

Imagine combining all of these activities with her educational background in the West Virginia public schools, Marshall College, Cambridge School of Radio and Television, and Drake School of Drama and with the tremendous job of being a mother. Most of us would find difficulty in staying active just in these tasks outside the home, but Kelly is able to balance those with her role as a mother.

I know Kelly personally and know that she is a phenomenal person who is enormously talented. I am proud to say that Kelly George is the West Virginia Mother of the Year for 1997-98. And I congratulate her on this tremendous achievement.●

HONORING ARMAND D'AMATO, SR.

● Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to my father, Mr. Armand D'Amato, Sr. of Island Park, NY. He is being honored on May 8, 1997 for his role as the founder of the Island Park Chamber of Commerce, which celebrates its 50th anniversary this month. I would like to take this opportunity to commend my father for his lifelong commitment to making his community a richer, more prosperous and safer place to live.

One of Armand D'Amato's most important and lasting contributions to his community was the founding of the Island Park Chamber of Commerce in 1947. The chamber was, and remains today, a vital tool in developing the economic potential of Island Park. As a small businessman and the first president of the chamber of commerce, serving in that position for 9 years, dad recognized that economic prosperity should not be taken for granted and that only through vigilance and hard work is a community's economic well-being safeguarded.

Armand D'Amato was born in Newark, NJ, the second of nine children born to Italian immigrants who traveled to America from Avalino, Italy while still teenagers. As a child, he rarely heard English spoken in his home. It was not until he attended elementary school at the age of 5 that he began to learn English. At a time when Italian immigrants in America were subjected to unfair discrimination, the obstacles dad encountered as a child taught him valuable lessons about the realities and hardships of life, and instilled in him a determination to succeed.

After earning his bachelor's degree from Montclair State Teachers College and his master's from New York University, Dad served his country overseas during World War II. He and my mother, Antoinette, settled in Island Park in 1945. Since that time, he has been energetically involved in the public life of Island Park.

Armand D'Amato's dedication to his community did not stop with the founding of the Island Park Chamber of Commerce. He was also instrumental in founding the American Alliance to

Combat Crime and Violence, an organization sponsored by the Island Park Chamber of Commerce dedicated to making Island Park a safer place to live and raise a family. He also founded the Island Park Taxpayer Association in 1953, the Tri-Community Council of Island Park in 1954 and served as district governor of the Nassau County Lion's Club in 1963.

During the 1970's and 1980's, dad served as director of business research at the Nassau County Department of Commerce and Industry and organized the Business Resource Center at Nassau Community College.

My father's vigorous commitment to public service and the values he has instilled in his family are reflected by the career paths chosen by his two sons. My brother, Armand D'Amato, Jr., served in the New York State Assembly for fourteen years. And my own career in public service was certainly inspired by his active involvement in the community.

Armand D'Amato has worked his entire life to make Island Park a better place to live. His dedication and commitment to the concept of community service has had an immeasurable impact on the lives of the citizens of Island Park. My father personifies the spirit of community leadership to which others should aspire, and I am proud to join in honoring him.

NATIONAL ARSON AWARENESS WEEK

● Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, I rise today to highlight National Arson Awareness Week, a massive community based arson prevention program sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency [FEMA], which began Sunday, May 4, and continues through Saturday, May 10.

This program is of particular importance to me because a city in my own State—Macon, GA—has been chosen as one of the three pilot cities. The program will focus on a week of special events aimed at educating high-risk neighborhoods on how to prevent arson and on the importance of getting community members involved. The success of this program is vital not only in Macon but in the other two pilot cities, Charlotte, NC, and Utica, NY, because they will serve as models for future American cities.

National Arson Awareness Week was inspired by the national arson prevention initiative, which was announced by President Clinton on June 19, 1996, in response to the rash of church burnings, most of which occurred in the South. The President asked James Lee Witt, Director of FEMA, to coordinate, in partnership with the Department of Justice, the Department of the Treasury, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development, available Federal, State, local, and private resources for arson prevention.

Arson is a growing national problem. One out of every four fires in this coun-

try is intentionally set. Over 500,000 arson fires occur each year, causing an estimated 750 fatalities and over \$2 billion in property damage.

These acts of violence can destroy the very base of a community, but they can be prevented. Mr. President, I ask that you and all of my colleagues recognize this week and the three cities for taking firm hold of this problem and proudly pulling their communities together to prevent future arson fires.●

C.W. "MAC" McCLELLAN

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to pay my respects to a longtime dear friend, C.W. "Mac" McClellan. Mac passed away on Sunday, May 4th, at his home in Harbor Springs, MI, following a long and valiant fight with cancer.

My wife Jane and I came to know Mac during his countless years of volunteer service to the Michigan Republican Party. While I have met many exceptional people during my time in politics, I have yet to encounter anyone more dedicated to the causes they believed in as was Mac, nor do I anticipate I will anytime soon.

To his wife Ruth and son David, my deepest sympathies. Please know you and your loved ones are in my thoughts and prayers.

Any one of a litany of titles could aptly describe Mac: Army Air Corps pilot, Air Force Reserves lieutenant colonel, General Motors executive, civic activist, father, and husband, to name just a few. For me, Mac will always be warmly remembered as my friend.

Mac McClellan never asked any more of others than he was willing to give of himself. He was blessed with a tireless devotion and a boundless spirit, and those who knew Mac are indebted to him for leaving our lives richer than he entered them. He will be greatly missed, but not soon forgotten.●

KOSRAE AND THE FEDERATED STATES OF MICRONESIA: OUR FRIENDS IN THE SOUTHWEST PACIFIC

● Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, for the last two weeks, I have had the great pleasure of sponsoring two Congressional fellows from the island of Kosrae. Mr. Lyndon Jackson and Mr. Charleton Timothy, legislative aides for the Government of Kosrae, have been working in my office since April 22 and will be leaving on May 9. They have been sent to Washington at the request of the speaker of the Kosrae State Legislature, the Honorable Hiteo S. Shrew, to learn more about our Nation's legislative and governmental processes.

For their benefit, I thought I might take this opportunity to make some observations about Kosrae. As some of my colleagues know, Kosrae is one of the most beautiful islands in the Pacific, located just 5 degrees north of the