

IN RECOGNITION OF BRITTNEY
MORASKI

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to recognize my Senate page today, Brittney Moraski of Bark River, MI, for achieving highest honors at the Senate Page School. Brittney's hard work earned her a 4.0 grade point average this semester, the highest in her class.

Highest honors are nothing new for Brittney. At home in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, Brittney attends Bark River-Harris High School where she is a member of the National Honor Society and also maintains a 4.0 G.P.A. Brittney took advanced placement classes in U.S. Government and Politics and microeconomics and achieved the highest score possible on both A.P. exams. In addition, Brittney has taken college classes at Bay de Noc Community College. Brittney was the first Bark River-Harris High School student to earn the highest endorsement level possible on the senior-level Michigan Educational Assessment Program test as a sophomore.

Complementing her school year work, Brittney has participated in activities that further nurtured her lifelong interest in government and politics. Last summer, Brittney spent three weeks in Washington as part of the Junior Statesmen Summer School at Georgetown University where she took a course on foreign policy and had the opportunity to meet with high-ranking officials in the Congress, State Department, Pentagon, White House and French Embassy.

In addition to her exemplary academic achievements, Brittney stands out for her community involvement. She is the president of the Bark River-Harris Key Club and serves on the Community Foundation of Delta County's Youth Advisory Committee. During the past three years, she traveled to Honduras to volunteer at a soup kitchen, distribute food and clothing, and read and play with Honduran children.

Brittney brings her idealism and achievements to her duties as a Senate page. In her application for the page program, Brittney wrote, "I would not only grow as a student of government from the experience, but I would grow as an individual and as a potential future public servant." Later in her application, Brittney said, "I believe in the U.S. government and in American values, and I would be honored to serve as a page in the epicenter of American lawmaking, the U.S. Congress."

Mr. President, Brittney Moraski exemplifies all that is best in the Senate Page Program and in our young people, and I congratulate her on her outstanding achievements.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

THE OUTSTANDING SERVICE OF
JUDITH OLIVER

• Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I welcome this opportunity to pay tribute to Judith Oliver, Director of The Children's Room Center for Grieving Children and Teenagers in Arlington, MA.

Ms. Oliver has dedicated her professional life to aiding children and families who suffer the loss of a family member. A week from tomorrow, the Center will celebrate its fifth anniversary with a dinner and an auction, and she will be presented with an eminently well-deserved award for excellence.

Ms. Oliver became Director of The Children's Room in 1992, when it was a program at Hospice West in Waltham. She organized it as an independent charity in 1999, and since then it has grown from helping a group of ten children to serving over a hundred children and sixty families.

Today, The Children's Room is a beacon of hope and help for bereaved children and others in their family. It provides a safe and caring environment where children, teenagers and their families can obtain the support they need in grieving over the death of their loved ones.

Ms. Oliver's extraordinary caring, compassion, and dedication are the hallmarks of her career. In many ways, she's a pioneer in this very important field. She earned a Master's Degree in Counseling at Loyola College in Baltimore, with an internship in grief counseling at Hospice of the Chesapeake in Maryland and at Grandma's House, a Washington, D.C. home for children with AIDS.

As we all know, the need for these counseling services is especially great today, Judith Oliver's leadership is a model for all communities. Massachusetts is proud of her. We're fortunate to have her, and I join her many admirers in congratulating her on this award.●

OREGON VETERANS

• Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, today I rise to honor an Oregon veteran who answered the call of duty in service to his country. Grover Judd Killpack was born on January 24, 1924 in a small mining town called Mohrland, close to Price, UT.

Judd's military career began in October of 1943, when he entered the Coast Guard as a Seaman Apprentice. He was assigned to the USS *Callaway*, an attack transport ship that fought in the Pacific theater during World War II. While on the *Callaway*, he ran one of the landing boats, transporting the soldiers to the fight and returning the wounded to the ship. He participated in six invasions in the Pacific, including the Battle for Leyte Gulf and the Battle for Iwo Jiwa. Judd watched as the Marines took control of the island and raised the flag on Mount Suribachi; a

scene immortalized in the now-famous monument in Arlington, VA.

After his tour of duty ended in May of 1946, he left the Coast Guard as a petty officer 3rd class and went home to Price, UT where he married Eva Milkovich. He attended Carbon College where he focused his studies in the dairy field. He demonstrated his leadership skills as the student body president. He transferred to Utah State University where he participated in the ROTC program and received his degree in Dairy Technology. During this time Judd and Eve were blessed with a son and a daughter.

Judd took a sales job that led him and his family to Denver, CO. One day before his tour was over, his country called for his services once again. He answered that call, leaving for the Korean War as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Army in January of 1952. During his short time in the conflict he served as an artillery observer flying over enemy lines to direct friendly fire on communist targets. He came home for good in November of 1952 as a 1st Lieutenant.

A new job opportunity brought Judd and his family to the northwest. They stayed in Seattle, WA until January of 1955. They found their permanent home in Beaverton, OR and the Killpack family has lived there since that day.

Judd went on to be a sales rep for the R&H Company in 1961 and spent the rest of his working days with them, finally retiring in 1986. Judd has been married to Eve since July 3, 1946 and has two children, five grandchildren, and one great grandchild on the way.

For his selfless service to others, and to the United States in time of war, I salute Grover Judd Killpack as an Oregon Veteran hero.●

NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, this week is National Public Health Week, an annual event sponsored by the American Public Health Association or APHA. Every year in April, national, State and local public health professionals highlight an important public health issue, to raise awareness about leading health problems impacting our nation. This year, the theme of National Public Health Week is "eliminating health disparities".

There are many groups that experience disparities in health, largely a result of limited access to important health care services. Living in a rural area is in itself a health risk factor, due to numerous factors that can adversely influence health and access and the resulting disparities are well documented. Chronic illnesses are more prevalent in rural communities and studies have shown that rural residents are more likely to describe their overall health status as poorer than their urban counterparts. Limitation in activity due to chronic health conditions among adults is more common in rural counties than in large metro counties.