

And for that we owe a deep debt of gratitude to the skilled men and women of Newport News, who have built and maintained the subs that have kept us ahead of our adversaries. No nation on earth can match the quality and pride that shows in every weld, fitting, and watertight hatch.

We also owe a great debt to the submariners who patrol the icy depths of the world's waters in times of peace and in times of war. Their courage—and devotion to duty—are a model of sacrifice worthy of emulation and gratitude from all of us. Americans are a patriotic people who agree with the poet Homer when he writes: "He serves me most who serves his country best."

To every person who played a role in the fitting-out and commissioning of the U.S.S. *Greeneville*—Thank you.

To the officers and crew who will sail her into the uncharted waters of the future—Good luck and Godspeed. In every sea, on every mission, the spirit and prayers of the people of *Greeneville* will go with you.

They, too, can repeat with you the Midshipman's prayer of the Naval Academy: "Almighty God, whose way is in the sea, whose paths are in the great waters, whose command is over all and whose love never faileth: . . . Protect those in whose love I live. . . . Guide me with the light of truth and give me the strength to faithfully serve thee, now and always."

Finally, to all here today to watch the U.S.S. *Greeneville* come alive, God bless you, God bless *Greeneville*, and God bless America.●

(At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

TRIBUTE TO FREDERICK DOUGLASS AND THE TOWN OF HIGHLAND BEACH

● Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, today I join with the citizens of Highland Beach, MD, as they pay tribute to the memory of Frederick Douglass—one of Maryland's most celebrated native sons—by preserving his historic house as a museum. His house, facing the Chesapeake Bay, looks out onto the open sea and was a joyful reminder to Douglass of the freedom he so greatly treasured.

While Frederick Douglass was born in Talbot County, MD, and worked on the docks of Fells Point in Baltimore, he found peace and solace at his home in Highland Beach. Highland Beach was the first town to be established by African-Americans in the State of Maryland and was officially incorporated in 1922, although settlers had been living in the vicinity for decades. The house that is dedicated here today was designed by Douglass, but sadly, he never saw its completion. Instead his son fulfilled the task that was set forth by his father, ensuring that the second floor balcony that Douglass had dreamed of was erected so that, "as a free man, I could look across the bay to the land where I was born a slave."

The Frederick Douglass house was placed on the National Registry of Historic Places in 1992 after extensive renovations were completed. The house has also received the Orlando Rideout Prize for exceptional renovation in December 1995 by the Anne Arundel Coun-

ty Trust for Preservation. While these awards reflect the beauty and history of Douglass' home, that Frederick Douglass could own a home as a free man is the true monument. Douglass rightly believed that owning property was a very important economic accomplishment for African-Americans in the years following the Civil War.

It is, in my view, most fitting that the commemoration of one of Maryland's most noted African-Americans comes during Black History Month. Over the course of history, Maryland has been the home of many prominent African-Americans including writer Langston Hughes, actor and singer Paul Robeson, Washington Judge Robert Terrell, and educator and author Booker T. Washington; all of whom either visited or lived in Highland Beach.

Mr. President, as the Frederick Douglass house becomes a monument in the splendid community of Highland Beach, it provides an avenue for residents and visitors to share in its unique and distinguished past. I join the citizens of Anne Arundel County in demonstrating their pride in the history of Highland Beach and their expectation of continued success in the years ahead.●

COMMENDING DEBORAH WOELFLEIN AS THE 1996 NEW HAMPSHIRE TEACHER OF THE YEAR

● Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Deborah K. Woelflein, an English teacher at Merrimack High School, on being named New Hampshire's 1996 National Teacher of the Year. As a former teacher myself, I commend her outstanding accomplishment and well-deserved honor.

Deborah, who is a Nashua resident, will spend the next year representing New Hampshire's teaching profession at various statewide and regional functions. As New Hampshire's Teacher of the Year, she will be considered for the National Teacher of the Year Award sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers and Scholastic, Inc. The National Teacher of the Year Program is the oldest and most prestigious honors program to focus public attention on excellence in teaching. New Hampshire's Commissioner of Education, Elizabeth Twomey, named Deborah the Teacher of the Year.

Among Deborah's numerous accomplishments as a teacher are several successful conferences she organized to draw together talented teachers to share their expertise with their colleagues. Timothy Mayes, principal at Merrimack High School, called her "one of our most respected faculty members."

New Hampshire has always been lucky to have many talented teachers, but Deborah Woelflein is certainly a role model among the teachers of the Granite State. I am proud of her commitment to education and congratulate her distinguished achievement.●

THE FARM BILL—WETLAND RESTORATION

● Mr. LEAHY. Sections 357 and 358 of S. 1541 were included in an amendment to which we jointly agreed. Section 357 establishes flood water retention pilot projects under which farmers may receive incentives to restore land to fully functioning wetlands. The restoration of these wetlands will benefit their neighbors by reducing flooding.

Section 358 was included in the bill to ensure that when a farmer voluntarily restores a wetland on land now exempt from Swampbuster penalties, that land will not subsequently be considered a converted wetland under Swampbuster. Section 364 was then added because of concern that section 358 did not protect against abandonment related regulatory policies. The sections need to be rewritten to work correctly.

Would the Senator from Indiana agree that I have correctly described the history of these amendments?

Mr. LUGAR. I agree with my colleague about the history of these amendments.

Mr. LEAHY. It is important that these amendments be correctly drafted if they are included in the final bill. Would my colleague agree that we will work together in conference to develop a provision based on the following principle:

Swampbuster should operate in a manner that encourages voluntary restoration of wetlands. A farmer should not suffer a Swampbuster penalty if land he restores to a wetland later reverts to its preresoration status. However, such a provision should be implemented in a fashion consistent with the wetland protection goals of Swampbuster.

Mr. LUGAR. I agree with my colleague and will work to rewrite this provision according to this principle in conference.●

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO OPENS AN ONLINE GATEWAY SITE TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE [GPO]

● Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the collaborative efforts of the libraries of the University of New Mexico and the U.S. Government Printing Office to make important Federal Government documents more accessible to the public. On February 29, 1996, the University of New Mexico will officially open a gateway site that will allow online access to the U.S. Government Printing Office. This online feature will allow students, constituents, and the public equal and timely access to Government documents including the Federal Register, the Congressional Calendar, congressional bills, public laws, and the United States Code.

UNM has long been a leader in education and research in both New Mexico and our Nation. This initiative reaffirms the University of New Mexico's

commitment to building and maintaining a world class research library. The university offers outstanding programs that promote the use of invaluable documents that are included in the GPO's data base.

The GPO has chosen UNM to be one of seven libraries in the country that will provide World Wide Web access to the GPO. With the Internet connection, individuals all over the world will have the opportunity to search and access some of the most important documents in our Nation. Built on an existing campus and a public network, this gateway depository will serve as a model to the electronic library depository system nationwide.

Mr. President, for its outstanding accomplishments, sincere interest in opening the information superhighway, and its outstanding service to New Mexico and our Nation in the area of education and technology, I would like to commend the University of New Mexico.●

COMMENDING GORHAM HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE "WE THE PEOPLE . . . CITIZEN AND THE CONSTITUTION" PROGRAM

● Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I would like to commend 17 students from Gorham High School in Gorham, N.H. who were recently selected to compete in the national finals of the "We the People . . . Citizen and the Constitution" program to be held April 27 to 29 in Washington, DC. These high school students competed on the State level on January 29 for the opportunity to represent New Hampshire at the national competition, and will be among more than 1,200 students from 49 States and the District of Columbia to participate.

The distinguished members of the team representing New Hampshire are: Elizabeth Baker, Sarah Belanger, Mary Anne Bevin, Erika Clark, Amy Davis, Alexandria Dery, George Eichler, Kathy Fortin, Kevin Glines, Andrea Guay, Kari Horne, Kami Michaud, Chad Miller, Gina Piattoni, Amie Tanguay, Alicia Turner, and Jamie Washburn.

All 17 New Hampshire students will be tested on the Constitution and Bill of Rights before simulated congressional committees to demonstrate their knowledge of constitutional principles and their relevance to contemporary issues. The competition in Washington will consist of 2 days of hearings; and the 10 finalists, with the highest scores, will compete for the title of national winner on Capitol Hill in a congressional hearing room.

Michael Brosnan, a teacher at Gorham High School, also deserves special recognition for helping these students prepare for the intense constitutional testing. Raymond Kneeland, the District coordinator of the "We the People . . . Citizen and the Constitution" program, Holly Belson, the State coordinator, and Howard Zibel, of the New Hampshire Bar Association, all con-

tributed a significant amount of time and effort to help the students reach the national finals. I applaud all of them on their commitment to enriching the lives of these students.

The "We the People . . . Citizen and the Constitution" program provides an excellent opportunity for students to gain an informed perspective about the history and principles of our Nation's constitutional government. I wish these young constitutional experts from Gorham High School and their teacher, Michael Brosnan, the best of luck in preparing for the April National finals. We are proud to have them representing New Hampshire, and wish them luck as they prepare to be America's leaders in the 21st century.●

(At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD)

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

● Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I rise today to add my voice to those who have already spoken in recognition of February as Black History Month. Since 1926 this Nation has designated February as the month in which we honor the achievements and contributions of African-Americans to our history, our culture, and our future.

One could also say that February is the month in which we honor our Nation's unsung heroes—from the African-American soldiers who have often received no acknowledgement for fighting in the American Revolution to the African-American poets and authors often excluded from literary anthologies. The history of African-Americans is the history of what this country has come to mean to so many people around the world. It is the story of seemingly unsurmountable odds overcome and challenges yet to be faced. This year the President has asked us all to pay a special tribute to the achievements and contributions of black women who have risen above the twin burdens and racism and sexism.

Black History Month provides our Nation with an opportunity to reflect upon the progress which we have made as a nation in our struggle to promote the constitutional principles of liberty, equality, and justice. One black woman who contributed to the preservation of those principles was Barbara Jordan. I was honored to have served alongside Barbara Jordan in the Congress, and I recall very well her steadfast devotion to our Constitution. Barbara Jordan eloquently and with great faith articulated and lived the basic principles underlying our democratic government and society. I witnessed this dedication first-hand during our service on the House Judiciary Committee during the impeachment proceedings of former President Nixon. Barbara Jordan understood that our Constitution is a precious covenant and did her utmost to defend and uphold its promises to all of the citizens of the United States. With her recent passing, our Nation has lost

one of the Constitution's great defenders, and I know that my colleagues will agree with me when I say that Barbara Jordan will be greatly missed.

Mr. President, my own State of Maryland has been blessed to be the birthplace and home of countless outstanding black Americans. Maryland was a bedrock of the underground railroad which helped many African-Americans find their way out of slavery to freedom. In fact, and Harriet Tubman, the African-American woman credited with leading more than 200 men, women, and children to freedom on the underground railroad, was a Marylander.

Born into slavery around 1821 on a Dorchester County plantation, Harriet Tubman escaped in 1849. However, instead of turning her back on those she had left behind, Harriet Tubman used her knowledge of Maryland's Eastern Shore to help other slaves escape to freedom. She was so successful that Maryland plantation owners placed a \$40,000 price on her head, dead or alive. Although she is most often remembered for her work on the underground railroad, Harriet Tubman's service to this Nation continued throughout her life. During the Civil War, she served as a spy for the Union Army as well as a scout and a nurse. After the Civil War Harriet Tubman worked to resettle Negro war refugees, to establish the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, and on behalf of women's suffrage.

The history of Maryland is replete with the contributions of African-American women—many of which have gone undocumented and unrecognized. Black History Month affords all Americans an opportunity to honor our heroes both past and present, and to remind ourselves of the many national heroes whose faces do not adorn currency or postage stamps and whose stories are not told in history books or encyclopedias.

Mr. President, as we near the end of this month, I hope that each of us will take a moment to remember the lessons of Black History Month and to carry them with us throughout the year as a reminder of all that is truly possible. Two hundred years ago, how many Americans would have imagined a Barbara Jordan or an Alice Walker? Black History Month is a time to celebrate—to celebrate all of the great achievements of African-Americans, to celebrate how far this country has come, and to remind us of how much further we have to go.●

PAUL G. GOEBEL, JR.

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to mark the passing of Paul G. Goebel, Jr., insurance executive and longtime friend to the University of Michigan, Kent County Republicans, and the people of Michigan. Paul's life showed how hard work, honesty, and decency can still produce success in