

Michigan; Michael Allen Scarbrough, Wayne County, Michigan; and Paul Lee Mickel, Wayne County, Michigan. We honor all of these officers today.

In Michigan, we also remember two officers who recently lost their lives in the line of duty. Less than a month ago, Reserve Officer Matthew Tuttle and Chief Scott Sumner were killed in a helicopter accident in Scio Township while providing aerial support for officers who were involved in a foot pursuit.

Chief Sumner was a 19-year veteran of the Chelsea Police Department, and Officer Tuttle was only 28 years old. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their families and the entire Chelsea Police Department.

Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I commemorate the hard work and sacrifices made daily by law enforcement officers all across our great land. Many have lost their lives in the line of duty so that our families and communities may remain safe. We must never forget those who have given their lives to protect us all.

The annual celebration of Peace Officers Memorial Day and National Police Week during the calendar week has its roots in Public Law 87-726, which was signed into law on October 1, 1962 by President John F. Kennedy. Public Law 87-726 designated this day and week as a time for "recognition of the service given by the men and women who, night and day, stand guard in our midst to protect us through enforcement of our laws." This law was later amended during the 103rd Congress as part of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act in 1994 to order the United States flag on all Government buildings displayed at half-staff on May 15.

Since the turn of the last century, more than 60 law enforcement officers have been killed in the line of duty in New Mexico. This year, among other activities, law enforcement officers from around the country honored the lives of three New Mexico police officers whose names were recently added to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington, D.C. One occurred a very long time ago, and the two others just last year.

Officer Michael R. King and Officer Richard W. Smith, Jr., both of the Albuquerque Police Department, are two of the three officers being honored this year. Their deaths occurred on a day that has become ingrained in the hearts of most New Mexicans as one of the bloodiest and most tragic in recent times. Officers King and Smith, long-time veterans of the Albuquerque Police Department, were responding to a call on August 20, 2005 ordering the pickup of a mental health patient from Kaseman Hospital. When they arrived at the scene, Officers King and Smith had no way of knowing that the subject of their call, John Hyde would be implicated in the shooting deaths of three people earlier that day. During the pickup Officers King and Smith were

gunned down in the street before their murderer fled on a motorcycle. It took a force of approximately 300 of their fellow officers to chase down and finally apprehend the man responsible for the deaths of these brave and respected police officers.

The other officer honored this year was gunned down in Hope, New Mexico approximately 108 years ago. At the time, Eddy County Deputy Sheriff Bud Johnson had traveled to Hope in order to serve a warrant on one L.E. Pratt in regard to an infraction over water control. According to the Eddy County Sheriff's Department, Pratt shot and killed Bud Johnson with a shotgun when he was notified of the warrant. Deputy Sheriff Johnson died immediately.

Deputy Johnson's death shows us that the dangers of police work have been present throughout the long history of our Nation. All too recently, citizens of New Mexico mourned the loss of Deputy James McGrane, Jr., who was killed on March 22, 2006 during a traffic stop in Tijeras, NM. While we remember those who have lost their lives, we also take solace in the fact that many others have been able to survive the dangers of duty. Officer John Garcia, Officer Josh Otzenberger, Sergeant Carol Oleksak, Deputy Shaun Sanchez, and Sheriff's pilot Chris Holland were all shot during the past two years while protecting our communities. We are thankful that most of them survived these close brushes with death and were able to return to duty.

We should remember their dedication to protect and serve, and the tragic price they paid for that devotion. We must also remember the families of all fallen officers and the sacrifices they have incurred because of a deep-seated commitment to duty and public service. All of us from New Mexico owe a debt of gratitude to each and every officer who has lost their lives in the line of duty. To all who have paid the ultimate price and to those who continue to serve, may we forever be grateful and never take for granted what you do. You have my utmost admiration.

MARLBORO MUSIC FESTIVAL

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, Just south of Route 9 in southern Vermont, along a tree-lined road, lies one of Vermont's distinctive destinations, Marlboro College. Walk through this picturesque school in the summer months and you will hear some of the sweetest melodies imaginable, or you may be enveloped by warm pulses of sound that seem to linger like the wispy clouds above. The sounds you hear are those of another year of the Marlboro Music Festival.

Since its founding in 1951, this 8-week festival—one of the world's premiere chamber music workshops and weekend concert series—brings some of the most renowned and experienced musicians together with the rising stars of tomorrow.

This year has marked the 40th anniversary of the Musicians From Marlboro, the festival's active touring program which sends the musicians on the road to perform periodically across the country. At some of the Nation's premier venues, including historic places like the Freer Gallery in Washington and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the concerts feature the exceptional music heard first in the Marlboro Music Festival.

As this remarkable event approaches again this year, spanning the gorgeous Vermont months of June through August, it is fitting to pause to note the accomplishments of the Musicians From Marlboro and the entire Marlboro Music Festival. For four decades, the festival's touring group has brought their music to every corner of the United States. For four decades, the musicians have set a model of artistic excellence that has inspired other musicians and artists and their audiences. This band of musicians—outwardly casual but hard-driven in their pursuit of beauty and truth in their art—has moved thousands of concert-goers.

The touring group has featured such superb musicians as Rudolph Serkin, Richard Goode, Benita Velente, and Murray Perahia. Performers who went on to make up such noted ensembles as the Guarneri and Emerson String Quartets have received critical early boosts from the Marlboro experience of intensive summers and the tours. Their alumni can be found in many leading orchestras, from the Philadelphia Orchestra to the Chicago Symphony Orchestra.

There is certainly something about Vermont and the Green Mountains that helps inspire the ensemble. Whatever the inspiration, the Musicians From Marlboro are a superb reflection of the best Vermont has to offer.

Vermont is a richer place because of the Marlboro Music Festival, and the festival and its musicians have touched innumerable audiences across the country with their artistry. I know my colleagues join me in congratulating the Marlboro Music Festival and its Musicians From Marlboro on this great achievement of 40 years of touring and in wishing the festival many more happy and sonorous decades to come.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. Each Congress, Senator KENNEDY and I introduce hate crimes legislation that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society. Likewise, each Congress I have come to the floor to highlight a separate hate crime that has occurred in our country.

In the summer of 1988 in Orange County, CA, a group of six youths went

on a spree of beatings that police say was targeted at gay men. Robert Joyce testified that while walking along a stretch of coast popular to gay people, he was attacked by the youths. According to police reports, Joyce was beaten for several minutes, including being hit in the head with a 2-inch metal pipe. He required 80 stitches to mend his wounds. During the attack the attackers yelled, "Kill him! kill him! kill the faggot!" The group of youths attacked several other gay men in the area before being apprehended by police.

I believe that the 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 is a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

PROTECTING AMERICA'S MINERS ACT

Mr. KENNEDY. I am proud to have introduced the Protecting America's Miners Act.

The need for this legislation is clear. This year began with the terrible tragedies at the Sago and Alma mines in West Virginia. Within days of the new year, 14 coal miners had died. In February, I went to West Virginia to meet with some of the families of the men who died. It was one of the most moving visits I have had in my career in the Senate. I left West Virginia with renewed commitment to passing legislation this year to improve safety and health conditions in our Nation's mines. The expert testimony at the HELP Committee hearing on mine safety in March only reinforced my commitment.

I was also deeply moved earlier this month by the West Virginia hearings on the Sago mine disaster and Randal McCloy's letter to his fallen coworkers' families about the conditions in the mine after the explosion. We have lost 26 coal miners so far this year—more than died in all of last year. The victims of these disasters and of prior disasters, like the explosion at Jim Walters No. 5, deserve nothing less than our dedication to making sure that they did not die in vain. The best way we can honor those fallen miners is to act on what we have learned. This bill is an important step in fulfilling that commitment.

There are many things we may still learn from these tragedies. But some lessons are already clear. We have not done enough to provide miners with oxygen and communications needed to survive an emergency. We must strengthen our safety enforcement so companies cannot treat safety violations as simply the cost of doing business. The average fine at the Sago mine was just \$156 dollars—less than most parking tickets. And many safety and health standards are woefully outdated.

To address these lessons, this bill requires warning systems to alert miners when the air in the mine is becoming dangerous, before a disaster occurs; the most up-to-date communications and tracking technology in mines as soon as possible so rescuers can locate and direct miners in an emergency; more oxygen stored in mines so miners can survive until they can evacuate or are rescued; rescue chambers so, as a last resort, if miners cannot evacuate, they can safely await rescue in the mine; and increased penalties for repeat violators and minimum penalties.

In addition, some very specific problems at the Sago mine came to light during the hearings this month in West Virginia, such as ineffective equipment, lack of communications, and families' exclusion from the investigation process. To address this, the bill requires companies to check on the reliability of the oxygen stored for use in an emergency; independent investigations and public hearings on serious accidents; and an opportunity for victims' families to participate in accident investigations.

This bill not only tries to learn from past disasters but also looks to the future. The bill includes a program to help MSHA replace its aging inspector workforce. These new safety standards will do no good if MSHA cannot properly staff its inspection teams to ensure that the new standards are being enforced. It also directs Federal research dollars where they are most urgently needed—to develop better breathing apparatus, communications technology, atmospheric warning systems, and mine rescue technology.

We have a responsibility as Members of Congress to see that our mine safety laws make our mines the safest in the world. I urge my colleagues to support the Protecting America's Miners Act.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HONORING THE HONORABLE CHARLES L. YOUNG, SR.

• Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, it is my pleasure to congratulate the Honorable Charles L. Young, Sr. of Meridian, MS, for his 25 years of service as a member of the Mississippi House of Representatives. As chairman of the House Universities and Colleges Committee, he has worked effectively to improve the quality of education in our State.

Representative Young served his country as a member of the U.S. Army during the Korean war and was honored with the Bronze Star for Valor.

He has been recognized by his colleagues as a leader in the field of education, entrepreneurship, and social justice. As a pioneer in the civil rights movement, Representative Young was the first African-American member of the Meridian Chamber of Commerce. He has been a leader in the business community as chief executive officer

and President of E.F. Young, Jr., Manufacturing Company, a business that his parents started in 1931.

He was one of the founders of Mississippi Action for Progress, which was the parent organization in our State for Head Start. Mr. Young is also one of the founders of the Greater Meridian Health Clinic, which operates in six locations and has a mobile dental lab.

He is a member of Newell Chapel C.M.E. Church, and he sponsors a tennis camp for over 100 children each year.

Mr. President, I commend Representative Young for his exemplary citizenship and service to the residents of Lauderdale County and the State of Mississippi. I am proud to be his friend.●

RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OWOSSO MASONIC LODGE

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Owosso Masonic Lodge on its 150th anniversary. This is a significant milestone, and it is with pleasure that I thank the lodge for its many years of dedicated service to greater Owosso community. Tomorrow, a celebration will be held to commemorate this special occasion.

Service organizations play an important role in American society. These organizations play a key role in building stronger communities, often providing assistance to those most in need. The Owosso Masonic Lodge, which was chartered in January 1856 by the Grand Lodge of Michigan, has served the community well and has much of which to be proud. This lodge has worked to bring groups together over the years and has helped members work to achieve strong ethical standards.

I would also like to join the lodge in showing appreciation for the efforts of the 40- 50- and 80-year lodge members, who will be recognized at the celebration tomorrow. Among this group is Mr. George Hoddy, who at 100 years of age continues to be active in working to improve Owosso and the State of Michigan. I would like to recognize his long and distinguished membership in the Owosso Masonic Lodge. Mr. Hoddy's businesses have been a cornerstone of the local economy for many decades.

I know my colleagues join me in thanking the Owosso Masonic Lodge for 150 years of dedication and service to the community, and I wish them the best as they embark on another 150 years of distinguished service.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.