

Community Council of Metropolitan Detroit, which is celebrating its 60th anniversary on May 23, 1999.

The Jewish Community Council brings together more than 200 Jewish community organizations under one umbrella, enabling the community to act in a unified way on issues of shared interest and concern. The Council's activities include building partnerships between people of different faiths and ethnic backgrounds, working to strengthen Metropolitan Detroit's Jewish community, and providing information to state and federal legislators about important issues.

The people of Metropolitan Detroit have always been able to count on the Jewish Community Council for assistance. The Council administers an annual food drive conducted by a broad-based coalition of community organizations, provides volunteers to an interfaith effort to revitalize economically distressed areas of the City of Detroit, and has fought to restore food stamps for legal immigrants.

One of the Council's most impressive achievements is its continuing effort to build bridges between people of different backgrounds. Some of the programs sponsored by the Council include the Detroit/Israel Student Exchange and Seeds of Peace program. The Detroit/Israel Student Exchange sends Detroit Public School students to Israel, and the students subsequently host Israeli teens at their homes in Detroit. Seeds of Peace is an innovative program which works to achieve lasting peace in the Middle East by bringing together Arab and Israeli teenagers at a summer camp in Maine with daily conflict-resolution sessions led by professional American, Arab and Israeli facilitators. The Council also works with other ethnic communities to welcome new immigrants to Michigan and to provide swearing-in ceremonies for new American citizens.

As I travel across America and too often see people disconnected from each other, I am more and more certain that the strong sense of community in the Jewish community is a pillar of our strength and an essential path to our well-being. The Jewish community comes together to educate our young, house our seniors, take care of immigrants, and provide culture and recreation. I watched this sense of community with wonder when I was a boy and I see it with great pride as a man. This deeply felt sense of community—of being part of something larger than our individual selves—is a vital part of who we are.

The Jewish Community Council serves as the "public face" of this extraordinary community and I know my colleagues will join me in offering congratulations on its 60th anniversary, and in wishing the Council continued success in the future.●

TRIBUTE TO ANDY MARTEL OF MANCHESTER, NEW HAMPSHIRE

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Andy Martel for leading the fight to save Catholic Medical Center in Manchester. His efforts have been inspirational and steadfast.

Andy was highly active in the preservation of Catholic Medical Center. There were plans to eliminate this important landmark in Manchester. The Center was having a difficult time preserving itself. Andy took it upon himself to save this acute-care hospital. He has tirelessly sought quality health care for the people of New Hampshire.

His efforts included organizing concerned citizens, raising funds, and heightening awareness about the plans to close the hospital. He became overwhelmingly cheerful and dedicated to the battle. The largest reason for the hospital's preservation was Andy's efforts.

Andy has been a valued member of the Manchester community for many years. He has volunteered in many political campaigns, been active in his church, and served in public office himself. He served as a State Representative in Ward 9 of Manchester. He has been committed to grassroots style representation and has been an asset to the legislation of New Hampshire.

As a fellow Catholic, I thank him for his dedication to our church. As a citizen of New Hampshire, I thank him for his public service and volunteerism. As a Senator, I thank him for all he has done to make New Hampshire a better State.

Once again, I commend Andy for his work on the Catholic Medical Center and for all his efforts. I wish him the best of luck in the future. It is an honor to represent him in the United States Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO MEG GREENFIELD

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, Washington recently lost something altogether too precious—a sharp intellect that put policy above politics and sound reasoning above political posturing. When Meg Greenfield passed away last week, the Nation lost a thoughtful and honest voice that cut through the tangle of Washington rhetoric, telling us what mattered, what didn't, and what was sometimes downright ridiculous about politics in the nation's capitol.

From her position as a masterful editor of the Post's editorial and opinion pages to her role as an unfailingly insightful columnist for Newsweek, Meg Greenfield offered us her keen mind, her sharp wit, and her knack for giving readers the straight story.

That kind of talent is rare, and more than that it is essential in a world where facts too often exist only to bolster a partisan argument, and where truth is a question of spin. Meg Greenfield helped us see past the spin to the

story, and for that we are deeply grateful. She will be sorely missed.●

HONORING THE WESTPORT VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE ON ITS 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, for twenty years, the Westport Volunteer Emergency Medical Service has been a lifeline for thousands of people in need of emergency medical assistance in the state of Connecticut. Since 1979, the WVEMS has provided the residents of Westport and the surrounding communities with caring and professional medical services, and it gives me great pleasure to congratulate them on their 20th anniversary.

A division of the Westport Police Department, the WVEMS was created to respond to the increasing number of calls for emergency assistance in the area. This group of 140 dedicated volunteers serve as EMT's, crew chiefs, and support personnel who, in the last year alone, contributed over 23,000 hours of patient care. Their expertise and experience have helped thousands of people by providing medical training, safety coverage at town and athletic events, and offering public courses in areas such as first aid, CPR, blood pressure clinics, and safe driving classes.

It is remarkable to note that while providing efficient, quality care to the residents of Westport, the WVEMS relies solely on private donations and fundraising to purchase its equipment, supplies, emergency vehicles, uniforms, and protective clothing. Volunteers have taken on this additional responsibility and the extra hours to ensure that their services remain available to anyone in need. They have made reliable emergency medical response a standard in many communities and have proven that emergency care is a vital component of the safety of our cities and towns.

The ongoing success of the Westport Volunteer Emergency Medical Service is most evident in the nearly two dozen new students that receive training by the group's own personnel each year. Working in conjunction with area hospitals and local physicians, the WVEMS and its volunteers have earned the highest marks in state examinations while also having members serving on state and regional EMS councils. Moreover, volunteers have found their work so fulfilling that many have gone on to further their medical training and education as a full-time career.

What truly sets the Westport Volunteer Emergency Medical Service apart is the level of commitment and concern its members have shown for people in need. In situations that can often be emotional, chaotic, and dangerous, these men and women put the welfare of others first in order to calm fears and provide lifesaving care. Members are on standby twenty-four hours a day and, in many cases, are the first ones on the scene of an accident. It is