

Tiffanie Hawkins, Newtown; Anne Heller, New Holland; Kari Knight, Sugarloaf; Tabitha Kulish, Lancaster; Jennifer Michelstein, Kingston; and Lisa Podgurski, Washington.

These youth have exhibited a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary, and they deserve our sincere admiration and respect. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending these fine young people who have demonstrated that young Americans can, and do, play important roles in their communities and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.●

#### BOB WOOD—THINKER AND DOER FOR URBAN AMERICA

● Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, one of America's greatest leaders for our cities and metropolitan areas over the past half century has been Robert C. Wood.

All of us who know Bob Wood have enormous respect for his ability, his leadership, and his brilliant service to the country. He was an outstanding Under Secretary and Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for President Lyndon Johnson in the 1960's, and he pioneered the development of many of the nation's most important programs to enhance the vitality of our cities and improve the quality of life in metropolitan areas across the country.

In Massachusetts, we have special respect and affection for Bob Wood because of all that he has done for our state, especially for his service as a past chairman of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority and as a past Superintendent of the Boston Public Schools, and also for his brilliant academic leadership both at M.I.T. and the University of Massachusetts.

In an excellent column by Martin F. Nolan in yesterday's Boston Globe, Bob Wood reflected on his remarkable career of service to Massachusetts and the nation. I believe the column will be of interest to all of us in Congress who know and admire Bob, and I ask that it be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows.

[From the Boston Globe, May 5, 1999]

A THINKER AND A DOER ON AMERICA'S CITIES  
(By Martin F. Nolan)

When he first put his ideas into practice, America was asking, "Can cities be saved?" That question today would sound preposterous during reflections on a 50-year career in public service from an eyrie high above Boston Harbor, where piers once rotted and urban dreams died.

"Cities were written off too soon," says Bob Wood. "Their commonality with suburbs is increasing, and people are realizing that a strategy against sprawl is not a direct assault on local governments."

Battling sprawl is nothing new for Wood. When President Lyndon Johnson created task forces on housing and urban policy in 1964, "Charlie Haar and I flew down every Saturday morning at 7:30. He headed the president's task force on environment, and I

was chairman of the task force on urban problems, so we became very good friends during those weekends. He became assistant secretary of metropolitan development and I became the first undersecretary of housing and urban development." Wood later became HUD secretary.

In the Great Society's efforts to save American cities, Cambridge played a major role. Haar taught at Harvard Law School, and Wood was the first chairman of the political science department at MIT.

"Sprawl was recognized in the '60s legislation," he recalls. "The idea of metropolitan development was to go hand in hand with urban renewal and what we were doing with the Model Cities program. It was explicit, but given Vietnam and the budget, we couldn't fund it and do well. We only did pieces of it."

"Vietnam took so much energy, time, money, and political capital," Wood remembers. Next week, when Lady Bird Johnson will be hostess at a Texas reunion of LBJ's Cabinet, Wood will not be eager to greet former Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara "and the rest of 'the best and the brightest.'" Wood sees similarities between Vietnam then and Yugoslavia today: "It's undeclared, slowly escalating, with an assumption of falling dominoes."

Wood does not praise President Clinton or Vice President Gore for tackling sprawl, crediting economic forces with highlighting the problem: "The Clinton administration had no real interest in tough decisions on urban issues or any other. Clinton took his polls from Dick Morris. But the country grew faster than predicted, and the cost of suburban development in housing, schools, and land became increasingly high. In the '80s, the recession had killed building development. In the '90s, with prosperity, people are building mansions in the suburbs. Overwhelmingly, political power is in the suburbs."

In 1958, long before he moved from Lincoln to the Boston waterfront, Wood popularized "Suburbia" with a book by that title in which he wrote that "transportation is the central reality of the metropolitan community." After his tenure at HUD he got a chance to put his ideas into action locally.

"When I can back from working for LBJ and got declared a war criminal by students at MIT, Governor Frank Sargent thought it would be a good idea for me to be chairman of the MBTA. It seemed a natural," he says.

One of his proudest achievements is "the basic transformation of Somerville. Because of the Red Line extension, we got Davis Square as we know it. That's why Tufts is blossoming and why Somerville is where grad students from Harvard and elsewhere settle. That's what transit can do. It happened in Quincy, too."

Wood has also been Boston school superintendent and president of the University of Massachusetts. A graduate of Princeton with degrees from Harvard, he was also director of Joint Center for Urban Studies at Harvard and MIT.

In 1949, this veteran of the 76th Army Infantry Division in World War II became associate director of Florida's Legislative Reference Bureau. He got to know and like politicians, which is why Robert Coldwell Wood, at 75, is unsurpassed as a thinker and a doer.●

#### THE LITTLETON TRAGEDY

● Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, all Americans are struggling with the meaning of the brutal murders in Littleton, CO, and the question of what we should do about school violence

generally. As we tackle these issues, we need to take advantage of the best thinking and writing about them.

The Columbus Dispatch had a very good editorial on April 22, which points out in a very clear way what the specific challenges are—and most especially the need for adults to provide understanding and discipline to young people. The best way to stop violence is to promote the alternative—an effective culture of life and respect.

I ask that this editorial be printed in the RECORD.

The editorial follows:

[From the Columbus Dispatch, Apr. 22, 1999]

#### SCHOOL KILLINGS ADULTS MUST SEE THEMSELVES AS SOLUTION

A gunman looked under a desk in the library and said "Peek-a-boo," then fired. . . . Anyone who cried or moaned was shot again. One girl begged for her life, but a gunshot ended her cries. . . . The shooter turned his attention to a black student, saying, "I hate niggers."—AP report out of Littleton, Colo.

Black trench coats. Hitler's birthday. Gothic Web sites. Guns and homemade bombs. Hatred.

Can any sense be made of the pieces emerging from the bloody halls of Columbine High School? Can the overwhelming why be answered?

The issues seem so broad and numerous that a bewildered nation expresses its inability to comprehend it, one of the deadliest school massacres in U.S. history.

Counselors propound; experts proclaim. The news media shifts focus from gun control to dress codes, violent movies to police in schools, materialism to racism.

Before a coherent thought forms, the lens shifts again.

Police who searched Harris' home said they found bomb-making material. Students said the group was fascinated with World War II and the Nazis and noted that Tuesday was Adolf Hitler's birthday.

But the real question is not why. Deep down, though we may not articulate it very well, we really do know why.

We may not know the exact circumstances that led juniors Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold to gun down their classmates, but we do know that the past three years have produced a series of school killings: Two dead in Pearl, Miss., three in West Paducah, Ky., five in Jonesboro, Ark., two in Springfield, Ore. And from this, we know that it will happen again. We know why.

We have produced a generation of children given too much freedom, too little direction; too much money, too little love.

The segment of society least capable of handling empowerment has been empowered within the rule of law but beyond common sense.

A litigious population demands that schools maintain discipline and instill values but sues teachers and administrators who dare tread upon a student's rights, be it searching a locker or insisting on proper attire.

Teenagers demand and are granted their own "space." Bedrooms become inviolable domains where the wild frontier of the Net can be browsed at will and every type of perversion checked out. If the child's character is far enough cracked, bombs can be made or guns can be stashed.

The so-called Trench Coat Mafia had boasted of its gun collection. Its members wore black everyday. They even wore black trench coats in class. When did parents and school officials descend to such levels of indifference? And "nobody thought" these kids were capable of killing in cold blood.