

“Thunderator” responsible for starting the “Thunder over Louisville” firework show. He was so named because of his dedication to the Bluegrass Honor Flight organization.

I know my colleagues will join me in honoring Mr. Duffy for his tireless advocacy on behalf of veterans.

GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAYS

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I wish to speak about a resolution designating April 23 through 25, 2010, as “Global Youth Service Days.” S. Res. 493 recognizes and commends the significant community service efforts that youth are making in communities across the country and around the world on the last weekend in April and every day. This resolution also encourages the citizens of the United States to acknowledge and support these volunteer efforts. S. Res. 493 passed the Senate by unanimous consent on April 20, 2010. This sends a very strong message of support to the thousands of youth across our great Nation who contribute positively to their communities—your efforts are recognized and appreciated.

Beginning this Friday, April 23, youth from across the United States and around the world will carry out community service projects in areas ranging from hunger to literacy to the environment. Through this service, many will embark on a lifelong path of service and civic engagement.

This event is not isolated to one weekend a year. Global Youth Service Days is an annual public awareness and education campaign that highlights the valuable contributions that young people make to their communities throughout the year.

The participation of youth in community service provides an opportunity to identify and address the needs of their communities and make positive differences in the world around them, learn leadership, organizational skills, and gain insights into the problems of their fellow citizens.

High-quality service-learning activities help young people make important connections between the school curriculum and the challenges they see in their communities. Youth who are engaged in volunteer service and service-learning activities do better in school than their classmates who do not volunteer are also more likely to avoid risky behaviors, such as drug and alcohol abuse. Service within the community contributes positively to young people’s character development, civic participation, and philanthropic activity as adults.

It is important, therefore, that the Senate encourage youth to engage in community service and to congratulate them for the service they provide.

In an effort to recognize and support youth volunteers in my State, I am proud to acknowledge some of the activities that will occur this year in Alaska in observance of National and Global Youth Service Days:

Anchorage’s Promise, which works to mobilize all sectors of the community to build the character and competence of Anchorage’s children and youth, has sponsored the annual KidsDay events in Anchorage again this year. Youth provided significant service to their peers and to adults who attended KidsDay activities:

The Spirit of Youth Teen Action Council’s Herb Project provided youth with the task of building organic hanging gardens for local elders who are unable to get out and garden this year. The Alaska Botanical Garden also supported this project with important tips about the benefits of starting your own garden at home.

Operation Support Our Soldiers, SOS, made cards for our military deployed overseas to show support and appreciation for the sacrifice that these brave men and women make every day.

The Alaska Teen Media Institute also participated in the day interviewing youth and giving tips on media production.

Teen volunteers from Anchorage conducted surveys of youth attending the 2010 KidsDay and also surveyed vendor booths regarding volunteer and employment opportunities.

Chugiak High School Junior ROTC assisted Anchorage’s Promise this year at KidsDay by providing security to protect children.

In addition to the KidsDay events, young people from every region of Alaska will serve their communities in the following ways:

The Juneau Alaska Youth for Environmental Action has been working with the Juneau-Douglas High School Food Services, to transition from plastic disposable silverware to reusable metal silverware.

SAGA Juneau will be working in coordination with the Juneau School District to provide volunteer opportunities to youth.

Members of the Chugiak Family Career and Community Leaders of America coordinated four activities to earn funds for the Malowi Children’s Village. They raised \$560 for mosquito bed nets which will buy 260 nets to protect children from deadly insect bites.

Anchorage Boy Scout troops teamed up with local supermarkets in order to collect food for the homeless.

The Music Canvas in Anchorage offered a free sing-a-long class for families with young children.

Shishmaref Village led a trip with skilled hunters to teach the youth traditional hunting and survival tactics.

An ongoing project from the students at the Alaska Teen Media Institute involves production of a public affairs radio show on KNBA 90.3 FM Anchorage. “In Other News” airs the last Saturday of the month and features news and views from the teen perspective.

Teens of Covenant House Alaska will be partnering with Abundant Life Generation to outreach to women and children in Nepal that have experienced sexual exploitation from human trafficking.

Homer residents helped clean the city. Cash prizes were awarded to the top three “trash collectors,” and over 650 bags of trash were collected.

Over 750 volunteers joined together in Soldotna to help rebuild the local playgrounds in the city.

Cadets from the North Pole High School Air Force Junior ROTC collected donations and helped out the Alaska Blood Bank in Fairbanks.

Teen volunteers in Anchorage helped prepare materials for the annual summer reading celebration.

Youth assisted Anchorage’s Promise with getting the meaning behind the five promises out into the community.

The Alaska Food Bank offered a volunteer opportunity to help the Boy Scouts of America sort out their donations from this year’s Scouting for Food Drive.

Thousands of youth volunteers gathered to help clean up the neighborhoods of Anchorage.

The Alaska High School Challenge sponsored by the Blood Bank of Alaska increases awareness in the community about the importance of donating blood and allows high schools to compete with one another for recognition of saving the most lives in Alaska.

The PANIC/Mountaineer Sports Program cleaned and painted the Mount View Community Center Boys and Girls Club.

Sterling Community Club youth helped to salvage road kill moose in order to feed hungry community members.

Boys and Girls Club youth were instructed on bike safety.

Eagle River Boys and Girls Club helped to show support for troops by making care packages during the holidays.

Port Graham School students partnered up with elders in the community to learn more about traditional knowledge and cultural importance.

Wrangell youth worked with the Women in Safe Homes project and AmeriCorps members to create artwork for the Wrangell Medical Center.

Youth Group of Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship made and distributed Easter baskets to homeless youth.

Students at Barry Craig Stewart Kassan School were involved in a week of activities that focused on building skills such as teamwork and communication.

Students at Tok School were given the opportunity to “adopt” a person whom they found to be a positive influence on their lives.

Eagle River Lion’s Club teamed up with youth to provide an Easter egg hunt for the community.

The community of Dillingham joined together to celebrate the achievements of local youth and elders.

Students with the Yakutat High National Honor Society held a community health fair.

Metervit Youth Action Group in New Stuyahok held an event to discuss

environmental issues the village should address for the future.

Tri-Valley Community Library and the After School Yearbook Club at Healy school celebrated the 40th anniversary of the local school.

Mr. President, I am so proud of all of these young people. I value their idealism, energy, creativity, and unique perspectives as they volunteer to make their communities better and assist those in need.

Many similarly wonderful activities will be taking place all across the Nation. I encourage all of my colleagues to visit the Youth Service America Web site—www.ysa.org—to find out about the selfless and creative youth who are contributing in their own States this year.

I thank my colleagues—Senators AKAKA, BAYH, BEGICH, BINGAMAN, BURR, CARDIN, COCHRAN, COLLINS, DODD, FEINSTEIN, GILLIBRAND, GREGG, HAGAN, ISAKSON, KLOBUCHAR, LANDRIEU, LAUTENBERG, LEMIEUX, LIEBERMAN, LINCOLN, MENENDEZ, MIKULSKI, MURRAY, BEN NELSON, STABENOW, and MARK UDALL—for standing with me as original cosponsors of this worthwhile resolution which will ensure that youth across the country and the world know that all of their hard work is greatly appreciated.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DOROTHY I. HEIGHT

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to a great Civil Rights leader of our Nation, who passed away recently. I come to the floor in her memory to pause for just a moment and to remember this great lady.

Tuesday, the Nation lost a powerful advocate for justice, equality, and opportunity for all people. Dr. Dorothy I. Height was truly a heroine of the civil rights movement. She was a civil rights trailblazer whose courage and determination has allowed women around the nation to break through glass ceilings and realize their dreams. She has certainly been an inspiration to me personally.

Dr. Height was the chair and president emerita of the National Council of Negro Women, Incorporated. The council was founded by Mary McLeod Bethune. She brought 28 national women leaders together to improve the quality of life for women. Dr. Height embraced that vision and continued the crusade for justice. Through her leadership, she changed our nation by shining a light on discrimination and injustice that was all too common in America during the 20th century.

Dr. Height was also a member of many other organizations such as the YWCA and the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Through her dedication and commitment in these organizations, she encouraged women to be leaders in national and community organizations and on college campuses. She had an extraordinary presence, a really big and wonderful heart, she was a great

intellect, and she had a passion for people. She is an example of the impact that women have on leadership. She was born not only to be all a woman could be, but all a person could be, all a leader could be. Dr. Dorothy Height will always be respectfully remembered.

She has received many awards including the Presidential Medal of Freedom Award, the Congressional Gold Medal Award. I was proud to join my Senate colleagues on sponsoring a Senate resolution honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Height. She will be greatly missed and her legacy will live on in the women she inspired.

AMERICAN CITY QUALITY MONTH

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize April as the 22nd Annual National American City Quality Month. Led by the National League of Cities, the U.S. Conference of Mayors, American City Planning Directors' Council/American City Quality Foundation, Urban Land Institute, City Planning and Management Division of the American Planning Association, International City/County Management Association, American Public Transportation Association, American Society of Landscape Architects and others, this valuable program brings together a wide range of public and private partners. Their efforts demonstrate what it takes to plan and develop better quality communities addressing vital issues including land use, building design, transportation, housing, parks and recreation, energy efficiency, economic development, environmental protection, sustainability and livability.

City planners across my State of Maine and throughout the Nation are calling on public and private sector leaders to commit to preparing, adopting and implementing a nationwide better quality communities plan that will lead to better planning, redevelopment and development of our Nation's cities and surrounding regions. This is essential to accommodate U.S. Census projected population growth of about 30 million by the year 2020 and 100 million within 30 to 40 years. This is the equivalent of building eleven cities the size of Chicago. Also, it will help to create jobs, stop urban sprawl, guide billions of dollars of investment to improve communities while lowering governmental operating expenses and taxes.

This public-private partnership is necessary to meet the growing need for higher quality, more energy efficient and sustainable housing, buildings, public transportation, infrastructure, agriculture, and industry. All citizens are urged to get involved by contacting their community planners. I applaud these collaborative efforts to improve urban and rural communities across our Nation.

This collaborative planning works. Just last year, Forbes Magazine named

Portland, ME, my State's largest city, as the most livable city in America. In addition, Portland's busy Commercial Street was voted as one of the country's great streets by the American Planning Association. The transformation of Portland did not happen by accident. It is the result of citizens and organizations working together. American City Quality Month celebrates this effort. This year our Governor, John Baldacci, proclaimed April as American City Quality Month. Other Governors and officials are invited to do the same.

RECOGNIZING MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I speak often about the excellent higher education opportunities that are available in Vermont. Today, I want to honor Middlebury College for a new business venture that builds upon its academic reputation in foreign languages.

A small, liberal arts school of 2400 students, located in Addison County, Middlebury is a campus that is rooted in Vermont's rich culture, while charting the way forward to the future. From using wood chips to heat and cool buildings across the campus, to local food initiatives, to recycling building materials, students, faculty and staff use creativity and build on a tradition of excellence in helping to take the college to the next level.

This week, Middlebury College was hailed as one of the Nation's top "green colleges" in a new ranking by the Princeton Review. And a recent article in the New York Times described the college's new and innovative business partnership to develop an online language program for precollege students. Already well known for its intensive summer language programs, Middlebury will be able to broaden its reach and impact by bringing a language program directly into the homes of American students wanting to learn new languages.

The Internet has emerged as a significant learning tool, and connecting students with language instruction on the Web is a wonderful academic idea as well as an innovative business initiative.

I know that Middlebury College will continue to be a leader in academic innovation, and I wish them the best in their new endeavor.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING CLEMSON UNIVERSITY SCROLL OF HONOR

• Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I ask the Senate to join me in recognizing a historic event taking place in Clemson, SC. Today, Clemson University and the Clemson Corps are dedicating its Scroll of Honor Memorial, which recognizes the 473 Clemson University alumni who sacrificed their lives protecting and defending our Nation.