

her way into a different stage of her life. I am confident that Jenny will continue to be a role model for all, and I hope that she knows we are proud of her. New Hampshire is proud of her, our nation is proud of her, and we wish her nothing but the best in her future endeavors.●

COLUMBUS, GEORGIA'S HOUSE OF HEROES PROGRAM

● Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, there is a great outpouring of human generosity taking place in our great country that I must speak about here today. I was honored to be with my friends and colleagues, including the late Senator Coverdell, Representatives MAC COLLINS and SANFORD BISHOP, Columbus Mayor Bobby Peters, Col. Frank Helmick, along with Wayne Anthony of Hands On Columbus and many, many other volunteers, as we embarked on the historic event of initiating the House of Heroes program. This program should serve as a model to communities all across the country to provide needed assistance and support for aging veterans who bravely served their country and their families.

It is often said that "Poor is the nation who has no heroes. Poorer still is the nation which has them but forgets them." The House of Heroes project makes sure we don't forget this adage by having volunteers take up shovels, paint brushes and brooms to show not only our veterans, but also their families, that they are not forgotten. This past May at the home of Betty Cook of Columbus, in my state of Georgia, the House of Heroes was inaugurated by federal, military, and local officials to help serve as a reminder to younger generations of Americans how our nation's older men and woman veterans have proudly served and sacrificed for their country to help preserve our freedom. The inauguration ceremony reminded us all that honor, valor, and sacrifice come not only from service members, but from their spouses and family as well. While Mrs. Cook's husband served his country as a medic in World War II, she fought the war at home. She supported their family on her own, while encouraging her husband to press on in battle overseas. Hundreds of thousands of G.I.'s fought for their families, sustained by the love they were getting from home. Victory was never won alone.

The House of Heroes program relies on people who volunteer their services to repair and improve the home of a veteran and/or their spouse as an act of appreciation from the Congress of the United States and people of this nation. I am especially proud of those who contributed their time, effort and energy to help bring this project to fruition. It was especially uplifting to have witnessed the hard work that was put into the project. I would like to express my gratitude to each and every volunteer who made this worthy event the great success that it was.

I strongly support H. Con. Res. 395 that expresses the sense of the Congress that the House of Heroes project in Columbus, Georgia, should serve as a model for public support for the Nation's veterans and strongly agree with everything this resolution represents. I especially thank Representative MAC COLLINS for introducing this worthy legislation.

Today, Columbus, Georgia, remains home to thousands of service members and their families stationed at Ft. Benning and Columbus has always been a critical area for our nation's defenses, both past and present. The initiation of the House of Heroes program proves that from beginning to end, this remarkable city is home to some remarkable people. This event is only the beginning for the House of Heroes program as communities across the nation will begin to undertake their own House of Heroes programs modeled after the great program that the fine people of Columbus started.●

A TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN WILLIAM JAMES BUSHAW

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Captain William James Bushaw, who is retiring from the United States Navy after nearly 30 years of service. Captain Bushaw leaves behind a legacy of versatility and consistency, as he has consistently been successful in whatever area he has been asked to perform.

Upon graduating from the University of Michigan, Captain Bushaw attended Navy Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island. He was commissioned as an ensign May 14, 1971, receiving the award of Distinguished Naval Graduate.

While on active duty, Captain Bushaw served as the Gunnery Officer aboard the U.S.S. *Joseph Strauss*. From January of 1972 until August of that same year he participated in several combat operations in Vietnam, including Operation Freedom Train, Operation Linebacker and Operation Notification Line. During these operations, U.S.S. *Joseph Strauss* fired over 15,000 rounds of ammunition, earning the Navy Unit Citation. Captain Bushaw himself earned the Navy Achievement Medal with Combat V and the Combat Action Award.

Following active duty Captain Bushaw transferred to the selected reserve. As a drilling reservist, he served as Commanding Officer of three Navy reserve units and Executive Officer of two other units. For his efforts, he received a Navy Commendation Medal.

Captain Bushaw currently serves as the Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer to the Governor of the State of Michigan, representing the United States Navy in all issues of emergency preparedness. He recently received the State Legion of Merit award from the Adjutant General of the Michigan National Guard.

I applaud Captain Bushaw on nearly thirty years of extraordinary service to

our Nation. I know that the United States Navy will greatly miss his leadership, as will the many men he has commanded. On behalf of the entire United States Senate, I thank Captain William James Bushaw for his service, and wish him the best of luck in retirement.●

IN TRIBUTE TO FRANCIS BROWN

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a great Mainer and one of the most outstanding individuals I have had the good fortune to know, Francis Brown of Calais, ME.

There are many rewarding aspects to public service, not the least of which is the opportunity to meet people like Francis Brown. It has been my privilege to call Francis a friend for more than two decades now, and I know the people of Downeast Maine share my high regard and deepest respect for this devoted family man who has given so much of himself to the community and state he loves.

Francis is a leading citizen of Calais. He exemplifies the kind of values and ideals we frequently associate with those small towns throughout the country where neighbors still help neighbors, and where service to others is the standard by which a man or woman is measured. Indeed, for Francis, the concept of service is one indelibly woven through the fabric of his life.

As a student at the University of Maine, my alma mater, Francis spent four years in the ROTC program, and went on to serve in World War Two as a Radar Officer and in Korea as a member of the military police. Having more than fulfilled his duty to his country, Francis nevertheless later volunteered as an Army reservist with the Maine Army National Guard from 1946 until 1967, when he retired with the rank of Major.

When he was not serving his country in the armed forces, Francis was working on behalf of his fellow Mainers not only in his law practice but as a long-time and well-respected city solicitor. As is typical of his nature, however, Francis was not content to allow his efforts in the practice of law alone—significant as they were—define his commitment to the community.

Giving generously of his time and talents, Francis has touched many lives and has made an indelible and positive mark on his beloved Washington County and the State of Maine. He was a member of the Advisory Committee to the Maine Supreme Judicial Court on Criminal Rules of procedure for thirteen years. A long-time active and integral member of the Calais Rotary Club, he earned distinction as a Paul Harris Fellow in 1976.

Emblematic of his commitment to and interest in education, Francis brought his tremendous wealth of knowledge and experience to his service on the University of Maine Board of Trustees for more than a decade. And