

capital of the world, but there is another institution in Hershey which also is well known and well accepted in the larger community. That is the Penn State Hershey Medical Center.

One of the fantastic services they provide is what is called the Life Lion, L-I-O-N, Life Lion service of helicopter emergency retrieval of accident victims and emergency victims of all types for transportation to the Medical Center, or for transportation from the medical center to another institution that is more specialized in the kind of medical services required. This helicopter unit is made up of a pilot, a paramedic, and a flight nurse, and is nonstop throughout all the days and all the weeks of the year.

What is important for us, and why I bring it to Members' attention here today, is that this has been serving as a model throughout the Nation for similar types of services, and today they are celebrating 15 years of excellent service to the community.

#### H.R. 1343, LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT OF 2001

(Ms. DEGETTE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, earlier this year a young man in Colorado was brutally beaten and left for dead in southwestern Colorado because he was transgendered and openly gay. His attacker left him in the cold night to die alone, and his body was later found in the advanced stages of decomposition with a broken skull and a slash on his abdomen.

Despite the fact that the attacker later bragged about "killing a fag," the crime has yet to be declared a hate crime, and local prosecutors are without resources to fully investigate the crime.

That is why I rise today to call upon the House to pass H.R. 1343, the Hate Crimes Prevention Act. This bill would provide Federal financial and technical assistance to State and local governments to prosecute these horrifying hate crimes and would allow the Federal Government to prosecute crimes where State or local authorities refuse to act.

Congress must pass H.R. 1343 to bring justice for this young man's death and the many hate crimes throughout America.

#### RECOGNIZING MAJOR JAMES HENSIEN OF THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

(Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize

Major James Hensien of the United States Marine Corps, who has spent the past year working in my office as Marine Corps Fellow.

As part of the fellowship program, Major Hensien has exemplified the impeccable characteristics that one would expect from an officer of the United States Marines.

Major Hensien has played a key role in my office, advising me on military affairs, both nationally and within my Virginia district.

As Major Hensien's 1-year fellowship comes to a close, I would be doing our Nation a disservice if I failed to recognize Major Hensien and the Marine Corps Fellowship Program for the outstanding service and contributions they have given to Congress and America.

I would like to thank Major Hensien for his service this past year and extend my compliments to the United States Marine Corps Fellowship Program for their continued pursuit of excellence. Major Hensien is a credit to the Marine Corps, and an example of the quality of our men and women in uniform.

Once again, I would like to thank Major Hensien for his service and wish him God speed in all of his future endeavors.

#### HATE CRIME PREVENTION

(Ms. SOLIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise again to support the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2001, introduced by my good friend, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS). The act promotes a strict enforcement of hate crimes, providing Federal assistance to States and local jurisdictions to prosecute these cowardly crimes.

In my own district, in the city of Azusa, we have experienced several hate crimes. In fact, in 1999, 11 hate crimes were reported, Latinos fighting with African Americans. Unfortunately, in this past year, Azusa has already experienced nine hate crimes alone, and those were the only ones that were reported. What about the ones that were not reported?

Earlier this month, a Molotov cocktail was maliciously thrown at three different homes, African American families, and almost killed a young child. In one of these outrageous attacks, the bomb landed in the bedroom of a 6-year-old boy.

We must stand to protect our children and communities from these hateful actions. I want to be able to tell the people in my district that here in Washington, D.C. we are doing something about hate crimes. We need to empower our law enforcement and give more support to combat hate crimes.

#### AMERICA'S BLOOD SUPPLY READINESS MUCH IMPROVED

(Mr. FLETCHER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FLETCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to draw my colleagues' attention to largely overlooked yet significant accomplishments on the homeland security front.

Before the tragic events of September 11, the United States had a blood inventory of about 2 to 3 days. Critical blood shortages often meant cancellation of elective surgery and a national vulnerability to any sudden and widespread need for blood.

Today, thanks to hundreds of thousands who have donated blood, and to the American Red Cross working tirelessly to collect it, we have tripled our supply to a 10-day national inventory of liquid red cells. This means enough blood to treat the immediate needs of 50,000 critically injured patients; and as a physician, I understand just how important that is.

However, blood is a perishable commodity, and sustaining an adequate supply will require 25,000 donations a day. That is why it is critical to our homeland health security that we encourage the national habit of giving blood twice a year.

I hope all of us will encourage our friends and family to do so by calling 1-800-GIVE LIFE.

#### CALLING FOR A VOTE ON H.R. 1343, LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT OF 2001

(Ms. CARSON of Indiana asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, before September's explosions of hatred, we needed hate crimes legislation to help local jurisdictions across the country deal with crimes motivated by prejudice. After, as we experienced the hate-filled behavior of some of our own people, the need is underscored.

Since then, word has come to us at home and on the Hill of wanton attacks upon Americans of Arab and Muslim descent. In my hometown, young people fueled by hatred brutally attacked a young Hoosier Air Force veteran of Thai descent, intent upon vengeance.

Hatred is a thing bad in itself. Unchecked, it is our bitter enemy. When it powers violence, its reach is extended into the realm where terror is born, multiplying its victims.

202 of us have cosponsored H.R. 1343. I implore those who control the flow of business here to let us vote, Mr. Speaker, to underscore the determination of this House that hatred has no home in our land.