

after September 11, 2001. Much attention has been paid, as it should, to the economic effect of the terrorist attacks on our major centers of commerce. Primarily America's largest cities and the coasts. However, the impact has been felt equally as hard in rural America where the economy was already slowing.

In addition to the wood products industry, agricultural commodities which are the lifeblood of Montana and rural America are hurting worse than ever before. The past 3 years have been disastrous due to drought. Now Montana's farmers are faced with sharply escalating operating costs due to higher energy and fertilizer prices. According to the most recent projections provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, total farm expenses are expected to rise again this year, right on the heels of a \$10 billion increase last year.

As costs spiral out of control, farm income has not kept pace. Last year net farm business income was at a decade low according to USDA. Unless Government assistance is continued, net farm income in 2001 is projected to be even lower.

The downturn in rural America is especially calamitous because prolonged economic depression often means extinction for these rural communities. A few bad years forces everyone out of business, not just those that sell commodities for a living. The very people and places that make up the fabric of the American economy are forced to seek opportunity elsewhere. This is a price that I am not willing to pay.

As we consider economic recovery measures we cannot forget rural America. We must not let the immediate damage that we see every night on the evening news blind us to the crisis that is happening in rural communities across America. We simply do not have a choice. The cost is simply too high.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY in March of this year. The Local Law Enforcement Act of 2001 would add new categories to current hate crimes legislation sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred May 30, 1993, in Concord, CA. A gay man was sprayed with mace and threatened with a golf club by a neighbor who used an anti-gay slur. The assailant, Gilbert Lucero, 37, was arrested on assault charges.

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol

that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation, we can change hearts and minds as well.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY OF THE JEWISH BOOK FAIR

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I ask that the Senate join me today in congratulating the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit on the occasion of the golden anniversary of the Jewish Book Fair. Since 1951, the book fair has nourished the literary appetite of the metropolitan Detroit community.

Along with the Book Fair, the Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit has enriched Jewish life and supported Jewish unity in and around the Detroit area for 75 years. The Community Center also strives to enhance life in the general community and welcomes all those in southeast Michigan to take advantage of the Center's facilities and programs.

The Jewish Community Center's Annual Book Fair is the largest and oldest in the country, and its programs are offered free of charge to the public. This November, 40 authors of national and international acclaim will come to the week long fair. Participants at this year's fair will include a diverse range of authors from noted attorney Robert Shapiro, to the author of the Scooby Doo Mysteries, James Gelsey, to Dr. Ruth Westheimer. In addition, the fair will offer the largest selection of books by Jewish authors and of Jewish content available in the Detroit area. The organizers of the fair expect over 20,000 visitors.

The Jewish Community Center has long enriched the lives of those residing throughout southeast Michigan. This year's book fair will surely continue this worthy legacy. I trust that my Senate colleagues will join me in recognizing The Jewish Community Center of Metropolitan Detroit on the Occasion of the 50th Annual Book Fair.●

RAMAPO COLLEGE

• Mr. CORZINE. Mr. President, I honor today Ramapo College and welcome its new president, Dr. Rodney Smith.

As those of us in New Jersey have known for many years, Ramapo's real strength lies not just in its academics, but also in its emphasis on global and hands-on learning. In recent years, this fine institution has also become nationally recognized as one of the top liberal arts colleges in the northeast, offering degrees in fields as diverse as the arts and humanities, and the sciences and business. Ramapo's reach extends far beyond its Mahwah, NJ, location. The strength of Ramapo's aca-

demic reputation attracts students seeking a varied and quality education—students from not only every county within my home State of New Jersey, but also from neighboring states, across the country and around the world.

On November 14, 2001, Dr. Smith will offer his first State of the College to the students, faculty and friends of Ramapo College. Accepting this prestigious post as Ramapo's third president, Dr. Smith joins the college at an exciting time in its history. With enrollment and applications continuing to rise, the college continues to grow, both in the number of programs it offers and the number of students it serves.

An accomplished author and educator, Dr. Smith joins Ramapo College from Hampton University, where he served in several capacities, most recently as Vice President for Planning and Dean of the Graduate College. Prior to his tenure at Hampton university, Dr. Smith held positions at a number of esteemed institutions, including Harvard University. As we enter into a new century and mark the beginning of the College's fourth decade, Ramapo can be confident in Dr. Smith's ability to lead, guiding one of New Jersey's premier colleges in its present course of providing progressive programs and a concerned and committed faculty.

Mr. President, I am pleased to invite my colleagues to join me in celebrating Dr. Smith's distinguished career and his future endeavors at Ramapo College.●

HONORING JULIA CHILD

• Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, it is a special honor for me to celebrate one of Massachusetts' most famous citizens and one of America's most famous chefs, Mrs. Julia Child. For over 40 years she has brightened our lives with recipes, books, and television shows that have broadened our palettes as well as our understanding of the world and on November 7 her peers will gather to honor her invaluable contributions to her craft. I am proud to join so many of Greater Boston's restaurants in celebrating this remarkable career at this and the many other events planned to recognize a uniquely American journey.

Over the past four decades, Julia revolutionized the way America cooks and eats, expanding and elevating the sophistication of the American appetite. Her influence can be seen in the bookstores of the country, where dining and cooking sections have grown to compete with history and commerce, and on the television, where cooking shows have proliferated and now present and celebrate traditions from all over the world.

Julia is widely credited with exposing the American kitchen to the tastes,