

judge. I thank my colleagues for supporting his confirmation.

CONFIRMATION OF HENRY FRANKLIN FLOYD

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I am pleased today to speak in support of Henry Floyd, who has been confirmed for the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina.

Judge Floyd has had a stellar legal career on both sides of the bench. He served as a private practice litigator for 19 years before being elevated to the 13th Judicial Circuit of South Carolina in 1992, where he currently sits. He has also served as a 1st Lieutenant in the U.S. Army and as a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives.

During his tenure in private practice, Judge Floyd specialized in civil, criminal, and domestic relations litigation, with a general practice of deeds, wills, and estates, and real estate closings. He represented regulated utilities, including an electric cooperative, municipalities, and the County of Pickens.

Judge Floyd served on the Board of Commissioners on Grievances and Discipline, which was empowered to deal with complaints against members of the bar in the State and to make certain recommendations for disciplinary conduct.

Since his elevation to the bench, Judge Floyd has also been designated to sit as an Acting Justice on the South Carolina Supreme Court from time to time.

Judge Floyd is an extremely well-qualified nominee. He brings more than 30 years of legal experience to the Federal bench. I am confident that he will be a fine addition to the bench and thank my colleagues for supporting his confirmation.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION ON MENTAL RETARDATION AWARD WINNERS

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I am pleased today to join the Illinois chapter of the American Association on Mental Retardation, AAMR, in recognizing the recipients of the 2003 Direct Service Professional Award. These individuals are being honored for their outstanding devotion to the effort to enrich the lives of people with developmental disabilities in Illinois.

These recipients have displayed a strong sense of humanity and professionalism in their work with persons with disabilities. Their efforts have inspired the lives of those for whom they care, and they are an inspiration to me as well. They have set a fine example of community service for all Americans to follow.

These honorees spend more than 50 percent of their time at work in direct, personal involvement with their cli-

ents. They are not primarily managers or supervisors. They are direct service workers at the forefront of America's effort to care for people with special needs. They go to work every day with little recognition, providing much needed and greatly valued care and assistance.

It is my honor and privilege to recognize the Illinois recipients of AAMR's 2003 Direct Service Professional Award: Marsha Andrews, Abelardo Cabrerros, Janice Davila, Linda Dunlap, Sylvia Eiland, Guy Evans, Liz Foose, Tanya Garrett, Emma Grebenick, Jenny Greiner, James Harden, Susan Jauch, Carolyn Jones, Greg LeRette, Luvinia Mayfield, Broderick Porter, and Ginny Seaworth.

I know my fellow Senators will join me in congratulating the winners of the 2003 Direct Service Professional Award. I applaud their dedication and thank them for their service.●

TREEPEOPLE'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, on October 11, TreePeople will celebrate the 30th anniversary of its founding. Few organizations have had such an impact, have energized so many volunteers or have so transformed a community as has TreePeople. I applaud them and thank them for their wonderful work over the past 30 years.

TreePeople, much like the trees it plants, started as a tiny seed before blossoming into the powerful organization it is today. TreePeople was founded by a then-15-year-old summer camper, Andy Lipkis. Andy, like many foresters, understood that substantial tree die offs in the local mountains were the consequence of Los Angeles' smog, and wanted to do something about it. Andy organized his fellow campers, and together they ripped up a parking lot and planted a meadow. But he was not finished. Andy next obtained 8,000 seedlings from the California Department of Forestry's surplus stock and started the California Conservation Project, later renamed "TreePeople."

Since its founding, TreePeople has been committed to planting trees millions of trees. They began by planting 50,000 trees with 50,000 student volunteers in environmental programs at Coldwater Canyon Park. Several years later, after the City of Los Angeles estimated that it would take 20 years to plant a million trees in order to comply with the Clean Air Act, TreePeople took on the project and did it in three years. Later, TreePeople helped launch the Los Angeles Conservation Corps, and Kate and Andy Lipkis were elected to the United Nations Environmental Programme's Global 500 Honor Roll. TreePeople's work has extended across international boundaries with thousands of fruit trees being shipped to foreign lands to avert hunger and starvation.

TreePeople has also focused on environmental education programs and

played an important part in getting 60,000 elementary school children to work toward the City's goal of mandatory recycling. In the 1990s, TreePeople launched the Campus Forestry Program, now boasting the participation of more than one million children and teenagers. TreePeople has also developed the Trans-Agency Resources for Environment and Economic Sustainability, or T.R.E.E.S., program to promote better watershed management practices.

Today, TreePeople continues to work tirelessly to make Los Angeles a better and healthier place to live. TreePeople started modestly as one person with a dream. With steadfast determination and passion, his dream became a reality. Andy Lipkis is living proof that one person, with a corps of countless volunteers, can make a big difference. I commend his vision, and I applaud him and all those who helped make his vision tangible. TreePeople's greatest strength is in its ability to attract volunteers who are willing to work for a better community. I thank them for their great work.

I extend my congratulations to everyone involved with TreePeople on this special anniversary and wish them all many more years of continued success.●

RECOGNIZING ROBERT G. MACEACHRAN

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, it is with great pride that I pay tribute to an exceptional educator from my home State of Michigan. On September 27th, Robert G. MacEachran will retire after 16 years as Superintendent of the Suttons Bay Public Schools. Mr. MacEachran's dedication to his students and lifelong commitment to maintaining a standard of excellence for the Suttons Bay Public Schools has made a great difference in the lives of many residents of northern Michigan.

Mr. MacEachran began his work in public education as a junior high school math teacher in the Battle Creek School District. He then moved to the East Grand Rapids School District and taught high school math for several years. With many years of teaching under his belt, he decided to pursue his longtime goal of becoming an educational administrator to ensure that schools maintained an environment that encouraged learning by stimulating the minds of all students. Mr. MacEachran moved to the Comstock Park Schools where he served as Assistant Principal, Athletic Director, and Director of Community Service.

After 22 years of service as an educator, Mr. MacEachran moved to northern Michigan and took the position of Superintendent for the Suttons Bay public school system. In this position, he has stressed the importance of using the newest technology to ensure that students have all the resources needed to enrich their learning experience. Mr. MacEachran has also made great