorney by President Lyndon B. Johnson. In 1970, when President Richard Nixon created the President's Commission on Campus Unrest, he chose William Byrne as its executive director.

Byrne became the youngest judge ever appointed to the Federal bench when he was confirmed in 1971 at age 40, and he served as the Central Dis-

trict's chief judge from 1994 to 1998. In more than 30 years of service on the Federal bench, Judge Byrne had the opportunity to handle many cases. He is, however, best known for presiding over the Pentagon Papers case, which was assigned to him just 2 years after his confirmation as a Federal judge. The Pentagon Papers case involved military analyst Daniel Ellsberg and co-defendant Anthony J. Russo, Jr. who were indicted on 12 Federal counts, including conspiracy, theft of Government property, and espionage after an unauthorized release of a secret study of U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War. Judge Byrne dismissed the case in 1973 after ruling that it was the Government that was guilty of misconduct.

I invite all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing and honoring Judge William Matthew Byrne, Jr., for his long and distinguished service to our country.●

AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

● Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Woodson Kindergarten Center, in Austin, MN, which recently earned an Award for Excellence in Education for its exceptional and innovative achievements in educating children.

The Woodson Kindergarten Center, which is funded by Austin Public Schools, is truly a model of educational success. The district recognized the advantages of joining together all of its kindergarteners in a single building. This made economic sense and also improved the students' experience, allowing all kindergarten teachers and specialists to work together and to benefit from the expertise each person brought to the team. Currently, 390 children attend Woodson Kindergarten Center, which provides special education services and English language learner services for children of all ages.

At Woodson Kindergarten, students are grouped for reading and math based on skill level. A student who has not mastered all of the skills needed for first grade attends 6 weeks of summer school. Woodson emphasizes reading to children in school and at home and also focuses throughout the day on building children's social skills, including conflict resolution.

Woodson Kindergarten Center better prepares students for first grade and provides a stronger foundation for at-risk children. Its full-day curriculum offers more time for hands-on discovery, for experimenting and making mistakes, for reading the whole story, and for richer, more developmentally appropriate learning.

Much of the credit for Woodson Kindergarten Center's success belongs to its principal, Jean McDermott, and her dedicated teachers. The staff at Woodson Kindergarten Center understand that, in order to be successful, a school

must go beyond achieving academic success; it must provide a nurturing environment where students develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes for a lifetime of success. All of the faculty, staff, and students at the Woodson Kindergarten Center should be very proud of their accomplishments.

I congratulate Woodson Kindergarten Center in Austin, MN, for winning the Award for Excellence in Education and for its exceptional contributions to education in Minnesota.●

AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

● Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Dakota Meadows Middle School, in North Mankato, MN, which recently earned an Award for Excellence in Education for its exceptional and innovative achievements in educating children.

Dakota Meadows Middle School is truly a model of educational success. One hundred of the school's eighth-grade art students have created a glass mosaic, measuring 3 feet by 24 feet, for the school's media center. The project was financed by the Prairie Ecology Bus Center. The overall design, based on nature, correlates with the Dakota Meadows Middle School Ecology curriculum, and includes images of fish, birds, and sky. I had the honor to be present at the school for the official unveiling, and found it to be an awe inspiring piece.

The glass mosaic medium was chosen to introduce the students to an ancient medium. The mosaic's dimensions allowed each student to make a unique contribution toward an artistic work of lasting beauty.

Much of the credit for Dakota Meadows Middle School's success belongs to its principal, Shane Baier, and his dedicated teachers. The school and its artist in residence, Dr. Arnoldus Gruter, made it possible for the students to produce their own work of art, which is also their legacy to the school. The students and staff at Dakota Meadows Middle School understand that, in order to be successful, a school must go beyond achieving academic success; it must also provide a nurturing environment where students develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes for a lifetime of success. All of the faculty, staff, and students at Dakota Meadows Middle School should be very proud of their accomplishments.

I congratulate Dakota Meadows Middle School in North Mankato, MN, for winning the Award for Excellence in Education and for its exceptional contributions to education in Minnesota.●

AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION PRESENTED TO MANKATO WEST HIGH SCHOOL, YOUTH SERVICE LEARNING CLASS, MANKATO, MINNESOTA

● Mr. DAYTON. Mr. President, today I honor last fall's Youth Service Learning class, at Mankato West High