

worked tirelessly in their jobs—often at substantial risk to their personal health and safety—to help meet the energy needs of this country. They are entitled to retirement benefits earned for their dedicated years of service. Any corrective action we take in Congress must ultimately be consistent with this obligation.●

#### THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF MIDDLETOWN HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

● Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, as you may be aware, the 1997 season marks the 100th team to play football for Middletown High School.

During these 100 years, Middletown football teams have been coached by Messrs. Bright, Masee, Sjellander, Cady, Spaulding, Greason, Southwell, Sundstrom, Downing, Springman, Goes, Sampson, Hughes, Finch, Bate-man, Rodiak, Nania, Whitehead, Brunner, Wolslayer, Ryder, and Scali.

Asylum, Hayes, Wilson, and Fallar are the football fields where the Middletown High School teams have played their games during the past century.

For the past 100 years, Middletown football teams have embraced the spirit of competition and have established a winning tradition.

Counted among former MHS football players are elected officials, teachers, doctors, coaches, construction workers, lawyers, businessmen, and members of the military who continue to make positive contributions to their community.

For the past 100 years, the "Middies" have been supported by the board of education, government, civic and fraternal organizations, and the greater Middletown community.

For these reasons, we ask that you give pause.●

#### RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF MENTAL RETARDATION ILLINOIS CHAPTER'S 1997 DIRECT SERVICE PROFESSIONAL HONOREES

● Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, it is my distinct pleasure to join the Illinois Chapter of the American Association of Mental Retardation in honoring the recipients of the 1997 Direct Service Professional Award. These honorees are being recognized for their outstanding commitment and contributions to the lives of people in Illinois with developmental disabilities.

These award winners have distinguished themselves through their compassion, dedication, patience, and professionalism. Their work not only enriches the lives of those who they care for, but also enriches all of our lives and sets an example of service for all Americans to follow.

It is indeed my privilege to recognize and celebrate the achievements of the following Illinois direct service professionals: Sunshyne Albers, Angie

Berquist, Amy Birdett, Kathy Bouras, Barbara Eakin, Janet Hayes, Bertha Hernandez, Donna Johnson, Marcella Jones, Gertrude Kilpatrick, Thurman McGee, Rosalyn Moore, Charlotte Morrison, Gary Perkins, Larry Pullums, Carolyn Racki, Crystal Rapp, Dolores Sollenberger, Ellis "Steve" Stephens, Viparwon Thongchai, Lisa Vito, Cassandra Wilkins, and Larry Yaus.

I take this opportunity to join the Illinois Chapter of the American Association of Mental Retardation in saluting the winners of the 1997 Direct Service Professional Award. It is my honor to serve them in the U.S. Senate.●

#### HUMANITARIAN RELIEF IN IRAQ

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I stand before you today to speak of a situation which is of great concern. As Iraqi children returned to school last week, they began another year under difficult circumstances. For 7 years, the innocent children and citizens of Iraq have endured hardships and suffering which are immeasurable for many in this country. Economic sanctions imposed upon the country of Iraq by the United Nations were never intended to deprive the Iraqi people of the necessities of life. While some relief has occurred I believe that much more must be done.

Yet, the situation in Iraq is grim. According to the United Nations Food And Agriculture Organization [FAO], the Iraqi children are perhaps the most vulnerable and hardest hit. More than 600,000 children have died and it is estimated that 4,500 children are dying each month from problems related to malnutrition and shortages of medical supplies. While the sanctions continue, the regime prospers. It is time for the citizens and leaders of our country to continue to provide humanitarian aid to the most innocent of Iraq.

The United States Department of State has not objected to the issuance of licenses to United States organizations and individuals donating food, medicine, and other materials for essential civilian needs in Iraq. I am pleased that my office was able to assist the International Relief Association [IRA] based out of St. Clair Shores, MI, in obtaining a license to provide much needed supplies to the children and elderly of Iraq. I believe that it is essential to continue to seek out organizations and individuals who wish to assist in bringing further humanitarian relief to Iraq and to help them in obtaining the proper licenses to do so. Let it be known, that I encourage my colleagues to invoke the spirit of American humanitarianism and for each of them to examine the simple fact that aid must continue in this region of the world. I commend each organization and individual who has assisted in providing relief to the people of Iraq. May each of us be reminded that political and economic sanctions should not affect the lives of those who innocently suffer.●

#### SUSAN LANDON

● Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to express my deep sorrow about the death of Susan Landon on September 28, 1997. Ms. Landon, a citizen of New Mexico and resident of the city of Albuquerque, graduated from the University of New Mexico. She went on to fulfill a rich and varied career writing for the Albuquerque Journal. I have become familiar with Susan's work, as she reported on a range of issues spanning much of the breadth of contemporary New Mexico life.

Ms. Landon worked as the youth page editor, and as a reporter for general assignments, education, and State news. She began writing for the Journal's editorial page in 1992, and continued to do so until a few weeks before her death. Susan excelled in her assignments, winning numerous city, State, and national journalism awards. She found particular satisfaction through her work covering various Native American issues, and was thanked publicly by the president of the Navajo Nation for the sensitivity and understanding which was reflected in her writings.

I would like to quote from an article written by Jim Belshaw, a friend and colleague of Susan, in which he said "Susan Landon was smart and fair and irreverent and compassionate and tough; she was a native New Mexican who knew and loved the State and its people. She had an unerring ability to cut through rhetoric and get to the heart of a matter, regardless of its camouflage."

Mr. President, I ask today that the full text of Mr. Belshaw's article be printed in the RECORD, as it provides a unique perspective on the life of this dedicated individual whom New Mexico will miss very much.

The article follows:

PRIZED REPORTER SHARED HER GIFT WITH N.M.

(By Jim Belshaw)

Susan Landon, my friend and colleague of 20 years, died Sunday. She was 47 years old. She left a gift—a photograph!

At first, I believed the photograph spoke only to those of us who toil in journalistic fields. But I was mistaken as well as myopic. The photograph's message, clear and sharp as a New Mexico autumn, is meant not just for the people who worked at Susan's side all these years but for anybody who cares to embrace it.

The black-and-white photo shows a young newspaper reporter on the job. She stands in muddy, ankle-deep flood water. She writes in a notebook while the man whose name and words will appear in the next morning's newspaper leans on the shovel he has been using to fling muck out of his flooded home.

"Look who shot this," Susan said the first time she showed me the picture.

Stamped on the back of the print was the name of the Journal photographer—Jim Nachtwey, a mutual friend who has gone on to renown as one of the world's foremost photojournalists.

The picture is dated June 15, 1977; a handwritten note on the back of the photo describes the scene's circumstances.

"My mother wrote this," Susan said, smiling at the singular pride only a mother can have in a child.

"Famous Journal Reporter," the note's formal title announces. "Susan Landon with David Starkey—covering story when irrigation ditch wall broke in South Valley, flooding 4 homes."

I don't remember how long it's been since that first time she showed me the photograph. After that conversation, I never said anything more about it, though I thought of it often because its message was so clear and irrefutable.

Then one day a few weeks ago, after it became clear that she would lose the fight against the cancer that attacked her, Susan handed me the picture and said, "I want you to have this."

Susan Landon was smart and fair and irreverent and compassionate and tough—all the things a reporter should be.

She was a native New Mexican who knew and loved the state and its people. She had an unerring ability to cut through rhetoric and get to the heart of a matter, regardless of its camouflage.

She was painfully shy and militantly private, but she never backed away from the demands of the job. At her core lay a righteous anger, a philosophic pilot light ready to ignite when confronted with inequity; the flame burned especially hot when she encountered a bully abusing power.

She spent the final years of her newspaper career as an editorial writer, but when she spoke of what she missed most it had nothing to do with the inside of the building.

"I miss the reservation," she once said, looking back to the years she covered the Navajo Nation. "I miss being out there talking to the people. I miss writing about them. It was the best time for me."

When she gave me the photograph, it occurred to me that it should be made into a poster and pinned up on the bulletin boards of journalism schools all over the country. It is a clean, pure image of what this job is supposed to be.

Each time I looked at it. I thought about the peripheral circus that follows us these days: Seminars and focus groups and dazzling graphics and endless analysis; the Internet and Web pages and cyberspace prophets issuing incessant revelations predicting the printed world's imminent doom.

Then I look again at Susan's photograph and I am reminded of what the job is supposed to be—any job, not just ours. The photograph transcends journalism, its simple eloquence unable to be contained within the confines of a single endeavor.

This image of Susan with her pen and note pad is the image of a woman doing the job with no complaints, no excuses, no sleight of hand, no gimmicks.

It speaks to anyone engaged in any undertaking. It says the only thing that really counts is getting the job done. Anything else is just an excuse and deep in our hearts we all know it.

My dear friend, Susan, has died and left a gift that at first glance seems to be a photograph but is much more. Susan left us a compass. It points to true north.●

#### CHALDEAN FEDERATION OF AMERICA DINNER

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge an important event which is taking place in the State of Michigan. On this day, October 14, 1997, many have gathered to celebrate the Chaldean Federation of America's fifth annual dinner and awards banquet. Each of the individuals in attendance deserve special recognition for their commitment and

steadfast support of the Chaldean community.

I am pleased to recognize the recipients of tonight's awards: Dr. Nathima Atchoo—Humanitarian Award, Mayor Gerald Naftaly—Civic Humanitarian Award, Hayat Jajonie and Salim Sarafa—Community Service Awards, Janan Senawi—Volunteer Recognition Award, Ismael Ahmed and Sargon Lewie—CFA President's Award, Isam Yaldo—Business/Community Award, and Deacon Sadik Barno—Cultural Award. Each of these recipients should take great pride in receiving these distinguished awards.

While it is important to pay special tribute to the awardees, it is also essential to honor each citizen of the Chaldean community. In many respects, the Chaldean community of Michigan is a true example of a thriving community. Through strong economic growth, inspiring leaders, and unwavering dedication, the State of Michigan has greatly benefited from Chaldean-Americans. One such organization that has exemplified the spirit of the Chaldean community is the International Relief Association.

The International Relief Association [IRA] continues to assist in supplying humanitarian relief to the children of Iraq. This association which is based in St. Louis Clair Shores, MI, has been a tireless advocate for the innocent individuals which have been so deeply affected by the trade embargo imposed on Iraq since 1990. According to the United Nations International Children's Education Fund, it is estimated that some 4,500 children are dying each month from malnutrition and the shortage of much-needed supplies. I commend the IRA for its active participation in the lives of the people of Iraq.

While the IRA continues to help to support the people of Iraq, I believe that each of us must examine what role we can play. It is essential that collectively we begin to raise awareness concerning this region of the world. Again, I am deeply honored to lend my support to the work of the IRA and to the countless individuals whose own private efforts often go unnoticed.

To the Chaldean-American community and to the awardees, I send my sincere best wishes and may the spirit of this evening continue to inspire each of you.●

#### TRIBUTE TO THE ST. THOMAS AQUINAS SCHOOL

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President I rise today to honor the St. Thomas Aquinas School in Drew, NH, for receiving the State Champion Award for the President's Challenge on Physical Fitness.

The State Champion Award is presented to schools with the highest number of students scoring at or above the 85th percentile on the President's Challenge.

The five assessments of the President's Challenge measure four compo-

nents of physical fitness: a 1-mile run/walk for heart and lung endurance, curl-ups for abdominal strength and endurance, a "sit and reach" stretch for muscular flexibility, pull-ups for upper body strength and endurance, and a shuttle run for agility.

St. Thomas Aquinas is a private Catholic school filled with 300 students in grades kindergarten through 8.

Excelling in physical fitness is a positive step toward making healthy lifestyle choices that will provide lifelong benefits. I am very proud of the students at St. Thomas Aquinas for their accomplishments and applaud the efforts and dedication of the school.●

#### THE FIFTH ANNUAL AMERICAN ARAB CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BANQUET

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, today I rise to extend my best wishes for the American Arab Chamber of Commerce-Michigan's annual banquet on October 19. The American Arab Chamber of Commerce-Michigan will again hold this yearly event which recognizes individuals and their contributions in helping to promote a strong Michigan economy.

This year's banquet is an especially notable event. October 19 marks the fifth year for the chamber of commerce's banquet. While this is worthy of note, I am especially honored to have the opportunity to welcome His Royal Highness Crown Prince El-Hasan bin Talal of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to Detroit. Attending the event with His Royal Highness will be several members of the Jordanian Cabinet and His Excellency Dr. Marwan Muasher, Ambassador to the United States. The participation of Crown Prince Hassan and the other Jordanian emissaries affords everyone the opportunity to learn of new business and cultural possibilities between Michigan and Jordan. Furthermore, as the keynote speaker, Crown Prince Hassan will provide valuable insight for the American Arab Chamber of Commerce-Michigan on the trade relationship between the United States and Jordan.

I am proud of the Arab-American community's continual efforts to foster relationships of goodwill. These efforts will go far in enhancing and promoting the community's image and understanding throughout the United States and beyond.

We can all be proud of these efforts. I also take pride in the American-Arab Chamber of Commerce's efforts to include the entire spectrum of businesses in Michigan. Members of the chamber of commerce range in size from small entrepreneurial companies to large international corporations, with every individual committed to promoting Michigan's economic vitality. This vibrant community adds a great deal to Michigan, and I am very pleased to have the opportunity to recognize the chamber's efforts.●