

with his son and let him know how much he cares. A hero to our country and his son, Frederick has taught Corey to understand the difference between right and wrong and instilled in him the importance of helping people in need.

As a nation, we have far to go to reverse the trend of absentee fathers, but there are millions of men, including Frederick, who are already going the extra mile for their children, and they deserve our thanks this Father's Day. By holding men like Frederick up as responsible fathers, I also hope to encourage other men to play a bigger role in their children's lives.

There is no question that the world would be a far better place if every child was able to have the support of a father like Frederick. By building strong family bonds, he has earned not only his son's love but serves as a role model for the community as well.

Today, I want to thank Frederick for his devotion to his son and for setting an example for all of us of what it means to be an outstanding dad. It is my honor to read Corey's essay into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the United States:

"My dad is an 'Outstanding Dad' because he is a great role model. He is caring, loving, and helpful. My dad is always open for a conversation and always willing to listen. He is a hard worker and looks out for people in need.

"My dad is an 'Outstanding Dad' because he has served in the war. He was located in Afghanistan at Camp Phoenix and was Inspector General. Even though my dad wasn't here, he was still extremely supportive of me. Not only is he my dad, but he is my hero too.

"My dad is an 'Outstanding Dad' because he knows right from wrong. He doesn't just give me whatever I want, he makes me work for it. If I do something wrong, he will help correct me. I look up to my dad everyday and he truly is an 'Outstanding Dad.'"—Corey Richards, age 16.●

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BROOKINGS CHAPTER OF DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, it is with great honor that I rise today to congratulate the Brookings chapter of Disabled American Veterans on their 25th anniversary, which will be celebrated on July 1, 2006.

Disabled American Veterans, an organization with over 1.2 million members, is focused on building better lives for disabled veterans and their families. The organization strives to meet this goal by providing free assistance to veterans in an attempt to obtain benefits and services earned through their military service. Because it is not a governmental agency, Disabled American Veterans is fully funded by membership dues and public contributions.

At the conclusion of World War I, Disabled American Veterans was cre-

ated to help ease the suffering caused by the effects of World War I. Since the beginning, Disabled American Veterans has continually grown and adapted to the needs of disabled veterans. Today, Disabled American Veterans is committed to making sure the veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan are well cared for upon their return from service.

In 1986, the Disabled American Veterans transportation program was initiated in South Dakota. The following year, this program quickly expanded to become nationwide. This program is designed to provide free rides for all veterans to VA facilities so that they may attend scheduled appointments. In 2005, the South Dakota program alone transported over 20,000 veterans to VA hospitals.

On July 1, 2006, the Brookings chapter of Disabled American Veterans will celebrate their 25th anniversary. This celebration, which will be held at the Brookings Pizza Ranch, is designed to honor the 11 surviving charter members. Mr. President, I am proud to have the opportunity to honor these members and their committed service. I strongly commend their years of hard work and dedication and am very pleased that their extensive efforts are being publicly honored and celebrated.●

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DETROIT SALT MINE

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, this year we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Detroit Salt Mine, and I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate them on reaching this important milestone.

In 1906, the Detroit Salt and Manufacturing Company began constructing the Detroit Salt Mine. The first few years were tumultuous, as the construction itself was so challenging and costly that the company went bankrupt before it began to mine salt. Fortunately, the company quickly rebounded and completed its first mining shaft in 1910. The mine has passed through many hands over the years but is currently operated by the Detroit Salt Company, which has owned it since 1997.

Today, the Detroit Salt Company solely produces highway deicing salt, the salt that is used to melt the ice that covers roadways during the winter. It provides this salt not only for Michigan roadways but for other roads throughout the Midwest. Without this valuable product, our roadways would be repeatedly crippled during the winter months, causing massive and regular shutdowns of schools and businesses.

It is also important to recognize the Detroit Salt Company's efforts to keep its mine safe for its many workers. The Mine Health and Safety Administra-

tion has recognized the Detroit Salt Company for its excellent safety standards with the Sentinel of Safety Award for 3 of the last 6 years. Additionally, the company is part of the Detroit Local Emergency Planning Committee, taking an active role in keeping not only its employees, but also the citizens of its community safe and secure.

I know my colleagues join me in recognizing the historical significance of the Detroit Salt Mine and congratulate all of those who have contributed to its success.●

HONORING ALABAMA'S PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I commend four students from my home State of Alabama who have been named members of the 42nd class of Presidential scholars. Since its creation in 1964, the Presidential Scholars Program has honored over 5,000 graduating high school seniors for academic excellence, artistic accomplishments, and civic contributions. These remarkable young people have proven to meet rigorous standards of academic excellence and leadership. This year, I am proud to announce that Alabama has three Presidential scholars and one Presidential scholar in the arts.

Students designated as Presidential scholars are among only 121 selected for this high honor out of over 2,700 applicants invited to apply. Alabama students selected this year include Amanda R. Long of Oxford High School in Anniston, AL; Adam M. Trettel of Briarwood Christian School in Birmingham, AL; and, Kelly M. McConnaughey of Virgil I. Grissom High School in Huntsville, AL.

I am also very pleased to share that Sarah C. Campbell, of the Alabama School of Fine Arts in Birmingham, AL, has been named one of only 20 Presidential scholars in the arts. These recipients are selected from a pool of over 6,500 students for accomplishments in the visual, literary, and performing arts, in addition to their scholarship, leadership, and public service.

The Presidential Scholars Program not only seeks to honor Our Nation's finest students but also recognizes the teachers who have been influential in these students' lives. Each student had the opportunity to nominate one exceptional teacher to receive the program's Teacher Recognition Award. Teachers play an essential role in our society and give of themselves selflessly in aiding the development of their students. I applaud the work of these fine teachers: Mrs. Angela L. Dickert, nominated by Amanda R. Long; Mr. Barry Walker, nominated by Adam M. Trettel; Ms. Suzanne Bailey, nominated by Kelly M. McConnaughey; and, Mr. D. Bradford Hill, nominated by Sarah C. Campbell.

It is fitting and appropriate that we recognize these fine students for their