

to the Pacific Ocean, following the path of the great floods. Through this legislation, the National Park Service is responsible for coordinating public and private sector entities to present the story of the ice age floods to the public.

Many folks in my great State of Montana, including members of the Glacial Lake Missoula Chapter of the Ice Age Floods Institute, look forward to working with the National Park Service in a joint effort to educate the public. Additionally, designation of the Ice Age Floods Trail provides a tremendous opportunity for tourism and economic development in Montana.

I am also pleased S. 206 takes into consideration the concerns of local citizens and private property owners by limiting Federal land acquisition to 25 acres. These acres will be used only for administrative and public information purposes. As always, it is important to me that private property rights are respected and private property owners do not feel threatened by Federal land acquisitions.

I look forward to working with my Senate colleagues to pass this important piece of legislation for not only Montana but the entire Pacific Northwest.

#### HOSPICE CARE

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following article be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the Tallahassee Democrat, Mar. 28, 2005]

#### HOSPICE OFFERS PATIENTS EXPERT, COMPASSIONATE CARE (By Jack D. Gordon)

Watching the Terri Schiavo case unfold, we have gotten an education that many would no doubt rather not get. Through the news media, we've learned the mechanics of feeding tubes, the importance of advance directives and living wills. We've tried to understand the difference between a persistent vegetative state and a coma.

What we haven't really been educated about is the hospice care of Mrs. Schiavo. Lurking dangerously close to the surface of Schiavo controversy, quietly simmering, is the false and dangerous illusion that hospice is a place that hastens death, that it and those who do hospice work are in some way accomplices.

Sure, we have gotten a glimpse of Woodside Hospice in Pinellas Park—we've watched the protestors outside, we've seen photos of the family huddling inside, we've learned that it's where Mrs. Schiavo's feeding tube was removed. But for too many, Woodside Hospice is still one of those mysterious places where people go to die.

Yet hospice isn't "a place" at all. Hospice is a philosophy of care focused on pain relief and symptom management, and hospice is care given mostly in people's homes. It can also be provided in a nursing home, assisted living facility, a hospital, and—or, as in Mrs. Schiavo's case—in an inpatient hospice facility.

No one is ever forced to use hospice care. People either choose hospice care themselves

or their health care surrogate, designated as responsible for their best interest, makes the decision. A physician outside of hospice is also involved. He or she must certify that the patient's illness is terminal and that life expectancy is six months or less.

Hospice clinicians are experts at providing comfort in the final months, weeks, days, hours and minutes. In many cases, there is time and opportunity to address family, spiritual and psychological concerns with hospice professionals, who work in teams that include physicians, nurses, social workers, physical therapists, and clergy.

It is not usual for those under hospice care to outlive their life expectancy of six months or less. In a study conducted by the University of South Florida, it was found that persons with cancer who received hospice care lived an average of one day longer than the same patient, by age, gender and diagnosis, who were cared for in acute care facilities such as hospitals.

Our ignorance of hospice isn't so surprising. On our nation's health care timeline, it's a relative newcomer, but it has been gaining in use each year. The first U.S. hospice, an inpatient facility, opened in 1974. In 1978 there were about 1,000 people in the United States who died under hospice care. In 1983, it officially entered the mainstream when it became a Medicare benefit. By 2003, 885,000 people died under hospice care. This year, close to a million people in the United States—or one-third of all who die—will die under hospice care.

Despite its monumental growth, there has been no widespread government outreach effort around publicizing the benefits of hospice care. Hospice physicians and nurses, in the midst of new technologies, therapies, drugs and procedures, march on, quietly accepting what no one to date has successfully escaped—death. They do this by helping the terminally ill die dignified deaths free from artificial life support or ineffective treatments. They employ the latest methods to relieve pain and control symptoms, but their mission is not to cure. Admittedly, in our culture that rejects illness and aging, that's tough medicine for many to swallow.

No matter what your opinion of the Schiavo case, be happy that Mrs. Schiavo is being cared for by people who have helped thousands of people experience a gentle and caring end. And know that the hospice in your community will not be making the decision of whether you will live or die, but if you should become seriously and terminally ill and choose hospice, know that the nation's more than 40,000 hospice workers are committed to the highest quality comfort care under medical guidelines.

#### JAMES MONROE

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I am pleased today to recognize James Monroe, a Virginian patriot, on the 247th anniversary of his birth and honor his service to our Nation as a soldier, a diplomat, a legislator and as the fifth President of the United States of America. As the Nation draws closer to the celebrations being planned to honor President Monroe's 250th birthday, I rise today to honor his undeniable legacy.

James Monroe, born April 28, 1758, in Westmoreland County, was born, raised and educated in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Foregoing his studies at the College of William and Mary, James Monroe joined the Williamsburg Militia in 1775 in defiance of the British

King. He served gallantly in the Continental Army on the battlefield at Harlem Heights, White Plains, Trenton, Brandywine, Germantown, and Monmouth, eventually rising to the rank of lieutenant colonel.

A student of Thomas Jefferson's after serving in the Revolutionary War, James Monroe was an adherent of Mr. Jefferson's principles of individual freedom and restrained representative government, which would guide him through 50 years of public service. Elected to the Virginia General Assembly in 1782, Monroe served in the Confederate Congress and in the first U.S. Senate before his first of two terms as Minister to France. He returned to his Virginia, and as many students of Mr. Jefferson have done since, served 4 years as Governor.

During Thomas Jefferson's Presidency, James Monroe returned to France and was essential in the negotiation of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. His foreign policy experience led James Madison to name him both Secretary of State and Secretary of War as the United States was once again pulled into war with Great Britain in 1812.

Elected President of the United States in 1816, Monroe's Presidency has long been referred to as the Era of Good Feeling. During this time he helped resolve longstanding grievances with the British, acquired Florida from the Spanish in 1819, signed the Missouri Compromise and renounced European intervention or dominion in the Western Hemisphere with one of our Nation's greatest foreign policy documents, the Monroe Doctrine.

In 1820, Monroe achieved an impressive re-election, losing only one electoral vote, reserving the honor of a unanimous election for George Washington alone.

My own family has strong ties to the legacy of James Monroe. My wife Susan and I enjoyed our wedding on the grounds of his home, Ashlawn-Highland, in Charlottesville where her family has worked for many years. In fact, part of Monroe's property in Albemarle County is now on the grounds of his teacher's great institution of learning, the University of Virginia and is respectfully referred to as Monroe's Hill.

The life of James Monroe is one that embodied virtue, honor and commitment during his accomplished life of public service. It is fitting that he would pass from this Earth on July 4, 1831.

It is with sincere admiration that I respectfully ask my colleagues to recognize James Monroe's 247th birthday as a reminder of his remarkable and magnificent leadership for the people of Virginia and the United States of America.

#### DAVID WILKINS NOMINATED AMBASSADOR TO CANADA

Mr. DeMINT. Mr. President, I rise today with bittersweet news for my