

Whereas, on this, the Fortieth Anniversary of the Founding of the School of Medicine, Fabian Chavez, Jr., is being Honored with an Endowed Chair for Population Health Research at the School; and

Whereas, the Members of the Senate of the State of New Mexico, who are still privileged to receive Advice, Counsel and Guidance from Fabian, almost all of it Unsolicited, continue to consider Fabian as not just a Friend, but also as a Trusted Colleague in Public Service; and

Whereas, the Senate takes Great Pride in being able to be Associated with Fabian Chavez, Jr.: *Now, therefore, be it Resolved by the Senate of the State of New Mexico*, That Fabian Chavez, Jr., be Thanked for all his work on behalf of the Residents of the State of New Mexico and that he be Congratulated for the Latest Recognition he has received.●

RETIREMENT OF BILL GEORGE AS CEO OF MEDTRONIC CORPORATION

● Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I rise today to praise Bill George, a constituent who is a valued member of the Minnesota community and a good friend, on the occasion of his retirement as CEO of Medtronic Corporation.

The first comment I should make is that there is something very unique about Bill George and that uniqueness has translated into the way he has led Medtronic.

Medtronic is one of the world's leading medical technology companies, providing lifelong solutions for people with chronic disease. Its preeminence is due in large part to the leadership of Bill George, its CEO since 1991. During his tenure, Bill George has transformed Medtronic into a company that employs 25,000 people in 120 countries, and has scientific, manufacturing, education, and sales facilities worldwide.

The company has extended its core technological competencies so that they now make pacemakers and a whole host of devices for patients facing cardiac arrest and heart failure. The company also makes devices for patients dealing with spasticity associated with cerebral palsy, cancer and cancer pain, neurological disorders like Parkinsons, and women's health conditions like incontinence. Bill George's philosophy of excellence has led the company to seek those opportunities where it can excel. The products it has produced and the relief it has brought to patients testify to the success of Bill's philosophy.

I am told that every three seconds, somewhere in the world, a Medtronic product is used to save or enhance someone's life.

Bill George doesn't just think about his company and its future. He has a vision for the health care system in this country and has worked to align the company's goals with that vision. His vision of holistic, patient-centered care that is enabled by the technological leaps we are making today is reflected in the planning he has done for the future. Bill instituted Vision

2010 to focus Medtronic on the nexus of the rapid developments happening in medical technology, computer technology, drug therapy and gene therapy in order to develop even better, more advanced treatments for chronic diseases in the next 10 years.

During Bill's tenure, Medtronic has encouraged innovation by launching a "Science and Technology Are Rewarding" program, with \$3 million in grants. Under Bill George's leadership, the Medtronic Foundation has reached out to patient groups in unprecedented ways, giving \$12 million in grants to non-profit organizations in communities worldwide last year. I want to single out the Patient Summit that the Medtronic Foundation sponsored in Washington, D.C. last year. I had the honor of speaking at that meeting, whose purpose was to encourage a dialogue between patients, policymakers, and advocacy groups about the role patients can play in directing their own health care.

As a fellow Minnesotan, I've watched Bill's personal efforts in the community with much admiration. His service as chair of the board of the United Way of Minneapolis and vice chair of the board of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, as well as his work on the boards of the American Red Cross and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace show Bill's dedication and breadth of interests.

Bill's lifestyle, his mission, and his vision are all reflected in the recognition Medtronic regularly receives. Fortune Magazine designated Medtronic as one of the "Best Companies to Work for in America". Industry Week's ranked it as one of the "Best Managed Companies." Money magazine chose Medtronic as one of the "Best Investments in 2000 and Beyond." Business Ethics recognized the company for its demonstrated leadership in ethics and social responsibility with its "General Excellence in Ethics" award.

In his 10 years as CEO, Bill George has helped to expand Medtronic to an even higher plane as an organization that is dynamic, creative, and passionate about its mission of restoring people to full life and health.

As the Senior Senator from Minnesota, I thank him for his dedication to his work, for his service to his community—and I don't mean just Minneapolis or Minnesota, but the whole international community in which he is engaged, and for his friendship. I wish him well as he continues his active life which not only will include chairing Medtronic's board and involvement in community service, but also writing and teaching.●

TRIBUTE TO KEVIN GRAY

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Kevin Gray of Canterbury, NH, for

being honored as the 2000 Sportswriter of the Year by the members of the National Sportscasters and Sportswriters Association.

A native of Plymouth, NH, Kevin is a sports communications graduate of the University of New Hampshire. He has been employed at The Union Leader newspaper for over six years and is a columnist and feature writer for the newspaper. Kevin writes a popular weekly column for the Union Leader on the paper's "Get Out" page and is also a member of the Union Leader's motor sports coverage team for Winston Cup events at New Hampshire International Speedway.

Kevin is known in high school and football circles in New Hampshire for his columns, "High School Hoopla" and "Between the Lines". He has covered notable assignments in the sports arena including the NCAA men's basketball tournament, the Winter X Games at Mount Snow, VT and regular coverage of Boston Red Sox home games.

Active in community service, Kevin often speaks with English classes at journalism workshops throughout New Hampshire, ranging from middle school to college level audiences.

Kevin and his wife, Tareah, reside in Canterbury, NH. It is an honor and a privilege to serve Kevin Gray in the United States Senate. I wish him much success in his future endeavors.●

TRIBUTE TO THE MILFORD HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to 13 students from Milford High School in Milford, NH, who were recently selected to compete in the national finals of the "We the People . . . the Citizen and the Constitution" program held April 21-23, 2001, in Washington, DC. These high school students competed on the State level for the opportunity to represent New Hampshire at the national competition, and were among more than 1,200 students from 49 States and the District of Columbia to participate.

The distinguished members of the team representing New Hampshire are: Catilin Allen, Jeremy Berger, Aaron Costa-Ganis, Mike Danner, Tiffany Fariole, Chris Lawler, Jason Lewis, Sean Parenti, Keith Parker, Todd Rounsaville, Sarah Rush, Dawn Staiti and Irene Drenko.

All 13 New Hampshire students were tested on the Constitution and Bill of Rights before simulated congressional committees to demonstrate their knowledge of constitutional principles and their relevance to contemporary issues. The competition in Washington consisted of 2 days of hearings; and 10 finalists, with the highest scores, competing for the title of national winner on Capitol Hill in a congressional hearing room.

David Alcox, a teacher at Milford High School and District Coordinator, also deserves special recognition for helping these students prepare for the intense constitutional testing. Kirsten Hale, the State coordinator, also contributed a significant amount of time and effort to help the students reach the national finals. As a former teacher myself, I applaud all of them on their commitment to enriching the lives of these students.

The "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" program provides an excellent opportunity for students to gain an informed perspective about the history and principles of our Nation's constitutional government. We are proud to have them representing New Hampshire, and wish them luck as they prepare to be America's leader in the 21st Century.●

TRIBUTE TO GENE AND JIM BURDICK

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Gene and Jim Burdick of Redfield, SD. The Burdick brothers are being honored this week as the South Dakota Small Business Persons of the Year.

Gene and Jim understand what many business owners have learned. Owning a business requires some talents, some know how, and a lot of hard work and perseverance. Like many small business owners, their enterprise is a family effort for the brothers and their wives, Lucy and Deborah. I congratulate the families and the employees of this company on their years of achievement.

In 1984, the brothers embarked on a business partnership and founded Burdick Brothers, Inc. They built a business constructing trailers and custom equipment for area farmers, businesses, and individuals. Through the years, they cultivated a reputation as a company dedicated to innovation and customer service.

In 1987, the company purchased its first building. Three years later, their successes were adding up and Burdicks were adding to the size of their building. In 1998, they moved into a second building with 12,000 square feet. This new facility allowed for additional equipment and space that the company quickly utilized on a bridge project helping the community of Redfield rebuild a needed facility following disastrous flooding in the region.

Burdick Brothers, Inc. has been a valued member of the Redfield community for over 15 years. It is truly a South Dakota success story. I know that all those who contributed to the company's many achievements take great pride in the personal and collective accomplishments celebrated and recognized through this honor.

It is with great appreciation that I join with the community, the employ-

ees, the customers, and the many people who interact with the company, to congratulate Burdick brothers on their years of service and success. I wish Burdick Brothers, Inc. enduring good fortune and prosperity in the continued pursuit of excellence.●

TRIBUTE TO THE 2000 AIR FORCE ACADEMY FOOTBALL TEAM

● Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the 2000 Air Force Academy football team and their outstanding head football coach Fisher DeBerry.

On May 4th, President Bush will present the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy to the members of last year's football team at the White House. The Commander-in-Chief's Trophy is the most prized possession of the three service academies. It is given annually by the President of the United States to the service academy with the best record in the three-team competition between Army, Navy and Air Force. I am proud to say this is the fourth year in a row the Air Force Academy has captured the trophy and they have won 10 of the last 12 seasons.

The most important aspect of the 2000 Air Force Academy Football Team is each athlete on this team is a student first, and an athlete second. They play the game of football not to become an NFL star one day, but because they love the game of football.

Their leader is a modest southern gentleman named Fisher DeBerry whose life is driven not by football, but by his Christian faith and his family. In his 17 seasons as head football coach at the Air Force Academy he has guided his teams to an overall record of 135-72-1. He has won more football games than any other coach in service academy history and has taken the "fighting falcons" to an amazing 11 bowl games. In 1996, he served as president of the prestigious American Football Coaches Association.

The 2000 Air Force Academy football team demonstrated that hard work can overcome any obstacle. Despite being picked to finish in the lower half of their conference, they finished with an overall record of 9-3 and won a thrilling victory over Fresno State in the 2000 Silicon Bowl. Their perseverance is an inspiration to all us.

I commend the Superintendent of the Air Force Academy, General John Dallager and the Director of Athletics, Colonel Randy Spetman, along with all the coaches and players of the 2000 Air Force Academy football team for a job well done. You have set a standard of excellence that all of us should strive to achieve.●

TRIBUTE TO JIM O'NEIL

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Jim

O'Neil of Merrimack, NH, on the occasion of his 30th anniversary as Superintendent of Schools in Merrimack, NH.

As a former teacher myself, I commend Jim's commitment to the young people of New Hampshire and the nation. Jim has been a dedicated member of the educational community for many years, beginning his teaching career in 1963. He has contributed selflessly to the betterment of education in New Hampshire, serving in teaching, athletic coaching and administrative positions for many years.

An exemplary community contributor, Jim has been actively involved in many educational associations and organizations. He has been a board member for the National Elementary Principal's Association, the New Hampshire School Administration Association, the New England Association of School Superintendents and was a member of the Governor's Commission on Public Education. He has also been faithful volunteer in Pop Warner football and Babe Ruth baseball in Merrimack, serving as a coach.

Jim received a Bachelor of Science degree from Boston College in Chestnut Hill, MA, and later earned a Master of Education degree from the State College at Boston.

Jim and his wife, Reggie, have four children and two grandchildren and have resided in the town of Merrimack, NH, for over thirty years.

It is an honor and a privilege to serve Jim O'Neil in the U.S. Senate. I wish him and his family Godspeed in his retirement and in all of their future endeavors.●

JUDGE WALTER M. HEEN—A LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENT

● Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I rise today to share with my colleagues the contributions of a fine jurist, tireless community leader, and native son of Hawaii. Nearly 50 years of public service excellence have made Walter Meheula Heen an acknowledged leading citizen, a "special treasure" of the State of Hawaii.

Judge Heen's dedicated drive to build a better Hawaii was awakened as a law student at Georgetown University in the mid-1950s. The seeds of his commitment and service were planted in childhood by his father and his uncle, Ernest and William Heen, respectively, two patriarchs of social reform in plantation-era Hawaii. It was the Heens, along with Johnny Wilson and David Trask, Sr. Who formed the core of the early Democratic Party in Hawaii.

Walter Heen's career as an elected official, state judge and U.S. district court judge includes remarkable accomplishments and historically significant achievements. Elected to the Territorial House of Representatives in 1958, the year before Statehood, Judge