

Woodbury High is working to fulfill the District goal of giving all students an opportunity for excellence. With championship athletic teams and arts programs generating high-quality productions, students are stretched to reach their potential inside and outside the classroom. The Woodbury High girls soccer team has won the State championship during 3 of the past 4 years. The adapted soccer team and girls basketball team have also won State championships during the past several years. Excellence in education is the daily goal of teachers, administrators, and students at Woodbury High School.

Much of the credit for Woodbury Senior High School's success belongs to its principal, Linda Plante, and the dedicated teachers. The students and staff at Woodbury Senior High School understand that, in order to be successful, a school must go beyond achieving academic success; it must also provide a nurturing environment where students can develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes for success throughout life. All of the faculty, staff, and students at Woodbury Senior High School should be very proud of their accomplishments.

I congratulate Woodbury Senior High School in Woodbury for winning the Award for Excellence in Education and for its exceptional contributions to education in Minnesota.●

HONORING DAVID HERMANCANCE

● Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I take a moment to pay tribute to David Hermance, who died in a tragic plane crash on November 25. David was the North American executive engineer for Advanced Technology Vehicles at Toyota.

Many Americans may not know David's name, but they know his work. He was one of the most well-respected environmentalists in America. He was a pioneer—called the Father of the American Prius—who worked tirelessly to help explain the workings and benefits of hybrid and other advanced technology vehicles.

David was an outspoken and passionate advocate. He championed advanced technology vehicles throughout his career at General Motors and Toyota and he earned a well-deserved reputation for being the most authoritative voice in America on hybrid technology. He helped me and many others better understand this new technology and its potential for creating a more sustainable future and a healthier world.

David was instrumental in raising awareness about the importance of these new technologies to help protect our environment. His death is a loss for us all.●

TRIBUTE TO SISTER CYNTHIA "CINDY" MAHONEY

● Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, today I ask that the Senate observe the recent

passing of Sister Cynthia "Cindy" Mahoney and recognize her tireless service to this country. A former emergency medical technician, Sister Mahoney volunteered at Ground Zero in New York City on September 11, 2001, blessing victims and providing medical and spiritual attention to survivors. In the days following, Sister Mahoney helped set up a respite program for first responders at St. Paul's Chapel across from the World Trade Center. She also became an official Red Cross volunteer chaplain serving as a grief counselor at the Pier 91 Federal Emergency Management Agency center. In October 2001 Sister Mahoney joined the Red Cross Medical Examiner's Fatality Team as a chaplain working out of the morgue to bless human remains excavated from Ground Zero. She served on the Fatality Team well into 2002.

In September 2002 Sister Mahoney moved to South Carolina to establish a spiritual practice but was unsuccessful. By this time, Sister Mahoney was experiencing symptoms consistent with exposure to toxic materials like asbestos. Sadly she soon became homeless, and her physical condition continued to deteriorate. Last summer she was diagnosed with chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, COPD. Sister Mahoney died on November 1, 2006, from complications related to her pulmonary condition. I ask that the Senate join me in commemorating Sister Mahoney for her actions at Ground Zero on September 11 and in the months that followed that fateful day.●

RECOGNIZING THE CIVIL AIR PATROL

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, as a member of the Civil Air Patrol for more than two decades and now commander of its Congressional Squadron, I am proud to speak to you today about CAP, an all-volunteer organization celebrating 65 years of service to the United States of America.

CAP was created on Dec. 1, 1941, to assist the U.S. military. During World War II, when Nazi U-boat submarines had infested our coastal waters, volunteer aviators of CAP's Coastal Patrol distinguished themselves valiantly. It was a time when the U.S. military was unable to effectively counter these submarines. Flying small single- and twin-engine aircraft armed with 50 and 100-pound bombs, these brave men and women flew more than 24 million miles during 86,000 over-water missions—a total of 244,600 flight hours to help win the battle against U-boats that were preying on coastal shipping.

Despite the risk of death, they spotted 173 subs, attacked 57, hit 10 and sank 2. The Coastal Patrol aircrews also called in aid for 91 ships in distress, saved 363 survivors of sub attacks, discovered 17 floating mines, and flew 5,684 special convoy missions.

Fifty-nine members of these courageous aircrews died, 26 were lost at sea,

and 7 others were seriously injured. They were inspired by the highest sense of patriotism, and they served with pride.

Today, CAP continues that tradition as one of the most unique volunteer organizations in America, consisting of everyday heroes from pilots, teachers, and youth counselors to technology experts, communicators, and more. These volunteers, most employed at a paying job, perform 95 percent of inland search-and-rescue missions in the continental United States.

Whether performing search and rescue missions or helping communities recover from floods, wildfires, tornadoes, hurricanes, or terrorist attacks, CAP members are there to aid their Nation. In 2005 alone, they saved 73 lives.

Following last year's terrible gulf coast hurricanes, 1,800 CAP volunteers from 17 States converged on hurricane-ravaged communities, serving over 50,000 volunteer hours. These patriotic members flew 1,000 air missions during 2,000 hours of flight time and provided more than 2,000 time-critical images of affected areas. They also ensured the well-being of Americans by visiting 4,266 homes, contacting 8,500 residents, and distributing 30,000 pounds of relief supplies.

Coming full circle from its beginnings in World War II, Civil Air Patrol is again taking on homeland security responsibilities for the Nation. These include assisting the Air Force in ensuring the skies above Washington, DC, are safe and flying target-intercept training missions for U.S. military pilots all at a low cost of about \$100 per mission.

With 530 aircraft and thousands of trained aircrew members, CAP is a tremendous asset to the United States at a critical juncture in our history. This capability, however, is now greatly enhanced because CAP, over the past few years, had the foresight to invest in developing and obtaining sophisticated new technologies to help with its emergency missions. Today it uses two high-technology imaging systems Airborne Real-time Cueing Hyperspectral Enhanced Reconnaissance, ARCHER, and satellite-transmitted digital imaging systems, SDIS, to assist in search and rescue, disaster-assessment missions and other missions. These technologies make it a vital asset to the Air Force, State governments and local communities.

CAP also provides exceptional growth opportunities to 22,550 youth in cadet programs, which stress leadership and moral responsibility and teach aviation and emergency response skills. Through CAP, these youth gain access to scholarship opportunities, top national summer flight academies, flight training in powered and glider aircraft, and programs that emphasize leadership and careers in aviation. They routinely help communities when disaster strikes and other emergencies occur by operating radios, helping park