

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.

Clemson University has a long and distinguished military history, and today's dedication of the Scroll of Honor is a testament to this school's continued commitment to honoring those who serve our country. I truly appreciate the Clemson Corp for spearheading this important project.

As Senator, I have had the great honor to meet many of our Nation's soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines serving abroad. They are dedicated, proud individuals who take their jobs to protect our Nation very seriously.

Like the millions of veterans who served before them, they also know the great truth that freedom is never free. It was won and protected for more than two centuries by patriotic Americans willing to risk their lives to defend this great country of ours.

Millions of Americans have given their blood, sweat, and tears in defense of this great land. Many, like the individuals we honor today, paid the ultimate price. Words cannot adequately express the great respect and admiration I have for these individuals.

I, like all Americans, will forever be indebted to them for their sacrifice.

I ask that the U.S. Senate join me in honoring these distinguished Sons of Dear Old Clemson, their families, and the thousands of soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who continue to serve our Nation. And may God continue to bless our United States of America.●

TRIBUTE TO GERARD BAKER

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to Gerard Baker, Superintendent of Mount Rushmore National Memorial. Superintendent Baker has accepted a new assignment as Assistant Director for American Indian Relations for the National Park Service. While his leadership at Mount Rushmore will be greatly missed, the entirety of the Park Service will benefit from this new role. I have enjoyed working with Gerard in his capacity as Superintendent and want to take this opportunity to recognize his accomplishments.

During his tenure, Gerard has helped promote a comprehensive understanding of the significance of Mount Rushmore and the surrounding Black Hills. In addition to telling the story of the four Presidents whose likenesses are carved into the mountain, he and his staff have worked to broaden the perspectives of history, culture, and natural resources at the memorial. Visitors, young and old alike, have enjoyed expanded interpretive programs, including an award-winning audio tour available in Lakota and a Heritage Village highlighting the history and customs of local American Indian communities. Gerard has done an admirable job of promoting understanding and celebration of all of the cultures that make up our democracy.

Gerard's long and accomplished career with the National Park Service

began in 1979 at the Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site where he worked as a park technician. He worked his way up and eventually became Superintendent of Little Big Horn Battlefield National Monument. He would later serve as the first Superintendent of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail before coming to Mount Rushmore. Throughout his career, Gerard has been recognized with numerous awards for exceptional work. He was also recently featured in the Ken Burns documentary "The National Parks: America's Best Idea."

National Park Service Director Jon Jarvis should be commended for recognizing the importance of working with tribes across our country on cultural and natural resources issues central to the Park Service's mission. He could not have picked a better person to represent the Park Service in this capacity. In addition to vast experience with the Park Service, Gerard brings a lifetime of learning from his own heritage as a Mandan-Hidatsa Indian. That perspective, coupled with the charisma and good humor Gerard is so well known for, will be a great asset for the Park Service.

In closing, I would like to thank Gerard and his wife Mary Kay for their dedication to Mount Rushmore and the Black Hills area. I wish him all the best in his new position as Assistant Director for American Indian Relations for the National Park Service. Gerard's efforts at Mount Rushmore will continue to benefit visitors for years to come, and I congratulate him on his accomplishments.●

REMEMBERING VERNON C. POLITE

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I wish to honor the life of Vernon C. Polite, dean of the Eastern Michigan University College of Education, who passed away on March 8, 2010. Dean Polite led a life of integrity, passion, and dedication. His exemplary work and his personal warmth surely will be missed by all whose lives he touched. A memorial service will be held on the campus of Eastern Michigan University today to celebrate the life of this wonderful man.

Dean Polite's efforts to enrich the educational experiences of students in Michigan and across the country are truly inspiring. His guidance has left an indelible mark on the institutions in which he has played a part. From his work as principal at Oak Park Public Schools and professor at Catholic University of America, to his roles as founding dean of Bowie State University's School of Education and dean of the Eastern Michigan University College of Education, Dean Polite has set an example of conscientious and courageous leadership.

Dean Polite was embraced by colleagues, students, family, and friends as much for his impressive accomplishments as for his generous heart and personal kindness. He has been called

"an ambassador for education and for social justice across the nation." His dedication to social justice is not only evident in the research he conducted on organizational change and minority educational issues and in his active pursuit of diversity at Eastern Michigan and other institutions but also in the graceful and respectful manner in which he interacted with those around him each day. Dean Polite leaves a void at Eastern Michigan University and in the countless lives he helped to shape. His memory will be a vivid and lasting inspiration to many.

Vernon C. Polite dedicated his life to education and accomplished much in his long and illustrious career. His legacy is that of a life well-spent and is embodied in the accomplishments and aspirations of the students he inspired. I know my colleagues join me in extending condolences to Vernon's sister, Carol Brooks, and his brother, Willie Brooks, as well as to the entire Eastern Michigan University community, as we honor the life of this remarkable man.●

TRIBUTE TO SPECIALIST MICHELLE DONOVAN

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I honor National Guard Specialist Michelle Donovan, a resident of Hot Springs Village in my home State of Arkansas. Specialist Donovan recently received the Purple Heart for injuries she sustained while serving in Iraq nearly 3 years ago.

Specialist Donovan served as a combat medic assigned to the 875th Engineer Battalion, Arkansas National Guard. On August 21, 2007, while on patrol in Iraq, the vehicle in which she was riding struck an explosive device, leaving her and her four team members seriously wounded. She suffered severe traumatic brain injury and wounds to her leg and shoulder, as well as injuries to her face, requiring a medical discharge from the Arkansas National Guard.

Along with all Arkansans, I salute Specialist Donovan for her bravery, and I am grateful for her service and sacrifice.

More than 11,000 Arkansans on active duty and more than 10,000 Arkansas reservists have served in Iraq or Afghanistan since September 11, 2001. It is the responsibility of our Nation to provide the tools necessary to care for our country's returning servicemembers and honor the commitment our Nation made when we sent them into harm's way. Our grateful Nation will not forget them when their military service is complete. It is the least we can do for those whom we owe so much.●

TRIBUTE TO ALICE SMITH

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I congratulate Alice Smith for being named the 2009 Citizen of the Year by the Clarendon Chamber of Commerce.

According to those who know her best, Alice is a dedicated community