

to spend 6 weeks in Jordan learning Arabic, living with host families, volunteering at civil service organizations, and learning firsthand about Jordanian culture. These students returned with exposure to another language and a greater understanding of another culture.

Just as important, however, is that the program itself built a bridge between Jordan and the United States. Earlier this month, the vice president of the University of Jordan, along with members of the North American Jordanian Association, NAJA, and the American MidEast Leadership Network, traveled to the University of Wisconsin—Green Bay, at their own expense, to discuss future partnership opportunities.

These individuals chose to travel to the United States because they want to maintain a relationship with the University of Wisconsin—Green Bay. This is a wonderful connection between universities and countries that I hope will continue to grow.

I commend those who work every day to promote international education and exchange programs, but we need to work even harder to engage more Americans in international education and exchange programs. To start, we should be following the lead of those who have begun this process. The University of Wisconsin—Oshkosh has a global education certificate program that educates teachers on how to introduce global perspectives in the classroom. Wisconsin's own State superintendent, Elizabeth Burmaster, has worked to encourage K–12 schools to introduce students to global perspectives in the classroom at an earlier age.

But we can do more. I was a strong supporter of the creation of the Commission on the Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Fellowship Program, an independent commission created in 2004 for the purpose of recommending a program to greatly expand the opportunity for students at institutions of higher education in the United States to study abroad, with special emphasis on studying in developing countries. One of my colleagues—Senator DURBIN—has taken the first step in working to implement the commission's published recommendations by introducing the Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Act, S. 3744.

The purpose of S. 3744 is to encourage at least 1 million undergraduate students in the United States to participate in study abroad programs academic credit within 10 years, including students in technical and scientific fields of study. The program also seeks to ensure that an increasing portion of study abroad takes place in nontraditional destinations, with substantial increases in developing countries.

The bill would specifically authorize the Secretary of State to establish an Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Program to facilitate undergraduate study abroad for academic credit through the

creation of undergraduate fellowships and grants to institutions of higher education to reform academic programs and institutional policies that inhibit participation by students in study abroad.

Senator DURBIN's bill—along with other international education and exchange legislative initiatives is an important step to one day having all American students engaged in some type of international education or exchange program, and we need to continue to take the necessary steps to provide our children every opportunity to learn about new cultures and to speak a second, or even third, language.

As we recognize and celebrate International Education Week, I call on all Americans to take a few minutes to learn something new this week about another culture, and I encourage all Americans to recognize and support international education and exchange throughout the year.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HONORING CLARENCE J. "MAC" MCCORMICK III

• Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the life of a distinguished businessman, community leader, and friend, Mac McCormick, who passed away on October 26. Mac's dedication to the State of Indiana kept him involved in public service throughout his life, and I know that he will be greatly missed.

Mac was a good and decent man who dedicated his life to serving others. From his work in economic development to his involvement with Vincennes University, his career was filled with acts of conscientious service on behalf of friends, family members, and Hoosiers across Indiana.

Mac comes from a long line of distinguished Hoosier public servants, including his father, Jim McCormick, and his grandfather, Clarence McCormick. I have had the privilege of knowing the McCormick family for many years and have seen firsthand the difference his efforts have made in our State. The contributions Mac made through his leadership and philanthropy touched countless lives, and his dedication and good humor made him a role model for a generation of Hoosiers.

In 1981, Mac started Best Way Express, Inc., with four trucks. Through his skillful oversight it grew to the 400-truck operation it is today. Over the past quarter century, Mac has used that same tireless dedication and business savvy to serve the people of Indiana. As a board member of the Indiana Economic Development Corporation and the Indiana Chamber of Commerce, he helped ensure a bright future for the working men and women of our State, and his service to Vincennes University as a member of the board of trustees and vice president of the nonprofit

Jamac Corp. exemplified his spirit of philanthropy.

Mac is survived by father Clarence J. "Jim" McCormick; stepmother Marilyn McCormick; brothers Mike and Pat McCormick; sister Jane Wissell; sons Will, Ry and Eli McCormick; and partner Andre Neal.

A lifelong Hoosier, Mac served in leadership roles in numerous trucking trade associations, including Truck PAC, Truckload Carriers Association, and Indiana Motor Truck Association, and in July he was chosen as the Indiana Chamber of Commerce's 2006 Business Leader of the Year. He was set to assume the chairmanship of the American Trucking Association next week, where he previously had served as vice chairman. It is a rare man who can make such an impact on so many people over the course of one life. Hoosiers will miss Mac as a friend, a community leader, and a committed advocate for our state.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of Clarence J. "Mac" McCormick III in the Record of the U.S. Senate for his service to the State of Indiana.●

HONORING THE 2006 CALIFORNIA NOBEL LAUREATES

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my most sincere congratulations to all of the 2006 Nobel laureates. These individuals have shown themselves to possess some of the world's most creative and accomplished minds, and each has made a remarkable contribution to humanity. I am extremely proud to say that California is home to three of these individuals. Their names are Roger D. Kornberg, recipient of the Nobel Prize in chemistry; Andrew Z. Fire, recipient of a share of the Nobel Prize in medicine; and George F. Smoot, recipient of a share of the Nobel Prize in physics.

Dr. Roger D. Kornberg was born into the shadow of a giant in the scientific community. Dr. Kornberg's father, Dr. Arthur Kornberg, won a share of a Nobel Prize in 1959 for his trailblazing work on DNA information transfer. Dr. Roger Kornberg's decision to follow in his father's footsteps reflects a man of clear vision and unshakable will, and it is extraordinarily inspiring to see an individual meet the high standard that was set before him.

Dr. Kornberg graduated from Harvard University in 1967 and went on to get his doctorate from Stanford in 1972. For the last 26 years, Dr. Kornberg has been a professor of structural biology at Stanford, conducting cutting-edge research while guiding his students in their exploration of nature's mysteries. Over that time he tirelessly probed the questions surrounding how information is stored in genes and transferred to other parts of a cell. This process is called transcription, and it holds a key to understanding of how cells operate.

As a result of Dr. Kornberg's efforts, we can now visually demonstrate how

information encoded in a cell's DNA blueprint is read and duplicated into what is called messenger RNA. This constitutes a significant leap forward in our knowledge of cellular mechanics and has brought us closer to identifying and rectifying the disturbances in the transcription of genetic information that is the cause of common killers like heart disease and cancer. Dr. Kornberg's work has already influenced the development of drugs and therapies for various conditions and is opening new avenues for future research.

The story of Dr. Andrew Z. Fire is equally impressive and inspirational. Although extremely modest in demeanor, Dr. Fire has demonstrated world-class intellectual ability and unquenchable drive since childhood. Having graduated high school at the age of 15, Dr. Fire attended the University of California, Berkeley, after being turned down by his other choice: Stanford. Now, at age 47, Dr. Fire has achieved the highest pinnacle of success in his field, opened up previously inaccessible areas of research with vast potential for the future of medicine, and gotten into Stanford, where he is the third Nobel laureate of the institution's proud medical school.

Dr. Fire, like Dr. Kornberg, was recognized for his years of exploration into RNA and its role in transcription of genetic information. More than 15 years ago, Dr. Fire became interested in understanding the genes involved in the earliest steps of cellular development. In an attempt to plot cellular development from the beginning, Dr. Fire designed an experiment that produced the exact opposite of the anticipated result: After injecting a worm with a piece of DNA to increase the expression of a particular gene, Dr. Fire inadvertently succeeded in suppressing the gene completely. This result would eventually lead to the discovery of a fundamental mechanism for controlling the flow of genetic information—that of RNAi, or RNA interference, which quashes the activity of specific genes. This discovery was termed the "Breakthrough of the Year" in 2002 by *Science Magazine* and has earned Dr. Fire and his colleague, Dr. Craig Mello, the 2006 Nobel Prize for medicine.

The potential benefits of the discovery of RNA interference are limitless. By using RNAi to silence one gene at a time and observing abnormalities in the behavior of cells, researchers are able to identify the function of genes, and potentially, use silencing to reduce or eliminate cellular activity harmful to human health. Dr. Fire's many achievements constitute an extraordinary contribution to our understanding of how life operates at its most basic level, and demonstrate his outstanding talent and unwavering commitment to improving the health of his fellow human beings.

Dr. George F. Smoot has for years been examining the cosmos in search of an answer to the biggest question of them all: How did it all begin? To an

amazing degree, Dr. Smoot has been answering this seemingly unanswerable question. For 50 years, scientists struggled in vain to support the Big Bang theory with hard, indisputable evidence. Dr. Smoot dealt the contentious theory a further challenge when, in 1976, he and others found startling evidence that galaxies are clustered together and not, as previously thought, spread evenly throughout the universe. This observation conflicted with temperature readings that consistently found space to be an even temperature of 2.7 degrees above absolute zero. Dr. Smoot had presented the scientific community a quandary: How could the heat be evenly distributed through the universe if galaxies were not?

It is a testament to Dr. Smoot's brilliance, ingenuity, and diligence that he, along with his colleague and co-recipient of this year's Nobel Prize in physics, Dr. John C. Mather, would clear up the confusion resulting from the establishment of a "lumpy" universe and finally cement the Big Bang theory of the creation of the universe. To achieve that ambitious goal, Smoot overcame nearly insurmountable obstacles and broke through barriers that had thwarted previous generations of researchers. Dr. Smoot was a driving force behind NASA's construction and development of the COBE satellite, which under the direction of Dr. Smoot and Dr. Mather succeeded in detecting the minuscule variations in temperature that were anticipated by the Big Bang theory and the "lumpy" nature of the universe.

As a result of Dr. Smoot's incredible achievement, we now have a much clearer picture of where we came from and where we are going. His penetrating vision challenges the limits of human comprehension, transporting us to times and places that were once unreachable. Dr. Smoot has fundamentally changed the way we view the universe and secured his place as one of the most important astrophysicists of all time.

It is with great pleasure that I applaud all three of California's 2006 Nobel laureates. Dr. Kornberg, Dr. Fire, and Dr. Smoot have made extraordinary contributions to our understanding of how the universe operates, from the microscopic level of the cell to the vast level of galaxies. Their phenomenal insights have answered questions that have long puzzled the scientific community and raised new possibilities for the research of future generations. I thank these men for the many valuable gifts they have given humanity, not least of which is the gift of unbridled imagination and the belief that anything is possible. ●

IN HONOR OF SHERIFF DON HORSLEY

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to recognize San Mateo County sheriff Don Horsley, who is retiring after 38 years of dedicated

service to law enforcement and public safety.

Sheriff Horsley is a San Francisco Bay Area native who was born in San Francisco, raised in Daly City, and educated in the county's public schools. He graduated from Daly City's Westmoor High School before graduating with honors from San Francisco State University in 1969.

After a brief time as a classroom teacher, Sheriff Horsley entered into a career in law enforcement that has spanned 38 years.

Beginning as a patrol officer in Daly City and later serving as a patrol deputy officer in East Palo Alto, Sheriff Horsley was elected Sheriff of San Mateo County in June 1993. From the beginning, Sheriff Horsley has been dedicated to making his community a better and safer place to live. Under his leadership, the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office has implemented an extensive number of innovative programs to make the community safer, including community policing, graffiti abatement, gang intelligence/investigative unit, sexual habitual offender program, high-tech task force, school resource officer program, and a youth camp for at-risk youth. Sheriff Horsley also established an after school Sheriff's Activity League to help kids succeed in school and stay out of gangs.

After the tragedy of September 11, 2001, Sheriff Horsley stepped into a leadership role and joined the FBI in a regional Joint Terrorism Task Force. He established a regional information sharing network with the nine Bay Area counties and directed the Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services to take the lead to ensure that the county's first responders and public health workers had the equipment and training to respond to disasters. Sheriff Horsley also worked with regional transit agencies to establish a transit unit of deputy sheriffs to patrol bus and rail transportation within the county.

Sheriff Horsley was also a fierce advocate for the construction of a state-of-the-art forensic crime lab that is used by local, regional, State, and Federal agencies to solve crimes. Sheriff Horsley tirelessly worked with the Bay Area Congressional Delegation, including my office, to obtain funding to ensure that the forensic crime lab had the latest in crime fighting technology.

Among his many accomplishments, Sheriff Horsley currently serves as co-chair of the Attorney General and State Superintendent of Public Instruction's Safe Schools Task Force; vice chair of the Northern California High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area; chair of the San Mateo County Vehicle Theft Task Force and Vice Chair for the County Narcotics Task Force. Sheriff Horsley has also been a member of the executive board of the California State Sheriffs' Association since 1996, served as the past chair of the San Mateo County Criminal Justice Council and as a past member of the board