

In light of numerous statistics that indicate Americans today are less involved in their communities than they once were, it is vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contributions these young people have made. People of all ages need to think more about how we, as individual citizens, can work together at the local level to ensure the health and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods. Young volunteers like Ms. Ruffin and Mr. Woolery are inspiring examples to all of us, and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

Ms. Ruffin and Mr. Woolery should be extremely proud to have been singled out from such a large group of dedicated volunteers. As part of their recognition, they will come to Washington in early May, along with other 2000 Spirit of Community Honorees from across the country, for several days of special events, including a congressional breakfast reception on Capitol Hill.

I heartily applaud Ms. Ruffin and Mr. Woolery for their initiative in seeking to make their communities better places to live, and for the positive impact they have had on the lives of others.

In addition, I also salute other young people in Georgia who were named Distinguished Finalists by the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards for their outstanding volunteer service. They are: Vidya Margaret Anegundi of Lilburn, Shamea Crane of Morrow, Lyndsey Miller of Atlanta, Jessica Nickerson of Savannah, Leslie Pruett of LaGrange, and Erin Shealy of Watkinsville.

All of these young people have demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world and deserve our sincere admiration and respect. Their actions show that young Americans can and do play important roles in their communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.●

GOREVILLE, ILLINOIS, CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

● Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the great people of Goreville, IL, during their centennial celebration. Although Goreville was not officially incorporated until 1900, it has been a busy settlement since before the Civil War. A post office was established as early as 1886, after the Gore family migrated from Georgia to settle on the land they had purchased from the government in 1854. When the Civil War broke out, General John A. Logan visited the community to recruit volunteers for his 31st Illinois Volunteer Infantry, which rendezvoused at Camp Dunlap in Jacksonville, IL, before moving on to Fort Defiance in Cairo, IL.

When the Chicago and Eastern Illinois railroad went through Johnson County in 1889, the village moved its businesses down the road. This flexibility proved beneficial to Goreville as the small village prospered.

In April 1900, the village was incorporated, and was formally recognized by the State of Illinois in a small ceremony on July 5, 1900. While Goreville's population has never been extremely large, it has gradually grown to 900 people. Goreville is nestled next to Ferne Clyffe State Park. In 1923, the State Park was declared "the most beautiful spot in Illinois."

The week of May 7-13 has been designated as the Goreville Centennial Celebration. As the people of Goreville hold a series of events to celebrate the 100th birthday of the village, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the centennial celebration of Goreville, IL.●

LOYALTY DAY 2000

● Mr. GRAMS. Mr. President, the true spirit of Americanism cannot truly be captured in the pages of history. It is not found in our vast acquired lands, nor is it printed in our two-century-old Constitution. Americanism is felt and entrenched deep in our soul. It is the goose bumps we get when hearing the Star Spangled Banner and the emotional chills that run through our veins when witnessing the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The undying passion and loyalty we have for our nation is Americanism.

John Adams understood this loyal, patriotic, American spirit when he wrote, "Our obligations to our country never cease but with our lives." In fulfillment of that obligation, many lives have been sacrificed to guarantee our liberties for ourselves and our posterity. The loyalty and devotion demonstrated by the veterans of our Armed Forces must never be forgotten or discounted.

Every year on May 1, our country takes the opportunity to celebrate that passionate allegiance and pay tribute to those before us who unselfishly ensured the continued success of America and strength of our democracy. Thanks to the efforts of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Congress mandated in 1958 that May 1 of each year shall be recognized as "Loyalty Day." Across the nation, VFW posts express their steadfast commitment by sponsoring parades, hosting banquets and replacing worn flags in their communities.

While Loyalty Day is an occasion to reminisce about past achievements, we should also take this opportunity to focus on our future. As history has repeatedly shown, challenges to our ideals of democracy are imminent. Each previous generation has shown valor in rising to face those challenges.

Now the continued success of our nation relies on instilling in our young people an ardent appreciation for our American ideals, so they may be prepared to face future obstacles.

Each of us in our own unique way can show our commitment to the ideals upon which this nation was founded. Whether flying the flag, visiting a monument, teaching a child the Pledge of Allegiance or simply thanking a veteran, I ask that you join me today in celebrating Loyalty Day. I encourage everyone to discover the passion of our forefathers and experience the pride of true Americanism.●

MARIE CASCONA ROTUNDA

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of Marie Cascone Rotunda, an outstanding New Jerseyan who has dedicated her distinguished career to the service of others. A selfless individual and member of the Trenton community, she is being honored with the prestigious Community Service Award by the Grandville Academy National.

The revered American poet Walt Whitman once wrote "Behold, I do not give lectures or a little charity. When I give, I give myself." It is clear that Marie Cascone Rotunda's many years of community service is the embodiment of this notion. She has tirelessly given of herself through her dedication to many noble and charitable causes. She has served with the International Special Olympics, taken it upon herself to create an emergency food pantry in the Township of Lawrence and for the past several years, she has focused much of her effort in supporting the Sunshine Foundation, which helps chronically and terminally ill children realize their dreams and fulfill their wishes. Furthermore she has spearheaded fund raising efforts that have raised over \$2 million for charitable causes in her community.

The Trenton community is truly fortunate to have been graced by such a talented and caring person. New Jersey is proud of this distinguished individual who has touched so many lives. Marie is an exemplar of the coveted American ideals of compassion and community service, and it is my honor to recognize her tremendous achievements today.●

TRIBUTE TO WAYNE ASPINALL

● Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, today I honor a man who spent 48 years of his life serving the public as an elected official for the State of Colorado. A man who served 2 years as the president of Colorado's 35th school district, 6 years as a board member of the town of Palisade, 6 years as a member of the Colorado House of Representatives, 2 of those as House Speaker, 10 years as a Colorado State Senator where he was