

awarded Miss Womack the Nicholas Green Distinguished Student Award during the KAGE 25th Annual Conference on February 8, 2005. The award is designed to recognize excellence in young children and is given to one student per State each school year. Award recipients are between ages 8 and 12 and have achieved excellence in one of the following areas of endeavor—leadership, visual/performing arts, and academic achievement. The student selected is one who makes a contribution to the community at a level beyond what is expected of the student's age group.

While spending time with her grandfather who is the jailer for the Greenup County Detention Center, Miss Womack became aware of the needs of the inmates, as well as the children who come to visit them. She observed inmates who needed to read or write to their families, but for some reason they were not able to do so. Kennedy tried to find a way to help. Through various means, Kennedy has also tried to help the young children who come to visit their relatives. She hopes her efforts will help the children make wise choices and not follow a path of crime. Chief Tomas E. Kelly, Ashland Chief of Police, says of Miss Womack, "Kennedy has a keen interest in bettering her community, stopping the chain of crime and being a young advocate for victims of crime, and clearly demonstrates her leadership traits and initiative while doing so."

National recognition by this organization is truly an honor to Greenup County and the Commonwealth of Kentucky. I congratulate Miss Womack for her hard work and achievement. I encourage her to keep up the hard work and commitment to improving her community.●

TRIBUTE TO JADA TRABUE, ASHLYN WILSON AND CHARLES CLARK

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to Jada Trabue, Ashlyn Wilson, and Charles Clark as three truly outstanding students from the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

In the fall of 2005, Reading is Fundamental, Inc. held a national poster contest in which more than 25,000 children created artwork reflecting the 2005 theme, "Celebrate the Joy of Reading." Out of 365 posters submitted to the national competition, a panel of judges selected Jada Trabue of Louisville, KY, as the National Winner. Ashlyn Wilson of Louisville, KY, and Charles Clark of Hopkinsville, KY, were selected as Honorable Mention winners.

Being recognized by this organization is truly an honor. I congratulate these three students for their hard work and their achievement.●

CONGRATULATING MR. BRANDON HARVEY AND MR. CRAIG PEDEN

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I congratulate and honor two young Ken-

tucky students who have achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in their communities. Brandon Harvey of Breeding and Craig Peden of Henderson have just been named the top two honorees in Kentucky by the 2005 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in each State, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

Mr. Harvey, a senior at Adair County High School, is being recognized for raising nearly \$1,000 to purchase smoke detectors for the families of all 175 students at a local elementary school. Mr. Harvey organized a special Fire Prevention Day at the school, during which he taught the students fire prevention and safety techniques and issued every child a smoke detector.

Mr. Peden, an eighth grader at Henderson County North Middle School, is being recognized for leading an effort by his school's Junior Optimist Club to raise money to help support the operating budget of Riverview School, a preschool for special needs students. With Mr. Peden's help, Riverview School was able to pay off its mortgage, and now Craig hopes to expand his efforts to directly benefit the handicapped children at Riverview.

In light of numerous statistics that indicate Americans today are less involved in their communities than they once were, it is vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contribution these young citizens have made. People of all ages need to think more about how we, as individual citizens, can work together at the local level to ensure the health and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods. Young volunteers like Mr. Harvey and Mr. Peden are inspiring examples to all of us, and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

The program that brought this young role model to our attention—the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards—was created in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1995 to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions are critically important and highly valued. Since its inception, the program has become the Nation's largest youth recognition effort based solely on community service, with more than 170,000 youngsters participating.

Mr. Harvey and Mr. Peden should be extremely proud to have been singled out from such a large group of dedicated volunteers. I heartily applaud Mr. Harvey and Mr. Peden for their initiative in seeking to make their communities a better place to live, and for the positive impact they have had on the lives of others. They have demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and deserve our sincere admiration and respect. Their actions show that young Americans can play important roles in our

communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.●

IN RECOGNITION OF THE KENTUCKY COMMANDERY

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I rise to congratulate the hard work of fellow Kentuckians to establish the Kentucky Commandery of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States.

The Military Order of the Loyal Legions of the United States was established by a group of Federal officers formed to act as an honor guard for the remains of President Abraham Lincoln. These officers later met to form a society to commemorate the events and principles of the War of the Rebellion. MOLLUS became the first military society based upon the War of Rebellion to be formed.

Over 125 officers of Kentucky regiments, as well as over a dozen general officers and admirals of Kentucky birth, were original companions of MOLLUS. At the MOLLUS National Congress in October of 2004, the dedicated efforts of the Kentucky members paid off, as the Commonwealth of Kentucky was granted full Commandery status.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the members of the Kentucky Commandery for their hard work and dedication to their principles.●

CONGRATULATING MR. JOHN W. HINKLE AND MISS COURTNEY E. OTTO

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I rise to congratulate two young Kentucky students who have achieved national recognition for their academic excellence, artistic accomplishments, and civic contributions. Mr. John W. Hinkle of Shelbyville and Miss Courtney E. Otto of Louisville have been named to the 41st Class of Presidential Scholars.

Each year the Presidential Scholars program invites more than 2,700 students to apply for recognition based on outstanding scores on the College Board SAT or ACT assessments. A 28-member Commission on Presidential Scholars, appointed by President Bush, made the final selection from a pool of over 500 semifinalists. The 141 winners include one young man and one young woman from each State, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico, and from U.S. families living abroad, as well as 15 chosen at large and 20 Presidential Scholars in the Arts.

Mr. Hinkle and Miss Otto should be extremely proud to have been singled out from such a large group of dedicated students. National recognition from this program is truly an honor to the Commonwealth of Kentucky. I heartily applaud their hard work and achievements.●