

nieces, nephews, cousins and close personal friends. I was honored to call her a friend and I will miss her warm smile, boundless energy and personal commitment to help those in need.●

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF IRONWORKERS LOCAL NUMBER 25

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, today marks the 100th anniversary of Ironworkers Local Number 25—the largest ironworkers local in the Nation. On Saturday, July 21, 2001, thousands of members of Local 25, their families and friends will gather in Detroit, MI to celebrate this significant milestone.

Founded on July 18, 1901, and chartered by the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Ironworkers, Local 25 is responsible for the construction of much of modern day Detroit. As we continue to celebrate the 300th anniversary of Detroit, many of the most notable landmarks that dot Detroit's skyline were constructed by members of Local 25. Cobo Hall, the Broadway Theater, the Renaissance Center and many of the cities' auto plants are just a few of the facilities constructed with the help of Local 25.

Dubbed "I-beam cowboys" or "cowboys of the sky," because of their independent nature and the fact that they often work hundreds of feet above ground on steel beams only a few inches wide, ironworkers are proud of the challenging and rewarding nature of their work. Ironworkers are not to be confused with steelworkers who make steel. Ironworkers take architectural plans and turn them into massive steel structures. This work can send ironworkers all over the country—in fact, some members of Local 25 are working in our very backyard on the biggest steel project underway in North America: the Washington, DC Convention Center.

The independent nature of ironworkers makes the success of Local 25 even more significant. While one should never doubt the strength of an individual ironworker, the strength of ironworkers uniting together around a common goal is something to behold. While their collective work is evident in beautiful structures across our Nation, Local 25 and the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Ironworkers have also worked together to guarantee fair wages, increased safety and needed benefits for their members.

Local 25's contributions to Detroit and our Nation can be seen in skylines, bridges and facilities across our country. At the same time, Local 25 has worked to protect the rights of skilled workers enabling them and their families to build better lives. I know that my Senate colleagues join me in saluting Local 25 for all the enthusiasm

they bring to their work everyday, and for all they have done to build our Nation.●

REMEMBERING THREE GREAT MUSICIANS, THREE GREAT FRIENDS

● Mr. MILLER. Mr. President, three good and uniquely talented men who spoke to the world through the universal language of music died recently. Chet Atkins, John Hartford, and Johnny Russell are gone. They are dead, but as long as their music is played they remain alive, and they will be for a long, long time.

Chet Atkins was as responsible as any single person for turning Nashville, Tennessee, into "Music City, USA" and was the originator of what came to be called "The Nashville Sound." From his position as vice president in charge of country music for RCA and because of the great respect other artists had for him, he was able to influence the direction the music went in and who the artists were who made it.

A laconic, modest man, Chet Atkins played down his own importance and referred to himself simply as "a picker."

John Hartford is best known as the songwriter of "Gentle On My Mind," one of country music's most recorded songs and as the banjo picker in the Glenn Campbell and Smothers Brothers Shows. But he was much more than that. He was a versatile musician who recorded nearly 40 albums of his own and appeared most recently on the soundtrack of "O Brother, Where Art Thou?"

Johnny Russell was a country music singer and songwriter, but it was one of his songs by The Beatles that was his most successful compositions. It was called "Act Naturally" and was on the flip side of the Beatles' single "Yesterday." His biggest hit as a singer was "Red Necks, White Socks and Blue Ribbon Beer."

Much more could be said, and has been said, about these three remarkable talents who died so closely together. The New York Times wrote lengthy obituaries of both Atkins and Hartford.

I had the good fortune of knowing all three as personal friends. Chet once showed me the toilet stall in a school in Harris County, Georgia, where as a young picker using it, he got the idea for an echo chamber. John Hartford and his talented son, Jamie, have stayed up late with me at the Georgia Governor's Mansion picking and singing. And Johnny Russell always said my wife, Shirley, made the best biscuits he had ever eaten. Coming from a 275-pound man with a tremendous appetite, she always considered that to be the supreme compliment.

I will miss them. America will miss them. But their music still lives. Thank God, their music still lives.●

COMCAST LEADERS OF TOMORROW SCHOLARSHIPS

● Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, it is a pleasure to take this opportunity to recognize the 144 New Jersey students who were recently selected to receive this year's Comcast Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship. The company awarded scholarships totaling \$144,000 to college bound students from 96 high schools throughout New Jersey. Each scholar is receiving a grant in the amount of \$1,000 to pursue further, post-secondary studies. To be considered for this scholarship, prospective candidates were required to demonstrate a positive attitude, outstanding academic achievement, exemplary leadership skills, and a serious commitment to community service. Therefore, it is with great pride that I bring the outstanding accomplishments of these individuals from the great State of New Jersey to your attention.

Education has always been one of my top priorities. In an era of globalization and high technology, it is vital that each child has access to a world-class education that emphasizes the importance of both academics and social responsibility. The quality of our educational system will determine the future of our children, our nation, as well as the world.

At a time in history where environmental hazards and civil conflicts have captured our interests, we must not abandon the ongoing battle to modernize schools and reform education. It is truly gratifying to learn how these individuals from New Jersey are challenging themselves to reach their highest potential. As these students quickly emerge as the future leaders in our society, I would ask that my colleagues join me in applauding this year's Comcast Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship winners for their remarkable accomplishments and their sincere desire to make a difference.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:47 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by