

step toward commemorating the sacrifices and the strength of the Japanese-American community, and to recognizing an important chapter in the history of Bainbridge Island, my State, and our Nation.

I am proud to represent a State with a history of electing a diverse group of citizens to public office. In 1993, Filipina-American Velma Veloria became the first Asian-American woman to serve in the Washington State Legislature. Over the past decade, her work to fight human trafficking and promote peace and social justice has truly made my State a better place. Since then, Washington State has also seen the service of Gary Locke, Washington's first Asian-American Governor, and Paul Shin, the first Asian American to serve in the State senate. In fact, the rich history of Asians and Pacific Islanders holding elected office in Washington State dates back to 1962, when Wing Luke, a decorated World War II veteran and former Assistant Attorney General of the State of Washington, won a seat on Seattle's city council. Today, his legacy is commemorated in Seattle's Wing Luke Asian Museum, along with the stories of thousands of other Asian immigrants. I am personally honored to be involved in renovating the museum's East Kong Yick building, one of the first two buildings in Seattle owned by nonwhites. The museum is both a local and national treasure, respected as a Smithsonian affiliate and honored at the White House 10 years ago with the National Award for Museum Services.

As this year's Asian Pacific American Heritage month begins, I believe it is important to preserve the lessons of the past, while recognizing the immense benefit we all receive from living in a diverse country built on the contributions of immigrants from around the globe. Diversity, and the exposure to other customs and ideas that it involves, leads to opportunity and gives the United States much of its strength. In celebrating the rich history, culture, and traditions of Asian and Pacific Islanders this May, we recognize their important contributions to the strength and diversity of our country, and to the bright future that lies ahead.

PASSING OF VICKI COTTRELL

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, with the untimely death of Vicki Cottrell, Utah's executive director of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, NAMI, a powerful and compassionate voice who spoke for those who suffer the effects of mental illness has been silenced. Vicki Cottrell's untiring efforts across Utah, in the legislature, in the jails and mental health courts, among community and religious leaders, and among families, will be difficult to replace. The passionate spirit and vision that she shared with her staff will continue.

Before working for NAMI Utah, Vicki worked in computer software sales. But

after her daughter was diagnosed with schizophrenia, Vicki formed her own support group for people who have loved ones with a mental illness. Eventually, she merged her group with NAMI Utah.

Over the past 20 years, Vicki has worked for the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill's Utah affiliate. She started as a volunteer teaching classes and worked her way up to the executive director's post. Going the distance to places like Logan was common for her, and she took a message of advocacy around the State. Vicki's influence did not just reach inside Utah's borders, though. Upon hearing of her death, NAMI members and friends from across the country brought forth an outpouring of sympathy.

Governor Jon Huntsman, Jr. expressed his condolences noting that Vicki helped educate many about mental illness and the way new medical treatments help the afflicted lead very productive lives. He said, "She traveled throughout the Nation sharing this message of hope and will be greatly missed by all who knew her."

Vicki was a member of my Advisory Committee on Disability Issues for the State of Utah. She worked closely with my office and visited with me and my staff in both Washington and Utah to advocate for the needs of the mentally ill. Her strong commitment to those suffering from mental illness was well known throughout Utah. She provided valuable insights to the Advisory Committee and will be missed by all of the committee members.

The love and respect so many felt for Vicki Cottrell came from her willingness to use her own family's struggle with schizophrenia as an example and turn it into something to help others cope. She worked hard to eliminate the stigma often attached to mental illness, and was tireless, energetic and motivated in her mission.

Vicki's grace, humanity, and love touched every life she met. Her public life never overshadowed her deep devotion for her 6 children and 10 grandchildren. She was a loyal friend and enjoyed close relationships with many. Her beautiful and well-attended garden was a metaphor for her life.

I ask that my colleagues please join me in extending heartfelt sympathies to Vicki's family and friends. The magnitude of the loss for Utah and the Nation is substantial.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HONORING MG RICHARD S. COLT

• MR. CRAPO. Mr. President, I rise to honor one of the great Army Reserve generals in the United States of America. MG Richard S. Colt has served as the commanding general of the 77th Regional Readiness Command based at Fort Totten, NY, for the last 4 years, and I am honored to recognize him on the floor of the Senate. He celebrates

his retirement after 38 years of service to this country. While I am a Senator from Idaho and he is a commanding general from the State of New York, he deserves all of our praise because he was on duty in New York City on September 11, 2001.

Major General Colt is a Vietnam veteran who has always put soldiers first. His emphasis on readiness and training has prepared our citizen soldiers for the current global war on terror.

General Colt is among the finest this country has to offer, and he leads by example. He trains, teaches, and leads his soldiers. He will be sorely missed by his soldiers and by all of us who cherish freedom. We honor his service, congratulate him on his retirement, and reflect on the accomplishments of this great leader.

His dates of service are from July 25, 1967 to June 19, 2005. I know that his family is very proud of him, including his wife Dorothy and his daughters Mary Colt and Jennifer Sullivan and grandson Ryan Richard Sullivan.●

A LIFE OF TEACHING, A LOVE OF LEARNING, A HEART FOR CHILDREN

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I am honored to recognize a truly remarkable individual today. Gail Chumbley is a history teacher at Eagle High School in Eagle, ID. A high school history teacher; there are many individuals who can claim this job title but few who have done so much. Gail is an amazing teacher, passionately devoted to teaching our American experience to her students. Not only does she teach about events in our Nation's history, she has ventured into the next realm, moving the tenets of American citizenship into the real world for her students.

I first heard of Gail's efforts 4 years ago when she became actively involved in the Library of Congress's Veterans Oral History Project four years ago. At that time, she had organized the recording of over 300 oral histories for Eagle High School's library alone. She expanded the effort to include other Idaho schools and collaborated with local civics groups to record literally hundreds more interviews that went to both the Eagle High School archives and the Idaho Oral History Center. One of the most significant accomplishments of Gail and her students was their participation in the Veterans Stand Down in Boise where homeless veterans were given the opportunity to record interviews. Her efforts were not confined to veterans of past wars. Gail and her students also have sent gift boxes and cards to our current service women and men in Iraq and Afghanistan since 2002. She was instrumental in making Eagle High School the top school donor for the World War II Memorial, with a donation of close to \$25,000. The list of her accomplishments, enhanced further with her national recognition by the Daughters of

the American Revolution this year is long, but that is not the focus of my remarks today.

Gail has turned the teaching of history and civics into the action of patriotism. Perhaps the most compelling and significant accomplishment of Gail Chumbley is not her esteemed list of awards and honors, which are many and richly-deserved. Her most important contribution is her role in creating a sense of citizenship within the hearts and intellect of many Idaho young people. This citizenship lives on in these students as they grow into adulthood and manifests itself in their actions, commitments and convictions. It is an entity that grows exponentially and of its own volition, eclipsing plaques, certificates and statuettes. These gather dust, but what they represent are the pillars upon which our country stands firm. This living citizenship is immortalized by the marbled statues of men and women not far from here, and in words carved of the same.

I honor Gail Chumbley today: American patriot, exemplary citizen and role model for all of us.●

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH P. FITZGERALD

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I salute Joseph P. Fitzgerald, who is retiring after 33 years of dedicated service to the Government and people of the United States of America.

For the past quarter century, Mr. Fitzgerald has worked in the Audiovisual Program Development Branch at the Lister Hill National Center for Bio-communications, which is part of the National Library of Medicine at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD. Mr. Fitzgerald, who is a renaissance man of creative vision and artistic talent, has made exceptional contributions to the outreach and communications mission of the largest biomedical library in the world. As technological advances in the dissemination of both visual and text-based information have evolved over the past 25 years, Mr. Fitzgerald has led the way in adopting computer-based graphics systems. And he has helped the National Library of Medicine to communicate the most current and reliable medical and consumer health information to medical professionals, researchers, patients, families and the public.

The number 25 figures prominently in the life story of Joe Fitzgerald for another reason, too. He recently became the 25th person in the history of the Republic to execute a design for the front of a circulating coin. His groundbreaking portrait of Thomas Jefferson graces the new U.S. five-cent coin, as will his obverse design of the Lewis and Clark expedition, which will be released in August. Both commissions were awarded as part of the United States Mint at the Treasury Department's Artistic Infusion Program. Mr. Fitzgerald's portrait of Thomas Jefferson marks the first redesign of

the front of the nickel in 67 years. His nickel designs have been acclaimed throughout the coin collecting community, and Mr. Fitzgerald has received significant national press attention.

Joe Fitzgerald earned a B.A. in fine arts from the University of Maryland, College Park and pursued graduate studies in printmaking at the State University of New York at Oswego. He has served several Federal agencies: the United States Postal Service, summers, 168–1972; the Food & Drug Administration, 1972–1973; the Consumer Product Safety Commission, 1973–1980; and the National Library of Medicine, 1980–2005. Mr. Fitzgerald has earned numerous awards for outstanding contributions and service to the National Library of Medicine, including the 1996 NLM Director's Honor Award for exceptional contributions to the mission of the library through the creative application of his artistic talent, and the 2003 National Institutes of Health Award for Merit for his organization, coordination and congenial leadership in effectively orchestrating the "Turning the Pages" historical medical books program.

In addition, Mr. Fitzgerald is a gifted fine artist. Nationally recognized for his work in paint, pastel and digital media, his creations have been sent around the world through the Embassy Art program, and are held in many private collections. He is currently represented by the Foxhall Gallery in Washington, DC.

Joe Fitzgerald is one of the most beloved individuals ever to tread the NIH campus, and I wish him well in his retirement. He is married to Jean Hill Fitzgerald, another career civil servant who currently works at the National Archives. I thank Joe for distinguished career in public service, and I wish him many years of happiness in retirement.●

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MR. JIM HUFF

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I pay tribute and congratulate Mr. Jim Huff of Northern Kentucky who was recently honored with one of the "Movers and Shakers" awards for the Greater Cincinnati area. Mr. Huff's life accomplishments and dedication to Commonwealth of Kentucky have given me reason to be proud.

Over the past 60 years, Mr. Huff has grown to be a leader both within the community of Northern Kentucky and within the real estate industry. He has served as chairman of the Kentucky Real Estate Commission for five consecutive terms. During this time he established a statewide errors and omissions insurance platform, which continues to serve the needs of Kentucky real estate practitioners today. In 1981, he was awarded Realtor of the Year by the Kenton-Boone Board of Realtors, for which he later served as president.

Throughout his life, Mr. Huff has always been active in civic affairs in

Northern Kentucky. He has been an integral part of his community serving on numerous boards, including Northern Kentucky University Foundation, Saint Elizabeth Medical Foundation, Kids Helping Kids, Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky Fine Arts Foundation and as a trustee for Thomas More College.

The "Movers and Shakers" award of Northern Kentucky is an annual award presented to honor those within the greater Cincinnati region who stand as an example for all. It is presented by the Kentucky Enquirer, the Sales and Marketing Council of Northern Kentucky, The Home Builders Association of Northern Kentucky, and The Kentucky Post.

As a Senator from Kentucky, I appreciate the devotion Mr. Huff has shown over the years to the citizens of Kentucky. I commend his efforts and hope his example of dedication and hard work will serve as an inspiration to the entire State.●

RACIST MANIFESTATIONS IN ROMANIA DESERVE GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

● Mr. BROWBACK. Mr. President, as chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I welcomed the recent visit of Romanian Foreign Minister Razvan Ungureanu, and I regret that I was not in Washington to meet with him. Our countries have forged closer links, and I hope that trend will continue.

While there have been many positive reforms implemented in Romania, unfortunately the situation of the Romani minority is largely the same. Romania has the largest Roma minority in Europe, estimated at 1.5–2 million people. They remain profoundly marginalized and subjected to pervasive discrimination and prejudice.

On April 13, for example, a soccer match in Bucharest turned very, very ugly. Fans of one team, Steaua Bucharest, unfurled a banner reading "We have always had and will always have something against Gypsies." They chanted, "We have always hated Gypsies and we have always urinated on you." During the game, the stadium announcer played an anti-Roma song called "Gypsies and UFOs" and made anti-Roma remarks. The coach of Steaua Bucharest called the coach of the opposing team a "stinking Gypsy." The opposing team, Rapid Bucharest, is from a district with a significant Romani minority.

Response to this rabid anti-Roma manifestation was swift with mixed results.

On April 20, the Romanian Football League suspended the stadium announcer for 6 months. But the League also sanctioned both teams that were present at the April 13 match: Steaua Bucharest, the team responsible for hurling racist invective was fined, but so was Rapid Bucharest, the team against whom these slurs were directed. While it is completely appropriate for a sports league to police