

American Polish Research Fellowship Program at the University of Notre Dame. He also served as Pastor of Our Lady of the Lake Parish in Culver, IN, and St. Adalbert Parish and St. Hedwig Parishes in South Bend. Father Chrobot was known for his ability to bring people together, regardless of their religious and ethnic backgrounds or their political views. "He was a kind, soft-spoken man who didn't like to see arguments, rather encouraging people to 'pray about it,'" recounted Rosanne Benassi, office manager for St. Hedwig's Parish.

Father Chrobot passed away on Tuesday, September 9, 2014. He is survived and deeply missed by his sister Joan Webber and brother-in-law Charles, brother Hank Chrobot, several nieces and nephews, the St. Mary's College family, the University of Notre Dame family, the Diocese of Fort Wayne-South Bend, his parishioners, and Hoosiers across the State.

Father Len, as he was affectionately known, loved his work and dedicated his life to the service of his fellow citizens. Although he would not have considered himself a hero, Father Chrobot demonstrated his character daily by conducting himself with compassion, honor, and integrity. Thus, he was a true American hero—in his everyday life as an educator, minister, religious consul, and friend to so many. Let us always treasure the memory of this great man and honor him for his selfless commitment to serving his fellow citizens. May God welcome him home and give comfort to his family and friends.●

GEAR UP HAWAII

● Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the successes of Hawaii's Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs, GEAR UP. Next Monday, September 22 marks the beginning of National GEAR UP Week.

GEAR UP is a national program that provides grants for States to help low-income students with college preparation, enrollment, and completion.

In 2011, the U.S. Department of Education awarded the University of Hawaii a 7-year GEAR-UP grant to improve college access and completion for low-income students. The P-20 Partnerships for Education manages this grant with its partners, the State Department of Education, the UH ten-campus system, and other public, non-profit, and private entities.

Hawaii GEAR UP is helping reach the goal of having 55 percent of working age adults hold a 2- or 4-year degree by 2025. In shorthand, "55 by '25.'" To reach this goal, GEAR UP Hawaii runs many programs to help low-income middle school and high school students focus on academic preparation, explore Early College options, learn more information about college access and financial aid, and improve college enrollment and completion.

In January of 2014, I had the chance to meet GEAR UP Hawaii students at Waipahu High School. The school's Early College High School program helps students earn college credit while still in high school.

One of the students I met was Juanito Moises, National GEAR UP Youth of the Year. He came to Hawaii from the Philippines at age 9, not speaking English. He took rigorous courses and eventually earned a 3.98 high school GPA. He will be the first in his family to attend a 4-year college, and thanks to GEAR UP he will already have English 100 out of the way.

Juanito is just one of the thousands of low-income students in Hawaii and nationwide who GEAR UP is working to serve. The program's results show that GEAR UP students are more likely to complete rigorous coursework, apply and enroll in college, and earn college degrees, when compared with other low-income students who do not have the opportunity to participate.

Since I first came to the House in 2007, I have supported Federal funding for GEAR UP program, and I urge my colleagues in the Senate to do the same.

During National GEAR UP Week, let's celebrate GEAR UP's success and continue our efforts to help Hawaii students enter and complete college.●

RECOGNIZING ZIONS BANK

● Mr. LEE. Mr. President, next week, the Department of Defense will honor 15 companies with the prestigious Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. This award is the highest honor given by the Department of Defense to employers in recognition of exceptional support of National Guard and Reserve employees. One of the 15 companies to be honored at this event is Utah's own Zions Bank. I would like to take this opportunity to recognize this company for its contribution to my home State and our Nation.

Zions Bank was founded 22 years before Utah gained her statehood. On July 10, 1873, under the direction of Brigham Young, Zion's Savings Bank and Trust Company was incorporated. It was the first chartered savings bank and trust company in the Utah Territory. Soon after its highly successful opening day, Brigham Young wrote to a fellow Mormon in England: Zion's Savings Bank and Trust Company opened for business on Thursday last. This institution is a cooperative one, and we think it is likely to meet with favor.

President Young and the other bank founders were right. Even though the bank opened just months before America's Long Depression, 1873-1879, was underway, the bank thrived.

Such economic tenacity was woven into the character of Zions Bank. During the Great Depression, the bank's livelihood was threatened when in February of 1932, depositors withdrew \$1.5

million in 2½ days. In order to quell the panic and reassure depositors that the bank was sound, bank President Heber J. Grant ordered signs to be posted at branch locations. The signs noted that the bank was "in a very strong, clean, liquid condition," and that it could "pay off every depositor in full." The note ended, "There is no safer bank in the state or the nation." Because of the trust that the bank developed with customers over previous decades, the panic was subdued and deposits quickly exceeded withdrawals. The bank stood firm in the midst of an extended national economic struggle. During every significant economic downturn since 1873, Zions Bank has weathered the storm and come out stronger for it. This success speaks to the impeccable leadership and business acumen of bank leaders and the hard work of Zions Bank employees.

While it is always important to look to foundational virtues, an organization cannot long survive without emulating those virtues in the present and perpetuating them into the future. Zions Bank continues to be a steadfast partner, not only with businesses and individuals but also with community and charitable organizations in Utah and throughout the Western United States. A large part of Utah's success—what we champion as the "Utah model"—are the Utah businesses that conduct their affairs with integrity and purpose. Zions Bank's famous motto, "We haven't forgotten who keeps us in business," speaks both to its integrity as a corporation and its purpose of creating lasting value for the customer and the community.

One excellent example of this community spirit is Zions' annual Paint-a-Thon. Starting in 1991, Zions Bank employees volunteered for 1 week each year to paint the homes of those in need, including the elderly, disabled citizens, and veterans. This year, 59 homes in Utah and Idaho will be painted, pushing the program past the milestone of 1,000 homes painted since its inception. In addition to the many hours volunteered by its employees, Zions Bank pays for all the paint and materials needed for the projects.

The Zions Bank example of service, which mirrors the spirit of service that one finds throughout Utah, is rooted in a love for fellow man, for country, and for goodness. Such love is the essence of the civil society and the key to real progress in our Nation. I believe that a crucial element of this love is showing appreciation for the men and women who willingly fight to secure our natural rights; for if our rights are taken from us, the civil society and rule of law are not possible.

Zions Bank shows their appreciation by making a special effort to see that their servicemembers' families are properly cared for when deployed. The bank provides internships and training for servicemembers and veterans through its innovative professional development program. For these reasons