

contributions to a member's family, school, community, and Boys and Girls Club, as well as personal challenges and obstacles overcome.

At the Club, Aaron has served as president of the Toastmasters, treasurer of the Keystone Club, a teen leadership group, and peer leader of Smart Moves, a drug and sex prevention program. Aaron, a senior at Nashua High School, is also active in his community. He participated in the Teen Institute, a leadership seminar to educate teens about drug and alcohol abuse, violence, teen pregnancy, and family and community issues. He is also organizing a program for Parents and Children Together (P.A.C.T.) to help families resolve conflicts.

For the first time, winners of the 1998 State Youth of the Year honors will receive scholarships for post-secondary education from popular television personality Oprah Winfrey. A nationwide fund drive, known as "Oprah's Angel Network," was announced by Oprah on her nationally-syndicated television program last fall.

Boys and Girls Clubs of America comprises a national network of close to 2,000 neighborhood-based facilities annually serving some three million young people, primarily from disadvantaged circumstances. Known as "The Positive Place for Kids," the Clubs provide guidance-oriented character development programs on a daily basis for children 6-18 years old, conducted by a full-time professional staff. Key Boys and Girls Club programs, such as Youth of the Year, emphasize character and leadership development, education and career enhancement, health and life skills, the arts, sports, fitness and recreation.

Aaron and other extraordinary young people from the Boys and Girls Clubs of America continue to keep alive the virtue of community service and inspire others to do the same. Their personal initiatives, dedicated service, and hard work have impacted the lives of many. In a time when young people seem to be less involved in their communities, these young Americans continue to defend and keep the spirit of community alive. I want to congratulate Aaron Lopez for his outstanding work and I am proud to represent him in the United States Senate.●

#### GENEROSITY OF ENTREPRENEURS LEADS WAY FOR SCHOOL CHOICE

● Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, due to the generosity of two entrepreneurs, the children of Kansas City, Kansas have become eligible for a new privately funded scholarship program to provide low-income children the choice of private, parochial or public school.

Last October, Ted Forstmann and John Walton each contributed \$3 million to create a fund for scholarships in Washington, D.C. Their programs were in such high demand—50,000 applications for 3,000 scholarships—that the

two businessmen have decided to greatly expand the scope of their scholarship programs.

Yesterday, Mr. Forstmann and Mr. Walton joined together to announce the Children's Scholarship Fund, a foundation to award \$200 million in scholarships to low-income children around the country, including Kansas. The Children's Scholarship Fund will partner with local entities in an effort to provide children the choice of private, parochial or public education.

I applaud the generosity of these two entrepreneurs, as well as urge corporate America to follow their lead and aid this effort in their own cities. I also hope that the eligible cities will do all they can to work with the Children's Scholarship Fund, which next year will send at least 50,000 low-income children to the schools of their choice.●

#### AUTHORIZATION THE TAKING OF A PHOTOGRAPH IN THE SENATE CHAMBER

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 246 submitted earlier today by Senators LOTT and DASCHLE.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 246) authorizing the taking of a photograph in the Chamber of the United States Senate.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. COLLINS. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 246) was agreed to, as follows:

#### S. RES. 246

*Resolved*, That paragraph 1 of Rule IV of the Rules for the Regulation of the Senate Wing of the United States Capitol (prohibiting the taking of pictures in the Senate Chamber) be temporarily suspended for the sole and specific purpose of permitting an official photograph to be taken off the United States Senate in actual session on a date and time to be announced by the Majority Leader after consultation with the Democratic Leader.

SEC. 2. The Sergeant of Arms of the Senate is authorized and directed to make the necessary arrangements therefor, which arrangements shall provide for a minimum of disruption to Senate proceedings.

#### ACKNOWLEDGING 1998 AS THE INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE OCEAN

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 405, House Concurrent Resolution 131.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 131) acknowledging 1998 as the International

Year of the Ocean and expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the ocean.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the concurrent resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the concurrent resolution, which had been reported from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation with an amendment.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the committee substitute be agreed to, the resolution be agreed to, the amendment to the preamble be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, and that any statements relating to the resolution appear in the RECORD.

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

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 131), as amended, was agreed to.

The preamble, as amended, was agreed to.

The concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 131), as amended, together with its preamble, as amended, is as follows:

*Resolved*, That the resolution from the House of Representatives (H. Con. Res. 131) entitled "Concurrent resolution acknowledging 1998 as the International Year of the Ocean and expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the ocean," do pass with the following amendments:

Strike out all after the resolving clause and insert:

*That it is the sense of the Congress that—*

(1) *the ocean is of paramount importance to the economic future, environmental quality, and national security of the United States;*

(2) *the United States has a responsibility to exercise and promote comprehensive stewardship of the ocean and the living marine resources it contains; and*

(3) *Federal agencies are encouraged to take advantage of the International Year of the Ocean in 1998, to—*

(A) *review United States oceanography and marine resource management policies and programs;*

(B) *identify opportunities to streamline, better direct, and increase interagency cooperation in oceanographic research and marine resource management policies and programs;*

(C) *identify opportunities to further cooperation between the United States and other nations to enhance oceanographic research and exploration, and to strengthen international marine resource conservation policies and programs;*

(D) *in cooperation with academic institutions, nongovernmental organizations, and industry, develop scientific, educational, and resource management programs which will advance the exploration of the ocean, the conservation of marine habitats and species, and the sustainable use of ocean resources; and*

(E) *encourage participation in State, local, and private initiatives and programs that use education and the arts to increase public awareness of the ocean and the many benefits that it provides, and to foster understanding of the need to conserve and sustainably manage ocean resources.*

Strike out the preamble and insert:

*Whereas the ocean, which comprises nearly three quarters of the Earth's surface, sustains a large part of the Earth's biodiversity, provides an important source of food, and interacts with and affects global weather and climate;*

*Whereas the ocean is critical to national security, is the common means of transportation*