

of concern to New Mexico and the Forest Service. Whatever the complex and contentious area of public land stewardship, I have found her to be professional, responsive and decisive. For example, she gave our office tremendous help during the creation of the Valles Caldera National Preserve and the development of what we called the "Happy Forests" legislation.

Throughout her Federal career, Eleanor Towns was an effective manager of critically important program areas, and was often called upon to tackle some of the more difficult problems of the Department of Agriculture and the Forest Service, including western water rights and employee discrimination cases. Her greatest assets have been her interpersonal skills. Known as "Ellie" to her friends and colleagues, she was a bridge builder—between management and employees, between the government and the public, and among divergent interest groups. Her qualities of good humor, common sense, adroit communication skills, coupled with technical expertise, have made her one of the most effective managers in the Federal Civil Service. Our Nation and its resources are the better because of Eleanor Towns, and the Forest Service is a more effective organization. On behalf of the Senate, I want to thank her for her service to the Nation and wish her and her family all the best in retirement.●

HONORING ELIZABETH BROWN CALLETON

● Mrs. BOXER. Madam President, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the tremendous accomplishments of Elizabeth Brown Calleton during her tenure at Planned Parenthood of Pasadena.

During the past 40 years, Ms. Calleton has made a major contribution to Planned Parenthood of Pasadena's 69-year history, ultimately serving as its President and CEO. A women's health care advocate, she established Planned Parenthood Community Orientation Luncheons and a community-wide research network to provide women with access to health care. Ms. Calleton served on the committee that created the North West Community Healthcare Alliance Program, a program geared to the needs of low-income, uninsured individuals. The Peer Educator Program more than doubled in size during Ms. Calleton's tenure.

In addition to her extraordinary work at Planned Parenthood, Ms. Calleton has served with a variety of community organizations including the League of Women Voters, the Pasadena Commission on the Status of Women and Women at Work. Awards she has received from the Magna Carta Business and Professional Women and the Young Women's Christian Association are a testament to her great dedication.

"Celebrating the Past, Looking Towards the Future" pays a fine tribute

to Ms. Calleton's legacy. Ms. Calleton has much to celebrate and, I know, looks forward to new challenges in her future endeavors. Her work will serve the community for generations to come.●

RECOGNITION OF SUCCESS BY 6 PARTNERSHIP

● Mr. BUNNING. Madam President, it is with great pleasure and honor that I rise today to duly recognize the Success By 6 Partnership initiative for its tireless work in the area of early childhood development for the community of Gainesway in Lexington, KY.

Less than a year ago, a unique partnership was formed between the United Way of the Bluegrass and LexLinc, which aimed to address the many educational and social needs of Kentucky children from birth to age 6. The Success By 6 initiative attempts to ready parents and children for school by the time the schools are ready for them by focusing on communication as the primary tool for problem solving. This initiative, adopted in more than 300 communities nationwide, does a phenomenal job of bringing together area leaders and families in order to properly identify the needs of parent, child, and teacher. Success By 6 has already helped organize a citywide safety seat giveaway program in Gainesway and has sparked awareness in the community of the importance of early childhood learning.

On January 8, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the No Child Left Behind Act, and I think initiatives such as this will work hand-in-hand with this Act to insure families that no child will be left without access to an education.

I would like to personally thank all of the participants and organizers of the Success By 6 initiative for their strong and diligent commitment to the future generations of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Education can never be taken serious enough by either members of Congress or area leaders, and I sincerely applaud the progressive steps taken by this initiative program.

I believe that soon communities throughout Kentucky will see not only the educational advantages but also the social benefits of this program and begin measures to work this initiative into their educational agendas.●

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS STEPHEN COOK

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Madam President, today I rise to recognize and honor the life of Thomas Stephen Cook of West Enosburg, VT, who died Wednesday, November 21, after a 4-year fight with leukemia.

Thomas, who was only 12, inspired those who witnessed his strength and courage as he battled against his sickness. I have known Thomas since his birth, and as his cousin, I can honestly

say he was one of the most extraordinary young people I've had the pleasure to meet. In April, as the 2001 Children's Miracle Network Champion from Vermont, Thomas visited my Washington office. He was on his way to meet President Bush, before heading to Walt Disney World to participate in the national Children's Miracle Network telethon. When you met Thomas, you could see that, even though he was young, he had been through a lot. More than that, Thomas was tough. Only his positive and optimistic attitude towards life was greater than his determination to fight his disease.

Thomas took his responsibilities with the Children's Miracle Network very seriously. He was also a fan of University of Vermont basketball. For four seasons, Thomas served the Catamounts as the ball boy for the men's basketball team. A column from the Burlington Free Press by Patrick Garrity about Thomas' role and influence on the team says:

Thomas Cook would have been pleased with the effort.

He would have loved T.J. Sorrentine's slashing drives. He would have loved Grant Anderson's blue-collar play underneath. He would have loved David Hehn's baseline-to-baseline energy and Trevor Gaines' work on the offensive boards.

Thomas wasn't at Patrick Gymnasium to see the University of Vermont men's basketball team's near-upset of Cleveland State on Saturday. He lost a long fight with leukemia last week. He died at age 12.

His customary position for Catamounts home games was down the team's bench near the baseline, where he served the past four seasons as a ball boy. As he battled his disease and endured the cruel roller coaster of hope and despair the disease became, Thomas fought alongside the Cats, too.

He came to the sidelines four years ago soon after UVM coach Tom Brennan learned of the little boy from Enosburg Falls who had been diagnosed with a disease that kills 22,000 Americans each year. What began with a hospital visit from then-freshman guard Tony Orciari blossomed into a brotherhood between the two that seeped into the hearts of every player on the team.

"He was a lot stronger than all of us," said senior captain Corry McLaughlin. "Our lives are cake compared to what his was. To see him battling every day, to come out here and be with us, let alone to make it through every day, he was just a really strong kid."

"From his attitude, you would have never known he was sick. He was happy every day, jovial and upbeat."

Here's hoping the next one goes in. For Thomas.

Thomas will be fondly remembered by everyone who was fortunate to have known him.●

TESTIMONY OF RICHARD J. SANTOS

● Mr. DOMENICI. Madam President, I ask that testimony inserted into the Budget Committee record from Richard J. Santos, the National Commander of the American Legion, be printed in the RECORD.

The testimony follows.