

NATIONAL METHAMPHETAMINE AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. GRASSLEY. Madam President, I am pleased to join my colleague, Senator BAUCUS, in sponsoring the National Methamphetamine Awareness Month resolution of 2007. As a senior Member of the Senate representing a State confronting an epidemic of methamphetamine abuse and as cochairman of the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control, I have often been confronted with heartbreaking stories of the destructive nature meth abuse has on families and children. All too often, meth abuse not only ruins the life of the user, it disrupts the lives of the users family, friends, and the community at large. That is why Members of Congress must do everything we can to ensure that communities across the country have the tools and support they need to stop meth in its tracks.

Since the passage of the Combat Meth Act in 2005, an act that restricted the sale of a main ingredient of meth known as pseudoephedrine, or PSE, the number of home-grown meth labs has dramatically decreased throughout the Nation. In spite of this encouraging development, the National Association of Counties reports, in its recent survey of county sheriffs, that meth remains the No. 1 drug problem in almost half the counties across the country. In some cases, sheriffs reported, in this survey, that not only has the rate of meth abuse stayed the same, it has actually increased. The Drug Enforcement Administration, DEA, estimates that over 80 percent of the meth in this country is smuggled in from Mexico by drug cartels who produce this poison in superlabs.

Senator BAUCUS and I have held hearings to examine ways in which the Government could break the meth supply chain while helping to reduce the number of people suffering from meth. One of the areas discussed, to help achieve these goals, was to boost our efforts to educate and raise awareness among the public. We have to do a better job to reach those who don't view meth as a deadly drug, and we have to ensure that our children never try meth. Studies show that the longer you keep a child drug-free, before the age of 20, chances are very good that they will never try or become addicted to drugs.

In my State of Iowa, we have 22 community based organizations that are designed just for this purpose. One of these organizations, that I founded, called Face It Together, or FIT, encourages parents, educators, businesses, religious leaders, law enforcement officials, health care providers, youth groups, and news organizations to work together to come up with new and creative ways to confront drug abuse within their communities. While some of these community coalitions receive some financial support from the Federal Government, the real difference is made by all of those who volunteer within their communities to ensure they remain drug-free.

Although much remains to be done to eradicate meth from our communities, this resolution is part of a vast, ongoing effort to ensure meth abuse does not expand further into our society. I am please that this resolution is supported by the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America, CADCA, and I urge my colleagues to join us in support of our efforts against meth abuse.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DETROIT REPERTORY THEATRE

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Detroit Repertory Theatre, one of Michigan's oldest, continuously operating professional theatre companies. Located in the heart of Detroit, this theatre company has made significant contributions to the arts landscape in Detroit and across Michigan, forging an enduring legacy over the last half century.

The arts play an important role in building and sustaining communities by bridging cultural, ethnic, economic differences, and by being an important economic catalyst. Since its inception in 1957, the Detroit Repertory Theatre has been at the forefront of this effort and has provided world-class theatre productions for the greater Detroit community. Its ongoing emphasis on racially and ethnically diverse casting and its focus on theatrical relevancy have allowed it to carve out an important niche in the grassroots theatre world.

The Detroit Repertory Theatre's golden anniversary is particularly impressive considering the myriad challenges grassroots theatre companies face. This theatre company has not only weathered and adeptly overcome every challenge but continues to provide quality performances, while focusing on making their productions both relevant and accessible to the community. Integral to the theatre's mission is reaching out to a broader theatre audience through various successful outreach efforts, including Arts in Education Programs, Free Acting Workshops, the New Playwrights' Program, and the Charitable and CMO Partnerships.

True to its bold tradition of forging ahead, this anniversary not only celebrates past achievements but concurrently looks forward and embarks on new challenges. On Saturday, the Detroit Repertory Theatre will hold a black tie benefit to formally celebrate its golden anniversary and to kickoff its 50th Anniversary Challenge. This effort seeks to raise the funds necessary to execute its operational and community development initiatives, seeking to position the theatre to meet the challenges that lie ahead.

When an organization enjoys the type of success the Detroit Repertory Theatre has over the years, there are many who have sacrificed much and deserve acknowledgement and our heartfelt gratitude. It is in this spirit that I

know my colleagues join me in recognizing and congratulating all those who have contributed to the Detroit Repertory Theatre's many successes over the last 50 years, in particular Bruce Milan, an original cofounder and the theatre's artistic and managing director, as well as his fellow cofounders, Barbara Busby and Dee Andrus. The community looks forward to an equally impressive record of success over the next half century. Break a leg!

(At the request of Mr. REID, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

FRENCH LEGION OF HONOR

• Mrs. CLINTON. Madam President, I am honored to recognize Mr. Bernard Rader of Freeport, NY, for his selection as one of just seven Americans—along with my colleague, Senator INOUE—to receive the French Legion of Honor from President Nicolas Sarkozy on his first official visit to Washington. Bernie, who is also a recipient of the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart, is deservedly being recognized for the heroism and courage he displayed in the service of our Nation as a soldier in the 301st Regiment of the 94th Infantry Division during World War II.

The Legion of Honor was established by Napoleon in 1802 to honor both military and civilians who have made significant contributions to French life. With this recognition, Bernie Rader joins Legionnaires including Dwight Eisenhower, Winston Churchill, Neil Armstrong, and Queen Elizabeth II.

Bernie Rader was born in the Bronx on December 12, 1923. In 1943, Bernie heeded his country's call to service and joined the Army as a rifleman assigned to the 94th Infantry Division. On September 8, 1944, just over 3 months after D-day, Bernie's regiment landed on Utah Beach in Normandy, France. The 94th ID subsequently moved into Brittany, where it was responsible for containing and taking on remaining pockets of German resistance in the English Channel ports of Lorient and Saint Nazaire. During the Siege of Lorient, in October 1944, Bernie's platoon was ambushed, and he was wounded and taken captive as a prisoner of war. Thinking quickly, Bernie asked one of his comrades to bury his dog tags to keep the Nazis from discovering his Jewish faith. Bernie was held for 6 weeks as a POW before being released during an unprecedented prisoner exchange organized by Andrew Gerow Hodges of the Red Cross.

Bernie's 94th Infantry Division went on to help liberate several small French towns. They also trained and armed 29 French infantry battalions to aid them in the war against Germany. In early 1945, the 94th ID launched an attack across the Saar River, which separated France and Germany. By March of 1945 the division controlled a 10-mile front, where it repelled German attacks. On March 13, 1945, they drove to the Rhine River, eventually taking

the industrial city of Ludwigshafen on March 24. By the beginning of April, they had taken responsibility for containing the west side of the Ruhr pocket along the Rhine River. The 94th ID occupied the Ruhr until V-E Day.

Bernie Rader was discharged from the Army in January 1946. After the war, Bernie became a certified public accountant in his home State of New York. He worked on the New York State Society of Certified Public Accountants, NYSSCPA, and served as president of the Nassau County Chapter in 1986 and 1987. He won the Distinguished Service Award from the NYSSCPA in 1992.

In 2004, Bernie presented the citizens of L'Ile de Groix, France, with a plaque to show his gratitude for the aid they provided to his fellow soldiers who had been taken prisoner outside of Lorient and held on the island of Groix under very harsh conditions. He is now working to establish a sister city program between L'Ile de Groix and his town of Freeport on Long Island.

On behalf of my constituents in New York, Mr. President, and indeed on behalf of all Americans, I wish to congratulate Bernie Rader for his selection for the French Legion of Honor. This honor rightly recognizes Bernie's heroism and steadfastness at a critical time in the history of our Nation. I invite my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me today in recognizing and honoring Bernie Rader and his fellow Legionnaires for their noble service and their commitment to the defense of democracy and freedom.●

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CONGRATULATING WILLIAM PRESCOTT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

● Mr. CASEY. Madam President, today I congratulate William Prescott Elementary School, in Scranton, PA, on receiving the prestigious Blue Ribbon Schools award from the Department of Education for its outstanding achievement in providing students with a first-rate education.

William Prescott Elementary School serves just fewer than 300 students from the east side of Scranton and is part of the Scranton School District. Like many schools throughout Scranton and all of Pennsylvania, William Prescott Elementary School strives to provide the best possible opportunities and to enrich the life of each student. The administration and staff work passionately to provide a comprehensive curriculum inclusive of language arts, lab-based science, computer education, art and music education, English as a second language, special education, as well as many other courses. For the past 13 years, and particularly during the last 3, the students at William Prescott Elementary School have demonstrated steady progress in the areas of Reading and Mathematics and have far exceeded Pennsylvania's State tar-

gets. I am proud to say that the school is truly a model of educational excellence.

In addition to this, and I believe this is key, the school actively works to involve parents and the community in the learning process. Through partnerships with community organizations such as the Head Start Program, the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, and Scranton Area Foundation, William Prescott Elementary School demonstrates its commitment to a comprehensive educational program that builds on personal responsibility, accentuates individual respect, and develops a love of learning.

Special credit for this achievement belongs to the principal, Mr. Albert P. O'Donnell, and the teachers, for creating a safe and challenging learning environment. During my brief experience as a teacher I learned firsthand how much dedication the students, the parents, and all involved must exhibit in order to succeed at this exceptional level. It is with great pride that I congratulate William Prescott Elementary School on this outstanding achievement. I hope that their dedication and hard work inspires both young students and those serving in the field of education alike.●

COMMENDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO TEACH FOR AMERICA

● Mrs. DOLE. Madam President, I wish to recognize the fifth anniversary of the Wachovia Championship golf tournament at Quail Hollow Club in Charlotte.

Several years ago, a number of leading North Carolinians gathered to begin the planning for this first-class event. Under the leadership of Quail Hollow president Johnny Harris, tournament chairman Mac Everett, and executive director Kym Hougham, the Wachovia Championship has quickly risen to the top echelon of sporting events in the country.

These leaders desired to create a premier sporting event that would provide a first-class experience for patrons, PGA tour players, and volunteers that at the same time would have a significant economic impact for the Carolinas, showcase my State and region to a national and international television audience, and most importantly raise significant funds for charitable interests in the State.

The primary beneficiary of the success of the Wachovia Championship is Teach for America. Funds generated from the tournament are used to support the national efforts of this organization.

This past year, I circulated a letter that asked appropriators to fund the Teach for America program at a \$15 million level for this fiscal year. Teach for America's goal is to provide students in urban and rural low-income areas with highly qualified teachers in order to eliminate educational inequity. This program is the national

corps of top college graduates who commit 2 years to teach in underresourced public schools and become lifelong leaders in the pursuit of educational equity. After completing their 2-year commitment, 63 percent of the Teach for America alumni continue to work in education. Since 1990, nearly 17,000 college graduates have joined Teach for America, impacting the lives of over 2.5 million students.

I applaud the efforts that Wachovia is making to support this program. In its first 5 years, the Wachovia Championship has donated over \$7.5 million to Teach for America and other charities. This year, to my understanding, the bank's donation to Teach for America is \$1 million, and their overall contributions to charities have been \$1.95 million.

As you can see, this golf tournament has a much bigger impact on the community than its direct entertainment and economic impact. Through this golf tournament Wachovia has been able to reach out and affect overall society by helping students gain a quality education.●

HONORING DR. WILLIAM POTTER

● Mr. LUGAR. Madam President, I wish to commemorate the awarding of the first endowed professorship in the field of nonproliferation studies to my friend, Dr. William Potter. Bill has served as director of the Center for Nonproliferation Studies at the Monterey Institute of International Studies. In that post he has made valuable contributions to U.S. policy through detailed analysis of the threat posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, comprehensive programmatic reviews of efforts to address the threat, and training of arms control and nonproliferation experts.

Bill Potter has an unequalled research and academic record in the field of nonproliferation. He has served as a consultant to the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency and the RAND Corporation. In addition, he has served for a number of years on the United Nations Secretary General's Advisory Board on Disarmament Research. He has written or edited 14 books and contributed to more than 90 books or journals. He has also made Monterey's quarterly publication, "The Nonproliferation Review," the leading journal in the field of nonproliferation.

I am honored that Monterey Institute has named Dr. Potter's new position the "Nunn-Lugar chair of nonproliferation studies." In 1991, Sam Nunn and I believed that our Government had to act to address the threats posed by the dissolution of the Soviet Union. As political and military leaders inched away from Cold War standoffs, the weapons they had developed to threaten and deter each other remained capable of killing the entire American population and rendering our country a wasteland.