

catastrophic fire at one end of the lake does not cause too much erosion or air pollution in another part of the Lake. The Watershed Assessment will provide the Forest Service with the tools to make those tough judgment calls.

The other Federal effort underway is an interagency review of the Environmental Improvement Program, a list of more than 500 environmental improvement projects that the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency proposes to implement at Lake Tahoe. The Environmental Improvement Program has the full support of Lake Tahoe's local governments, business leaders, and environmental groups. Now the Federal government is assessing which of the environmental projects on this list should have high priority for Federal funding, and whether new programs are needed to provide that funding.

I plan to act upon the results of these studies as soon as they are complete in December 1998. I am hoping to offer legislation in the next session that would authorize a new Federal initiative, led by the U.S. Forest Service, to address Lake Tahoe's erosion and forest health problems. I am working with a bi-partisan group of Tahoe's business, environmental, and community leaders to develop a proposal, and I hope that the Forest Service will become an active player in the process as well.

In 1997, President Clinton and Vice President GORE visited Lake Tahoe. I attended the Forum they sponsored, as did Senators BOXER, REID and BRYAN. We applauded the President as he announced an ambitious Tahoe initiative that included \$50 million over two years for land acquisition, prescribed burning, watershed restoration, public transportation, upgrades to wastewater pipelines, erosion control, and scientific research at the Lake.

Unfortunately, since then, Lake Tahoe seems to have dropped off the Administration's radar screen. The Administration never even fulfilled the \$50 million in commitments the President made at Tahoe, let alone extend those commitments to fiscal year 1999.

In his 1999 budget request, President Clinton did not make any specific requests for Tahoe, and the Forest Service will be lucky if they receive \$5 million from the Administration next year for forest health and erosion control projects.

Forest Service officials at Lake Tahoe are doing a heroic job of reducing fire risk in the forest while simultaneously protecting Lake Tahoe's water quality. They need more resources if they are going to reverse declining environmental quality at the Lake and its surrounding forests.

Time is running out for Lake Tahoe. If we do not act quickly with a full commitment of Federal resources, the crown jewel of the Sierra could become permanently tarnished. I urge my colleagues in the Senate to join me in preserving this national treasure for generations to come. Let's look at this \$3 million for land acquisition as a down payment, not the last word.●

OUR LADY QUEEN OF ALL SAINTS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a special church in Fraser, Michigan. Our Lady Queen of All Saints Parish celebrated its 40th Anniversary on August 23, 1998.

Since its beginning, Our Lady Queen of All Saints Parish has been selflessly dedicated to serving God and the Fraser community. The members of the Parish demonstrate their commitment to their faith through providing valuable human services to those in need. They have done so under the guidance and leadership of Our Lady Queen of All Saints' founding father Reverend Father Joseph J. Szmaszek and former pastors Monsignor Ferdinand J. DeCneudt, Father J. Michael McGough and Father Arthur W. Fauser. The parish continues this service under the present pastor, Father Ronald J. Babich. It is my great pleasure to recognize the contributions these men have made to the parish, ensuring its prosperity and longevity.

I want to express my congratulations and best wishes to all of the clergy and members of Our Lady Queen of All Saints parish. May they enjoy continued success.●

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROWAN UNIVERSITY

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Rowan University as it celebrates its 75th Anniversary. This year marks the 75th year that Rowan will provide quality education to residents in New Jersey and across the country. It is a pleasure for me to be able to recognize this important milestone.

Rowan provides an exceptional environment for achievement and fulfillment through rigorous academic training and vigorous personal interaction among the members of its diverse learning community. As a regional public university committed to teaching, Rowan combines liberal education with professional preparation and offers programs from the undergraduate through doctoral levels. Rowan University seeks to achieve knowledge through ambition, responsibility through service, and character through challenge. The University is a constantly expanding resource for the State of New Jersey, developing as a community of learners with a curriculum that integrates professional and liberal education. Rowan has succeeded in developing values, shaping character, and enhancing the capacity for a fulfilling and socially responsible life among its graduates. Rowan University alumni are well prepared to assume positions of leadership within their communities and professional fields.

Rowan University has become an extraordinary comprehensive institution that has improved the quality of life for the citizens of New Jersey, and it has long been an example of the stand-

ard that we set for our nation's universities. Through hard work and dedication, the faculty have illustrated their commitment to building the leaders of tomorrow, and their success over the past 75 years serve as an inspiration to all educators.

I am proud to recognize Rowan University on its anniversary, and I look forward to another 75 years of quality education from this institution.●

TRIBUTE TO THE COVENANT HOUSE ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the Covenant House in St. Louis, Missouri on its 25th Anniversary. Over the years, Covenant House has been an important and integral part of the low-moderate income housing community for the elderly. The Anniversary celebration will take place on September 13, with special honorees Harvey and Wilma Gerstein.

The Gersteins have dedicated a great deal of their lives to the development of quality housing for the elderly. Harvey was the first-ever President of the Covenant House and still serves on the Board of Directors. Wilma is a member of the Board and serves as Chair of the Volunteer Committee.

Covenant House is publicly financed and has 434 units of housing to serve its 484 elderly residents. With the continuing need for more establishments like the Covenant House, they founded the Community Aging Corporation. This Corporation provides a variety of social services to guarantee safety for the elderly in an independent setting.

It is a great privilege to honor this high caliber living community and its special honorees. Dedication to one's community has become an increasingly rare quality in our society. The St. Louis community is lucky to have such a facility and I want to express my sincere appreciation to everyone who makes the Covenant House excel.●

TRIBUTE TO HERBERT MABRY, THE 1998 RICHARD B. RUSSELL PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT

● Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the 1998 Richard B. Russell Public Service Award recipient, Herbert Mabry of Sandy Springs, Georgia.

Herb is a man who truly defines public service. Over the years, he has been actively involved in serving the people in many capacities, including his own campaign for public office.

The Richard B. Russell Award is given each year to an individual who truly "raises the bar" for us all and goes the extra mile for his or her community and state. The honor is bestowed upon an individual who works tirelessly to promote the ideals of the State of Georgia and who strengthens and shapes our State for the future. Senator Russell understood that public service and political involvement is a

tool of citizenship, and this year's honoree is a man who believes that being an active public servant defines citizenship.

Herb has been the President of the Georgia State AFL-CIO since 1972, and has truly defined and shaped the labor movement throughout Georgia during the past several decades. He is also very involved in other organizations including the Georgia Labor Committee, the Georgia Trade Union Council for Histradut, the AFL-CIO Appalachian Council, the Georgia Democratic Party and the Fulton County Personnel Board. He has been a member of Carpenter's Local Union #225 since 1950 and served as its President for the past 25 years. He also serves as the President of the Southeastern Regional Council of Carpenters.

Herb Mabry is a native of Fulton County, Georgia. He and his wife Colleen have six children and 11 grandchildren.

Mr. President, I ask that you join me and our colleagues in honoring Herbert Mabry's innumerable contributions and unselfish and inspiring hard work and dedication to the State of Georgia and our Nation. Herb personifies the definition of a true and loyal American and sets the standard for all citizens to live by.●

PONTIAC AREA HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the Pontiac Area Historical and Genealogical Society's Citizen of the Year, Mr. John A. Riley of Pontiac, Michigan.

Mr. Riley, born December 8, 1912 has been chosen as the Citizen of the Year on the basis that he has given tremendously of his time and resources to many causes. His professional career consisted of 40 years of service to the Pontiac Daily Press as vice-president of marketing. Additionally, Riley has served voluntarily in many positions. He was a member of the Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital Board for 36 years, president of the Pontiac J.C.s, president of the Pontiac Chamber of Commerce, member of the Boys Club and a 50 year member of the Kiwanis Club of Pontiac.

Currently, Mr. Riley sits on the committees for the Key Club for Pontiac High Schools and the Terrific Kids Program. He also serves as Chairman of the Board for the General Hospital Authority, First Chairman of the Economic Development Commission for the City of Pontiac. He was instrumental in the raising of the funds to build the Pontiac Silverdome. In addition, John Riley is a man of strong faith as reflected in his service to All Saints Episcopal Church where he is Senior Warden for the Vestry.

Mr. Riley's accomplishments are numerous. It is clear to see that he commits himself selflessly and completely to many causes. He is undoubtedly de-

serving of the Citizen of the Year award being given to him by the Pontiac Historical and Genealogical Society. It is with great pleasure that I extend my congratulations to Mr. John A. Riley on this special occasion.●

REFORMING THE RESOURCE CONSERVATION AND RECOVERY ACT

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, late last week the Majority Leader indicated that the Senate would be unable to complete efforts this year to reform the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act as it pertains to remediation waste. For many months, Senators LOTT, CHAFEE, SMITH, BAUCUS, BREAU and I have worked on "rifle-shot" legislation in this area. I regret that we were unable to bring these negotiations to a successful conclusion. However, I believe that we made a lot of progress in narrowing differences and developing a bill that could have improved the RCRA hazardous waste cleanup program through a series of responsible reforms. Our work provides a solid foundation upon which to build in the next Congress.

Mr. President, last fall, in October, the GAO issued a report recommending targeted reforms which, in conjunction with adequate resources for state and federal agencies, could have resulted in substantial savings in cleanup costs; encouraged treatment remedies; and sparked brownfields cleanup and redevelopment efforts. As Chairman of the Subcommittee in the Senate with jurisdiction over these issues for many years, and more recently as Ranking Democratic Member, one of my priorities has been to encourage such efforts, and to return these contaminated parcels to valuable uses. I believe such reforms can yield substantial national economic and environmental benefits while protecting human health and the environment. Such reforms would especially benefit my state of New Jersey, which is one of the five states with the largest volume of remediation waste.

For these reasons, I was pleased that Senators LOTT, CHAFEE and SMITH invited Senator BAUCUS and me to join in developing a targeted consensus reform package. We spent many hours at this effort and we reached agreement in a number of areas. I regret that we did not come to final closure on this legislation. I want to thank my colleagues and the Administration for the considerable efforts they all made in thoughtfully resolving many of the complicated issues in this debate. I want to also thank Senator BREAU, who has been instrumental in championing reform in this area. Finally, I want to thank the many and varied stakeholders—representatives from industry, environmental organizations, as well as state and local agencies and community groups—that provided us with inestimable assistance in understanding this highly complex statute.

Mr. President, I regret that we did not have the chance to resolve all of

the issues this year. We made significant progress in resolving a host of thorny questions. The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act has significantly reduced the generation of hazardous waste, and prevented new generations of Superfund toxic waste sites. I am optimistic that we can resume this process next year and achieve responsible reforms at that time. I pledge myself to these efforts.●

TRIBUTE TO BERTIE SWEENEY GAMMELL PARISH

● Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to my friend Bertie Sweeney Gammell Parish, a lifelong resident of Clayton, Alabama, hardworking wife and mother, dedicated member of the community, newspaper professional, and an inspiration to all who knew her. Bertie passed away at her home on Wednesday, August 26, 1998.

Born on June 4, 1915 in Dothan, Alabama, Bertie was the daughter of William Lee and Pearle Ennis Gammell. From her earliest beginnings, Bertie was an active member of the Clayton United Methodist Church where she combined her love of music with her service to God as organist and choir director for almost 50 years. Bertie held a bachelor's degree in music from Alabama College, teaching music briefly at Montgomery County High School and later in Clayton.

A former member of the Eufaula Music Guild, Bertie was a Paul Harris fellow of the Rotary Foundation of Rotary International—an award presented by the Clayton Rotary Club, a lifetime member of the Alabama Federation of Garden Clubs and a member of the Clayton Garden Club.

In addition to the many awards and community service position she held, Bertie is probably best known as the editor and publisher of *The Clayton Record*—a post she assumed in 1960 after the deaths of her father and later her mother—both held the position in consecutive terms before her. She passed this torch to her daughter Rebecca Parish Beasley who holds the position today. *The Clayton Record* is one of only a few remaining family-owned and operated newspapers.

Bertie's column "One Comment," which appeared on the front page of *The Clayton Record*, was a favorite of subscribers. From her astute observations on everything from politics to gardening, Bertie thrilled, inspired and delighted her readers, including local gardeners who hoped to receive mention in one of her columns.

Bertie was well known not only in Clayton, but across Alabama. She received many awards and kudos from colleagues in the news business including a listing in *Who's Who of American Women*, and the News Media Service to Education Award. She was also a staunch preservationist who worked diligently to preserve history and local historic structures in and around Clayton.