

kind is unacceptable in our society. Likewise, each Congress I have come to the floor to highlight a separate hate crime that has occurred in our country.

On February 7, 2006 in San Diego, CA, James Hardy strangled Raymund Catolico, a gay man, to death in the victim's apartment. Allegedly, the two men met at a bus station and went to Catolico's apartment to have drinks and play video games. At some point Hardy attacked Catolico strangling him to death. Following the murder, Hardy went out for food and brought it back to the apartment to finish playing his computer game. According to Deputy District Attorney Dan Link, Catolico's sexuality was, "a substantial motivation" for the killing. Hardy is charged with a hate crime and is being held without bail.

I believe that the Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Matthew Shepard Act is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SPECIALIST JOSIAH HOLLOPETER

Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, I rise to express my sympathy over the loss of U.S. Army SPC Josiah Hollopeter of Valentine, NE. Specialist Hollopeter was killed on June 14 in Al Muqdadiyah, Iraq. He was 27 years old.

Specialist Hollopeter graduated from Valentine High School in 1998. He played high school football as a defensive end, starting as a senior opposite his brother Tyler, a sophomore at the time. Tyler would also go on to serve in Iraq as an Army helicopter pilot.

Before joining the Army, Specialist Hollopeter worked construction jobs in Omaha and San Diego. He also worked for a canoe outfitter along the Niobrara River for several summers.

Like so many young men and women of his generation, the terrorist attacks of September 11 had a profound impact on Specialist Hollopeter and inspired him to serve his country. He enlisted with the Army in January 2006. He served with the 6th Squadron, 9th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, based at Ford Hood, Texas. We are proud of Specialist Hollopeter's service to our country, as well as the thousands of other brave Americans serving in Iraq.

In addition to his brother, Specialist Hollopeter is survived by his parents Ken and Kelly Hollopeter; wife Heather; and sister Anna Hollopeter.

I ask my colleagues to join me and all Americans in honoring SPC Josiah Hollopeter.

RETIREMENT OF FRANK J. MONAHAN

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I welcome this opportunity to pay tribute

to the distinguished career of Frank Monahan, who will retire in a few days after 36 years of service to the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Since 1971, Frank Monahan has worked on many of the great social justice issues of our day, always taking the side of the vulnerable, the voiceless, and the victims, always standing firm in his belief that here on earth, God's work must be our own. In the finest Jesuit tradition of his alma mater, Loyola University of Chicago, Frank Monahan is a man who has dedicated himself to serving others.

Early in his career, he was a Peace Corps volunteer in Nigeria. He was responding to President Kennedy's call to a new generation of Americans to engage themselves in public service and to help spread hope and the message of peace and cooperation throughout the world. He went on to work in Chicago public schools, helping to implement antipoverty programs and improve school lunch programs so that poor and hungry children would be free to learn, without fear of want.

His good nature, strong commitment, and eternal optimism that we can leave the world better than we found it will be missed by all of us in Congress, but they will not soon be forgotten.

It has been my great privilege through the years—under seven different Presidential administrations—to work with Frank on issues of fundamental fairness and justice. When I think of him, I am reminded of my brother Robert F. Kennedy's words:

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 that can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.

I commend Frank Monahan for the countless ripples of hope he has sent out in his career.

We will be sad to see him leave, but heart in the fact that this great friend and ally will continue, in new and different fields, to live out the words of the Gospel of Mathew:

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.

He has certainly earned his retirement. As Frank and his family look forward to meeting the new challenges and opportunities that lay ahead, I am sure God is looking down on him now and saying, "Well done, my good and faithful servant."

THE FACE OF COURAGE

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I appreciate this opportunity to honor the distinguished service of my fellow Hoosier, SFC Jeffrey E. Mittman.

Throughout his remarkable career in the U.S. Army, Sergeant Mittman has exemplified the professionalism and

dedication that is a hallmark of our Nation's Armed Forces, including during deployments in support of Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom. On July 7, 2005, while assisting an Iraqi Public Order Brigade in Central Baghdad as a member of the Special Police Transition Team, SFC Jeffrey E. Mittman was wounded by an improvised explosive device. Since that day Sergeant Mittman has worked to recover from the injuries he sustained.

I also appreciate this opportunity to share my best wishes with Sergeant Mittman's wife Christy and children Jamie and Payton. As Sergeant Mittman works to recover from the grievous injuries he suffered while serving his nation in Iraq, I know that his children will benefit from the example of service and dedication that he and Christy have set.

I ask unanimous consent that a poem by Albert Caswell honoring SFC Jeffrey Mittman be printed in the RECORD.

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

THE FACE OF COURAGE

A Beautiful Man,
Who with The Heart of A Hero now here so stands!
Who within this his short lifetime, has so made a difference . . . so very grand!
Who with but half a face,
Who now so in history holds such a place . . .
One of such honor, one of such sacrifice . . .
one of such most magnificent splendid grace!

As this warrior battles both night and day,
To rebuild his life, from which from him has so been taken away!
In this his valiant quest, courage's best, a hero no less . . . as to our world he'll bless, in so many ways!

Beauty,
Beauty, is but skin deep!
For all of those whom have so made a difference, up in Heaven in his arms our Lord shall keep!

For we will all grow old some day,
As so surely all of our beauty shall so slip away!
So what then do our lives portray? So how can we so find heaven's way? As in a mirror we gaze!

For all that is good, of which God creates . . .
For all that is beautiful, so surely comes from within hearts as made!
As from where all true beauty so radiates, as from where so very deep down inside so emanates!

The Heart,
Is from where we so gait, from where all of our new steps are made . . . to play our part!
To rebuild from where none is left, through such pain, heartache and death . . . as God's work of art!

As before me I so see the face of God this day!
In this fine hero, with but half a face . . . who's beauty within so surely shows me the way!
All hearts melt this day, upon gazing at courage's face . . . no more beautiful man our world has so graced!
And we so watch you take each new step . . .

As we stand in awe at what you have met,
with what your most magnificent heart
accepts!

As you so battle through all of your pain and
heartache, as our world you so bless
. . . until none is left!

As now we so understand,
In courage's face! For what the true meaning
the word beauty stands!

Brought to us through a young patriot's
heart, one of our Lord's greatest of
works of art . . . this Man!

So bless you our most gallant of all ones . . .
If ever I have a child, a boy . . . I hope but
pray, he could be like you most splen-
did one!

As to where the true meaning of beauty runs,
a reflection of our Lord in all you've
done!

In The Face of Courage!

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO THE OREGON STATE BEAVERS

• Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, as a proud Oregonian and a proud member of "Beaver Nation," I congratulate Coach Pat Casey and the Oregon State University baseball team, who for the second straight year have brought home to Corvallis from the College World Series in Omaha, NE, the NCAA Baseball Championship trophy.

By defeating the University of North Carolina in the championship, the Beavers have joined the elite group of college baseball teams who claim consecutive national championships. What's more, the Beavers swept to the title with the most lopsided scores in College World Series history.

As impressive as the Beaver's athletic accomplishments are, even more impressive is the type of individuals they are. Each and every time a Beaver was interviewed, they didn't speak about themselves, they spoke about the team. They spoke of heart, character, and giving it your best.

Oregonian Columnist John Canzano wrote, "What you didn't see on the field Sunday was the pediatrics unit of Nebraska Medical Center. Coach Casey toured the place with players, visiting sick children this week. . . . What you probably didn't see where thousands of fans from Iowa and Nebraska who were dressed in orange, and cheering for Oregon State because they identify with hard-working, salt-of-the-earth over-achievers and couldn't help themselves."

I am delighted to join with my colleague Senator WYDEN in submitting this resolution extending the congratulations of the United States Senate to Oregon State University, and I urge my colleagues to visit OregonLive.com to read touching stories about this truly inspiring team.

Allow me to specifically mention the names of all the coaches and players who have made my State so very proud: Head Coach Pat Casey, Associate Head Coach Dan Spencer, Assistant Coach Marty Lees, Volunteer Assistant Coach David Wong, and players

Erik Ammon, Darwin Barney, Hunter Beatty, Scotty Berke, Reed Brown, Brian Budrow, Mitch Canham, Bryn Card, Brett Casey, Jackson Evans, Kyle Foster, Drew George, Mark Grbavac, Chad Hegdahl, Chris Hopkins, Koa Kahalehoe, Greg Keim, Blake Keitzman, Josh Keller, Eddie Kunz, Joey Lakowske, Lonnie Lechelt, Jordan Lennerton, Mike Lissman, Anton Maxwell, Jake McCormick, Chad Nading, Jason Ogata, Ryan Ortiz, Joe Paterson, Tyrell Poggemeyer, Joe Pratt, Jorge Reyes, Scott Santschi, Kraig Sitton, Alex Sogard, Dale Solomon, Michael Stutes, Daniel Turpen, John Wallace, Braden Wells and Joey Wong.●

IN RECOGNITION OF BARBARA KERR

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me for a moment as I reflect on the many accomplishments of Barbara Kerr, who has just stepped down as president of the California Teachers Association. Barbara's dedication to California's teachers is matched only by her dedication to California's schoolchildren.

Barbara Kerr began her career in education as a first grade teacher at Woodcrest Elementary School in Riverside, CA. After a very long involvement with the California Teachers Association, she took the reins as its president 4 years ago. During her presidency, Barbara has had an intimate hand in six statewide elections, and she has been on the winning side in most of them. Her success can be attributed to her boundless energy, her ability to connect across the political spectrum, her keen insight, and her passion for giving every child the best possible educational opportunities.

Last year, the Los Angeles Times named Barbara Kerr the third most powerful person in southern California, ranking her well ahead of both business leaders and elected officials. And the Los Angeles Times was right. Barbara has led the California Teachers Association through some of the most turbulent times in California's history and has done so with a clear aim to put California schools and their teachers and students first.

Barbara is retiring from both the California Teachers Association and from teaching. I know that teachers across California will miss her strong leadership, and I will miss her perspective and wisdom on issues of education and more. But Barbara is also considering where the future may lead, and I can only hope that she will continue to stay involved and stay active. Wherever the future leads her, I know that Barbara will continue putting the needs of our children first.●

REMEMBERING DR. NATHAN CARLINER

• Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to the life and legacy of

Dr. Nathan Carliner. Dr. Carliner was a well-respected cardiologist who practiced at the Baltimore Veterans Affairs Medical Center and a professor at the University of Maryland School of Medicine. He will be remembered for his commitment to his patients, his colleagues, and his students, as well as his devotion to friends and family.

Dr. Carliner was born in Baltimore and raised on South Road in Mount Washington. He followed in the footsteps of his father, Dr. Paul Carliner, who was also a doctor and codiscovered Dramamine in 1947. After his father's untimely death at just 46 years old, Nathan decided to devote his life to medicine. He was a 1958 Gilman School graduate and earned a bachelor of science degree at Johns Hopkins University. He went on to graduate from Hopkins Medical School in 1965.

After completing his internship and residency, Dr. Carliner joined the Army Medical Corps. He was medical service chief at the 3rd Mobile Army Surgical Hospital, MASH, at Binh Thuy in the Mekong Delta during the Vietnam war. After the war, Dr. Carliner studied cardiology and advanced electrocardiography before moving back to Baltimore in the 1970s. Once he returned to his hometown, Nathan continued his service both to his state and his country. He was a full professor at the University of Maryland School of Medicine and he was associate chief of cardiology and director of noninvasive cardiology services at the veterans hospital.

Dr. Carliner was known not just for his professionalism and his experience but also for his calming demeanor and his commitment to mentoring medical students and postgraduate trainees. Nathan touched so many lives and made many great contributions both to his field and to his colleagues.

Nathan Carliner's death is a tragedy. Yet his life was a triumph. I offer my heartfelt condolences to his family—his brother Mark, his sister Esther Carliner Viros, and his four nephews, particularly Paul Carliner, who worked in my office for over 12 years and who shares his uncle's commitment and dedication to helping others.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting this extraordinary man.●

RECOGNIZING HASTINGS, NEBRASKA

• Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the City of Hastings, NE, for being named "America's Greenest City" by Yahoo, Inc., the online search engine. During a time when people around the world are concerned about energy security and environmental quality, they need look no further than the city of Hastings as a perfect example of what a community can do to help clean up the environment.

Hastings, with a population of 25,000, located in south-central Nebraska, has just won Yahoo's "Be a Better Planet—