

elementary school children looking on. The very special delivery brings to six the total number of rare giant pandas now residing in the United States.

I would like to recognize the special role that UPS has played in this long journey to bring the pandas to their new home. UPS became involved with the panda transport when Zoo Atlanta officials asked for their help in the construction and maintenance of the panda habitat. The UPS Foundation agreed to give \$625,000 over five years to fund the habitat project at the zoo, and also agreed to provide all the logistical support necessary to move the pandas from Beijing to Atlanta.

The move involved over 100 UPS employees in six cities from around the world (Atlanta, Louisville, Anchorage, Singapore, Hong Kong and Beijing) covering travels of 7,526 miles. There were backup flight crews and a backup aircraft in place in case of health problems or mechanical failures, customs support people to smooth the process of bringing the animals onto U.S. soil, and even a UPS manager to accompany the two-person flight crew and act as load master.

UPS also flew two Chinese and one American veterinarians from Beijing to Atlanta. The animals were unloaded by UPS air gateway employees and placed in UPS package cars (the familiar brown delivery truck) that were specially marked with panda graphics. The vehicles (four trucks, two as back ups in case of mechanical problems) were driven by specially chosen Circle of Honor members, UPS drivers who have driven for 25 years or more without an accident. The package cars were outfitted with air conditioning and heating units for the animals.

This exciting new addition to the Atlanta landscape would not have been possible without the hard work, dedication and financial support of many people, especially at Zoo Atlanta and UPS. I am thrilled that Atlanta will be a part of such an important exchange and friendship endeavor with the people of China and I am proud of the support and enthusiasm that have showered Lun Lun and Yang Yang throughout their journey and now that they are in their new home.●

WAYNE COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY 150TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to honor and congratulate the Wayne County Medical Society as they gather in celebration of their 150th Anniversary.

The Wayne County Medical Society has set a pioneering tradition in health care since it was founded on April 14, 1849. They began with only 50 physicians and have grown to include more than 4,200 physicians. They work together to promote unity and loyalty among physicians in the community

and to raise awareness of public health issues concerning the citizens of Wayne County.

What is truly remarkable about this select group is the profound impact they have had on the public health of the people in Detroit and Wayne County. One of its most notable accomplishments was leading a polio immunization drive which vaccinated thousands of Detroiters and all but eliminated the threat of the crippling disease.

The WCMS continues to provide health care that shows no bounds with the free medical and dental clinic they run at the Webber School in Detroit. Every child is offered free services such as physical examinations, dental fluoride sealants and prophylaxis. The WCMS also takes a proactive approach to health care, in 1998 they sponsored a teen pregnancy conference with more than 500 Detroit Public School students in attendance. The children were encouraged to abstain from sex and to understand the consequences of not practicing safe sex. By sponsoring an annual party for foster children in Wayne the WCMS shows their commitment to the community extends beyond healthcare. The WCMS is truly an asset to the Detroit Community.

The accomplishments this elite group has made in the past 150 years are to be commended. Guided by the spirit of charity the WCMS has improved and enriched the lives of countless people. It is my hope that they will continue encouraging unity among physicians and be a crusader for public health in Detroit for many years to come.●

IN RECOGNITION OF THE REV. DR. GEORGE ELIAS MEETZE

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize my good friend, the Reverend Dr. George Elias Meetze, who was recently named Pastor Emeritus of Incarnation Lutheran Church in Columbia, South Carolina.

Dr. Meetze has been serving the South Carolina community for over sixty years. He led the congregation at St. Barnabas Lutheran Church in Charleston, SC from 1934 to 1937, at Grace Lutheran Church in Prosperity, SC from 1937 to 1942 and at Incarnation Lutheran Church from 1942 to 1974. In addition, Dr. George Meetze has been the chaplain of the South Carolina Senate for fifty years.

His honors and affiliations are too numerous to list, but include leadership positions within the Lutheran Church and involvement with such organizations as the Salvation Army, The American Cancer Society, and The Rotary Club, which named him a Paul Harris Fellow in 1979. He is, as you would imagine, an active supporter of the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary in Columbia, SC and Newberry College in Newberry, SC. A fixture in the Columbia, SC commu-

nity and across the state of South Carolina, Dr. George Meetze knows many people, but is known by even more for his friendliness and genuine interest in every individual he meets.

My wife, Peatsy, and I, whom Dr. George Meetze joined in marriage twenty-eight years ago, commend Incarnation Lutheran Church for conferring the title of Pastor Emeritus on Dr. George Meetze and we send our warmest congratulations to George and his family on this happy occasion.●

BRIGADIER GENERAL CLAY'S RETIREMENT

● Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I want to call the Senate's attention to the recent retirement of Air Force Brigadier General John L. Clay who is retiring after 28 years of dedicated service to our country.

General Clay, a native of Utah, joined the Air Force following his graduation from the United States Air Force Academy. He has served honorably and professionally in a variety of research and development assignments encompassing armaments, missiles and space programs.

He is renowned as a developer and manager of many space systems programs and currently serves as the Director of Space and Nuclear Deterrence in the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition.

His outstanding leadership, management expertise, and foresight have been the foundation for the success of major ICBM and space force improvements and the effective use of \$50 billion of the defense budget.

General Clay directed the effort to replace the Minuteman missile guidance system. This vitally important accomplishment now provides the nation with a key element of our strategic deterrence capability. This was the first major modification to the Minuteman system in almost 30 years.

Additionally, he was instrumental in the comprehensive national review of our nation's space launch program, including the innovative Evolved Expendable Launch Vehicle program which has resulted in the establishment of two internationally competitive commercial families of vehicles capable of meeting government and commercial needs.

General Clay also established the Shared Early Warning System program following the September 1998 summit agreement between Presidents Clinton and Yeltsin. This program is a milestone in strategic partnerships as it allows the United States and partner countries to share early warning data. It also establishes a first-ever Center for Strategic Stability in Colorado Springs for the upcoming Y2K changeover. This Center will provide launch information to a jointly manned U.S.-Russian operations team during the Y2K rollover period.

Unquestionably, Brigadier General John L. Clay is a man of unwavering loyalty and dedication. He has earned the respect of his colleagues in the Air Force, defense contractors, and members of Congress.

On behalf of the Senate, I am pleased to convey to General Clay, my fellow Utahns, and his wife, Beverly, our best wishes on the occasion of his retirement and express our appreciation for his service to our country. We wish them well as they embark on this new chapter in their lives.●

MAYOR FRANCIS H. DUEHAY OF CAMBRIDGE

● Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, it is an honor to take this opportunity to recognize a leader who has given so much to the people of Cambridge, Massachusetts. Mayor Francis H. Duehay has been an elected official in the City of Cambridge for thirty-six consecutive years. Under his leadership, the city has made great progress in housing, welfare, youth employment, and many other important issues for the people. This year, Frank is retiring, and his loss will be felt deeply by all those whose lives he has touched.

Frank's commitment to public service is extraordinary. Throughout his years as Mayor, City Councilor, and on the School Committee he has taken pride in his commitment to work directly with the people he represents, in order to learn their concerns firsthand. Frank's work with city officials and numerous other organizations to open new lines of communication between the city government and the people of Cambridge has created a local government at its best—responsive to the needs of the people, accountable for its actions, and always open to new ideas.

Frank worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for Cambridge families. He served as the chairperson for the Cambridge Kids' Council, where he's worked to create greater opportunities in the community, giving hope to children and families and providing a model for cities throughout the state. The Mayor's Summer Youth Employment Program has been extremely successful in giving young men and women the opportunity to serve their city during the summer months, enabling them to explore their interests and enhance their lives. Frank has fought hard for the families of Cambridge, and his legacy will live on through their success.

In all of these and many other ways, Frank Duehay has served the people of Cambridge with great distinction. I am honored to pay tribute to this remarkable leader. His public service and generosity are shining examples to us all. I know that I speak for all of the people of Cambridge when I say thank you, Frank, for your commitment and dedication to public service. You will be deeply missed.●

MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR MARGARET HOLTSCHLAG TRIBUTE

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Margaret Holtschlag on receiving the Michigan Teacher of the Year award given by the Michigan Department of Education.

Mrs. Holtschlag, a fourth grade teacher at Murphy Elementary School in the Haslet School District, was selected from nearly thirty regional finalists as the Michigan Teacher of the Year. Described by colleagues as an innovative, thoughtful and progressive teacher, her dedication is second to none. As the winning teacher, Mrs. Holtschlag will share her expertise as she travels across the state working with teachers to improve programs and teacher quality.

What is truly remarkable about Mrs. Holtschlag is that her classroom extends beyond a room filled with desks and chalkboards. Two years ago she took a group of students on a trip to Korea and set up an Internet pen-pal link between Haslet, China and Korea. In the past, her students have built weather stations and explored nearby wetlands. Additionally, her students have spent time at the Michigan Library and Historical Center, discovering and exploring aspects of Michigan history that can not be learned from a text book.

For twenty-one years Mrs. Holtschlag has devoted her life to teaching and making a positive impact on each and every student she encounters. Her captivating teaching style inspires both students and colleagues alike. This is truly a rare gift.

A quality education is one of the most important tools that a child needs and it gives me great joy to know that such a dynamic and caring teacher is helping to shape the lives of Michigan students.●

NICHOLAS W. ALLARD ON THE COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESS

● Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, families across the country know that a college education is essential for their children. A college graduate earns twice what a high school graduate earns in a year, and close to three times what a high school dropout earns. More and more students are applying for college each year—over 2 million freshmen began college last year. The result is increasingly heavy pressures on schools, families, and colleges.

No one understands these pressures more than prospective college students and their families who are now filling out applications, visiting college campuses, and preparing to make the all-important choices for their futures.

An article by Nicholas W. Allard, in the Washington Post last week, provides excellent common sense advice to

prospective students and their families about the college application process. Mr. Allard, whom many of us recall from his years as a staff member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, has had extensive experience in interviewing college applicants. I believe his article will be of interest to all of us in the Senate, and I ask that it be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows.

[From the Washington Post, Nov. 9, 1999]

NAVIGATING THE COLLEGE ADMISSIONS PROCESS

(By Nicholas W. Allard, Associated Press)

A friend who is intelligent, high educated, and a wonderful parent recently called me in a meltdown panic over whether to give white or manila envelopes to their teenager's teachers for college recommendations.

My anxious friend has lots of company. Every year this is the season when tree leaves turn color and drop, while common sense about college admissions heads south. Aside from the uselessness of self-inflicted pressure, important decisions by college prospects are often based on inadequate information and worse advice. So I can't resist offering some food for thought.

APPLY TO THE COLLEGES YOU WANT TO ATTEND

Pretty basic, huh? Yet how many times have you heard advice such as: "You need some 'reach' schools." Or "Where's your 'safety' school?" In other words, you're often encouraged to think about schools in a way that ranks their desirability according to the difficulty of being admitted. This approach will make you feel like you are "settling" if you decide to attend anywhere but one of the most selective schools.

According to Peterson's Annual Survey of Undergraduate Institutions, in the United States there are almost 2,000 accredited, public and private four-year colleges and universities. They vary tremendously.

Find a handful or so of colleges out of this very large number you would be enthusiastic about attending. Then, once you've got your working list together, turn to the issue of how to be admitted to your favorite schools.

THE EARLY APPLICATION PROGRAM

In you're considering participating in an early application program because you are very, very sure that a college is your top choice, then go ahead. If you're not sure, then don't do it. Think about it. What if you succeed and are admitted to a place that you are not sure is your first choice?

If the early acceptance is nonbinding, you're going to apply elsewhere anyway. If it is binding, then you are stuck. You are not going to find any college that will tell you it's relatively easy to be admitted at the early stage. But you'll tell me you are worried that some colleges admit so many students early that there seem to be very few places left if you wait.

Keep your head. Those people who are so well qualified that colleges are sure they want to offer them a binding offer at the early stage are taken out of the pool of applicants. They are not filing multiple applications to schools that may interest you. You even may appear to be a relatively stronger candidate in the remaining pool come spring, especially after your strong academic performance this fall.

And, remember, many, if not most, college applicants are not accepted at the early stage. Are you sure that you want to go through the angst of applying to college for