

the Nation's secondary schools. Named in honor of the fourth President of the United States, the fellowship will fund up to \$24,000 of Ms. William's course of study toward a master's degree.

The award recognizes promising and distinguished teachers and encourages the strengthening of their knowledge of the origins and development of American government and history. Ultimately, the award acknowledges educators who will provide outstanding tutelage to students across the country.

Ms. Williams is a teacher at Bryan Station High School in Lexington, KY. She is one of 56 recipients of the fellowship, selected from applicants from across the United States. Ms. Williams has distinguished herself as an exceptional and aspiring educator. Her dedication to the field of American history and to the education of Kentucky's youth is remarkable.

Ms. Williams is a tribute to Kentucky, and I am proud of her achievements. I thank the Senate for allowing me to recognize Ms. Williams's wonderful accomplishments. She is Kentucky at its finest.●

TRIBUTE TO THE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION OF McCRACKEN COUNTY

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I rise to honor and pay tribute to the McCracken County Education Association for the high ideals which they have taught through example to the children of their county school system. The McCracken County Education Association of McCracken County, KY, generously took the initiative not only to raise \$10,089 and donate it to Habitat for Humanity but also to give their time and effort in the construction of a home in Paducah.

The initiative involved all 12 of McCracken County's public schools and the children that attend them. Each teacher was asked to raise \$35 from their own classroom while the central office and each school contributed \$350. The ways in which the money was raised are just as admirable for their originality and civic mindedness as they are for their charity. One teacher added a brick to a miniature house structure for every dollar her students contributed, while one school of only 350 students held a bake sale and raised approximately \$5,000. Overall and throughout, the raising of funds was marked with a spirit of cooperation and team spirit. On June 6 the funds were presented to Habitat for Humanity of Paducah/McCracken County and on the 14th the teachers, administrators, and staff of McCracken County Education Association assembled at 1920 Broad St. in Paducah, KY, to donate time and labor in the construction of a house.

The altruism and generosity of the McCracken County Education Association ought to be highly commended and imitated by all who have seen its shining example. Such interest in the

well-being of our neighbors combines the virtues of justice and compassion and enriches the society in which it exists.

While it is true that the McCracken County Education Association's concern for their neighbors and for a society in which all have shelter is truly virtuous, it is also true that the work they did was just as, if not more, valuable for the reason that they are the educators of America's future. The children whom the McCracken County Education Association included in this fundraiser event learned more than just what books might have taught them in school. They learned that an active interest in the well-being of others is important. They learned that though they are children who are still in the process of learning, their voices will be heard if they work together with order and with the good of society at heart. It is not only these children who stand to learn something from this notable example of generosity and civic responsibility but all of us here today.

My Senate colleagues and all others would do well to imitate the concern and initiative of the McCracken County Education Association. I thank the Senate for allowing me to laud the praises of the McCracken County Education Association.●

BIRTHDAY TRIBUTE FOR MR. WILLARD ELDREDGE

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to extend a heartfelt birthday greeting to Mr. Willard Eldredge who turns 80 years old today. On July 5, his friends and family will gather in Idaho Falls to honor this great man on the occasion of his birthday. Mr. Eldredge has touched many lives over the years, and I am one of the fortunate ones to have benefited from his influence. You see, I was involved in Boy Scouts, and eventually became an Eagle Scout. Mr. Eldredge was a Scout pack leader of mine many years ago. He taught me and other young men the values, work ethic, and commitment that it took to succeed in Scouts and in life. He served as a role model for me, and taught me lessons about honor, duty, honesty, and patriotism that I have carried with me throughout my life. It is now my honor to wish my former mentor a wonderful, and very happy 80th birthday.●

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

At 2:52 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 923. An act to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to allow certain premier certified lenders to elect to maintain an alternative loss reserve.

H.R. 1416. An act to make technical corrections to the Homeland Security Act of 2002.

H.R. 1460. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve education and entrepreneurship benefits, housing, and certain other benefits for veterans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1772. An act to improve small business advocacy, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2555. An act making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 923. An act to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to allow certain premier certified lenders to elect to maintain an alternative loss reserve; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

H.R. 1416. An act to make technical corrections to the Homeland Security Act of 2002; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 1460. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve education and entrepreneurship benefits, housing, and certain other benefits for veterans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1772. An act to improve small business advocacy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

H.R. 2555. An act making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1323. A bill to extend the period for which chapter 12 of title 11, United States Code, is reenacted by 6 months.

MEASURE HELD AT THE DESK

The following resolution was ordered held at the desk by unanimous consent:

S. Res. 186. A Resolution commending August Hiebert for his Service to the Alaska Communications Industry.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with