

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

FEMA ANNOUNCES SOLICITATION TO PILOT CITIZEN CORPS NATIONAL EMERGENCY TECHNOLOGY GUARD (NET GUARD) PROGRAM

WASHINGTON.—The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced today \$320,000 is available in Fiscal Year (FY) 2008 to pilot, test, and develop tools for a potential new Citizen Corps (CC) National Emergency Technology Guard (NET GUARD) Program. NET Guard teams will be comprised of volunteers with information technology (IT) and communications expertise to assist States and localities in responding to and recovering from incidents that cause significant damage or destruction to IT and communications infrastructure. Teams will be a local asset, managed at the local level, and deployed in response to a request from local or State authorities.

This competitive pilot program will award funds to four jurisdictions. To be eligible to apply, local government applicants must be located in one of the 2008 DHS Urban Area Security Initiatives jurisdictions and must have a Citizen Corps Council and programs supported by emergency management. Additional eligibility criteria are included in the solicitation announcement. Beginning June 18, 2008, eligible government entities may apply through the Grants.gov portal, accessible on the Internet at <http://www.grants.gov>. Applications can be received no later than 11:59 PM EST July 2, 2008.

Citizen Corps is FEMA's grassroots comprehensive strategy to actively involve the full community in preparing and building resilience through participation with emergency management in planning, prevention, mitigation, response and recovery.

NATIONAL HISTORY DAY

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, this week high school students from all across the Nation have come together to celebrate National History Day at the University of Maryland. I would like to commend these students, their parents, and their teachers for demonstrating such interest to the study of history. History education is the foundation of a quality education, and ensuring that we have passionate and dedicated students of history is an important accomplishment of the competitions and events at the University of Maryland this week.

The National History Day program delivers yearlong programs dedicated to improving the teaching and learning of history across our country. Over 1.5 million students, teachers and parents, participate in the instructional and research projects each year. Since 1994, millions of Americans from all across the country have improved their knowledge of history through participation in this creative program.

We know that there is a need for better teaching and learning of history. The 2006 National Assessment of Educational Progress, NAEP, U.S. History report card shows that 82 percent of 4th graders, 83 percent of 8th graders, and 77 percent of high school seniors scored below proficient in historical knowledge. These results are similar to re-

sults for the past decade in NAEP assessments, and it concerns me greatly.

As an advocate for putting American history and civics back into its rightful place in our school curriculum, I chose to do my maiden speech on the education of our children and the principles that unite us as Americans. Along with several other distinguished cosponsors, I introduced the American History and Civics Act in 2003 to create Presidential and Congressional Academies for Teachers of American History and Civics—and was pleased when that legislation was signed into law.

I have had some experience with such academies when I was Governor of Tennessee. In 1984, we began creating Governor's Schools for students and teachers. Eventually there were eight Governor's Schools helping thousands of Tennessee teachers improve their skills and inspiring outstanding students to learn more about core curriculum subjects. When the school year began, students and teachers brought with them a new enthusiasm for learning and teaching that directly impacted their peers. Governor's Schools were one of the most effective and popular educational initiatives in our state, and I am pleased that we have been able to use that as a model for the Nation.

I applaud the organizers National History Day for recognizing the importance of educating today's youth of the many great feats that were accomplished, the struggles that were overcome, and the events that took place to make this country what it is today. I also congratulate all of the students, teachers, and parents who participate in it—and in particular wanted to congratulate the following Tennessee students participating in this event:

Emilee Frazier—Chuckey Doak Middle School, Afton, TN; Katie Adams—Chuckey Doak Middle School, Afton, TN; Gary Moats—Polk County High School, Benton, TN; Nick Ramsey—Polk County High School, Benton, TN; Matthew Vandevander—Polk County High School, Benton, TN; Anthony Joslin—Polk County High School, Benton, TN; Jon Rivers—Tyner Academy, Chattanooga, TN; Manish Jethva—Tyner Academy, Chattanooga, TN; Jacquelyn Benford—Tyner Academy, Chattanooga, TN; Marcus Kitchens—Tyner Academy, Chattanooga, TN; Walker Thompson—St. George's Middle School, Collierville, TN; Ryan Grover—St. George's Middle School, Collierville, TN; Mason McGough—St. George's Middle School, Collierville, TN; Andrew McBride—St. George's Middle School, Collierville, TN; Nikki Martinez—St. Benedict at Auburndale, Cordova, TN; Anna Cabe—St. Benedict at Auburndale, Cordova, TN; Mary Barczak—St. Benedict at Auburndale, Cordova, TN; Andrew Grayson—Fred Page Middle School, Franklin, TN; Adam Anderson—Fred Page Middle School, Franklin, TN; and Olivia Smith—Fred Page Middle School, Knoxville, TN.

Dylan Rasnick—Fred Page Middle School, Knoxville, TN; Katherine Ballew—Fred Page Middle School, Knoxville, TN; Willis Walker—Fred Page Middle School, Knoxville, TN; Erin Stapleton—Fred Page Middle School, Knoxville, TN; William Coe—Greenway School, Knoxville, TN; Sophie Yates—Greenway School, Knoxville, TN; Shannon Gleason—Knoxville Catholic High School, Knoxville, TN; Hannah Armendarez—Knoxville Catholic High School, Knoxville, TN; Krista Christopoulos—St. John Neumann School, Knoxville, TN; Alexander Grimm—St. John Neuman School, Knoxville, TN; Claire Northern—St. John Neuman School, Knoxville, TN; C.C. Hermes—St. John Neuman School, Knoxville, TN; Sarah Gallagher—Lebanon High School, Lebanon, TN; Jennifer Melroy—Lenoir City High School, Lenoir City, TN; Rachel Collins—Fort Loudoun Middle School, Loudon, TN; Sarah Aldy—St. Agnes Academy—St. Dominic School, Memphis, TN; Ali Delgado—St. Agnes Academy—St. Dominic School, Memphis, TN; Alex Arcamuzi—White Station High School, Memphis, TN; Sahaj Singh—White Station High School, Memphis, TN; Bhavna Kansal—White Station High School, Memphis, TN.

Melissa Swauncy—White Station High School, Memphis, TN; Breanna Morrow—Mosheim Elementary, Mosheim, TN; Britany Loveall—Mosheim Elementary, Mosheim, TN; Melissa Kinser—Mosheim Elementary, Mosheim, TN; Melody Zurawski—Martin Luther King Jr. Magnet-Pearl High School, Nashville, TN; Quidra Cothran—Martin Luther King Jr. Magnet-Pearl High School, Nashville, TN; Kayla Garrett—Martin Luther King Jr. Magnet-Pearl High School, Nashville, TN; Amber Jackson—Martin Luther King Jr. Magnet-Pearl High School, Nashville, TN; London Colbert—Martin Luther King Jr. Magnet-Pearl High School, Nashville, TN; Sonali Mahendran Meigs Magnet Middle School, Nashville, TN; Vivian Hughbanks—Stone House School, Signal Mountain, TN; Grace Hughbanks—Stone House School, Signal Mountain, TN; and Caitlyn Sukamp—Walden Home School, Signal Mountain, TN.

143RD CELEBRATION OF JUNETEENTH

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today marks the 143rd anniversary of Juneteenth, a day on which our Nation celebrates the complete abolition of slavery in the United States.

On June 19 of each year, we mark a turning point in American history. On January 1, 1863, President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, freeing slaves in the Confederate states. However, it was not until June 19, 1865, a full 2½ years later, that Union General Gordon Granger and 2,000 Federal troops arrived in Galveston, TX, to take possession of the State and enforce the emancipation decreed by President Lincoln. Tragically, slaves in Texas were not freed until that date. Juneteenth celebrations began in Texas the following year and have continued ever since.

Now, in communities across the country, Juneteenth is a day for Americans to reflect upon a tragic period that divided our Nation and prevented realization of the Declaration of Independence's introductory words, "(W)e hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal . . ."

For Marylanders, Juneteenth is a time to contemplate our own State's history. Slave labor helped spur Maryland's growth from the State's conception in 1664 until 1864 when slavery was abolished with the ratification of a new