

community. I know in my heart that it can be done.

With an end to intransigence must come a total and final repudiation of violence. There is no justification for violence, or the threat of violence. To those of you who ask; what can I do? Here is my answer: You, the leaders of the Irish-American community, must say that you condemn violence, that you demand its end, that you will not support those who engage in or support or condone violence. You must say it publicly, you must say it loudly, you must say it forcefully. And you must say it over and over again.

Violence is wrong. It is counter productive. It deepens divisions. It increases hatred. It hurts innocent people. It makes peace and reconciliation more difficult to attain. It must end.

Let me be clear on one more point. They may be twin demons but there is no moral equivalence between intransigence and violence. They are both wrong. But as bad as intransigence is, violence is worse. Intransigence takes away people's hopes. Violence takes away their lives.

There exists an historic opportunity to end centuries of conflict in Northern Ireland. If it is not seized now, it may be years before it returns, and the failure could cost many their lives.

Peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland is a worthy cause. It deserves your attention and support. You can make a difference. What you say is heard, what you do matters.

As you leave tonight, ask yourself this question: Wouldn't it be a wonderful thing if, on St. Patrick's day next year, rather than praying for peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland, we were celebrating its existence?

If you agree, then beginning tomorrow, do all you can to make it happen. When you do, you will reap the greatest of all rewards: You will have earned the title of peacemaker.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES H. WEBB, DEAN, INDIANA UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF MUSIC

• Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, it is with great privilege that I rise today to honor Charles H. Webb, an outstanding administrator and musician who is retiring after 24 years of service as Dean of the Indiana University School of Music in Bloomington, IN.

Since his appointment in 1973, the Indiana University School of Music has enjoyed a world-wide reputation for excellence. The Indiana University School of Music has been ranked No. 1 among schools of music in the country, and is the first and only school to bring an opera performance to the stage of the Metropolitan Opera in New York.

Dean Webb's accomplishments have been hailed by Indiana University and the State of Indiana. He received the Thomas Hart Benton Medal from Indiana University in 1987 and the Governor's Award for the Arts in 1989. He is also a two-time recipient of the Sagamore of the Wabash award, which is the highest award given by the State of Indiana for meritorious service.

In addition to his responsibilities at Indiana University, Charles Webb has maintained an active performance schedule as a conductor, pianist, and organist. Hailed as one of today's finest accompanists, he has appeared with

some of the world's best musicians. He currently serves as the organist for the First United Methodist Church in Bloomington, IN.

Charles Webb's contributions to the art of music and his support for education will continue long after his retirement, as his students enrich our lives with performances in orchestras, bands, opera, and theater companies, and schools around the world. I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating him for his years of tireless service, and in wishing him and family all the best in the future. •

NATIONAL AGRICULTURE WEEK

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of National Agriculture Week and to pay tribute to the farmers of this nation whose dedication and diligence throughout our history have not only served to feed our families, but have also provided a strong framework for the economic prosperity of this country.

At the 1896 Democratic National Convention, it was William Jennings Bryan who recognized the importance of farmers, not only as the individuals who provide our sustenance, but as integral parts of the American business community. He said, "The farmer who goes forth in the morning and toils all day, who begins in spring and toils all summer, and who by the application of brain and muscle to the natural resources of the country creates wealth, is as much a business man as the man who goes upon the Board of Trade and bets upon the price of grain." Today, when technology like weather trackers and cellular phones plays as important a role on the fields as it does on Wall Street, Bryan's words ring true.

Bryan's other comment about farmers reminds us of a fact too often forgotten: "The great cities," he said, "rest upon our broad and fertile prairies." Indeed, the productivity of America's farmers not only keeps Americans fed, it also enables the rest of our citizens to embark upon their daily tasks and diverse careers without concern that the grocery's shelves will be empty.

Our farmers are so productive that they sustain the lives of more than 250 million Americans every day and still have enough left over to make agriculture our nation's leading export. In 1930, 1 American farmer produced enough food to feed 24 people. Today, that same 1 farmer is feeding 129 people. In fact, our farmers are so efficient that Americans spend approximately 9 percent of their income on food, compared with much higher figures in other countries, such as 17 percent in Japan and 27 percent in South Africa.

Yet the agricultural industry's contributions to our economy often go unrecognized. I grew up on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, where my parents owned and operated a local restaurant. I spent much of my childhood working in that restaurant, and one of my

clearest memories is of Saturday evenings, when the farmers would come to town to stock up on supplies after a hard week's work. Every Saturday, my parents would keep the restaurant open late, waiting for the farmers to arrive. Over the years, I gained a good understanding of the successes and hardships related to agriculture. In my house, we knew that if the farmers were successful, our own business would prosper.

Since then, and the beginning of my career in public service, my contact with farmers from across the State of Maryland has confirmed my strong view that we cannot have real prosperity in this country if the farm sector itself is not sharing in and laying the foundation for that prosperity.

Farmers bear a weighty burden. At the same time that their work feeds millions and includes efforts to cleanse a polluted environment, that work is also part of a very modern industry, which generates billions of dollars in revenue and employs more than 15 percent of our citizens. Yet unlike many other billion-dollar businesses, almost 90 percent of American farms are owned by individuals or families. Family farmers are the backbone of America's agricultural industry and we must ensure that they remain a vital part of American society.

All of this is relevant, I believe, to this year's National Agriculture Week theme, "Growing Better Every Day—Together." Indeed, we all must remain committed to working on behalf of our farmers at all levels of government. Only through such cooperation can we look forward to a future in agriculture which is even more successful than our present.

In the State of Maryland, our attempts at such cooperation are indeed paying off. Recently, I have worked closely with State and local officials to support the efforts of farmers seeking to increase production by bolstering their existing export capabilities and identifying ways in which additional Maryland agribusinesses can enter foreign markets. Maryland is the eastern seaboard's fastest growing exporter. And with a strong and growing trade infrastructure—which includes the port of Baltimore, the World Trade Center, Baltimore-Washington International Airport and other aggressive export-enhancing initiatives—we are hopeful that agriculture, as Maryland's number-one industry, will be able to further tap into the State's increasing number of international opportunities. New forums across Maryland—which we have initiated together with the Maryland Department of Agriculture and our terrific Maryland Secretary of Agriculture Lewis Rileigh—are helping farmers take full advantage of our expanding capabilities and possibilities in this regard.

We in Maryland take much pleasure in the achievements of our farmers. Generating more than \$1.6 billion a year, agriculture employs about 14 percent, or 350,000 of Maryland's workers.

Maryland's agricultural industry truly helps the State live up to its often used nickname, "America in miniature." From vegetable production and horticulture in southern Maryland, to the dairy operations and horse farms of central Maryland, to the beef cattle, forestry products and tree fruit in western Maryland, to poultry growing on the eastern shore, Maryland agriculture is indeed diverse and provides a showcase for the nation's agricultural capabilities.

Mr. President, we in Maryland and our nation are very proud of our agricultural industry. There is still much work to be done to ensure a bright future for America's farmers, but as this week's theme suggests, through a strong commitment at all levels of government—together—we can help continue to build such a future.

TRIBUTE TO CAPITOL LIONS CLUB

• Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Mr. President, ever since the pioneer days, when entire communities would gather to help in the building of a barn, Oregon has had a rich tradition of neighbor helping neighbor. This heritage of neighbor helping neighbor is alive and well in countless Oregon cities and towns.

I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding example of the difference that can be made through volunteerism. The Capitol Lions Club, along with other Lions Clubs in the Salem-Keizer area, are helping our young people learn about patriotism through a project where small flags are presented to first-grade students.

Capitol Club members buy lumber, cut it into small blocks, drill holes in the blocks, put Lions' decals on them, and place small 4- by 6-inch flags in them. Lions members then go in to classrooms, to present the flag to students, along with a presentation on the importance of a flag, and a brochure on flag history and etiquette.

This year, 2,575 first-graders and their teachers in Oregon public and private schools will benefit from this outstanding program. As one Salem first grade teacher said, "The children are very excited to have their own little flags to take home. They have their special little places for them, I know that it is still real important to them."

Mr. President, I'm proud to be one of those Americans who feel something stir in my heart everytime I see our flag flying in the wind. What better way to ensure a bright future for our country than by ensuring that the timeless value of patriotism is alive and well in our young people.

Mr. President, I am proud to salute the Capitol Lions Club of Salem, OR, for a job well done. I ask that an article from the Salem Statesman-Journal detailing this project be printed in the RECORD, in the hopes that other organizations around the country might undertake a similar project.

The article follows:

LIONS CLUB OFFERS LESSON ON FLAGS

(By Hank Arends)

The members of area Lions clubs have a community project that they believe is worth saluting.

For more years than anyone can remember, club members annually have presented a program on the U.S. flag to first-graders. They give the students their own flag on a wooden base with the Lion's insignia and a brochure on flag history and etiquette.

This year, 2,575 first-graders and their teachers in area public and private schools received the 4-by-6-inch flags, said Ralph Jackson, community coordinator. And the kids loved them.

"They were very excited to have their own little flags to take home," said Katie Keisey, a first-grade teacher at Lake Labish Elementary School.

"They have their special little places at home for them. I know that it is still real important to them."

Those who do the distribution love it, too. "It makes me feel so good that those little kids were so receptive," said Viola Laudon of the Keizer club.

"They give us such comments as, 'Oh, I love you. Thank you for the flag, I'm taking good care of my flag.'" Laudon said of a large card she received from students at the Keizer Christian School.

"This is an idea that started in Arizona, and somehow we heard about it and thought it might be OK," Jackson said.

The club members try to make their school visits in February, around the birthdays of presidents Washington and Lincoln.

The local clubs and a lot of others get their flag sets from the Capitol Lions Club. Joe Carson is chairman of the production and marketing of 26,000 to 27,000 flags a year in Oregon and as far away as Pennsylvania.

"It is kind of an Americanization project. We came up with the idea 15 to 17 years ago as a fund-raising project," Carson said.

The Capitol members sell the sets at 65 cents each to other clubs and make \$6,000 to \$7,000 annually for such Lion's projects as assistance to the hearing impaired and blind, Carson said.

Capitol Club members buy the lumber, cut it into small blocks, drill the holes, put Lion's decals on them and finish them. They also reproduce the brochure that goes with each set.

The participating clubs are Capitol, Keizer, Salem Downtown, Northeast, South Salem and West Salem. Frank VonBorstel was area chairman of the flag distribution for at least 10 years.

"We want to interest the young people and provide the chance for them to learn something about patriotism and the flag," VonBorstel said.

Lion Kelly Freels tells of Lions members who served in the Korean War and try to tell the first-graders what the flag means to them.

"They tell them how when they came back to base and saw the U.S. flag flying, they knew they were safe. It also gives us an opportunity to get out in the schools and see what is going on," Freels said. •

KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL

Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, From 1950 to 1953, the United States was in the midst of a bitter war on the Korean peninsula. As the inscription at the base of the Korean War Memorial says, our Nation's sons and daughters answered the call "to defend a country they never knew and a people they

never met." And they did so honorably. Today, though, the memory of those who made the ultimate sacrifice is honored once again.

Earlier today, the Korean War Veterans Memorial Honor Roll Kiosk was officially unveiled in a ceremony by representatives of the American Battle Monuments Commission, the National Parks Service, the Samsung Group, and IBM. The Honor Roll Kiosk houses a high technology interactive computer base which contains all the verifiable names from the Korean war theater of those killed in action, still listed as missing in action, and those captured as prisoners of war. Touch screens allow visitors, friends, and family to research the service record of their loved one, and obtain a certificate of honor in the name of that soldier. This was made possible in large part through the generous donation from the Samsung group of companies.

As part of the July 1995 Korean War Veterans Memorial dedication ceremonies, Samsung made a significant contribution to the memorial fund. It was with great honor and appreciation that Samsung recognized the sacrifice and commitment of the United States to the security of the Korean peninsula. It is a commitment America maintains today. We have worked together to establish close relations in defense of common principles and it is because of these shared beliefs that the United States and South Korea remain partners in peace today.

In addition to contributing to the memorial, Samsung also created an educational endowment with the American Legion. Their gift of \$5 million to the American Legion will be used to fund collegiate scholarships for the descendants of America's veterans. I commend and congratulate Samsung on their generosity and willingness to recognize the origin in which their success today is rooted. I am proud to have their North American headquarters located in Ridgefield Park, NJ. Lastly, I recognize the honor and dignity with which America's service men and women fought on the harsh Korean field of combat. As the dedication ceremonies remind us, your service—and your sacrifice—was not forgotten.

PATIENT RIGHT TO KNOW

• Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, this week my colleagues, Senators KYL, KENNEDY and HUTCHINSON, and I have introduced S. 449, the Patient Right to Know Act of 1997. This legislation outlaws so-called gags in contracts between managed care companies and their licensed practitioners which have limited what doctors can tell patients about their medical condition and all treatment appropriate to their care.

Plain and simple, such gags have been used to limit appropriate medical care. While this is a dollars-and-cents issue for health care organizations and insurers, for patients and their doctors