

into the "Guinness Book of World Records" with the world's largest hamburger, a 3,591-pound whopper, as part of the community's centennial celebration in 1982.

But many more of Rutland's successes never garnered headlines. They were the quiet but meaningful stories of strong families, vibrant businesses, prosperous farms, good kids, and the warmth of citizens who cared about each other.

Rutland is both a wellspring and a repository of what is best about America—old-fashioned values of honesty, decency, hard work, faith, and family. Its foundation is solid, and its people will continue to create a community where dreams are turned into reality.●

FORT ABERCROMBIE

● Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, one of North Dakota's oldest communities celebrates its anniversary this week. Abercrombie and the nearby fort after which it is named date their origins back 150 years.

Fort Abercrombie is famous for having been the site of one of the most prolonged battles in the American West between Native Americans and U.S. soldiers. Fresh from their triumphs in a Minnesota uprising, Dakota warriors quickly moved to secure their gains by attacking the last military post between the decimated, burning white settlements and the wide open Great Plains.

The defenders of the fort were in a desperate pinch. The fort had no protective palisade and little else in the way of defense, it was several hundred miles from the nearest help, and, worst of all, rifle ammunition was critically low.

For a month the soldiers, and the citizens who had rushed to the protection of the fort, held off Little Crow's warriors. What saved them was the discovery that the metal balls with which the fort's cannon shells were packed were identical to what their rifles required for ammunition.

Fort Abercrombie has a storied history. Military trails radiated out to Fort Wadsworth, Fort Ransom, and Fort Totten. It was here that wagon trains embarked for Montana's gold fields, that the 1870 peace treaty between 900 Dakota and Chippewa delegates was signed, that oxcart caravans from Canada to the Twin Cities overnighted.

Fort Abercrombie is quiet now but houses a handsome State park and historical center. The adjacent community, however, continues to hum. In 1936, an observer called it "an enterprising, live, wide-awake community." That is still an honest description, especially this weekend.

A street dance, military ball, school reunion, parades, wagon train, history tours, and a multitude of other events will fill the days. Although I expect the activity will be as intensive as it was in 1862, it will not be as desperate. In-

stead, it will be a classic festival of small town America—one of remembrance and homecoming, of neighbors and family, of heritage and pride. I send its citizens birthday greetings and a salute for its proud and singular history.●

NATIONAL VETERANS WHEELCHAIR GAMES

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, this week Wisconsin is honored to host more than 600 veterans and athletes for the National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Milwaukee. At the largest annual wheelchair sports event in the world, hundreds of veterans who made tremendous sacrifices for our Nation will demonstrate not only their remarkable athletic abilities but also their unmatched courage and determination in the face of adversity.

World-class wheelchair athletes and newly disabled veterans will join together in Milwaukee for 17 competitive events and 2 exhibition events. The National Veterans Wheelchair Games is a great sporting event, and it is also a chance for athletes to develop lasting friendships with other veterans who have faced and overcome similar obstacles.

I thank the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center in Milwaukee and the Wisconsin Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America for hosting the games, as well as the VA officials and volunteers who helped to make these games a reality. More than 3400 Wisconsinites are showing their support by volunteering during the games.

I encourage these athletes and their families to explore their unique and dynamic host city. I hope everyone has the opportunity to experience Milwaukee's wonderful lakefront and sample the outstanding food and drink that Milwaukee is known for.

I know Milwaukee will give a warm welcome to all the competitors and visitors who have come to the city for this week's games. Their competitive spirit and the incredible sacrifices they have made bravely serving our Nation are an inspiration to us all. I hope everyone enjoys what is sure to be an exciting and memorable week.●

HONORING THE LIFE OF JEFFREY ERLANGER

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the memory of Jeff Erlanger, an extraordinary person who was a prominent member of the Madison community, a family friend, and an inspiration to me and everyone lucky enough to know him.

To understand what a positive force Jeff was in people's lives, I will quote something he said in an ad he did for Wisconsin Public Television a few years ago: "It doesn't matter what I can't do—what matters is what I can do." Those are words that everyone should live by, but Jeff, who was a quadriplegic, really did live by them.

He never dwelled on the many challenges he faced; instead, he focused on helping others, making tremendous contributions of time and effort to a wide array of organizations.

He served on the Economic Development Commission, as chairman of the Commission on People with Disabilities, and as chairman of the board of the Community Living Alliance, as well as many other positions. Among his accomplishments was his successful push for the accessible taxicab service that exists in Madison today. He also ran for the Madison City Council in 2002. Jeff's commitment to public service says volumes about the kind of person he was and why his passing is such a loss for the Madison community.

Jeff used his personal experience to inspire others, visiting classrooms to talk about living with a disability, and appearing on "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood" at the age of 10. He became good friends with Fred Rogers, speaking both at Rogers' induction to the Television Academy Hall of Fame and at a memorial service when Rogers passed away in 2003.

Throughout his adulthood, he continued to make life-changing connections with people he met. Incredibly, he saved the life of a Boston woman he was talking with online, calling both AOL and the Boston police after she told him she had cut her wrists but wouldn't tell him what her last name was or where she lived. They tracked the woman down and rushed her to an emergency room. It is just one amazing story from a truly amazing life.

I am proud to say that Jeff was an intern in my office. He was also a dear friend to members of my family. He meant so much to so many people, both those he knew, those he inspired through his appearances, and those he helped through his life of community service. I am deeply saddened by his passing, and my thoughts are with his parents, his family, and his friends. Jeff left behind a wonderful legacy, of hope, enthusiasm, and caring, and that is something everyone who knew him can cherish.●

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT GENERAL EMERSON N. GARDNER JR.

● Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to a marine officer from my home State of Maryland, LTG Emerson N. Gardner, Jr., now serving as the Deputy Commandant for Programs and Resources, Headquarters, United States Marine Corps, as he prepares to leave this position for one of even greater importance.

The position of Deputy Commandant for Programs and Resources is one of the most demanding and important jobs within Marine Corps Headquarters. For the past 2 years, as Deputy Commandant, Lieutenant General Gardner has been responsible for planning, programming, budgeting and executing total appropriations in excess of

\$100 billion. He has led the effort to ensure that the Marine Corps had the resources they needed for success in the current conflict and prepared to answer the nation's call in the future.

While Lieutenant General Gardner is responsible for many critical issues, he has been a champion in protecting our forces deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. He has been a particularly strong advocate for the mine resistant ambush protected family of vehicles, or MRAP. These vehicles have the possibility of drastically reducing American casualties caused by improvised explosive devices and Lieutenant General Gardner has been leading the effort to secure support for them. Lieutenant General Gardner has taken the time to educate, encourage, guide—and when necessary to cajole and prod—decision-makers and action officers wherever necessary to accelerate the fielding of MRAP vehicles. Throughout this process, he has been everywhere and involved in every aspect of the MRAP program. So ardent has Lieutenant General Gardner been in support of this life saving program, that he has become known within Headquarters Marine Corps and throughout the Pentagon as “Mr. MRAP.”

I know that a grateful nation shares my admiration for Lieutenant General Gardner an indomitable leader whose tireless efforts have directly contributed to the timely delivery of MRAP vehicles to theater. I am confident that my colleagues will join me in expressing the gratitude of the Senate, and bestowing upon him the unofficial title of “Mr. MRAP.”●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The following message from the President of the United States was transmitted to the Senate by one of his secretaries:

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE ACCUMULATION OF A LARGE VOLUME OF WEAPONS-USABLE FISSILE MATERIAL IN THE TERRITORY OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AS DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13159 OF JUNE 21, 2000—PM 17

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent the enclosed notice

to the *Federal Register* for publication, stating that the emergency declared with respect to the accumulation of a large volume of weapons-usable fissile material in the territory of the Russian Federation is to continue beyond June 21, 2007.

It remains a major national security goal of the United States to ensure that fissile material removed from Russian nuclear weapons pursuant to various arms control and disarmament agreements is dedicated to peaceful uses, subject to transparency measures, and protected from diversion to activities of proliferation concern. The accumulation of a large volume of weapons-usable fissile material in the territory of the Russian Federation continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared with respect to the accumulation of a large volume of weapons-usable fissile material in the territory of the Russian Federation and maintain in force these emergency authorities to respond to this threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, June 19, 2007.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:33 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Brandon, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the act (S. 1532) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 127 East Locust Street in Fairbury, Illinois, as the “Dr. Francis Townsend Post Office Building”.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 885. An act to support the establishment of an international regime for the assured supply of nuclear fuel for peaceful means and to authorize voluntary contributions to the International Atomic Energy Agency to support the establishment of an international nuclear fuel bank.

H.R. 2127. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located 408 West 6th Street in Chelsea, Oklahoma, as the “Clem Rogers McSpadden Post Office Building”.

H.R. 2366. An act to reauthorize the veterans entrepreneurial development programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2397. An act to reauthorize the women's entrepreneurial development programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2563. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 309 East Linn Street in Marshalltown, Iowa, as the “Major Scott Nisely Post Office”.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 80. Concurrent resolution calling on the Government of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) to recommit to a political solution to the conflict in northern Uganda by engaging in good-faith

negotiations, and urging immediate and substantial support for the ongoing peace process from the United States and the international community.

H. Con. Res. 148. Concurrent resolution recognizing the significance of National Caribbean-American Heritage Month.

H. Con. Res. 151. Concurrent resolution noting the disturbing pattern of killings of numerous independent journalists in Russia since 2000, and urging Russian President Vladimir Putin to authorize cooperation with outside investigators in solving those murders.

H. Con. Res. 155. Concurrent resolution recognizing the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day, and expressing the sense of Congress that history should be regarded as a means for understanding the past and more effectively facing the challenges of the future.

The message also announced that pursuant to 16 U.S.C. 431 note, and the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial Commission: Mr. MOORE of Kansas; Mr. BOSWELL of Iowa; Mr. THORBERRY of Texas; and Mr. MORAN of Kansas.

At 6:30 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Brandon, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 57. An act to repeal certain sections of the Act of May 26, 1936, pertaining to the Virgin Islands.

H.R. 692. An act to amend title 4, United States Code, to authorize the Governor of a State, territory, or possession of the United States to order that the National Flag be flown at half-staff in that State, territory, or possession in the event of the death of a member of the Armed Forces from that State, territory, or possession who dies while serving on active duty.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 885. An act to support the establishment of an international regime for the assured supply of nuclear fuel for peaceful means and to authorize voluntary contributions to the International Atomic Energy Agency to support the establishment of an international nuclear fuel bank; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

H.R. 2127. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 408 West 6th Street in Chelsea, Oklahoma, as the “Clem Rogers McSpadden Post Office Building”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2397. An act to reauthorize the women's entrepreneurial development programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

H.R. 2563. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 309 East Linn Street in Marshalltown, Iowa, as the “Major Scott Nisely Post Office”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

The following concurrent resolutions were read, and referred as indicated: