

Kansas City, Missouri, the Nam Vets Association was selected from 700 chapters nationwide to be honored as the 1997 Community Service Chapter of the Year. This group has made a tremendous impact on the lives of many people in its community. The scholarships, youth activities, volunteer service to community events, and housing programs it provides, and the 55,000 meals it serves annually from its food pantry, give this organization great reason to be very, very proud. On its Fifteenth Anniversary, I am proud to offer my brother Vietnam Veterans in Hyannis my sincere congratulations, my heartfelt gratitude, my best wishes for further triumphs, and my promise of continuing support for their tremendous work. ●

TRIBUTE TO HURVIE E. DAVIS

● Mr. McCAIN. Mr. President, I take this opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of Hurvie E. Davis. It is an honor and a privilege for me to recognize his many outstanding achievements and to commend him for the superb service he has provided our nation and the state of Arizona.

Upon his retirement on May 29, 1998, he will have served 42 years in both federal and municipal government. Hurvie's expertise lies primarily in the transportation field, having served the federal Department of Transportation in Washington, D.C., and regionally in San Diego, Portland, Oregon, and most recently in Tucson. Hurvie was the Director of Transportation for the City of Tucson for 15 years before going into the private sector as a transportation consultant.

In 1992, Hurvie became the Town Manager for the Town of Marana. As Manager, Hurvie has accomplished many difficult tasks, and in doing so, has brought Marana positive recognition throughout the Southern Arizona region of municipal governments. His leadership and commitment to excellence has put Marana in a strong financial position to encourage residential and business development.

Mr. President, Hurvie Davis has made many sacrifices during his 42 years of public service, and has contributed significantly to the many people he has worked with. I commend him on behalf of the United States Senate and wish him the very best as he begins another journey in retirement. ●

TRIBUTE TO LEO LAKIN, GREEN THUMB CENTENARIAN FROM GARDNER, MASSACHUSETTS

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, at more than two centuries and counting, America is a nation ever maturing with greater wisdom, experience, morality and humanity. For this we can thank many of our most senior citizens who continue to set proud examples of daily life, and who remind us of our rich and proud heritage as a nation of caring individuals. Leo Lakin of Gard-

ner, Massachusetts—who will turn 100 years old on May 26th—is one such American.

Millions of our friends and neighbors distinguish themselves every day as parents, small business owners, educators, and in every other personal dimension and chosen profession of American life. There are those, however, who stand out as role models for their families and their communities. Leo wears these titles effortlessly and modestly, which is one reason why our Secretary of Labor Alexis Herman, our Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala, and Green Thumb, Inc. honored Leo as "an outstanding older worker" at the first Prime Time Awards Dinner on March 12, 1998 in Washington, DC.

Praise of Leo has been both modest and inspirational. In her nominating letter to Green Thumb, Inc., Marcia Hopper of Gardner's downtown association wrote that "Mr. Lakin's work ethic of kindness, compassion, generosity, and thoughtfulness to customers has brought him a loyal following based on both business and friendship. Many of his current customers are fourth generation." Pete Trudel, another long-time business owner in Gardner, said of Leo, "He's intelligent and knowledgeable. He has always kept up with the latest business trends. He's personable and loves people. He always remains calm. He's just a lovely, lovely man."

Leo Lakin was born in Boston on May 26, 1898. The Lakin family moved to Southbridge, Massachusetts when Leo was a small child. Leo became bilingual as he grew up, as the French American community in Southbridge was large, and speaking French served Leo and his family well. His father, Phillip, was able to develop deep roots into the community. Philip Lakin became known for more than owning a dry goods store. He was always helping some less fortunate person with food, clothing or a place to stay. That strong sense of community became part of Leo's life, just as a strong sense of family had been instilled in Leo from a very early age.

Leo and his 4 brothers—Celec, Louis, Eddy and Bob—were extremely close to each other. Phillip had been a widower with 5 children when he married a young widow, Annie, who had a daughter, Sarah. Leo idolized his parents. When he was about 11 years of age, he overheard his parents speaking in Yiddish, expressing the hope that some day after their passing one of their sons would be sufficiently well versed in Jewish tradition to be able to say the Mourner's Kaddish to honor and respect their memories. Overhearing this conversation had an enormous impact on Leo's life. He promised himself that he would honor his parents in this way, and the study of Hebrew and Jewish tradition was a vital aspect of Leo's youth. He has spent many, many years helping to conduct synagogue services and enjoying the richness of Jewish studies.

Leo left high school after his freshman year and went to work for the American Optical Company, one of the largest lens manufacturers in the world at that time. His career there began as so many do in America, with a summer job. Leo stayed for several years but eventually he longed for the freedom he could experience as an entrepreneur. In 1922 he and his brother Eddy opened Lakin's Brothers, a men's store located in Gardner's Webster Square. In 1933, relatives in Fall River introduced him to Ida Gollis, a personal shopper at the Outlet Company in Providence, Rhode Island. They married on June 2, 1935. To this day, Leo says, "She's the best thing that has ever happened to me."

In 1935, children's specialty stores were en vogue. Gardner was a virtual boom town known as "The Chair City of the World." Heywood Wakefield, Gem Crib and Cradle, Nichols and Stone, Florence Stove, and Simplex Time Recorder called Gardner home. Two weeks after their marriage, Leo and Ida opened Lakin's Children's Shop. And just like Leo's dad had done, they observed an important ethic of treating their customers with the respect and kindness, never pressured a purchase, and made everyone feel welcome.

For the next 51 years, Leo and Ida survived every challenge from the Great Depression to the rise of shopping malls and the demise of many small downtowns. Only Ida's death in June of 1986 ended that partnership on this earth. Leo continued to run the store, and his customers remained loyal and supportive. The store has remained the cornerstone of Leo's vitality, and a force that will not be beaten. In March of 1993, Leo broke his arm at work and recovered. In February of 1994, he contracted pneumonia and recovered. That July, he broke his hip at work, had a replacement at the age of 96, made a complete recovery, and returned to work 6 days a week.

During the 6 months of Leo's recuperation from hip surgery, his daughter Phyllis ran the store for him knowing that Leo needed the promise of returning to work in order to recover. She worked full time at Harvard Medical School, but with the help of close friends Jean Johnson, Beverly Black, and Claudette Jackowski, Phyllis kept the spirit of Lakin's alive in mind, body and soul as Leo had always done: with their customers in mind. Phyllis has since decided that the family legacy of her father and grandfather will go on, and that eventually she will carry on the tradition her parents began in 1935. "As long as I'm alive, Lakin's is alive!" she says.

Leo broke his leg on Nov 3, 1997, which was why he could not attend the Prime Time awards in the Capital this March. Leo has been a tireless and courageous patient, continually amazes old and new friends alike, touches all with his faith, optimism, and kindness, and plans to return to the work and people he loves so much.

Mr. President, we often wonder what America and the world we live in will be like in the 21st Century. We wonder about our children and the values they are learning today in school, at home, on television, and from each other. We can only hope that as they navigate so many diverse and dynamic forces in their lives that there will also be a Leo Lakin or two to give them a sense of history, community, family, and hope for the future as he has most certainly given to all who know and love him in Gardner, Massachusetts.●

POLITICAL SCIENCE DEPARTMENT AT KEAN UNIVERSITY

● Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the Political Science Department at Kean University. Over the past twenty years, Kean's Political Science Department has produced an outstanding record of accomplishment and I am pleased to recognize this model program.

The faculty and administration of Kean's Political Science Department have consistently demonstrated their selfless commitment to furthering the intellectual growth of the University's students. Kean's balanced educational program presents students with a unique blend of experiential learning and classroom teaching. It is a model of excellence for all American universities.

Kean's Political Science Department has earned just recognition by offering challenging participatory programs like the American Israel Public Affairs Conference, the Center for the Study of the Presidency's Student Symposium, the Harvard Model United Nations Program, the Howard University Simulation of the Organization of African Unity, the Schering-Plough/Kean College Political Science Education Partnership, the Washington Program, and the annual Department Washington DC Student Workshop.

In an era of decreasing funding, program costs are met through contributions from outside sources, student groups and alumni. The University itself provides enormous scholarship support. As a result of the Political Science Department's dedicated efforts, little cost need be borne by its student participants.

I am pleased to join the New Jersey State Legislature in honoring the Kean University Political Science Department as a model of educational virtuosity. It is my sincere hope that the Department continues its tradition of excellence with the vigor and success that has characterized it for the past twenty years.●

ILLINOIS STUDENT TECHNOLOGY DAY

● Mr. DURGIN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize April 29, 1998, as "Illinois Student Technology Day". On that day, some 140 Illinois schools will hold school technology demonstrations

at the seventh annual TECH 2000/AT&T Students for the Information Age program at the Illinois State Capitol Building in Springfield.

During this all-day event in the middle of National Science & Technology Week, over 300 Illinois students will demonstrate the important impact technology, and access to it, has had in their classrooms. The demonstration is sponsored by AT&T, state and local officials, and TECH 2000, a group of educators working to increase support for classroom technology and the role it plays in a student's educational experience.

The advancements that have been made in technology, and the role it has played in the gathering of critical information for students, has improved the learning experience for thousands of our nation's students. Increased efforts need to be made to ensure that more students, especially those in rural and impoverished communities, have access to these technological advancements. I hope that we can look at what will take place in Springfield, Illinois on April 29, 1998, as the beginning of a national commitment towards giving our students the best possible opportunity to learn and succeed both in the classroom and in their careers that follow.●

THE 83D ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate the 83rd Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. Each year we remember and honor the victims, and pay respect to the survivors we are blessed to have with us today.

April 24, 1915 serves as a marking point for the government-orchestrated carnage that took place under the Turkish Ottoman Empire. On this date, over 5,000 Armenians were systematically hunted down and killed in Constantinople. This number includes some 600 Armenian political and intellectual leaders who were taken to the interior of Turkey and systematically murdered. During the eight year period from 1915 to 1923, approximately 1.5 million Armenians were killed and hundreds of thousands were driven from their homes. Many of these deaths were among the elderly and very young as they were forced on death marches with little food and no medical treatment.

History records that the world stood by as the Armenians suffered, although there was ample evidence of what was taking place. Our Ambassador to the Ottoman Empire, Henry Morgenthau, stated that, "When the Turkish authorities gave the orders for these deportations, they were merely giving the death warrant to a whole race; they understood this well, and, in their conversations with me, they made no particular attempt to conceal the fact * * * I am confident that the whole history of the human race contains no such horrible episode as this."

Not only did the world stand by while atrocities took place, but unfortunately it refused to learn the awful lessons that were taught during this period. When Adolf Hitler was planning the Jewish Holocaust he said, "Who today remembers the extermination of the Armenians?" However, most of the world has come to acknowledge the Armenian Genocide. In 1929, Winston Churchill wrote the following: "In 1915, the Turkish Government began and carried out the infamous general massacre and deportation of Armenians in Asia Minor * * * the clearance of the race from Asia Minor was about as complete as such an act, on a scale so great, could be. There is no reasonable doubt that this crime was planned and executed for political reasons."

Each year we vow that the incalculable horrors suffered by the Armenian people will not be in vain. That is surely the highest tribute we can pay to the Armenian victims and a way in which the horror and brutality of their deaths can be given redeeming meaning. I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the Armenian Genocide.●

REMOVAL OF INJUNCTION OF SECRECY—TREATY DOCUMENT NO. 105-41

Mr. COVERDELL. Madam President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the following treaty transmitted to the Senate on April 20, 1998, by the President of the United States:

Treaty with Lithuania on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, Treaty Document No. 105-41.

I further ask that the treaty be considered as having been read the first time; that it be referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed; and that the President's message be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The message of the President is as follows:

To the Senate of the United States:

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Treaty Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Lithuania on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, signed at Washington on January 16, 1998. I transmit also, for the information of the Senate, the report of the Department of State with respect to the Treaty.

The Treaty is one of a series of modern mutual legal assistance treaties being negotiated by the United States in order to counter criminal activity more effectively. The Treaty should be an effective tool to assist in the prosecution of a wide variety of crimes, including "white-collar" crime and drug-trafficking offenses. The Treaty is self-executing.