

veterans being recognized have received either the Silver Star or the distinguished Flying Cross and are residents of Allegheny County and other areas of Pennsylvania.

Each inductee has distinguished himself through gallantry and courage at the risk of his own life, above and beyond the call of duty. This nation values their service and has recognized these acts of heroism and bravery and those of other servicemen and women. Today, I would like to remember and acknowledge the extraordinary valor each inductee displayed in the name of freedom.

Induction in the Hall of Valor is one way we can bear witness to and acknowledge the service of each inductee. I wish to extend my sincere gratitude for their sacrifice and dedication in the U.S. Armed Forces. All of the heroes we honor today—both those present and those who have gone before us—deserve the highest esteem and admiration. I ask my Senate colleagues to join me in recognizing a few of our nation's veterans as they are inducted into the Hall of Valor at Soldiers' & Sailors' Memorial Hall in Pittsburgh, PA.

In recognition of their actions, Joseph Burdis, Jr., Samuel L. Collier, James J. Fisher, James W. Regan, John A. Somma, William G. Stampahar, Leonard R. Tabish, and Arthur R. Kiefer, Jr. will be inducted in the Hall of Valor. The following veterans will be posthumously inducted: Richard Ascenzi, William John Beynon, Thomas J. Korenich, John Lipovsik, Jr., Joseph Anthony Papst, Michael J. Popko, and Sigmund J. Zelczak.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DAVID VILLOTTI

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to David Villotti of Amherst, NH, on being nominated for the "Angels in Adoption" award. David has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of many children throughout New Hampshire.

David's mission is to provide care and support to the neediest children and families in New Hampshire. David has worked to reunite "his" children at the Nashua Children's Home to their biological families or, if necessary, have them placed in foster care or adopted into loving families. Some of these children have experienced a tremendous amount of emotional and physical trauma. David creates an environment that is safe for these children to grow while they await word on their family situation.

When David first began working at the Nashua Children's Home 15 years ago, there were 18 children in residence. Today there are 46. David and his staff continue to provide support to families while allowing children the environment that they need to grow and mature into well-adjusted teenagers and adults. I am proud to have nominated David for the "Angels in Adoption" award for the state of New Hampshire.

David, it is an honor to serve you in the U.S. Senate. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors. May you always continue to inspire those around you.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. WENDELL WEART

● Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I rise to commend a fellow New Mexican, Dr. Wendell Weart. He is a remarkable scientist, an international authority on radioactive waste management, and the Senior Fellow at Sandia National Laboratories in Albuquerque, New Mexico. After his distinguished career, he is retiring in October. His outstanding abilities have been crucial to the success of the world's first deep geologic repository for radioactive waste. It is highly appropriate that we recognize his contributions to that project and to the nation.

The Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico began receiving defense-program radioactive wastes in 1999. The process that led to its opening was long and difficult, requiring the solution of innumerable technical and social problems. Although many people contributed to the solution of those problems, Dr. Weart's role was paramount throughout.

He led Sandia's technical support for the project from its beginnings in the early 1970s. In the early years his efforts were essential to the exploratory investigations and the final selection of the repository site. He then led the project through the conceptual design of the repository, through the formulation and implementation of the investigations that demonstrated the site's suitability, and through the arduous process of obtaining regulatory approvals. The rigorous scientific basis finally achieved for the repository was due in no small part to Dr. Weart's own scientific expertise and to his unmatched leadership.

At least as important as these highly technical contributions was Dr. Weart's ability to instill confidence among the scientific community and the public. His skill in explaining complex issues, his truthfulness in all controversies, and his tireless patience in dealing with questions and frustrations for more than twenty-five years—all were indispensable contributions to the project. Without the trust Dr. Weart engendered, the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, though scientifically well grounded, might still have failed to obtain scientific, regulatory, and social approval.

The permanent disposal of radioactive wastes has proved intractable in many countries. Thanks largely to Wendell Weart, the United States now has an operating repository. Congress and the American taxpayers owe him our most sincere thanks and our best wishes.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to

the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING RECESS

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 1999, the Secretary of the Senate, on September 29, 2000, during the recess of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 4461) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001, and for other purposes, and agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon. That Mr. SKEEN, Mr. WALSH, Mr. DICKEY, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. LATHAM, Mrs. EMERSON, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Ms. KAPTUR, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. FARR, Mr. BOYD, and Mr. OBEY be the managers of the conference on the part of the House.

#### ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that during the recess of the Senate, on September 29, 2000, he had presented to the President of the United States, the following enrolled bill:

S. 1295. An act to designate the United States Post Office located at 3813 Main Street in East Chicago, Indiana, as the "Lance Corporal Harold Gomez Post Office."

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JEFFORDS, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2829: A bill to provide for an investigation and audit at the Department of Education (Rept. No. 106-448).

By Mr. CAMPBELL, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

S. 1840: A bill to provide for the transfer of public lands to certain California Indian Tribes (Rept. No. 106-449).

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment:

S. 2400: A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain water distribution facilities to the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District (Rept. No. 106-450).

By Mr. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 2757: A bill to provide for the transfer or other disposition of certain lands at Melrose