

been a tremendous asset to the Commerce, Justice, State Appropriations Subcommittee for the last two years. That individual is Carl Truscott, a United States Secret Service agent who has worked with Senator GREGG's committee staff in preparing the fiscal year 1998 and 1999 CJS Appropriations bills.

Carl has been responsible for making policy and fiscal recommendations on the budgets of many of the Department of Justice programs. He's done this with integrity, an eye for detail, and a true bi-partisan spirit. Paramount to Carl's disposition is his belief in doing a good, thorough and fair job, which translated into him working closely with my staff and the Justice Department, ensuring that everyone was on the same page in regard to determining what would be best for the Department of Justice, for the interests of our States, and for the interests of our Senators, regardless on which side of the aisle they sit.

I'm sure Carl is moving on to bigger and better things—and I'm also certain he will earn the genuine appreciation for his hard work that he has won time and again here in the Senate. Carl will be missed by this Subcommittee. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors, and thank him again for all of his excellent work for the Commerce, Justice, and State Subcommittee.●

#### A TRIBUTE TO PETER J. CARRARA—THE BEST OF THE BEST

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a good neighbor and a man who was the best of the best. His name is Peter J. Carrara and he passed away suddenly on August 20th. However, he will be remembered by everyone who knew him as the epitome of good humor and optimism. Or as co-workers put it, "If you didn't like Peter, you didn't like life."

Peter was a man who loved his country and dreamed of serving the US Navy since he was a child. He fulfilled his dream, served with honor, and became a highly decorated officer. In fact, he retired in 1992 with the rank of Senior Chief Yeoman on a Ballistic Missile Nuclear Submarine, one of the greatest accomplishments a Navy man can achieve. For his service he was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, five Navy Achievement medals, five Good Conduct Medals, Enlisted Submarine Breast Insignia, and the SSBN Deterrent Patrol Insignia. Following his retirement, he held several jobs, including second constable for the Town of Shrewsbury for the last four years of his life.

In addition to serving his country, Peter served his community in many ways. He was a member of the Shrewsbury Community Church, Rutland Fleet Reserve Association, American Legion Post 31, the Shrewsbury So-Birds, and a volunteer fireman. He would approach any situation, espe-

cially challenging ones, with a calmness and strength which was reassuring to everyone around him. To quote his fellow town constable, "He could approach hostile people as if he knew the angel of God was on his shoulder."

As I read through the eulogies given and letters written about Peter, I was struck by how many people mentioned his kindness, caring, and compassion for others. Friends praised and remembered his big heart and giving spirit. For example, when he worked for UPS, he stayed late one Christmas Eve so families would have their presents for the next day. He was devoted to his friends and family and would do anything for them. When they were sick in the hospital, he would visit with them and bring them great comfort.

In fact, his ability to comfort and bring a smile to people's face will be how Peter is remembered. My wife Liz said, "You could never feel down around Peter. His smile and warmth picked your spirits up and you went on your way smiling." But the biggest tribute came from a childhood friend. "You were my hero. I really enjoyed growing up with you, and today you are still my hero."

Farewell, Peter. You will truly be missed.●

#### RECOGNITION OF THE EFFORTS OF THE PEOPLE OF MASSACHUSETTS TO ASSIST THE CHEYENNE RIVER SIOUX TRIBE

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I want to take the opportunity today to recognize the kind and generous people of western Massachusetts who donated exercise equipment to the Cheyenne River Reservation community in my home state of South Dakota.

The participating YMCA's of Greenfield, Springfield, Holyoke, Northampton and Westfield Massachusetts organized a month long drive that collected 80 pieces of exercise equipment ranging from treadmills to exercise bikes. Robert Sunderland, Vincent Olinski, Harry Rock, Suzanne Walker, Stephen Clay, Kurt Kramer, and Mark St. Pierre all worked together to make this project a reality. Their vision, tireless dedication, and proactive efforts to mobilize the people of western Massachusetts should not go unnoticed. Additionally, I would like to recognize Keith Eichenholz of my staff, a native of Greenfield Massachusetts himself, for recognizing the effort of these participating YMCAs, as well as the needs of Indian country in South Dakota.

As my Senate colleagues know, there are nine federally recognized tribes in South Dakota, whose members collectively make up one of the largest Native American populations in this country. At the same time, South Dakota has three of the ten poorest counties in the nation, all of which are within reservation boundaries. The severe poverty within these reservations makes it extremely difficult to secure

valuable resources that can be used to fight the grave health situation plaguing the American Indian communities.

The contributions of the western Massachusetts YMCAs will help overcome these alarming conditions. Native Americans die at younger ages than the general population: 13 percent of Indian deaths, compared to 4 percent of deaths for all races, occur before age 25. Tuberculosis as a cause of death for Native Americans is 4 times the national mortality rate for this disease, and the Native American mortality rate for diabetes out-paces the national average by 139 percent. Additionally, a 1997 Harvard/Centers for Disease Control study on life expectancy found that the lowest life expectancy in the nation for both men and women, including inner city populations, exists in the Indian population and are the worst rates of any nation in the western hemisphere except Haiti. American health care and medical science are far too advanced to allow such statistics to persist.

Time and time again, regular exercise has been proven effective in reducing the occurrence of heart disease, diabetes, and early deaths. The five western Massachusetts communities will help provide the Cheyenne River Reservation community with the opportunity for a healthier lifestyle at practically no cost. Their contribution deserves recognition, and I thank them for all of their help.

Throughout my service in Congress I have worked with Indian tribes to improve the quality of life on this nation's Indian reservations. I am glad that I have the generous people of Greenfield, Springfield, Holyoke, Northampton and Westfield Massachusetts as allies in this courageous effort.

Again, I would like to offer my sincere gratitude for their collaborated effort, and wish them continued success in future endeavors.●

#### 125TH BIRTHDAY OF ROSWELL, NEW MEXICO

● Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I am proud to pay tribute to one of the most resilient cities in America—Roswell, New Mexico. One-hundred and twenty-five years ago, the Roswell Post Office opened its doors and a town's identity was established. Since that time, the residents of Roswell have displayed a hearty "can-do" attitude as they adapted to the constantly evolving economic climate of the region.

Roswell has served as an economic and educational hub for southeastern New Mexico. It has been a center for sheep ranching, cattle driving, space exploration, and military aviation. Today, Roswell supports a thriving dairy industry and, because of its warm winters and relaxed pace, it has become a popular retirement destination for senior citizens across the country. Roswell is the site of the New Mexico Military Institute, one of the finest military preparatory academies in the