

other facilities. In fact, other much larger cities around the country are envious of our tremendous success. In The Buffalo News recently, we learned that Buffalo, NY, is looking longingly at Buffalo, WV, and its enormous success in the automotive industry.

Toyota is now the second largest automobile producer in the world and has expanded six times in West Virginia alone. Our plant has also spawned a number of automotive suppliers around the State. Toyota has been the anchor to what is now a well-developed supply chain for auto parts, serving not only Toyota but also other car manufacturers in the United States. All of this growth has taken West Virginia, in just 10 short years, to its position today as a major center of American automotive manufacturing.

The credit for these great accomplishments goes, first and foremost, to the men and women of West Virginia, some of whom drive hours a day to work at this plant. But Toyota's management in the United States and in Japan has given these workers the tools they need to succeed and excel. I extend my gratitude for this coordination and my congratulations for 10 years of hard work and great accomplishments.

Again, Mr. President, I commend the workers and Toyota for 10 years of operations in West Virginia. This company, which is a worldwide model for any kind of manufacturing, took a risk on West Virginia. But their investment has paid enormous dividends, just as I promised my friend Dr. Toyoda it would almost 20 years ago.●

#### LIBYA

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, Libya's decision to abandon its illegal weapons programs, and today's news that the verification process has been successfully completed, and the fact that Libya is cooperating in international counterterrorism efforts, are tremendously positive developments that make our world safer. Libya's experience demonstrates that countries have more to gain by acting responsibly and abiding by international norms than by seeking weapons of mass destruction. However, the establishment of diplomatic relations between our countries does not mean that Libya's progress on all fronts has been satisfactory. According to the State Department's 2005 human rights report, Libya's human rights record remained poor last year, with Libyan citizens unable to change their government and subject to severe restrictions of their civil liberties. As we begin developing a new relationship with Libya, we must continue to press Libya to improve its human rights record and governance problems, and to address the cases pending in U.S. courts with regard to its terrorist activities of the 1980s.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

(At the request of Mr. REID, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

#### CONGRATULATING BUDRO KENNETH BAISDEN

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, today, I want to congratulate Budro Kenneth Baisden and other young, aspiring poets for their poetry as part of the Poetry of Rural Places writing competition. Budro Baisden comes from southern West Virginia and he has lived in our coal fields, surrounded by coal miners and the culture of the coal fields. He participates in the Coal-field Writers, Marshall University Writing Project. This month, as the West Virginia winner, he got to travel to Washington, DC, for the first time, to accept his award, and to read his poem in the Library of Congress. In his poem, Baisden eloquently expresses the arduous life of a coal miner, the adversity that oppresses rural Americans, and the acceptance of a life destined to be spent underground in the mines. Given the mine tragedies that hit West Virginia and other States earlier this year, the spirit and the simplicity of his words implores us to acknowledge the parallel experiences of rural Americans nationwide. The words of this young West Virginia poet should inspire us to think about life through the eyes of a coal miner. It is with great pride that I submit this poem for the RECORD to share with my colleague and the public.

Mr. President, I ask that the poem be printed in the RECORD.

The poem follows:

#### LIFE THROUGH A COAL MINER'S EYES

Dark at day  
 Dark at night  
 It never changes  
 That's the mines  
 Cold and wet this they know  
 Still they put on their hardhats  
 And go  
 No one knows why they seek that hole  
 Deep in the mountains  
 With all that coal  
 To risk their lives for a single light pole  
 That shines through a window of a  
 Coal miner's home  
 But there is only one thing that shines so  
 bright  
 Not the light you pass every night  
 It's the smile of their wives  
 When they come home at night  
 That's life through a coal miner's eyes.

—Budro Baisden.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Baisden is one of several students visiting Washington for the Poetry of Rural Places program, representing the National Writing Project, NWP, and the Rural School and Community Trust initiatives. Working together in a unique partnership, the NWP and the Rural School and Community Trust have provided students from rural areas nationwide an opportunity to compose and publish original poems that convey their sense of place and vision of life in

rural America. Beginning with local programs led by writing project sites, the contest culminates in a national reading event at the Library of Congress. Hopefully, this contest will inspire students nationwide to use the power of poetry to explore their lives, communities, and futures as rural Americans.

I encourage all of my colleagues to read the other poems written by these young people as they offer a profound vision of life in contemporary rural America. Their poems are available at [www.ruralpoetry.org](http://www.ruralpoetry.org).●

#### DES MOINES POLICE OFFICERS HONORED FOR VALOR

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I have come to the floor today to salute the achievement of four Des Moines police officers who received richly earned recognition from the National Association of Police Organizations last week at the TOP COPS Awards here in Washington.

Every year for the past 13 years, the National Association of Police Organizations has presented awards to outstanding law enforcement officers across the country for their actions above and beyond the call of duty. This year, Captain Kelly Willis, Sergeant Jeff Edwards, and Officers Chris Hardy and Robert Clark, all of the Des Moines Police Department, were recognized for their professionalism and valor in saving the life of a teenage robbery suspect.

Last winter, when officers attempted to stop a stolen vehicle being driven, the suspect, a teenager from Nebraska, abandoned the vehicle and attempted to swim across the icy waters of the Des Moines River. Sergeant Edwards and Officer Hardy realized the teen was in trouble when the suspect grew tired and his head went under water. They understood the risks of entering the frigid river; nonetheless, they jumped in after the teen and attempted to pull him ashore. Captain Willis and Officer Clark also entered the river to assist with the rescue. After pulling the teenager to shore, Officer Clark performed CPR on the unconscious teen, who was taken to the hospital in critical condition but eventually recovered.

I congratulate these four public servants for their courageous actions last winter. Law enforcement officers are often required to make life-or-death decisions in a split second. This requires superb training and excellent judgment, which these four officers clearly possess in abundance. The people of Des Moines are very fortunate to be served by such outstanding professionals. I thank these four officers for their service, and I congratulate them on their well-deserved recognition by their peers at the TOP COP Awards program last week.●