Tom Menino, an honor shared by all the people of Boston who have benefitted from Tom's remarkable leadership in our city. A reflection of all that he has accomplished and continues to achieve, Mayor Tom Menino ascends to the position of President of the U.S. Conference of Mayors. I am proud to join his family, staff and colleagues across the country in congratulating him as he embarks on this new challenge.

Since his election as Mayor in 1993, Tom Menino has been tireless in his efforts to make the nation's greatest city even stronger. As he begins his term as President of the Conference, mayors from across the country will find in Tom a friend and a national trail blazer as the chief spokesperson and leader of their efforts.

Tom Menino's record of achievement already serves as a blueprint for our nation's cities; in 2001 he was recognized by Governing Magazine as ''Public Official of the Year,'' dubbing him the ''Main Streets Maestro.'' Mayors from cities from Houston, Detroit to Philadelphia have come to Boston to study Tom's approach to governing, and each has returned to their own city and implemented a piece of Boston's success story. After a recent Boston visit, Mayor O'Malley returned to Baltimore to open an Office of Neighborhoods, borrowing a page from the Menino play book.

But it is in the neighborhoods of Boston where the results of his hands-on management style are most visible. In places like Grove Hall and Jackson Square, new businesses are starting up, community development corporations are working hand-in-hand with the Mayor to jump start new developments and rehabilitate old buildings, and small, locally-owned businesses are flourishing in all corners of the city.

But do not take my word for it, just look at the statistics: Crime rates are dramatically lower than 10 years ago; the public school drop-out rate has been cut in half during Tom's time in office; and almost 70 percent of Boston's high school graduates continue on to college. Mayor Menino's work on behalf of the children of Boston reflects a long term commitment that reaches far into the future: He has almost doubled the number of immunized children; launched a youth literacy campaign that has been replicated in over 100 other U.S. cities; and Tom Menino is the first mayor of a major city to completely wire the school system to the Internet. Mayor Menino has partnered with the Ten Point Coalition and other violence prevention groups to create successful programs like Operation Ceasefire and ''2 to 6'', that target the city's at risk youth with activities and structure during those crucial after school hours.

I am proud to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with Tom Menino as we move ahead and continue our work together on improving public schools, increasing the availability of affordable housing and making our streets as safe as they can be. He is a dedicated and talented public servant, one whom I am fortunate to call a colleague and friend, and I join the whole Massachusetts delegation and mayors across the State in congratulating him on his Presidency of the U.S. Conference of Mayors.●

HONORING DR. FOREST F. SHELY

● Mr. BUNNING. Madam President, I have the distinct honor of rising today to recognize one of Kentucky's finest citizens, Dr. Forest F. Shely.

At the recently held 53rd Annual Awards Dinner of the Campbellsville/Taylor County Chamber of Commerce, Dr. Shely was named ''Citizen of the Year.'' Dr. Shely was duly recognized for his unwavering commitment to family, church, career, and community. He has been a devoted and loving husband for 55 years. He raised five wonderful children of his own and is currently the proud grandfather of eight and great-grandfather of four. Dr. Shely has also been a key figure in his church for many years, serving as a Deacon, Sunday School teacher, and Gideon. Throughout his career in medicine, Dr. Shely has touched thousands of lives delivering babies, healing the sick, and comforting the dying. Finally, Dr. Shely serves on the university board of trustees, the Citizens Bank board, the library board, the Rotary Club and is the past president of the hospital medical staff.

To say that Dr. Forest F. Shely has lived life to the fullest would be a gross understatement. I am extremely honored to serve such an amazing husband, father, doctor, and community leader. I ask that my fellow colleagues join me in praising Dr. Shely for his dedication to Kentucky.●

IN MEMORY OF MSGR. GEORGE HIGGINS, AMERICA'S ''LABOR PRIEST''

● Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, when I learned of the death of Msgr. George G. Higgins, I was saddened to lose a friend and one of the most passionate workers' advocates of our time.

For half a century, Msgr. Higgins was the workers' priest. He was a leading advocate of workers rights, but his interests went beyond labor to issues of justice and peace, human and civil rights, discrimination. Through his writings and teachings, he helped show the connections between these vital issues and his deep faith.

He left his mark on the lives of America's workers through his roles as writer, lecturer, lobbyist, negotiator, and leader. It is said that Msgr. Higgins never turned down an invitation to a labor meeting if he was able to be there. He was no stranger to picket lines, stopping by to lend an inspirational word to workers and to show his support.

Msgr. Higgins played a central role in the negotiations between grape growers and the newly unionized farm workers in the early 1970s. United Farm Workers leader Cesar Chavez said in 1980 that no one in the country did more for farm workers than Msgr. Higgins.

He played a key role as a liaison between the independent Polish labor union Solidarity and American unions at a time when Solidarity was struggling for its very survival in the early 1980s.

In 2000, President Clinton awarded him the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor, for his commitment to workers' rights, civil rights and religious tolerance. Last year, he was conferred the University of Notre Dame's prestigious Laetare Medal.

Msgr. Higgins believed that unions are central to democracy and the improvement of the plight of workers. He insisted that Catholic institutions welcome unionization and negotiate in good faith with their employees.

AFL–CIO President John F. Sweeney said of Msgr. Higgins that, ''He has been an irresistible force in bringing labor and church together. . . . We respect him for his strength, we revere him for his conscience, we stand in awe of his intellect and we thank him for his love.''

My thoughts and wishes are with his sisters, Bridget Doonan and Ann Maronic, as well as his nephews, nieces, grandnephews and grandnieces. We will miss America's Labor Priest. As we continue to fight for America's workers, for justice and for peace, his memory will be with us—and with all workers around the globe.●

IN RECOGNITION OF LAKE FOREST HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS PREPARING FOR NATIONAL COMPETITION ON CONSTITUTIONAL KNOWLEDGE

● Mr. CARPER. Madam President, this May, more than 1,200 students from across the United States will visit Washington, DC to compete in the national finals of the We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution program. It is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

I am proud to announce that a class from Lake Forest High School from Felton will represent the State of Delaware in this national event. These students, with the leadership of their teacher Amy Reed-Moore, have worked diligently to reach the national finals. Through their experience they have gained a deep knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy.

This three-day national competition is modeled after hearings in the United States Congress. The hearings consist of oral presentations by high school students before a panel of adult judges

on constitutional topics. The students' testimony is followed by a period of questioning by the judges who probe their depth of understanding and ability to apply their knowledge.

Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the We the People . . . program has provided curricular materials at upper elementary, middle and high school levels for more than 26.5 million students nationwide. The program affords students a working knowledge of our Constitution, Bill of Rights, and the principles of democratic government.

It is inspiring to see these young people advocate the principles of our government, particularly in the aftermath of the tragedy on September 11. These principles identify us as a people and bind us together as a Nation. It is important for our next generation to understand the values and principles that serve as the foundation in our ongoing effort to preserve and realize the promise of democracy.

These students from Lake Forest High School are currently conducting research and preparing for their upcoming participation in the national competition in Washington, DC. I wish these young ''constitutional experts'' the best of luck at the We the People . . . national finals. They represent the future of our State and Nation.●

TRIBUTE TO MARY CATHERINE MORIN

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute to Mary Catherine Morin of Bedford. Mary was crowned this year's Miss New Hampshire and will compete for the Miss America title in September.

I applaud the dedication that Mary has shown in her platform as Miss New Hampshire. Her focus on the elderly and dedication to their needs and concerns serves as a positive example for all Granite Staters. Starting in her days of Girl Scouting, Mary has been a advocate for Seniors. By volunteering at Harborside Healthcare in Bedford and serving on the public relations committee for the Manchester Area Committee on Aging, Mary has been a positive example to the community, adding to her already deep devotion to our senior citizens.

Mary received her bachelors degree in Communications from the University of New Hampshire and now plans to pursue a Master's Degree in mass communication, with the ultimate goal of becoming a reporter for a major television network. Her experience at WMUR Channel 9 as well as working for Marie Claire magazine will certainly be an asset as she spends her year as Miss New Hampshire.

I commend Mary on her achievement and wish her continued success in the coming year. New Hampshire will be represented at the Miss America pageant and her message will reach even more people. Her dedication to our Nation's seniors is exemplary and should serve as the benchmark for today's youth. It is an honor to represent you in the U.S. Senate.●

OXNARD HARBOR DISTRICT'S 65TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, the Oxnard Harbor District's Annual National Maritime Day Celebration will be particularly special this year, as the event will also recognize the district's 65th Anniversary on May 10, 2002.

Created in 1937, the Oxnard Harbor District owns and operates the Port of Hueneme, located in Ventura County, CA. The port greatly contributes to the economic success of California and the Nation. More than $4 billion worth of cargo moves through the port each year. In addition, the Port of Hueneme is the Nation's number one seaport for exporting citrus products and conducts business with countries including Brazil, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Germany and Japan. The Oxnard Harbor District has every reason to be proud of its outstanding accomplishments and contributions to our nation's great maritime heritage.

To help recognize the district's long history, this year's event will feature the SS *Lane Victory*, one of America's last remaining World War II Victory ships, and a National Historic Landmark. It loaded its first cargo consignment in Port Hueneme in July 1945.

To conclude, I would like to add a special word of commendation to the International Mariners Center, whose unwavering and unparalleled support has been instrumental to the Oxnard Harbor District's success.

I thank the Oxnard Harbor District for their many contributions to the community, state and Nation, and wish the staff many more years of prosperity.●

IN RECOGNITION OF THE REVEREND DR. S. HOWARD WOODSON, JR.

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Madam President, I rise today to acknowledge the Reverend Dr. S. Howard Woodson, Jr., after whom Calhoun St. in Trenton is being renamed.

It has been an honor for the State of New Jersey to have the service of an individual with the immense talents of the Reverend Woodson. In his efforts to serve the community, Reverend Woodson has used his leadership skills to effect positive change throughout the State.

After moving to Trenton in 1946 and becoming pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church, the Reverend Woodson became actively involved in the civil rights movement. As Chairman of the segregated board of the Carver YMCA, he fought to be granted independent status by the National YMCA, which led to the establishment of its own branch, freeing it from the supervision of the central office. This was a first for the Nation. During his time as President of the State Conference of the NAACP, he convinced then Governor Richard Hughes to convene the first state-wide conference on housing discrimination, out of which grew important minority housing legislation. Over the course of his political career, the Reverend Woodson had the distinction of being the first person of color elected as councilman-at-large in Trenton. He was also the first person of color to serve as Chairman of the Ranking Legislative Committee, Assistant Democratic Leader, and Speaker of the State House.

But, the impact of the Reverend Woodson extends beyond his work in the areas of civil rights and politics. Through his leadership, Shiloh Baptist Church was able to erect a new center of worship and began numerous community outreach programs such as the Clean Neighborhood Drive and a Neighborhood Get Acquainted program.

I am proud to extend my congratulations to the Reverend Woodson on this special occasion.●

IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR ZAFRA MARGOLIN LERMAN

● Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I rise today to honor a woman who for nearly a quarter century has brought the joys of science to thousands of students in Chicago and who through every one of those years has given of herself tirelessly to ensure that anyone who sets foot in her classroom can succeed.

Zafra M. Lerman is no ordinary science teacher, and she has led no ordinary life. Born in Israel just before the second World War began, the young Zafra found high school chemistry a bore. It wasn't until she was a soldier in the Israeli Army and taking evening classes that she discovered her aptitude—and love—for the subject. Zafra went on to earn a doctorate in chemistry from Israel's renowned Weizmann Institute of Science and then did postdoctoral research at Cornell University in New York.

As remarkable as these achievements are, they are really only the beginning of a career that—though certainly filled with personal accolades—is most notable for the success of those she has guided. ''Equal access to science education is a right that belongs to all,'' she says, and she has lived by that axiom both professionally and personally. As a professor, scientist and friend, Zafra has been a mentor first and a chemistry teacher second.

In 1977, Zafra Lerman became the very first professor of science at Columbia College in Chicago, a liberal arts college that at the time didn't even have a single science course. Her first course, Chemistry in Daily Life, was filled with artists and writers and historians who hadn't the first thought of majoring in science. One day near the beginning of the school year, Zafra took a group of students to a pub at