

school climate and technology planning. These initiatives on the part of the staff have resulted in lively staff debates, enriched staff development opportunities, better communication from grade to grade, and more frequent interaction with parents and community.

As a former teacher and school board chairman, I recognize the challenges involved in providing students a quality education. I commend the teachers and staff for their effort and innovation that have built a top-notch school. I am pleased that they have been recognized for their success, and it is with great pride that I represent them in the United States Senate.●

HOOSIER HERO TRIBUTE TO ROBERT MOHR

● Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to recognize Robert Mohr of Peru, Indiana, for his outstanding accomplishment this past week.

You see, Mr. President, on May 12, 1998, Mr. Mohr, a conductor for Norfolk Southern railroad, and engineer Rod Lindley were guiding their 96-car freight train through a residential area of Lafayette, Indiana, when they noticed a small child on the train tracks. With only a short distance between the train and the child, these men slowed the train to 10 mph and blasted the horn, but 19-month-old Emily Marshall still remained on the tracks.

Robert Mohr acted immediately and selflessly. Risking his own safety, he climbed onto the front of the train, reached out, and pushed the toddler out of harm's way. Thanks to Robert's quick reaction, Emily Marshall was returned to her family with only a cut on her head and a swollen lip.

Mr. President, I commend Robert Mohr for this brave and selfless act, and that is why I am honoring him as a Hoosier Hero.

I began the Hoosier Hero award in order to single out Hoosier men and women who have made significant contributions to Indiana history or life, while at the same time serving as an inspirational example for the entire nation. I can think of no greater contribution to life than preserving the life of a small child, such as young Emily.

Emily Marshall, an innocent toddler who wandered onto the train tracks, will probably not realize for several years what Robert Mohr did for her. However, through Robert Mohr's courageous act, Emily now has the opportunity to grow healthy and strong. Emily's future is a bright one, full of promise because of the heroic decision Robert made on that spring afternoon.

Thank you, Robert Mohr, for your courage, your bravery, and your selfless act of saving the life of young Emily Marshall. You are an inspiration to all, a true Hoosier Hero.●

NATIONAL MUSICIANS WEEK

● Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. President, it gives us great pleasure to bring to the Senate's attention one of the new premier events in the world of music: Chet Atkins' Musician Days.

Known by many as "Mr. Guitar," Chet Atkins is the most recorded solo instrumentalist in music history. As a studio musician, his work has gilded the records of artists from Elvis Presley to the Everly Brothers to Hank Williams. Chet has been named Musician of the Year nine times by the Country Music Awards and has won thirteen Grammys, more than any other artist in the history of country music.

Now it's no secret that the State of Tennessee has provided the world with more than its share of great music, from the blues of Memphis' Beale Street to the bluegrass of Appalachia to the country sounds of Nashville. But it's also true, even in Tennessee, that we sometimes forget the performers who stand just outside of the spotlight, the musicians who accompany the stars but rarely take center stage. That gave Chet Atkins an idea: organize an event to honor the musicians, or, as Chet puts it, "the people who make the singers sound good!" I now yield to my colleague from Tennessee.●

● Mr. FRIST. And so, an idea was born. Last June, Nashville saw the debut of Chet Atkins' Musician Days, a celebration of the contribution of musicians from around the world in every genre of music. Over four days, a total of 169 acts comprised of 604 artists from seven countries performed at 43 venues throughout the city. From a star-studded concert featuring 90 performers at the historic Ryman Auditorium, former home of the Grand Ole Opry, to a myriad of informal acoustic jam sessions at smaller stages all over the city, it was an event that few will soon forget.

A big part of Musician Days is its focus on the future of music. Throughout the festival, budding musicians are encouraged to bring their instruments for impromptu sessions with the pros. Proceeds from last year's inaugural event went to the Chet Atkins Music Education Fund, to be distributed to organizations that encourage the musical education of our nation's young people.

The success of Chet Atkins' Musician Days in 1997 led to plans for an even bigger event this year. Next month, thousands of music lovers will again descend upon Music City USA for several days of first-rate concerts, musical workshops, and good fellowship. As we anticipate this year's repeat performance, it seems fitting for us to proclaim the week of June 22-28 as "National Musicians Week" in honor of these silent heroes, the players behind the stars, and the critical role they play in the musical legacy we all enjoy.●

RECOGNITION OF MELINDA HUBBARD

● Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the outstanding academic achievement of a resident from my home state of Oregon, Ms. Melinda Hubbard. A senior at Country Christian High School, Melinda was recently named as the Oregon State Winner of the Citizens Flag Alliance Essay Contest for her essay entitled "The American Flag Protection Amendment: A Right of the People * * * the Right Thing to Do."

I agree with Melinda that the time has come to protect our nation's flag with a Constitutional Amendment. I am requesting that her essay be printed in the record immediately following my remarks so that every American can have the opportunity to read it.

In addition, I have requested the Sergeant at Arms Office to fly a flag over the Capitol on Flag Day, June 14, 1998, in recognition of her achievement.

The essay follows.

THE AMERICAN FLAG PROTECTION AMENDMENT: THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLE . . . THE RIGHT THING TO DO

(By Melinda S. Hubbard—A Senior at Country Christian High School)

The American flag. The stars and stripes. Old Glory. The Star-Spangled Banner. All of these are names for the most widely known symbol of our great nation. These are names that have inspired patriotism in many people. But what do they mean to us now?

In years gone by, many people have sacrificed their lives for the principles upon which the United States of America was founded and for which our flag is a symbol. The flag is a symbol of what our nation was as well as what it has become. Because of this symbolism, the flag of the United States of America should be honored and respected. This is why a flag protection amendment is necessary.

The United States of America has long been viewed as the greatest country in the world, not only by its citizens, but by many other nations as well. Part of the reason that it is viewed thusly is due to the fact that its Constitution and form of government have survived for so long. While it is true that America is a relatively young country when compared with European nations, America has known a stability that few other nations have known. Consider France or Italy. In the past two hundred years, France has experienced seven completely different forms of government, and Italy has seen fifty-one forms. The stability of the United States comes from our nation's foundation, which was on the principles and morals of the Christian men who founded our great nation.

In his farewell address on September 19, 1796, George Washington said, "Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, Religion and morality are indispensable supports . . . 'Tis substantially true, that virtue or morality is a necessary spring of popular government." Before we are able to look at what our nation symbolizes, we must first look to the men who founded it. They were the Puritans. But what were the Puritans looking for? The Puritans were looking for a land of freedom, a land where they could worship their Lord and Savior as they believed He should be worshipped. It was for this reason that they fled England. They wanted a country whose churches could not be dictated to by the nation's leaders. Not only were they looking

for a country where they would be allowed to worship, but they were looking for a land where they could speak out against what contradicted their beliefs and where they could have a voice in who was to lead their country. For these reasons, they toiled in a new land, carving their homes from wilderness. Without the discipline, mortality, and virtue of the founders, our nation's government would not have endured for as long as it has.

For more than two hundred years, the United States has been a land of freedom and opportunity, thanks to the diligence of its founders. But with those same freedoms and opportunities comes responsibility, a responsibility to the memories of each and every man, woman, and child that has given a part of their life as a sacrifice for their country. This responsibility is one that, as America grows stronger and more prosperous, few wish to share.

Since the time when everyone held the same beliefs and moral standards, people's convictions and ways they are taught have changed. The citizens of the United States are now being taught to believe many opposing codes of conduct such as "There's no definite right or wrong; there is only what you feel" and "There is accountability to God, your country, and your family." While everyone is most definitely free to believe as they choose, these contrasting philosophies lead to different opinions on how the flag, the symbol of our nation, should be treated.

The freedoms which the founding fathers toiled to establish and for which our flag is a symbol are an important part of our nation's heritage. Without these freedoms, we would be lost and would become just as any other country, a people who are devoid of hope. When a person desecrates the flag of the United States, he is not only scorning our nation, but he is also desecrating the memory of every person who ever served in a war or sacrificed their own life in order to maintain the freedoms of our nation.

We must protect our nation's heritage and foundation. Also, we need to honor the memories of those who have given their lives to save the freedoms of the United States. The flag of the United States, as a symbol of these, should be cherished as dearly as our lives, if not more so. This is why I believe there needs to be a flag protection amendment.

According to Article 5 of the Constitution of the United States, there are four ways to amend the Constitution. The first way is for Congress to propose an amendment, then have the legislatures of three-fourths of the states approve it. Secondly, Congress can propose the amendment, and special conventions in three-fourths of the states can approve the addition. Thirdly, two-thirds of the states' legislatures can request a special national convention to propose an amendment, and three-fourths of the states' legislatures ratify the amendment. Fourthly, two-thirds of the states' legislatures can call for a special national convention to propose an amendment, and special conventions in three-fourths of the states ratify the amendments.

While these amendment procedures are not easily accomplished, it is possible with persistence. We need to preserve our heritage and our flag, honoring both. The only way to be sure that the flag will always be a protected symbol of our nation's heritage is for this amendment to be passed.●

TRIBUTE TO LORRAINE W. CROWLEY

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Lorraine W. Crowley of Rutland City, Vermont. For

the last ten years Lorraine has served as the Elementary Principal for the Rutland City Public School System. It is with bittersweet emotions that I inform the Senate of Lorraine's retirement at the end of the school year.

Lorraine has dedicated her career to education. She graduated from Emmanuel College in Boston in 1962 and received her Masters in Education Psychology from the University of Hawaii in 1968. She served as a Principal for five years at a High School in Hawaii, before returning to New England as the Director of Guidance at the Holliston High School in Massachusetts. Lorraine broadened her horizons further by spending 3 years as an educator at the American School in Madrid and the Ben Franklin International School in Spain. Since 1988 she has served as the Principal for Rutland City School System.

Lorraine has dedicated her life to giving our next generation the tools they need to live prosperous and fulfilling lives. I know the entire Rutland City community will miss Lorraine Crowley. She is leaving a legacy of accomplishment and affection, the memory of which shall stand the test of time.●

TRIBUTE TO JENNIFER DALY

● Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Jennifer Daly for being named the Pennsylvania state winner in The Citizens Flag Alliance Essay Contest.

Jennifer is the recipient of a \$1,000 scholarship for her one thousand word essay on the theme, "The American Flag Protection Amendment: A Right of the People . . . the Right Thing to Do." She is among 50 other outstanding young Americans named as state winners and will compete for one of ten college scholarships in a national competition next month.

Mr. President, Jennifer Daly is a great source of pride for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. I hope my colleagues will join with me in extending best wishes to her for continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND ERIC MASON AND FAUSTENIA MORROW

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, every year Ebony magazine pays tribute to thirty leaders ages thirty and younger who are working for the betterment of their communities. They all represent the caliber of talent that is being groomed to move to the fore front of society and lead the United States of America into the 21st century. This year Metro East Family Church of East St. Louis, Illinois will be honoring the "30 Young Leaders of the Future," featured in the December 1997 issue of Ebony Magazine. It is a great honor to congratulate each of Ebony magazine's selection of young leaders of the future, but especially the two from my home State of Missouri.

Reverend Eric Mason, 25, is the pastor of Administration at the Metro East Family Church. Formerly, he was a case manager at the Nebraska Health and Human Services Department, then an assistant pastor and education director at Mount Moriah Missionary Baptist Church and was appointed by the Governor of Nebraska to the Affirmative Action Commission as chaplain. He served as the Chair of the Omaha Police Department, on the Legal Redress Committee, was a member of Omaha NAACP, and the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance. Reverend Mason personifies everything positive in the St. Louis community and I am excited to learn of his influential leadership.

Faustenia Morrow, 25, is the development administrator for Team Sweep, a youth-at-risk program run by the City of St. Louis. She also is President of Young Organized Political Action Committee and fundraising chairperson of Metropolis St. Louis, an organization with the goal of attracting and retaining professionals in St. Louis. In addition, Ms. Morrow is assistant campaign advisor for Missouri State Representative Betty Thompson, founding member of the Sisters of High Tea, an organization of professional women and a member of the Professional Organization of Women. Her continuing commitment to the St. Louis community is a positive example for all and I am extremely pleased to have her as a role model for others.

Dedication to one's community has become an increasingly rare quality in our society. However, Ebony's selection of young leaders has shown that the most effective approach to enriching a community is to give back rather than to take. Their unselfish commitment has set a precedence for the generations before and after them to follow and implement. I salute the contributions made by these leaders, and join the Metro East Family Church of East St. Louis in paying tribute to the "30 Young Leaders of the Future."●

THE PUBLIC UTILITY HOLDING COMPANY ACT OF 1937 CONCERNING THE REPEAL OF PUCHA

● Mr. MACK. Mr. President, as the Congress continues to address the important work of reducing government spending, eliminating layers of bureaucratic waste, and increasing efficiency, we should focus on eliminating those regulations and programs which are no longer needed and are outdated. As Republicans, we must strive to enact legislation that embraces less government, less spending and more freedom. S. 621 is a bill that embodies these important principles.

This bill would reduce the unnecessary federal requirements included under the Public Utility Holding Act of 1935. Originally enacted to correct the abusive practices of holding companies during the 1920's and 30's, PUCHA is now an outdated law that is simply no