

The church also plays a large role in the Dyers' life.

She and her husband have been active members of Gardenside Christian Church in Lexington, where their children grew up.

"Over the years we've been Sunday School teachers, youth sponsors, Bible School leaders, etc." Jerrilyn said. "Currently, we're on the Missions and Benevolence Committees and members of a Sunday School Class. I've served in a Women's Circle and Jack is on the board as an elder and deacon."

So why is volunteering in her community so important to Jerrilyn? "There is much to be said for volunteering in a community," she said. "It can promote so much good will among the citizens and can give a special spirit of unity and pride. Volunteers can get so many projects done that otherwise wouldn't be possible using only its paid staff. And, of course, the volunteer probably gets back more than he or she gives."

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

CORPORAL JASON G. PAUTSCH

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, it is with great sadness that I rise today to call attention to a fallen hero. Cpl Jason G. Pautsch, a 20-year-old soldier from Davenport, Iowa, died on April 10, 2009 in Mosque, Iraq, of injuries sustained when an explosive device detonated near his vehicle. My thoughts and prayers go out to his parents, David Pautsch and Teri Johnson, his siblings Jared, Jacob, Josef, and Jenna, and all his friends and family.

Jason was the squadron leader in the Army's 4th Infantry Division and a graduate of Davenport North High School. Graduating a semester early so he could join the Army, Jason was deployed to Iraq last September. His family has a history of military service and his older brother Jacob is currently serving in the Army's 82nd Airborne.

Always a thrill-seeker, Jason enjoyed hunting and racing BMX bikes in his free time. His high school football coach describes him as a strong young man who was passionate about everything he did. Jason had an excellent sense of humor, was a tremendous competitor, and showed dedication in all he did.

Jason told his father David, he "believed in what he was doing" and his sense of patriotic duty is inspirational. I express the greatest respect and sincere gratitude on behalf of all Americans for Jason's commitment to our country. His is a true hero, and his sacrifice will not be forgotten.

RWANDA

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, while Congress was in recess, Rwanda commemorated the 15-year anniversary of the genocide. Fifteen years ago, a deliberate, centrally planned, and organized campaign of mass murder and rape was set in motion, which displaced millions and eventually took the lives of over 800,000 people. People were killed simply because of their ethnicity or political beliefs or an unwillingness to participate in the violence. The un-

speakable acts of terror that ensued over those months in 1994 shocked the world, and yet the international community, including the United States, failed to act. The promises of "never again" rang hollow.

Fifteen years later, Rwandans have come a long way to repair their lives and rebuild their institutions. I am pleased that the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and the Gacaca Courts continue to work to bring to justice those guilty of the most egregious crimes. Accountability is an essential step to promote healing for the survivors and to prevent a return to conflict in Rwanda. At the same time, I have been deeply moved that many survivors of this terror have been willing to forgive and live side by side with many of those who participated in it. Continuing to foster tolerance and openness, and ensure there is sufficient political space for dissent and discussion is critical to maintain future stability in Rwanda.

As a Washington Post editorial recently noted, while the current Rwanda government has made impressive "accomplishments in righting its country and improving basic services it continues to be intolerant of criticism." According to the State Department's reports and those of non-governmental organizations, there is a worrying pattern of repression in Rwanda against political opponents and civil society. Over the long run, suppression and intimidation can undermine security rather than protect it, forcing healthy debates into illicit channels, and casting doubt on the legitimacy of the prevailing order. If this pattern continues, it could intensify Rwanda's ethnic and social tensions, and ultimately lead to future conflicts.

Rwanda has become a good friend and partner of the United States over the years, and our countries have worked together on many important joint initiatives. Most notably, they have become a leader on the African continent in responding to mass atrocities and contributing to peacekeeping operations. This is deeply inspiring given all that they have gone through, and we should continue to work with them to prevent future genocide and mass atrocity. However, we fail to be true friends to the people of Rwanda when we turn a blind eye to patterns of repression in their country, or fail to raise our voices in support of civil and political rights. As we remember those tragic events 15 years ago and commemorate those who perished, we should resolve to pay close attention to the present. The people of Rwanda deserve more than our regret; they deserve our support for their efforts to build a more just, more free and more secure future.

HOMELESS EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE AND RAPID TRANSITION TO HOUSING ACT

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I rise to speak on the introduction of S. 808, the

Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act or "HEARTH" Act, which I am very proud to cosponsor. The HEARTH Act is a landmark housing bill as it significantly improves Federal programs designed to end and prevent the tragedy of homelessness that afflicts too many American individuals and families.

Before I offer some comments on the bill, I praise Senator JACK REED for his long-term commitment and hard work on addressing homelessness. Senator REED has been a longtime leader in housing issues and I value the strong partnership we have had over the past several years. I also applaud his staff, led by Kara Stein, who has worked tirelessly and patiently over the past 8 years on homeless legislation. Further, I would be remiss to not mention the work of our former colleague, Senator Wayne Allard, who also was heavily involved in this legislation before he retired from this Chamber. Finally, I thank Nan Roman of the National Alliance to End Homelessness and Dr. Dennis Culhane of the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Policy and Practice who have provided us invaluable insights and research on homelessness that helped guide our policy work.

Over 20 years ago, the Federal Government took its first major step in addressing the plight of homelessness through the enactment of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, which was later renamed the McKinney-Vento Act after the death of Representative Bruce Vento who was an early advocate of the law. When this comprehensive law was enacted back in 1987, some legislators thought that homelessness was a temporary problem that could be solved in a few years. Unfortunately, this was clearly not the case. Despite billions of private and public dollars spent on the homeless, millions of veterans, families, disabled, and children have and continue to experience the sad tragedy of living without a home.

Fortunately, homelessness is not a hopeless situation. As the former chair and current ranking member of the Senate Appropriations subcommittee that funds most of the Federal homeless programs, I have worked with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle—especially Senators BARBARA MIKULSKI and PATTY MURRAY—to ensure resources were being provided to the appropriate programs. This is an important task and I am proud of being in position to make a difference.

We learned that throwing money at the problem was not going to solve homelessness but that a smarter, more effective approach was needed. Specifically, we learned that providing permanent supportive housing was the key component in solving homelessness, especially those considered to be chronically homeless. Research led by Dr. Culhane found that chronically homeless received housing primarily through regular, long-term use of the emergency shelter system. Serving the