

withdraw from the Government illustrate the fragility of the process.

Moreover, the leaders of the Congress parties and the Maoists have done little to prepare for the elections. At times, party members have seemed more interested in furthering their own personal ambitions and in derailing the electoral process altogether. The leading party of the left, the UML, has done more to prepare. But all parties will need to promptly step up their election activities if voters are to have the informed choice they deserve.

On the positive side, the Election Commission deserves credit for a voter registration process that has reached Nepal's remotest villages. There is no doubt that the people are eager to go to the polls, just as they were determined to put an end to the King's abuse of power.

Over the past 3 years, I have observed the fortitude of the Nepali people's desire for peace, for justice, and for a meaningful voice in government. Their desire is shared and admired by the American people.

To the Maoists, I would say that it was you who called for a Constituent Assembly. Saying you are committed to the democratic process at the same time that you withdraw from the Government, make new demands that contradict previous commitments, support disruptive economic strikes, and threaten to return to confrontation is not the way to earn the people's trust and support that are necessary to become an effective force for change. Nor is it the way to earn the trust of the United States.

I have campaigned for elective office five times over more than 30 years, and I know something about earning the people's trust and support. It does not come from dogmatic speeches or lofty party platforms or manifestos. It does not come from saying one thing and then doing the opposite. It certainly does not come through the use of violence, threats, and extortion. It comes by showing that you deserve the people's trust and support. There is no better way to begin that process than to seize this opportunity and show the people that you can make the government work for them.

History is replete with examples of armed groups that achieved popular legitimacy through the democratic process. If the Maoists win seats through free and fair elections, uphold the commitments they have made in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and other agreements, and devote themselves to working for change peacefully, I am confident the United States will treat them as rightful members of the elected Constituent Assembly or of the Government. We may disagree with their positions on some issues but not about their right to serve in Government and to advocate for those positions.

I know the Maoists are looking to the United States to lift our restrictions on their party and its leaders and to remove them from our list of ter-

rorist organizations. In order for that to happen, the Maoists need to take unequivocal, positive steps. The cases of the murdered Nepali security guards need to be satisfactorily resolved. The party's resumption of land seizures and the reopening of so-called people's courts are steps in the wrong direction.

To the other political parties in Government, I would say that it is time to make good on your commitments. Not only the Maoists but traditionally marginalized groups as well are increasingly skeptical that the Government is serious about delivering on its key commitments to the peace process, whether downsizing and reforming the army, supporting land reform, or creating jobs and opportunities for minority groups that have long been disadvantaged and ignored. While those groups should pursue their grievances through a vigorous election campaign, not through obstruction of the democratic process, the failure of the parties to govern and match rhetoric with action threatens the elections, as does the Maoists' saber rattling.

The leaders of Nepal's political parties know that the power of holding office comes with responsibilities, and the spotlight is on them. Lasting legitimacy comes not only through the ballot box but in the day-to-day ability to honor commitments and improve the lives of all citizens. This is their chance to put the Nepali people and their country first, by showing that they believe in effective, accountable government. If they do not, the United States, and I suspect many other countries, will no longer afford them the legitimacy they will need for our continued support.

Mr. President, Nepal's path to the future may be decided in the waning months of this year. Although a small country wedged between two emerging giants, Nepal is unique in more ways, more beautiful ways, than most other countries its size. Today, the United States—Congress and the Executive—are united in our desire to help Nepal become a democracy whose Government is representative of Nepal's remarkably diverse population and where the fundamental rights of all people are respected.

#### REPRESENTATIVE PIGNATELLI TAKES ON KATRINA

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I welcome this opportunity to commend my friend and colleague in Massachusetts, State representative William Pignatelli, who represents the fourth Berkshire district. In addition to his tireless dedication to the people of western Massachusetts, Smitty, as we all call him, has also shown his extraordinary commitment to public service by going far above and beyond the call of duty to help people in New Orleans devastated by Hurricane Katrina.

During a trip to New Orleans last December, Smitty met Stanley Stewart

and his family of 12, who had just moved into a FEMA trailer after 16 horrific months of suffering. The family had been rescued from the second-floor balcony of their home in the city after spending 2 days without food, water, and plumbing.

Distressed by the plight of Stanley and his family, Smitty decided to help them rebuild their home and has already made a number of trips to New Orleans to do what he can. Now he has decided to spend his fall vacation in New Orleans to finish the job. On September 30, he will be taking a group of volunteer builders from the Berkshires to New Orleans to do so. With these generous acts of kindness, Smitty has shown us extraordinary dedication to those less fortunate.

As my brother Robert F. Kennedy said, "Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest of oppression and resistance."

I commend Smitty for the remarkable ripple of hope he is sending forth. A recent article in the Berkshire Eagle describes this amazing chapter in Smitty's life. I believe the article will be of interest to all my colleagues in the Senate, and I ask unanimous consent to have the article printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Berkshire Eagle, Sept. 3, 2007]

PIGNATELLI WILL TAKE ON KATRINA AGAIN

(By Derek Gentile)

LENEX.—State Rep. William "Smitty" Pignatelli admitted yesterday that he understands that he cannot repair all the problems that beset many of the folks in New Orleans affected by Hurricane Katrina.

But he and a group of contractor friends and constituents are going to try to fix a very small corner of that world.

Pignatelli and a small army of local builders will be heading down to New Orleans on Sept. 30 to repair and rebuild the home of New Orleans native Stanley Stewart, whose house was one of the tens of thousands of homes devastated by the 2005 hurricane.

"This is going to be the Berkshire County version of (the television show) 'Extreme Home Makeover,'" Pignatelli said.

This will be Pignatelli's fourth trip to New Orleans. He said he has been appalled by the damage he has seen.

"When you go down there, and see the damage that is still in evidence, you feel ashamed of the government responsible for this," he said.

But he is also heartened constantly by the way people from other parts of the country have come to try to help the survivors.

Pignatelli met Stewart, who lives in the lower ninth ward of New Orleans, last December, while on one of his first trips to the beleaguered city. Eventually, he learned that Stewart and his family lost their home in the hurricane and were living in a FEMA trailer "maybe a little bit bigger than my SUV," Pignatelli said.

Resolving to help the family, he has made several trips to New Orleans since with other

builders, basically gutting the two-story home and preparing it for renovation. A few months ago, they put a roof on the house.

Now, he said, the volunteer force he assembled is ready to rebuild the rest of the structure.

"We're going to try to do it in seven days," he said.

The companies that are sending workers are Pignatelli Electric (run by brother Scott) and Don Fitzgerald Carpentry of Lenox; Comalli Electric, Cardillo Plumbing electrician Jim Sorrentino and Fabino Drywall of Pittsfield; Doug Trombley Windows and Moran Mechanical of Lee; and carpenter Dan Sartori of West Stockbridge.

In addition, Granite City Electric of Pittsfield donated much of the electrical equipment, Scott's Carpet One of Pittsfield donated the kitchen cabinets and bathroom vanities, and Pam Sandler Architects of Stockbridge donated the blueprint.

All are volunteers, Pignatelli said.

Pignatelli himself sent a letter to many of his supporters asking that, instead of giving to his annual Aug. 31 fundraiser, they donate to the project. To date, he has raised \$25,000 for materials, lodging and transportation for the volunteer crew, he said.

"It's not often a politician puts aside political ambition like this," said one of his supporters, Rachel Fletcher of Great Barrington. "It's commendable."

Don Fitzgerald was one of the carpenters who went down the last time to help with the roof.

"I was on top of the roof, looking around at all the other houses in the neighborhood, and I thought, 'Man, these guys got whacked,'" he said.

He said he met Stewart, "and I want to help the guy. He's a good son of a gun."

As to whether or not the crew can finish the house in one week, Fitzgerald was confident.

"In a week? We're gonna kick the hell out of it," he said.

#### INCAN ARTIFACTS AGREEMENT

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to commend Yale University and the Government of Peru on their agreement to settle a 6-year-long dispute over Incan artifacts.

Nearly 100 years ago, Yale history professor Hiram Bingham made a historic archeological discovery near the famed Incan city of Machu Picchu. His find, which included over 300 artifacts, featuring rare examples of jewelry and ceramic pottery, helped bring worldwide attention to the rich culture of the Incan peoples. For the past 95 years, these artifacts, which were claimed by the Peruvian Government, have been in the possession of Yale University.

The landmark agreement, reached on September 14, 2007, between Yale University and the Government of Peru, which includes the creation of a traveling international exhibition featuring these priceless historical artifacts, is a symbol of both parties' dedication to international cooperation and scholarship. I applaud Yale University and the Peruvian Government for finding a compromise that will allow scholars, students, and interested people from across the globe and from all walks of life to enjoy these splendid cultural artifacts for generations to come.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO DR. MARTIN D. ABELOFF

• Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I wish to commemorate the life of Dr. Martin Abelloff, a leader in Maryland's health care community who passed away last Thursday, September 14, 2007. Our State and our Nation have lost a phenomenally gifted doctor who was also a pioneer in the fight against cancer. Tragically, his life was taken by the disease he dedicated his career to fighting.

Dr. Martin Abelloff was an internationally recognized oncologist who for 15 years led the Johns Hopkins Kimmel Cancer Center, one of America's premier cancer research and treatment centers.

During his tenure as cancer center director, Dr. Abelloff doubled the size of the center's facility, helped increase research funding sixfold, and expanded facilities to nearly 1 million square feet of treatment and research space. Under his leadership, some of the most salient findings in cancer genetics and cancer cell biology were realized and have begun to be translated into patient care.

Foremost a humanitarian, Dr. Abelloff was an activist who worked diligently to get clinical trials legislation passed in Maryland to ensure that cancer patients have access to state-of-the-art therapies. A staunch advocate for tobacco control, he led the Maryland Cigarette Restitution Fund initiatives at Johns Hopkins supporting research and cancer prevention outreach to benefit poor and underserved communities burdened by disproportionately high cancer death rates.

A trusted authority and adviser, Abelloff had served as president of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, ASCO, chairman of the FDA Oncology Drug Advisory Committee, and he had been a member of the National Cancer Institute Executive Committee.

He is remembered by his colleagues and friends across the globe for his characteristic humility, wry sense of humor, extraordinary devotion to his patients and students, and the collaborative spirit he nurtured in his long tenure at Johns Hopkins, where he spent most of his career.

Dr. Edward Miller, the CEO of Johns Hopkins Medicine, described Abelloff as an "iconic Hopkins physician, scientist, educator, leader, and good citizen rolled into one."

I wish to express my condolences to Dr. Abelloff's family and to the Johns Hopkins community, which will also miss him greatly. I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering him today. ●

##### THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF EASTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY-ROSWELL

• Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I wish to recognize Eastern New Mexico Uni-

versity-Roswell for reaching its gold anniversary of 50 years. When the branch was established 50 years ago, founders probably only dreamed it would still be thriving well into the 21st century.

ENMU-R started out as Roswell Community College, only offering night classes 50 years ago. Through the last half century, they have continued to grow and expand into an established branch of Eastern New Mexico University. Most recently, they have opened an expansive housing complex with dormitory rooms as well as apartments for students. The university branch is adding program offerings every year. To date, they offer 70 different certificate and associate degrees. ENMU-R continues to be a great place to learn and experience the college life.

To celebrate the anniversary, the university has planned several events throughout the fall. Events include free concerts, parades, festivals, and even a golf tournament, with the kick off event being a hot air balloon rally held in late August.

I join with ENMU-R in celebrating this momentous milestone. I look forward to at least 50 more years of providing quality education to thousands of students. ●

• Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I wish to encourage my colleagues to join Senator ISAKSON and me in support of the 2007 Senior League World Series Champions, the Senior League team of Cartersville, GA.

On August 18, 2007, the Senior League team from Cartersville, GA, defeated the defending World Series champions of Falcon, Venezuela, by a score of 9 to 0 after Chris Huth pitched a complete game one-hitter. This victory concluded their impressive season with a record of 30 wins and only 2 losses.

I would like to recognize the 14 young men of the Cartersville Senior League team individually for their great accomplishment: Garison Boston, Ben Bridges, Trey Dickson, Brad Green, Taylor Greene, Tyler Higgins, Chris Huth, Tyler Linn, Levi Mauldin, Colton Montgomery, Cole Payne, Zack Philliber, Hank Stewart, and Tyler Williams. Their manager Eric Stewart and coaches Jeff Payne and Mark Montgomery each deserve strong recognition for guiding these young players to victory.

Moreover, I would be remiss if I did not recognize the teachers and students of these young men's schools, the fans who represented their community, and the State of Georgia for their enthusiasm and support.

It is with great pride that I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Cartersville Senior League team and their families. I am extremely proud of each of them and their accomplishments. I wish them great success in the future and urge my colleagues to join Senator ISAKSON and me in congratulating them on this great accomplishment. ●