

town's people by posting in the local newspaper, The Sussex Journal, that there would be a meeting that evening for the purpose of creating a fire company. In this posting, they stated that the formation of a fire company would decrease the cost of fire insurance within the town. There were fourteen charter members of the Georgetown Fire Company. Until that day, the community had relied solely on so-called bucket brigades and a hand-drawn ladder wagon.

Today, the fire company owns the most modern of technology and firefighting equipment, and what started off as a small squad of locals with minimal training has evolved into a company that today has almost 100 members, 50 of whom are active. The remaining members are life members, limited service members or honorary members, all of whom continue to help protect Georgetown. Originally located in the old fire hall building on The Circle in 1930, they moved to their new building on South Bedford Street in 1966. There, the doors are opened one evening each February for an annual fundraiser for the fire company, the legendary "Oyster Eat," which attracts people from throughout the Delmarva peninsula and beyond.

I rise today to recognize all the members of the Georgetown Fire Company, past and present, and their contributions to their beloved community. This is a historic event, especially for a non-profit organization based solely on volunteerism. I congratulate you all and thank you for your service to the people of Georgetown and to all of Southern Delaware.●

#### TRIBUTE TO MAJOR ROBERTA KEARNEY CHANG

● Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a great American and a true military heroine who has honorably served our country for over 20 years in the Army Medical Service Corps: MAJ Roberta Kearney Chang. As a resident of Bellevue, WA, MAJ Chang began her career at Fort Benning, GA, home of the Army's infantry, as a medical platoon leader. There, she earned the coveted Parachutist Wings and Expert Field Medical Badge. Following in her father's footsteps, the late First Lieutenant Robert M. Kearney, United States Army. Retired, she quickly rose through the ranks and served at Army bases throughout the world.

MAJ Chang had two overseas tours, one in Honduras, Central America, and one in the Republic of Korea. In Honduras, she participated in humanitarian missions to provide aid and medical care to the people of this country. In Korea, she successfully completed two consecutive company commands for the 121st Evacuation Hospital and Headquarters, 18th Medical Command. MAJ Chang was handpicked to become an instructor at the U.S. Army Academy of Health Sciences, Fort Sam

Houston, TX. In this capacity she taught health care administration subjects to over 5,000 officers annually. MAJ Chang also served as the senior patient administrator for the Command Surgeon, United States Army Reserve Personnel Command. She counseled and assisted hundreds of reservists that were injured as a result of service in Operation Desert Storm. Her knowledge of the intricacies of the physical disability system for both the active duty and reserve component soldiers is unsurpassed, and she is considered an expert trainer in these areas. She served as a health care operations officer and the head of communications and customer service at the TRICARE Mid-Atlantic, Lead Agent Office Norfolk, VA for final assignment TRICARE Mid-Atlantic serves over 1 million military beneficiaries.

In each assignment, MAJ Chang excelled and met every challenge, and was rewarded with greater responsibilities and opportunities. Her talent for teaching and mentoring personnel, as well as her creativity and skill in management, were instrumental in providing army medicine the fine cadre of hospital administrators serving today. Above all, she is a stellar officer and leader who always put the welfare of her staff and patients first. MAJ Chang is a committed health care professional, and is an active member of the American College of Healthcare Executives and the American Health Information Management Association. MAJ Chang always went the extra mile to serve her country and her fellow man. Her performance reflects greatly on herself, the United States Army, the Department of Defense, and the United States of America. I extend my deepest appreciation to MAJ Roberta Kearney Chang on behalf of a grateful Nation for her over 20 years of dedicated military service. Congratulations, MAJ Chang, and let me be the one of the first to welcome you home to Washington State.●

#### DICK KNIPFING'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY IN NEW MEXICO BROADCASTING

● Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to a friend and public servant of New Mexico, Dick Knipping of Albuquerque.

A few years ago, a New Mexico research company conducted a statewide poll on the popularity of certain well-known people. My name was one of the most recognized, but I wasn't No. 1. The person best known and best liked by New Mexicans was Dick Knipping.

He is not a politician. He has never been Governor, Senator, mayor, or on any city council. Dick is something more special to everyday citizens—he has been a nightly guest in their living rooms for 40 years.

In July 1963, Dick started as a reporter for the CBS affiliate in Albuquerque. He did it all. He shot and edited his own film, wrote his own scripts,

and got to know some of the most influential people in New Mexico. Eventually, Dick became an anchor. Over the course of his career, he moved to the ABC affiliate, then to the NBC station, and back to ABC. This month, he celebrates his 40th anniversary in broadcast journalism at channel 13, the CBS station where it all started.

Since Dick returned to Channel 13, a station whose news had been in the ratings cellar, the station rapidly shot into head-to-head competition with other New Mexico news channels. There is one big reason—Dick Knipping.

New Mexicans trust Dick as a veteran newsmen. He is respected by his colleagues. He has been inducted into the Silver Circle Society by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, one of the organization's highest honors for a television journalist.

Dick Knipping is revered by viewers because they easily discern that he is devoted to bringing them a comprehensive and accurate look at the day's major news events. Viewers have welcomed him into their homes, either as a reporter or anchor, because he has shown them that he cares very deeply for New Mexico and its people. Dick, and his wonderful wife, Charlene, have made Albuquerque and New Mexico their home, and integrated themselves into activities to make it a better place to live.

Like tens of thousands of New Mexicans, my wife Nancy and I have grown accustomed to Dick's face and his voice. As he marks his 40th anniversary in broadcast journalism, we hope there will be 40 more years of Dick Knipping to represent the best in broadcasting.●

#### GREATER MIDWEST AFFILIATE OF THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to recognize the creation of the Greater Midwest Affiliate of the American Heart Association. This new affiliate which was founded on July 1, 2003, covers seven States, including my State of Michigan.

Heart disease is still the No. 1 killer in America. The American Heart Association is the second largest funding source for research and prevention of heart disease behind only the Federal Government. Its mission is to reduce disability and death from cardiovascular diseases and stroke. To this end, they work within local communities to educate people on prevention and identification of heart disease.

The merger which creates the Greater Midwest Affiliate strengthens the potential for positively influencing the health and welfare of Americans by advancing groundbreaking medical research and spreading lifesaving education on heart disease to people of all ages. I am sure my colleagues join me in applauding the Greater Midwest Affiliate of the American Heart Association as they renew a commitment to

create healthier communities and make stronger, longer lives possible for more Americans.●

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 21ST ANNUAL METRO DETROIT YOUTH DAY

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I would like to recognize an important event that will soon be held in my home State of Michigan. On July 9, 2003, community residents, business owners, and area youth will gather at Belle Isle to celebrate the 21st Annual Metro Detroit Youth Day.

Metro Detroit Youth Day was founded to improve relations between youth and other community members in the metropolitan Detroit area. Before its creation 20 years ago, a series of altercations had occurred between Detroit area youth and several grocery store owners. Since that time, Youth Day has provided an opportunity for all community members to work and play together and has drastically reduced the level of violence in the area. Youth Day includes games, meetings with celebrities, motivational speakers, sports events, and a wide variety of other activities designed to promote unity within the Detroit community.

I am pleased to recognize Metro Detroit Youth Day as an example of a proactive community effort that has promoted positive change. I am sure that my Senate colleagues will join me in saluting this event and in wishing Metro Detroit Youth Day continued success in the future.●

#### IN RECOGNITION OF MARQUETTE COUNTY

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to recognize an outstanding county in my home State of Michigan for receiving a prestigious community recognition award. Marquette County, which is located in the beautiful upper peninsula of Michigan, was recently named an All-America City by the National Civic League.

The National Civic League has presented the All-America City Award annually for the last 54 years. The award recognizes outstanding communities such as Marquette for their excellence in combining grassroots efforts with local government and businesses' community programs to address critical local issues. This year Marquette County was selected in recognition of its efforts to increase access to health care, create a countywide nonmotorized trail system, and build support for at-risk youth in the community.

Marquette County was one of only 10 communities nationwide to be awarded the distinction of All-America City. The selection was made out of a pool of more than 700 applicants and 30 finalists. A 10-person jury comprised of nationally recognized public and civic affairs experts evaluated Marquette County based on a 10 category model developed by the National Civic

League. Criteria include significant evidence of results which have improved the community within the last 3 years, extent of public participation, evidence of collaboration between multiple jurisdictions, and creative usage of available resources.

In addition to being an active and caring community, Marquette County includes some of the nation's most beautiful beaches, waterfalls, and wildlife. Thousands of tourists each year are attracted by the breathtaking scenery and numerous outdoor leisure activities such as golf, skiing, canoeing, hiking, and fishing.

I take great pride in congratulating Marquette County for the award of All-America City. This award is well deserved and is a source of pride for everyone in my home State of Michigan. I know my Senate colleagues will join me in saluting Marquette County and wishing its citizens continued success in the years to come.●

#### NEBRASKA'S TOM ALLAN

● Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, Tom Allan wasn't born in Nebraska, but that didn't stop him from falling in love with my State or from making the entire State feel like part of his family. Tom traveled the highways and byways for over 40 years, seeing the beauty of Nebraska, making friends, and sharing his experiences through his often humorous and always insightful news articles. When he passed away recently there were Nebraskans in every city, town, and village that mourned him and fondly remembered their favorite Tom Allan stories.

Tom Allan was born in Scotland and moved to Nebraska when he was only 9 years old. After graduating from high school and Ottawa College he served his Nation honorably in World War II with tours in the Philippines and Alaska. He retired as a major in the Nebraska National Guard.

He began working for the Omaha World Herald in 1947 and became the paper's roving reporter in 1959. He traveled more than a million miles and wore out 20 cars while filing stories from every community in the State. He covered the occasional big news story, but Tom Allan specialized in simple stories that touched the heart. For readers in Omaha, Tom brought to life the unique people and small towns that can't be found on a map.

Tom Allan outran tornados, trekked through the Amazon jungle, and even stood in for a U.S. Ambassador in Finland. He covered the State fair with such regularity that he was honored with "Tom Allan Day" at the Nebraska State Fair in 1997. His humor and humility were clear when he wrote, "I'd rather they'd just given me a fat-hog blue ribbon and let it go at that."

In that same column Tom described his job as the privilege of discovering what is over the next hill and who is around the next bend in the road along

the byways of Nebraska. On behalf of all Nebraskans, I would like to thank Tom Allan for the privilege of his company and for the wonderful stories he shared with all Nebraskans for over 50 years. We will always remember his love for the State of Nebraska, and we are grateful that through his stories he taught us about Nebraska and helped us understand ourselves.

Tom Allan passed away on June 27, 2003.●

#### RECOGNITION OF THE MAGDALENA RIDGE OBSERVATORY

● Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I rise to congratulate the Office of Naval Research for the successful design review to begin development of the next great astronomical telescope. The Navy is the preeminent authority in the areas of Precise Time and Astrometry, and distributes Earth Orientation parameters and other Astronomical Data required for accurate navigation and fundamental astronomy. Now they are managing an international team to build the Magdalena Ridge Observatory, MRO, on a 10,000 foot mountain in central New Mexico. The Navy, along with the Air Force, Army, and a consortium of universities from the United States and the United Kingdom, will break ground on October 20 this year.

This month, the prestigious scientific journal, *Physics Today*, published a superbly written article that explains the MRO. The project will create a unique array of mirrors that can take pictures of bright celestial objects with a resolution equivalent to a huge telescope measuring 400 meters in diameter.

I ask that a copy of the article be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows.

#### NEW MEXICO PLANS OPTICAL INTERFEROMETER AND FAST-SLEWING TELESCOPE

How does a minor university land a major observatory? In New Mexico Tech's case, it helped that the university has access to a high, dark site, that the Magdalena Ridge Observatory (MRO) will have national security applications, and that the project has allies in Congress.

"We had a coalition of universities looking for an observatory," says Van Romero, vice president for research at New Mexico Tech (officially the New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology), which has around 1800 students and 110 faculty members. New Mexico Tech and its partners—New Mexico State University, New Mexico Highlands University, and the University of Puerto Rico—learned that the US Army's neighboring White Sands Missile Range wanted better missile tracking capability and the Air Force Research Laboratory in Albuquerque was interested in developing adaptive optics. "We seemed to have a critical mass—universities, along with more than one military user," says Romero. Representative Joe Skeen and Senator Pete Domenici, both New Mexico Republicans, supported creating the MRO because the potential for education outreach, adaptive optics research, and world-class astronomy "all came together in a happy confluence of ideas," says Stephen Traver, a legislative fellow in Domenici's office who used to work for the now retired