

Third, Dad is also a good role model. He works in the emergency room and sometimes has to work at night and sleep during the day. I think it would be very stressful to handle emergencies and keep a calm demeanor, but he always does. Dad does this because he wants to help people. I admire him for that.

Dad is outstanding because he is there for me, has fun with me, teaches me, helps others and because he is simply a great dad!—Allison R. Mansfield, age 11.●

HONORING AMITAV THAMBA—AN OUTSTANDING HOOSIER DAD

● Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I am proud to have the opportunity today to honor Amitav Thamba, an outstanding Hoosier dad, whose dedication to his 9-year-old daughter, Aish, was demonstrated in a heart-warming essay that she wrote recently.

Last month, in anticipation of Father's Day, I asked young people from across Indiana to write essays about their own outstanding fathers as a way of recognizing Hoosier men who working hard to be good fathers. Aish wrote a touching essay illustrating her father's commitment to helping her achieve her God-given potential, by encouraging her to excel in school and become a good citizen.

As a nation, we have far to go to reverse the trend of absentee fathers, but there are millions of men, including Amitav, who are already going the extra mile for their children, and they deserve our thanks this Father's Day. By holding men like Amitav up as responsible fathers, I also hope to encourage other men to play a bigger role in their children's lives.

I echo Aish's concluding sentence about her father, which reads, "He is the kind of Dad I wish every kid in the world had." There is no question that the world would be a far better place if every child was able to have the support of a father like Amitav. By building strong family bonds, he has earned not only his daughter's love, but he serves as a role model for the community as well.

Today, I thank Amitav for his devotion to his daughter and for setting an example for all of us of what it means to be an outstanding dad. It is my honor to read Aish's essay into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the United States.

I was 3 years when my Dad first read to me "The Lion King." Today, I still enjoy the story!

In school, there is a program where we read books and take tests on them. My Dad, in spite of his heavy work schedule, has never missed any Reading Night or school function and has motivated me to do my best. Thanks to Dad, I am an avid reader and read more than 2,000 books in 3 years and the Top Star Reader in my school since 2nd Grade.

My father a hard worker has taught me to be truthful, kind, and respectful. My Dad has inspired me to donate supplies and food to the Wheeler Mission and at the Marion County Juvenile Center.

My father is a very important factor in all my success. He is the kind of Dad I wish

every kid in the world had.—Aish Thamba, age 9.●

HONORING FREDERICK RICHARDS—AN OUTSTANDING HOOSIER DAD

● Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I am proud to have the opportunity today to honor Frederick Richards, an outstanding Hoosier dad, whose dedication to his 16-year-old son, Corey, was demonstrated in an inspiring essay his son wrote recently.

Last month, in anticipation of Father's Day, I asked young people from across Indiana to write essays about their own outstanding fathers as a way of recognizing Hoosier men who are working hard to be good fathers. Corey wrote a touching essay illustrating his father's commitment to his country and his family.

Despite being overseas while serving our country in Camp Phoenix, Afghanistan, as an inspector general, Frederick worked hard to stay in touch with his son and let him know how much he cares. A hero to our country and his son, Frederick has taught Corey to understand the difference between right and wrong and instilled in him the importance of helping people in need.

As a nation, we have far to go to reverse the trend of absentee fathers, but there are millions of men, including Frederick, who are already going the extra mile for their children, and they deserve our thanks this Father's Day. By holding men like Frederick up as responsible fathers, I also hope to encourage other men to play a bigger role in their children's lives.

There is no question that the world would be a far better place if every child was able to have the support of a father like Frederick. By building strong family bonds, he has earned not only his son's love but serves as a role model for the community as well.

Today, I want to thank Frederick for his devotion to his son and for setting an example for all of us of what it means to be an outstanding dad. It is my honor to read Corey's essay into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the United States:

"My dad is an 'Outstanding Dad' because he is a great role model. He is caring, loving, and helpful. My dad is always open for a conversation and always willing to listen. He is a hard worker and looks out for people in need.

"My dad is an 'Outstanding Dad' because he has served in the war. He was located in Afghanistan at Camp Phoenix and was Inspector General. Even though my dad wasn't here, he was still extremely supportive of me. Not only is he my dad, but he is my hero too.

"My dad is an 'Outstanding Dad' because he knows right from wrong. He doesn't just give me whatever I want, he makes me work for it. If I do something wrong, he will help correct me. I look up to my dad everyday and he truly is an 'Outstanding Dad.'"—Corey Richards, age 16.●

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BROOKINGS CHAPTER OF DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, it is with great honor that I rise today to congratulate the Brookings chapter of Disabled American Veterans on their 25th anniversary, which will be celebrated on July 1, 2006.

Disabled American Veterans, an organization with over 1.2 million members, is focused on building better lives for disabled veterans and their families. The organization strives to meet this goal by providing free assistance to veterans in an attempt to obtain benefits and services earned through their military service. Because it is not a governmental agency, Disabled American Veterans is fully funded by membership dues and public contributions.

At the conclusion of World War I, Disabled American Veterans was created to help ease the suffering caused by the effects of World War I. Since the beginning, Disabled American Veterans has continually grown and adapted to the needs of disabled veterans. Today, Disabled American Veterans is committed to making sure the veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan are well cared for upon their return from service.

In 1986, the Disabled American Veterans transportation program was initiated in South Dakota. The following year, this program quickly expanded to become nationwide. This program is designed to provide free rides for all veterans to VA facilities so that they may attend scheduled appointments. In 2005, the South Dakota program alone transported over 20,000 veterans to VA hospitals.

On July 1, 2006, the Brookings chapter of Disabled American Veterans will celebrate their 25th anniversary. This celebration, which will be held at the Brookings Pizza Ranch, is designed to honor the 11 surviving charter members. Mr. President, I am proud to have the opportunity to honor these members and their committed service. I strongly commend their years of hard work and dedication and am very pleased that their extensive efforts are being publicly honored and celebrated.●

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DETROIT SALT MINE

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, this year we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Detroit Salt Mine, and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them on reaching this important milestone.

In 1906, the Detroit Salt and Manufacturing Company began constructing the Detroit Salt Mine. The first few years were tumultuous, as the construction itself was so challenging and