

Senate on Tuesday, March 16, 1999, to conduct a hearing on reauthorization of the Export Administration Act.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

WE THE PEOPLE

• Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, on May 1-3, 1999 more than 1,200 students from across the United States will be in Washington DC to compete in the national finals of the "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" program. I am proud to announce that a class from Corner High School from the city of Warrior will represent my home state of Alabama in this national event. These young scholars have worked diligently to reach the national finals and through their experience have gained a deep knowledge and understanding of the fundamental principles and values of our constitutional democracy.

The "We the People . . . The Citizen and the Constitution" program is the most extensive educational program in the country developed specifically to educate young people about the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The three-day national competition is modeled after hearings in the United States Congress. These hearings consist of oral presentations by high school students before a panel of adult judges. The students testify as constitutional experts before a "congressional committee," that is, the panel of judges representing various regions of the country and a variety of appropriate professional fields. The student testimony is followed by a period of questioning during which the judges probe students for their depth of understanding and ability to apply their constitutional knowledge.

The student team from Corner High School is currently conducting research and preparing for the upcoming national competition in Washington, DC. I am extremely proud of the students and teacher and wish them the best of luck at "We the People" national finals. I look forward to greeting them when they visit Capitol Hill.●

TRIBUTE TO PHIL LERMAN

• Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I rise today to offer a tribute to my friend, Phil Lerman, who recently passed away. Throughout his lifetime, Phil was a steadfast advocate for civil rights. Perhaps most impressive, is the number of different avenues Phil marched down to promote the ideals of equal justice. As a former union representative, state official, businessman, founder and director of the employment and training institute at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Phil helped to promote racial and social justice throughout the state of Wisconsin.

Phil said that he learned his "strategizing and speechifying," as he called it, for civil rights from his father. In a 1997 interview, Phil stated "I learned to respect people as people. Color meant nothing." Perhaps it was this respect that caused Phil to devote time to performing countless acts of community service, such as donating free tires to the vehicles that carried so many civil rights marchers.

Phil was an inspiration to the entire state. I am sure those in the greater Milwaukee area will miss his guidance and helpful advice. However, I am proud to remember, and of course repeat, his well-worn statement, "a house doesn't care who lives there." I can only hope that we will someday translate this ideal into reality.●

THE 43rd ANNIVERSARY OF TUNISIA'S INDEPENDENCE

• Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today in celebration of the forty-third anniversary of Tunisia's independence. Although Tunisia received its independence in 1956, America has maintained close ties with Tunisia since 1797. This historic partnership has promoted peace and cooperation between our two countries.

In America's early years, Tunisia provided important commercial advantages and a safe harbor for American vessels establishing maritime trade in the Mediterranean. During America's darkest hour, the Civil War, Tunisia supported the anti-slavery movement, and its leaders conversed with American officials on the significance of human dignity.

During World War II, Tunisia continued to fight for the values of the free world by supporting American and Allied forces as they landed in North Africa. After the war, Tunisia sought American support for its independence; and in 1956, the United States was the first world power to recognize Tunisia's newly won sovereignty.

Since that time, the United States and Tunisia have garnered further achievements in bilateral cooperation. Impressive strides have been taken in advancing the development of Tunisia, as well as sustaining further security and stability in all relations. Tunisia and the United States have also been important allies in striving for progress towards peace in the Middle East.

As the relationship between Tunisia and the United States continues to grow, I believe it is important that we take time to observe this important milestone. In echoing the historic words of President Dwight Eisenhower, it is my sincere hope and desire that Tunisia continues to consider the United States as its friend and partner in freedom.●

TRIBUTE TO DUKE ELLINGTON

• Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to

recognize the 100th birthday of one of the greatest American Jazz musicians and composers this country has seen, Duke Ellington. Duke's contributions to today's music are immeasurable, and his hundreds of compositions, including "Satin Doll" and "Take the A-Train," are all time classics. Jazz and all genres of music will forever be influenced by the sophisticated, yet emotional and spiritual sound of Duke Ellington's music.

Born in a segregated Washington, DC neighborhood, Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington, achieved an enduring legacy and popularity that has not been equaled or exceeded. He developed his talent during the Harlem Renaissance period and became one of the top five band leaders from 1926-74. Duke's contribution to music can be summed up best by Miles Davis: "All musicians should get down on their knees once a year and thank the Lord for Duke Ellington."

Duke was the first jazz composer to produce extended compositions, such as "Creole Rhapsody" and "Reminiscing in Tempo" as well as a series of long works like "Jump for Joy," "Black, Brown, and Beige," and "A Drum is a Woman." He wrote for large orchestras, small combos, vocalists, choirs, movies, theater, church and nightclubs. He produced thousands of songs for more than fifty years, which are still as fresh and vibrant today as they were when he wrote them decades ago.

It is my honor to express an enthusiastic tribute to this jazz legend during this year-long celebration of his amazing contributions to American music.●

RECOGNITION OF THE 160TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GEORGIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

• Mr. CLELAND. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge and salute the Georgia Historical Society, which on March 20, 1999 will celebrate 160 years of collecting and preserving our rich history for all Georgians.

The Georgia Historical Society was chartered in 1839 by the Georgia General Assembly and currently has more than 5,000 members from all across Georgia and the entire nation. As a non-profit organization, the Society remains the oldest cultural institution in the State of Georgia and is one of the oldest organizations in our country. For sixteen decades the Society has collected, preserved and shared Georgia's rich history with many Georgians through various educational outreach programs and research services.

The Georgia Historical Society's archives and library are operated in cooperation with the office of Georgia's Secretary of State. During my years as Secretary of State I relied on the Georgia Historical Society on numerous occasions for valuable information concerning our State's history, and I truly believe that the Society is a real treasure that all of us should use and enjoy.