the Nation, but we are not alone in our effort to make our country better. In fact, we are but a small part. There are great events taking place every day in our country that are examples of neighbor helping neighbor, people who do not wait and do not ask for help but take it upon themselves to act. I would like to tell you about one such example that has been going on for years in Wyoming, in the small community I call home.

When people think about my hometown of Gillette, WY, many images come to mind—sagebrush as far as the eye can see, coal trucks, and cattle herds. We have deer, antelope, and some buffalo in the neighboring community of Wright. Our kids are great basketball players, and we work hard to get the methane gas and minerals that power this country. The list goes on. But after living in Gillette for more than three decades, what stands out about home are the people themselves, their character, their sense of community, and how they come together to help each other. And then there is the crawfish. Yes, I said crawfish.

This week, Gillette will be kicking off a 24-year tradition of flying in 10,000 pounds of crawfish for the annual Crawfish Boil. The event raises money for local families with medical hardships and was started in 1989 by the Society of Petroleum Engineers. The event raised $117,000 last year to help people get medical treatment. This weekend we hope to top that number.

Wyoming may be small in population, but our families know how to help each other out more than any other State in the Nation. Wyomingites do not just rely on government for help—they talk to neighbors, they come up with a good idea, they organize, and they follow through. The crawfish feed is an example for the Nation on how to pull yourself and your neighbor up by the bootstraps and have fun doing it.

Gillette not only raised $117,000 at last year’s Crawfish Boil, the Festival of Trees raised $51,500 for hospice and lifeline services, the Chili Cook-Off raised $29,800 for the Council of Community Services, the Black Cat Ball raised $26,000 for the Hospice Hospitality House, the Chuckles for Charity event raised $24,000 for the Gillette Area Refuge, and the Rotary Ball raised $11,000 to raise and sponsor programs in Gillette. Mr. President, $287,000 in 1 year, in one community with roughly 25,000 residents. I could not think of a better place to call home.

**ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS**

**CODY CARITHERS**

Mr. Pryor, Mr. President, it is with the greatest pleasure that I honor and congratulate Cody Carithers who is a senior at Highland High School in Gillette, Wyoming, and will graduate on May 18, 2007. Cody has accomplished an amazing feat—he has never missed a day of school. Since kindergarten at Cherokee Elementary School in Highland until now, never missed a day.

This accomplishment has not been easy. Cody was diagnosed with a brain tumor near his optic nerve a little over 2 years ago. He has frequent headaches and required many trips to Arkansas Children’s Hospital in Little Rock. Cody was adamant about maintaining his perfect attendance, and the hospital worked with him to schedule his appointments on school holidays or in the evening so he wouldn’t miss a day of school. What a determined young man.

Cody is involved in a number of school activities, clubs and organizations. He is an active member of Future Farmers of America and is president of the Rebels Against Drugs Program at Highland High School. He has also participated in sports.

During the summer, Cody volunteered at the Sharp County Library. He has been employed for the past 2 years at Ivey’s Automotive Center in Highland. Cody’s plans after graduation are to attend United Tribes Technical College and pursue a degree in aviation maintenance or automotive technology.

I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Cody Carithers for his determination, drive and incredible school attendance record. He exemplifies Highland High School’s motto, “a tradition of excellence.”

**TRIBUTE TO DR. DAVID M. GIPP**

Mr. Conrad. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to an extraordinary scholar, leader, and friend, Dr. David M. Gipp.

On May 2, Dr. Gipp will celebrate 30 years at the helm of United Tribes Technical College in Bismarck, ND. United Tribes Technical College, UTTC, is the only intertribally owned postsecondary vocational institution in the Nation. Since its founding in 1969, the college has served more than 10,000 students representing 75 federally recognized tribes.

During his tenure as president, Dr. Gipp has spearheaded an incredible transformation of the college and in higher education for American Indians. Dr. Gipp was the founding executive director of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium and later he served as its president. He was instrumental in the formulation of the Tribal Colleges or Universities Assistance Act, which enables tribal colleges to compete for funding for the college that was cut from the Department of Interior’s budget.

Dr. Gipp has been an agent of positive change in the lives of thousands of students who have graduated from United Tribes Technical College. He is a true champion for higher education and a powerful national advocate for the tribal colleges. His passion is infectious, and he has empowered individuals to reach their goals no matter how small or large.

John Quincy Adams once said “If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.” Dr. Gipp is a leader in every sense of the word. I wish to honor the life of a man revered as the most influential man in Arkansas agriculture. Cecil E. Williams, Jr., who passed on April 12, was respected by his peers and seen as an unparalleled advocate for farmer’s interests, what he tried to somehow blend their lives, but also their jobs and livelihood.

Undoubtedly, agriculture is the backbone of rural Arkansas and rural America. Today, Arkansas agriculture provides nearly one in every five jobs in my State, and we rank in the top 10 nationally in the production of many commodities, including rice and cotton, where we rank No. 1 and No. 2 respectively. Much of Arkansas’ success in agriculture can be directly attributed to Cecil Williams and his hard work. Mr. Williams worked hard during his lifetime to make Arkansas agriculture a force to be reckoned with, while establishing workable, sensible, and sound farm policy. For nearly 40 years, Cecil Williams, known as the “Dean of Farm Bills,” served as the director of the Agricultural Council of Arkansas, ACA, where he took great pride in serving what he considered a worthwhile cause: farmers and agriculture.

After receiving an agribusiness degree in 1960 from Louisiana State University, Mr. Williams began his career as a fieldworker for the National Cotton Council and gained valuable insight into the production, business, and policy angles of agriculture. After an impressive 5 years with the National Cotton Council, the Agricultural Council of Arkansas recognized his talents and heavily recruited him to join their ranks. Once at the council, he quickly ascended to a leadership role within the organization and went on to fight for farm policy that made sense for Arkansas, improve checkoff programs for
crops, and provide better insurance programs. One of Williams’ most stori-
ed accomplishments was getting the average farmer involved in the leader-
ship and policy development process, most notably by developing the Na-
tional Cotton Council’s Producer Steering Committee. To this day, the
Steering Committee continues to en-
sure producers have an active voice on policy issues. He never underesti-
imated the knowledge and influence carried by the producer. Farmers all over Arkan-
sas appreciated that and never forgot the respect he gave their opinions.

Cecil Williams took each event in
strife and persevered with leadership
and optimism. His ability to develop
and foster leadership among the pro-
ducer ranks was and still is an impres-
sive feat. His relentless defense of agri-
culture, and the years he spent culti-
vating active and knowledgeable pro-
ducers in Arkansas will be long remem-
bered by those whose lives he touched
through his tireless devotion. I am al-
ways proud to see Arkansas farmers
when they make their way to Wash-
ington or when I am traveling the
state. These are, without a doubt in my
mind, the best farmers in America
thanks to the leadership of people like
Cecil Williams.

During his lifetime, Williams always
led by example and stayed true to his
cause; rarely will you find such a noble
and grounded leader. This was a man
who could see the big picture and still
thoroughly understand the components
needed on the ground. He believed
firmly in what he represented and re-
mained active in production agri-
culture and the legislative arena up
until his last days.

Arkansas agriculture has suffered a
great loss with the passing of Cecil Wil-
liams, but we will continue to remem-
ber this great man and benefit from his
foresight and leadership. During his
lifetime, Cecil Williams saw the pas-
sage of numerous farm bills and agricu-
lultural laws. From his active role in
production agriculture and agricul-
tural policy, he was also able to see the
consequences of both good and bad
farm policy. As Congress works on
drafting the 2007 farm bill, let us not
forget the legacy Cecil Williams left
behind and take heed from the wisdom
of his decades of experience.
I pay my tribute to this legend of Ar-
kanas agriculture and express my
greatest condolences to his family. He
will be missed.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United
States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his
secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding
Officer laid before the Senate messages
from the President of the United
States submitting sundry nominations
which were referred to the appropriate
committees.

(The nominations received today are
printed at the end of the Senate pro-
cedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:15 a.m., a message from the
House of Representatives, delivered by
Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks,
announced that the House agrees to
the report of the committee of con-
ference on the disagreeing votes of the
two Houses on the amendment of the
Senate to the bill (H.R. 1591) making
emergency supplemental appropri-
ations for the fiscal year ending Sep-
tember 30, 2007, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The message also announced that the
Speaker has signed the following en-
rolled bill:

S. 521. An act to designate the Federal
building and United States courthouse
and customhouse located at 515 West
First Street in Duluth, Minnesota, as the “Gerald W.
Hoaney Federal Building and United States
Courthouse and Customhouse”.

The enrolled bill was subsequently
signed by the President pro tempore
(Mr. BYRD).

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 11:18 a.m., a message from the
House of Representatives, delivered by
Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks,
announced that the Speaker has signed the
following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1681. An act to amend the Congres-
sional Charter of The American National
Red Cross to modernize its governance struc-
ture, to enhance the ability of the board of
governors of The American National Red
Cross to support the critical mission of The
American National Red Cross in the 21st cen-
tury, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently
signed by the President pro tempore
(Mr. BYRD).

At 1:32 p.m., a message from the
House of Representatives, delivered by
Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks,
announced that the House has passed
the following bills, in which it requests
the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 249. An act to restore the prohibi-
tion on the commercial sale and slaughter of wild
free-roaming horses and burros; to the Com-
mittee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1678. An act to amend the Torture
Victims Relief Act of 1998 to authorize ap-
propriations to provide assistance for domes-
tic and foreign programs and centers for
the treatment of victims of torture, and for
other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign
Relations.

The following concurrent resolutions
were read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 7. Calling on the League of
Arab States and each Member State individ-
ually to acknowledge the genocide in the
Darfur region of Sudan and to stop up their
efforts to stop the genocide in Darfur.

H. Con. Res. 121. Concurrent resolution rec-
ognizing the beneficial and inclusive
role of school-based music education, and for
other purposes; to the Committee on Health,
Education, Labor, and Pensions.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first
time:

H.R. 493. An act to prohibit discrimination
on the basis of genetic information with re-
spect to health insurance and employment.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER
COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were
laid before the Senate, together with
accompanying papers, reports, and
documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC–1702. A communication from the Ad-
ministrator, Federal Aviation Administra-
tion, Department of Transportation, trans-
niting, pursuant to law, a report to the
Commission’s implementation of ac-
tions recommended to streamline the certifi-
cation process for airplane seats and re-
straint systems; to the Committee on Com-
merce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–1703. A communication from the Chair-
man, Federal Energy Regulatory Commis-
sion, transmitting, pursuant to law, the
Commission’s annual report covering the fis-
cal year from October 1, 2005, through Sep-
tember 30, 2006; to the Committee on Energy
and Natural Resources.

EC–1704. A communication from the Prin-
cipal Deputy Associate Administrator, Office
of the Administrator, Environmental Protec-
tion Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the
report of a rule entitled “Removal of Two Chemical Substances from Preliminary