

account of James' representation of Navajo rights.

New Mexico has lost an invaluable native who advocated for the rights of others. I want to take this opportunity to salute the lifetime achievements of James Raymond Toulouse. I join with his family and friends in mourning his loss.●

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT K. KRICK

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, today I honor Mr. Robert K. Krick on his recent retirement from the National Park Service and for his distinguished career as a Civil War historian and preservationist. Mr. Krick joined the National Park Service in 1966, working both at Fort McHenry National Monument and Fort Necessity National Battlefield. In 1972, he became the Chief Historian at Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park. It is a position he held for twenty-nine years until his retirement last month.

During his tenure at Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park—an area which comprises four battlefields—the total amount of park acreage grew from under 3000 to over 8000 today. Nearly half of all the historians at Civil War battlefield parks learned their trade under Bob Krick. His contributions to the preservation of historic land are numerous. Bob's tireless efforts to expand and improve the National Park Service will continue to be appreciated by the millions of individuals who visit these historic areas each year.

Although preservation of Civil War battlefields was a large part of Bob's career, he found the time to become a distinguished author and scholar. He has written 12 books, including "Stonewall Jackson at Cedar Mountain," and "Conquering the Valley: Stonewall Jackson at Cross Keys and Port Republic, as well as countless articles and book reviews. His works will undoubtedly influence future generations.

More than a decade ago I began touring various battlefields with Bob and several other Civil War historians. We relived Jackson's battles of the 1862 campaign and retraced the Union campaign of 1864. With Bob by my side, I was able to visualize the 1862 battles and could feel Jackson's presence. I came away from the trip with the strong feeling that it was my responsibility as a U.S. Senator to help preserve this part of our national heritage. Since that time I have been dedicated to preserving our Nation's most cherished and sacred lands. As a first step, I introduced legislation that directed the Park Service to undertake a study of Civil War sites. Congress responded by passing legislation, in 1991, that created a national Civil War Sites Advisory Commission. Composed of distinguished historians, supported by a staff of National Park Service experts, the commission for two years studied the remaining Civil War Bat-

tlefields. The 1993 report presented a plan of action for protecting what remained of the Civil War Battlefields. Since 1993, I have helped to secure \$19 million in Federal funds to preserve these priceless links to America's past.

Although much work has been done in the last decade to preserve battlefields, there is a lot to do as our nation's history is still being demolished and bulldozed at an alarming pace. Bob will continue to be a preservation leader as a Board member of the Richmond Battlefields Association. I look forward to working with and calling upon Bob for advice in the future.●

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF THOMAS J. CLEAR, JR.

● Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I rise today to join the people of Albuquerque, NM, in mourning the loss of Thomas J. Clear, Jr. He helped to establish a better way of life for his family and the people of New Mexico. He was a friend to all.

Respected throughout the State, Thomas was known for his friendship and dedication to the things that he loved, his friends and family. He first came to New Mexico as a student at the University of New Mexico where Thomas dedicated his studies to education, but also where he met the love of his life and future wife of 50 years, Iris. After he completed law school, Thomas and Iris again returned to New Mexico in order to begin what would be a long and dedicated legal career serving the people of New Mexico.

Friends say that Thomas was able to serve New Mexicans so well because he truly cared about their best interests, and he served to protect those interests. He will be remembered for more than just his legal and adversarial roles by the people of New Mexico, he will be known for the love and friendship he provided to all of those who he came in contact with.

Thomas died last week surrounded by family and friends, much the same way as he spent his life. He was devoted to the interests of his family and the people of New Mexico. Mr. President, I share the grief of the friends and family of Thomas and my heartfelt condolences go out to them.●

THE RETIREMENT OF ELEANOR TOWNS

● Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated and distinguished public servant. Eleanor Towns, Regional Forester for the United States Forest Service's Southwestern Region, is retiring at the end of this month. Eleanor "Ellie" Towns will conclude more than two decades of outstanding achievement with the Forest Service.

For the past four years, Ellie has served as the Regional Forester in New Mexico. In this position, she served as one of nine regional foresters in the agency and assumed leadership of 11

National Forests and 4 National Grasslands comprising more than 20 million acres of National Forest System lands in Arizona and New Mexico. Prior to this, Ellie was the Director of Lands for the Forest Service in Washington, DC and director of Lands, Soils, Water, and Minerals for the Rocky Mountain Region, headquartered in Denver, CO. She joined the Forest Service in 1978 and worked in a number of progressively responsible positions. She came to the Forest Service from the Bureau of Land Management. Ellie holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois, a master's degree from the University of New Mexico, and a juris doctor degree from the University of Denver's College of Law.

I am pleased and gratified that my work in the Senate has allowed me to get to know Ellie. We worked together in preserving the Valles Caldera National Preserve and in securing additional funding for hazardous fuels projects to reduce fire threats to communities adjacent to national forests. She also testified before the Energy and Natural Resources Committee several times and I can honestly say that she was one of the best witnesses the Forest Service has ever sent up here.

Ellie's dedication and enthusiasm have provided the Forest Service with effective, professional management and direction. During her tenure, she has been successful in building strong relationships with many Forest Service partners and customers. In so doing, Ellie has garnered the respect, admiration and trust of here employees as well as all of those who have worked with her. She also promoted a collaborative stewardship in caring for the land and serving the people who own them. We will miss her, and I know that the Forest Service will miss her even more.

The Forest Service and the nation owe Ellie Towns a great deal of gratitude for her fine work at the Forest Service. I wish her the best in all of her future endeavors.●

HONORING THE PROMOTION OF COLONEL EDWARD RICE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the commander of Ellsworth Air Force Base's 28th Bomber Wing on his promotion to brigadier general.

On February 1, 2002, Colonel Edward A. Rice, Jr., will pin on his first star, and I cannot think of a member of the Air Force more deserving of this promotion. I have known Colonel Rice since May 2000, when he took command of the 28th Bomber Wing at Ellsworth, in my home state of South Dakota. Ellsworth is home to one of the Air Force's two B-1B wings, with 26 aircraft and more than 3,500 military and civilian members assigned. Colonel Rice joined a distinguished line of commanders of the wing, and has become the fifth consecutive commander to be promoted to brigadier general.