

elected positions. Currently, the mayor of Portland is Vera Katz, a talented legislator. Our chief State school officer, Norma Paulus, serving in a non-partisan, statewide elected capacity, has been the trailblazer for women in government in Oregon. Even with this history, Oregon only has women serving in 28 percent of its elected positions. I hope that the Stennis model can be duplicated in other regions across the country, with the Northwest at the top of the waiting list.

Among the reasons for increasing the number of women in public service leadership is to improve government at all levels. Women make up 52 percent of the population and the majority of all registered voters. Without large numbers of women in government, America is missing out on some of its most capable, effective leaders who can improve the quality of life not just for women, but for all Americans.

I would like to just add a word of personal tribute to all of the forms of public service women give. Some of our strongest role models were never elected but served in one of the most difficult positions of power—from Eleanor Roosevelt to Nancy Reagan to Hillary Clinton—all of these First Ladies deserve our gratitude for blazing the trail to serve their country. Their example will serve the initial "First Gentleman" quite well.

The Stennis Center, established in 1988 to exemplify the life of public service defined by Senator John C. Stennis of Mississippi, is doing quality work not only for women in the South, but for many of our own staff family. This is the second year of the John C. Stennis congressional staff fellows—a program which provides senior congressional staff with an opportunity to focus on improving the performance of Congress as an institution. The center also operates the John C. Stennis National Student Congress, a State executive development institute, a legislative staff management institute and a national black graduate students conference—an activity designed to recruit minorities to be congressional aides. All of this work is done by a small staff led by the very capable Mr. Rex G. Buffington II, the executive director of the center. We all owe Mr. Buffington and his staff a debt of gratitude for the time and effort they are expending, in the name of my friend John Stennis, to insure that young people are attracted to careers in public service, that training and development opportunities exist for those in public service and that congressional staff are better equipped to perform their duties more effectively and efficiently.

This week's conference provides just the most recent example. As one of the conference participants shared this week "If this conference didn't light your fire, then check your wood, because it must be wet." Mr. President, I suspect that many flames are burning bright right now.●

GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD

● Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, each year an elite group of young women rise above the ranks of their peers and confront the challenge of attaining the Girl Scouts of the United States of America's highest rank in Scouting, the Girl Scout Gold Award.

It is with great pleasure that I recognize and applaud young women from the State of Maryland who are this year's recipients of this most prestigious and time honored award.

These outstanding young women are to be commended on their extraordinary commitment and dedication to their families, their friends, their communities, and to the Girl Scouts of the United States of America.

The qualities of character, perseverance, and leadership which enabled them to reach this goal will also help them to meet the challenges of the future. They are our inspiration for today and our promise for tomorrow.

I am honored to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of this award from the State of Maryland. They are the best and the brightest and serve as an example of character and moral strength for us all to imitate and follow.

Finally, I wish to salute the families, Scout leaders, and the Girl Scouts of Central Maryland who have provided these young women with continued support and encouragement.

It is with great pride that I submit a list of this year's Girl Scout Gold Award recipients from the State of Maryland, and I ask unanimous consent that the list be printed in the RECORD.

The list follows:

GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS

Laura Lee Albright, Jessica Bolyard, Andrea Bedingfield, Ashley Berger, Melissa Boyle, Kelly Brooks, Lauretta Burgoon, Angela Comberiate, Teresa Crocker, Virginia Dentler, Jennifer Hafner, Shawn Hagy, Angie Henderson, Susan Hoffman, Karyn Kahler, Rachel King, Melissa Lauber, Tiffany Lee, Christina Mauzy, Amanda Morgan, Rebecca Morgenroth, Erin Morrow, Meriel Newsome, Kerry Nudelman, Lori Odum, Rebecca Otte, Elizabeth Palmer, Karen Phillips, Ilisa Pyatt, Allison Rachford, Shannon Smoot, Tecoya Shannon, Heather Simons, Faith Stewart, Kathleen Thorn, and Heather Wilson.●

REAR ADM. IRVE C. LEMOYNE

● Mr. KERREY. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Rear Adm. Irve C. LeMoyné, the U.S. Navy's highest ranking and longest serving SEAL. Admiral LeMoyné retires this month after 35 years of service to our Nation. His extraordinary accomplishments have been instrumental in the evolution of this country's special operations forces and will have a lasting impact as the U.S. military enters the 21st century.

Admiral LeMoyné began his Navy career as an ensign in 1961. Following graduation from underwater demolition training and service with Underwater Demolition Team 22, he served in Vietnam with SEAL Team 1 and Un-

derwater Demolition Team 11. During his tours in Vietnam, he led numerous successful combat operations and served as a senior provincial reconnaissance unit advisor. While commanding Underwater Demolition Team 11 he also participated in the recovery operations of Apollo 10, 11 and 12.

During several high-level assignments in Washington, DC, Admiral LeMoyné held key positions where he was responsible for integrating naval special warfare into the U.S. regional military strategy and was a driving force behind the modernization of the community.

In 1987 Admiral LeMoyné became the first commander of the Naval Special Warfare Command which was formed as the result of the Nunn-Cohen amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1987. His leadership of this command brought together the many components of Naval Special Warfare into a single community which was successfully integrated into the joint structure of the newly formed U.S. Special Operations Command.

As the Director of Resources and then as the Deputy Commander in Chief of the U.S. Special Operations Command, Admiral LeMoyné further ensured that not only Naval Special Warfare, but all special operations forces were prepared to meet the demands of Operations Desert Shield and Storm and the numerous contingency operations of the 1990's.

Throughout his career Admiral LeMoyné has been a driving force behind the modernization of Naval Special Warfare. His accomplishments have paved the way for special operations forces as this country approaches the 21st century. The legacy of his leadership and foresight will carry on well into the next century as special operations forces meet the challenges of the battlefield of the future.

I bid Admiral LeMoyné, his wife, Elizabeth, his son Irve C. Jr., and his daughter, Christian fair winds and following seas.●

BOEING'S 777 WINS PRESTIGIOUS ROBERT J. COLLIER TROPHY

● Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I am honored and proud to recognize the Boeing Co. from my home State of Washington as the 1996 winner of the prestigious Collier Trophy presented by the National Aeronautic Association. The Collier Trophy, the industry's highest honor for aeronautics achievement, will be presented to the Boeing 777 team this evening here in the Nation's capital.

According to the National Aeronautic Association, Boeing was cited for, "designing, manufacturing and placing into service the world's most technologically advanced airline transport." These words are high praise, yet they only begin to describe the awesome innovations achieved by the 777