

Senator KERRY and I both serve on the Oceans and Fisheries Subcommittee, and in fact we have sat next to each other for years during committee executive sessions, hearings and other subcommittee fora. It was during these occasions that I first came to know Commander Richey. I would classify the period of 1996–1998 as a very busy time for the subcommittee. During this period, Tom was instrumental in advising Senator KERRY and subcommittee members in general on crucial oceans and fisheries, and maritime issues.

On a more personal note, I sincerely appreciate Tom's assistance and diligent follow through in support of the issues and concerns of my constituents.

It brings me and all Americans great pride in knowing that the Coast Guard is represented by individuals with such high ideals, integrity and dedication to duty. I know of the sacrifices made by Commander Richey and his family and offer my congratulations and personal thanks for a job well done. I wish Tom the best of luck in all future endeavors.

Mr. DEWINE. I commend and congratulate Commander Thomas Richey of the United States Coast Guard for his more than 20 years of service to our country. Commander Richey has had a distinguished career of public service in defense of our great nation. I greatly appreciate all he has done to assist me and my staff over the past three years with maritime transportation issues on the Great Lakes.

Additionally, Commander Richey played a vital part in helping me gain a better understanding of the varied and critical role our Coast Guard plays in the war on drugs. I've been fortunate to travel with Commander Richey, where I had the opportunity to observe, first-hand, Coast Guard drug interdiction efforts off the coast of the island of Hispanola and Puerto Rico.

Commander Richey's accomplishments have been great and his presence here on Capitol Hill will be sorely missed. I thank him for his dedication and his service to our nation. I wish him and his family all my best.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Mr. President, at the close of business yesterday, Monday, May 21, 2001, the Federal debt stood at \$5,654,596,844,308.03, five trillion, six hundred fifty-four billion, five hundred ninety-six million, eight hundred forty-four thousand, three hundred eight dollars and three cents.

Five years ago, May 21, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$5,115,827,000,000, five trillion, one hundred fifteen billion, eight hundred twenty-seven million.

Ten years ago, May 21, 1991, the Federal debt stood at \$3,463,097,000,000, three trillion, four hundred sixty-three billion, ninety-seven million.

Fifteen years ago, May 21, 1986, the Federal debt stood at \$2,030,373,000,000,

two trillion, thirty billion, three hundred seventy-three million.

Twenty-five years ago, May 21, 1976, the Federal debt stood at \$607,263,000,000, which reflects a debt increase of more than \$5 trillion, \$5,047,333,844,308.3, five trillion, forty-seven billion, three hundred thirty-three million, eight hundred forty-four thousand, three hundred eight dollars and three cents during the past 25 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

SALUTING AMERICA'S VOLUNTEERS

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I want to take this opportunity to bring special attention to an area of service that I find particularly important, volunteerism. As we tackle, some of our nation's most pressing needs and problems, we should be promoting and encouraging volunteer activities in our communities.

The importance of volunteering was taught to me as a child. I want to ensure now that we all are mindful of the lessons that volunteering teaches, such as a sense of community and compassion for others. I believe we should remind ourselves of the important role that volunteers play in the delivery of human services.

Volunteers provide an invaluable service to our communities and our citizens. Their presence and contributions put the "caring" back into caregiving. Nowhere is this better illustrated than in the contributions volunteers make to long-term care for our nation's seniors.

For example, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, a philanthropic health care organization, has been supporting the creative delivery of health care and health systems for years. In my home state of Arkansas, we are working with the Johnson Foundation in a program entitled "Faith in Action."

"Faith in Action" is a faith-based initiative that encourages volunteerism as a strategy for meeting the needs of the chronically ill. This program provides seed money to fund partnerships between interfaith coalitions and other community organizations, such as Area Agencies on Aging, senior centers, and hospitals. All of these organizations share a common goal—to provide volunteer care to their neighbors in need.

These groups provide a variety of services, including organizing outreach to the homebound; training group leaders who oversee outreach ministries; locating homebound people who have lost touch with their communities; recruiting volunteers from church congregations and communities; connecting with local medical and social services; and providing emotional support services to community members.

The efforts of this dedicated group have brought much-needed support back into our Arkansas communities and are changing the lives of thousands of Arkansans. We are eternally grateful to leaders like Bishop Kenneth W. Hicks of United Methodist Church and Mr. Will Dublin, who have made a tremendous commitment to fostering and sustaining Faith In Action programs in Arkansas.

Next week, these men and many other Arkansas community leaders and volunteers will join me in Little Rock for a special event entitled "Caring Across the Continuum," where we will consider new strategies to promote and encourage volunteer services to assist the aging. With their contributions and energy, I believe we can make a real difference in the quality of care we extend to our state's population of seniors.

I commend these volunteers for their efforts, and I encourage them to continue setting the example for us as we seek legislative remedies for our nation's needs. If there is one thing I have come to appreciate about public policy and planning, it is that we are incapable of paying for everything that we need as a nation. Nor should we expect to do so.

Volunteers play a vital role in filling the gaps in our health care and social services systems. The mere act of volunteering encourages us to look outside ourselves, which in turn nurtures the growth of caring communities. Let's encourage the rest of our nation to consider such efforts as we look to the future and seek to re-weave the moral fabric of our country with the qualities of volunteerism.●

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT H. FOSTER, PUBLISHER AND MODEL CITIZEN

• Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Robert H. Foster of Dover, NH, publisher of the distinguished New Hampshire newspapers Foster's Daily Democrat and the Laconia Citizen, and a number of other papers, in honor of his 80th birthday which he celebrated on May 17. The newspaper is the longest continually managed and owned periodical by direct descendants of its founder with the family name in its banner.

I have known Bob for nearly 20 years. He is man of impeccable character, commitment to his community, and devotion to his family. His dedication to journalistic excellence has won him the respect of many politicians in the Granite State, no matter what philosophy or party affiliation. Robert Foster is known for his fairness, and for impressing upon his writers and editors that "integrity matters."

Robert and his wife, Terri, have been the driving force behind the success of the newspaper. Foster's Daily Democrat is rich in history dating back to