

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation, we can change hearts and minds as well.

RECENT ELECTIONS IN EAST TIMOR

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the people of East Timor on the success of their recent Constituent Assembly elections.

On August 30, 2001, the people of East Timor voted to elect a new Constituent Assembly. That Assembly will begin meeting almost immediately to adopt a new constitution and to establish the framework for future elections and a transition to full independence next year. The vote was conducted on the second anniversary of the violent 1999 independence referendum. In that earlier referendum, nearly 98 percent of eligible voters risked their lives to vote for independence from Indonesia. Last week, the people of East Timor demonstrated their continuing commitment to democracy by turning out again in force to elect the women and men who will lead them now to full democracy and independence. Final voter turnout in this recent election was reported at more than 91 percent, in a territory-wide poll that was both peaceful and orderly.

After 25 years of occupation by Indonesia, and a much longer period of colonization by Portugal, many ordinary men and women walked for hours and lined up before dawn to vote for the first time for their own political leaders. Clearly, many difficult decisions and fractious debates now lie ahead for the 24 women and 64 men who have been entrusted by their election to the Constituent Assembly to establish a sound legal framework for independent governance. It is my fervent hope that the same spirit of civic participation and tolerance that guided this most recent election will continue to guide the elected representatives of the Constituent Assembly as they establish a new democratic system to promote the cause of peace, independence, and prosperity in East Timor.

The United Nations must also be credited for organizing a successful election and establishing a firm foundation for future independent governance. As U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan has noted, it is in many respects the conviction with which the people of East Timor have embraced democracy that continues to strengthen the commitment of the world community to their cause. I commend the United Nations Administration in East Timor, UNTEAT, for their dedication in implementing this important mission and for their success in organizing this recent election.

THE BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business Friday, September 7, 2001, the Federal debt stood at \$5,772,587,811,775.31, five trillion, seven hundred seventy-two billion, five hundred eighty-seven million, eight hundred eleven thousand, seven hundred seventy-five dollars and thirty-one cents.

One year ago, September 7, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,680,707,239,455.93, five trillion, six hundred eighty billion, seven hundred seven million, two hundred thirty-nine thousand, four hundred fifty-five dollars and ninety-three cents.

Twenty-five years ago, September 7, 1976, the Federal debt stood at \$625,934,000,000, six hundred twenty-five billion, nine hundred thirty-four million, which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion, \$5,146,653,811,775.31, five trillion, one hundred forty-six billion, six hundred fifty-three million, eight hundred eleven thousand, seven hundred seventy-five dollars and thirty-one cents during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

U.S. NAVAL SEA CADET CORPS BIRTHDAY

• Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, the Congress of the United States recognizes with extreme pleasure the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps on its thirtieth anniversary of their Congressional Charter of September 10, 1962.

A non-profit training and education organization for young men and women, the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps has consistently provided, in conjunction with the Navy and Coast Guard, an outstanding opportunity for our country's youth to sample military life and experience the challenges and rewards of the maritime services. Over 8600 Cadets ages 11 to 17, led by 2,000 adult volunteers, across the United States and overseas participate with active forces in a wide variety of maritime training activities.

The Sea Cadet program is applauded in developing not only interest and skill in seamanship and aviation, but also instilling in America's young people a sense of patriotism, personal courage, self-reliance and those qualities which mold strong moral character and self-discipline, all in an anti-drug, anti-gang environment. Many of our former and current military leaders established their roots and love the Naval services as a Sea Cadet.

On behalf of my colleagues in the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives, I offer our heartfelt appreciation and respect to all the members of "our" U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps.

To Volunteers and Cadets: "Bravo Zulu"—Well Done!•

IN RECOGNITION OF HAIFA FAKHOURI

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to ask my Senate colleagues to join with me in honoring dedicated activist and respected community leader Dr. Haifa Fakhouri. Dr. Fakhouri will be named a Lady of Charity by the Pontifical Institute for Foreign Missions (PIME Missionaries) at the 43rd Knights of Charity Award Dinner in Dearborn, Michigan on October 11, 2001.

The Knights of Charity Award is presented each year to men and women who clearly exemplify "Unity in Family Life with Person-to-Person Charity." This award is given to those whose words and actions promote the ideals of charity, friendship, love and interfaith and intercultural collaboration.

Dr. Fakhouri clearly exemplifies these ideals. Since coming to America from Jordan in 1968, she has become one of the most respected leaders of the Arab-American community. Her most well known and far reaching achievement was helping to found, and serve as President and CEO of the Arab-American and Chaldean Council (ACC), the largest community based human services agency in the nation, serving the Arabic and Chaldean speaking population of southeast Michigan. Founded in Detroit in 1979, the ACC has quickly grown to offer 36 outreach centers and over 50 specialized programs to the Arab/Chaldean community in Detroit and the surrounding area.

Under Dr. Fakhouri's leadership, the ACC has adopted goals and ideals that closely match those of the Knights of Charity Award. The ACC is dedicated to building community cooperation and coordination, increasing cross cultural understanding and raising the level of the community's general well-being. Because Dr. Fakhouri has been so successful in guiding the ACC towards achieving these goals, she has received recognition from numerous state and national organizations. For example, she has served as Special Advisor to the United Nations on the role and status of women and population policies in the Middle East Region, and she has received the 1999 Governor's Community Leadership Award, the 1999 Michigander of the Year Award and many others.

Dr. Fakhouri's leadership, vision and compassion have made her one of the nation's greatest community activists. Her dedication to serving others have made her an invaluable part of the southeast Michigan community. I know that my Senate colleagues will join me in congratulating her on being named a Lady of Charity.•

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HISTORY MUSEUM FOR SPRINGFIELD-GREENE COUNTY

• Mr. BOND. Mr. President, this month the History Museum for Springfield-Greene County will celebrate its 25th

anniversary. It is an honor and a privilege to rise today on the floor of the United States Senate to recognize this institution's longevity and its role in preserving the history of Springfield and Greene County.

Some twenty-five years ago I was able to play a role in the founding of this museum while I was serving as Governor of Missouri. The Museum was then called the Bicentennial Historical Museum in honor of our Nation's 200th birthday. Over the years, the name has changed but the goal and purpose of the museum has remained the same, preserving the history and heritage of the city of Springfield and Greene County. History is our window to the past and helps us to remember just how far we have come as a nation and as a community. The museum contains permanent exhibits beginning with the earliest settlement in the region, continuing on through the Civil War, and into the twentieth century. The museum also changes exhibits throughout the year which examine other areas of Greene County's history.

The museum is a private, not-for-profit organization that is open to public at no charge. The museum is funded through private contributions, memberships, grants, and gift shop sales. The staff, management, and volunteers who operate this facility are to be congratulated for their tireless efforts and innovation which make the museum an important part of the community. The museum is an invaluable tool for students and teachers to learn the historical significance of the area.

The History Museum for Springfield-Greene County is a valuable asset to the Springfield area. I ask that the Members of the Senate join me in recognizing and honoring the twenty-fifth anniversary of the History Museum for Springfield-Greene County.●

NATIONAL ASSISTED LIVING WEEK

● Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, today I draw the Senate's attention to National Assisted Living Week. The National Center for Assisted Living is sponsoring National Assisted Living Week this week to highlight the significance of this service and the hope that it can provide seniors.

Assisted living is a long term care alternative for seniors who need more assistance than is available in retirement communities, but do not require the heavy medical and nursing care provided by nursing facilities. Approximately one million of our Nation's seniors have chosen the option of assisted living in this country. This demonstrates a tremendous desire by seniors and their families to have the kind of assistance that they need in bathing, taking medications or other activities of daily living in a setting that truly becomes their home.

This year's theme of National Assisted Living Week is "Sharing the Wisdom of Generations," and it is in-

tended to recognize the value of sharing insights and experiences between assisted living residents, their families, volunteers and assisted living staff. I think that it is appropriate because it highlights the variety of options assisted living can provide to meet different needs of patients.

Oregon has led our Nation in the concept of assisted living. My State spends more State health dollars to provide assisted living services than any other in our Nation. Assisted living has taken different directions in different States, and I believe offering these choices for consumers is important to provide security, dignity and independence for seniors.

Assisted living will become even more important for seniors and their families as our nation experiences the demographic tsunami of aging baby boomers. It is important for us to continue to support options that allow seniors and their families a choice of settings in order to assure that they get the level of care that they need.●

CONGRATULATING LT. STEVE YOUNG

● Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I am honored to stand before you today and congratulate Lieutenant Steve Young, his family and friends on his well-deserved nomination as President of the National Fraternal Order of Police, FOP. As you may know, the 86 year-old Fraternal Order of Police is the world's largest organization of sworn law enforcement officers, improving the working conditions and advocating the safety of its 298,000 members in over 2,000 local lodges throughout the United States.

I am confident that with his 25 years of membership in the FOP and his current position as a Lieutenant in the Marion Police Department in my State of Ohio, Lt. Young is an outstanding choice to lead the National Fraternal Order of Police. Prior to being named National President, Lt. Young has proudly and effectively served as both National Vice President and Ohio's State President.

Further, he has become something of an expert in helping to ensure police officers' pension plans throughout the country. He also helped to create the Ohio Labor Council to improve the effectiveness of negotiations between management and labor in police forces, a model that has since been utilized in 14 other States.

I know that Lt. Young will use his new position to further ensure fair and equal treatment to our nation's true heroes, police officers, on the job and to expand the FOP's involvement throughout the Nation. I wish Lt. Young the best of luck and extend my congratulations to him once again here before Congress. I know he will do an excellent job.●

THE HEART FAILURE SOCIETY OF AMERICA

● Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, the Heart Failure Society of America (HFSA) is a non-profit professional organization headquartered in St. Paul, MN, that represents the first organized effort by heart failure experts from the Americas to provide a forum for all those interested in heart failure research and patient care.

Today, the Heart Failure Society of America is convening here in our Nation's capital with over 2,000 cardiologists, cardiac surgeons, internists, family practitioners, research scientists, pharmacologists, nurses, pharmacists and other allied health care professionals who treat heart failure patients for the HFSA 5th Annual Scientific Meeting. At this forum, preeminent professionals will unveil and review the latest developments in heart failure research and clinical practice.

Heart failure is a progressive condition in which the heart muscle weakens and gradually loses its ability to pump enough blood to supply the body's needs and is frighteningly common but underrecognized. Heart failure affects nearly 5 million Americans. As more people survive heart attacks and are being left with weakened hearts, heart failure is the only major cardiovascular disorder on the rise. An estimated 400,000 to 700,000 new cases of heart failure are diagnosed each year. The number of deaths in the United States from this condition has more than doubled since 1979, averaging 250,000 annually. In comparison, the death rate from coronary heart disease has dramatically dropped statistically over a similar time period. An estimated \$8 to \$15 billion is spent each year on the costs of hospitalization due to heart failure, which is twice the amount spent for all forms of cancer. While there is currently no known cure for heart failure, new treatment approaches may help patients live more normal and fulfilling lives and benefit from a decreased risk of hospitalization.

The HFSA was founded in 1994 by a small, dedicated group of academic cardiologists who recognized that heart failure was on the rise, but that there was no venue for researchers, trainees and clinicians to share ideas about combating the disease. We owe them a debt of gratitude for providing the impetus for exploring further research and treatment which might not otherwise have occurred. The Heart Failure Society of America is seen by government, industry and the medical community as the authoritative organization on heart failure. The Senate first commended the HFSA and its work in the area of heart failure in February of last year, designating the week surrounding Valentine's Day each year as "National Heart Failure Awareness Week." these medical professionals are dedicated to enhancing the quality and duration of people's lives.