

to improve their preparation through a focus on raising Indiana's K-12 academic standards. More recently, Stan has led a comprehensive campaign to significantly increase college graduation rates in Indiana.

On a personal note, I have known Stan Jones for nearly 25 years. I am personally grateful to have had the benefit of Stan's wisdom for all these years.

Throughout his public career, Stan has been a tireless advocate for moving educational policy issues to the forefront of Indiana's political agenda. On behalf of all Hoosiers, we thank Stan for a job well done, for his passion and commitment to education, and above all, for his service to the people of Indiana.●

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL THOMAS L. CARTER

● Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to an outstanding military leader, public servant, true patriot, and citizen of Charleston, SC: MG Thomas L. Carter.

General Carter is currently the Mobilization Assistant to the Secretary of the Air Force, and on May 1, after nearly 35 years of distinguished and honorable service, General Carter will retire from the U.S. Air Force Reserve.

General Carter began his active duty service in 1975 after graduating from the ROTC program at Memphis State University. As an Air Force C-141 pilot he flew over 4,000 hours performing missions in support of the U.S. Special Forces. He also had the distinction of serving as the Air Force Aide to President Ronald Reagan from 1984 to 1986, where he spent countless hours with the President "carrying the football" at the height of the Cold War. Following his active duty career, he served 23 years in the U.S. Air Force Reserve.

General Carter's public service also extends to the Senate. From 1986 to 1989 he served as Assistant to the Republican Leader for National Security Affairs in the Office of Senator Robert Dole. His keen understanding of the Senate made him the leader's chief adviser on defense, foreign policy and veterans' affairs matters, and also resulted in his selection as a key member of Senator Dole's 1996 Presidential campaign.

General Carter's legislative prowess was so respected, that he left the Senate to assume the role of Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Senate Affairs in 1989. In that capacity, he counseled the Department of Defense leadership and individual service executives on issues before Congress.

For 13 years, General Carter also served in the Secretary of Air Force's Office of Legislative Liaison, advising numerous Secretaries on government affairs matters. He also trained countless Air Force officers in the ways of Washington, DC. His trademark was his commitment to providing each new assignee to the office with his "Hill

101" where military officers, and many times new congressional staff, would be given the secrets to success for navigating the legislative branch. Many of those he mentored have gone on to tremendous success in the public and private sector, due in large part to General Carter's tutelage.

In 2003, General Carter was named Assistant to the Chairman for Government Affairs during the Columbia Accident Investigation Board. He also served as a civilian in the Department of Defense as a member of the Senior Executive Service while Senior Counselor to the Coalition Provisional Authority—CPA—from 2003-2004. In that capacity, he led numerous congressional delegations through areas of ongoing combat operations including visits to Baghdad, Mosul, Tikrit and Fallujah.

The Nation will miss General Carter's congressional expertise, tireless advocacy for the Air Force, and unwavering commitment to public service. However, I know he will continue to serve his Nation wherever he goes. Tom is the proud father of Kathryn, 28, Will, 26, and Mary-Lee, 15. I am proud to speak on behalf of a grateful Nation in saying thank you to General Carter for his years of service and sacrifice.

I hope my colleagues will join me in wishing him well in all his future endeavors and hope that those who follow in his footsteps will continue his legacy of selfless dedication to our great Nation. Good luck and Godspeed.●

135TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SCHOOL SISTERS OF ST. FRANCIS

● Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, today I honor the School Sisters of St. Francis which will be celebrating 135 years of service in Milwaukee on April 24, 2009. I want to share with my colleagues a bit of background on the Sisters and call attention to the pivotal role they play in Milwaukee's faith community.

The School Sisters of St. Francis was founded in 1874 in Wisconsin by three courageous women Emma Franziska, Mother Alexia; Paulina Schmid, Mother Alfons; and Helena Seiter, Sister Clara. A year prior, these women left Germany and came to the United States to fulfill their dream of founding a Franciscan religious order.

Their central mission was to help their fellow immigrants and address the need for service within the Church. Their dedication to helping others has culminated in a network of Sisters who always strive to respond to the times they are in, and to the needs of the people whose lives are affected by their inspiring work.

Today that spirit lives on with Sisters, associates, staff, and volunteers in India, Europe, Latin America and the United States. The Sisters continually demonstrate their compassion for others and have often been recognized for their pioneering spirit and innovation in education, health care, pastoral

ministry, and the arts. Their outstanding work promotes human dignity, justice, and outreach to the poor. It is with great pride that the people of Wisconsin wish the School Sisters of St. Francis a happy 135th anniversary and continued success as they carry out their mission in Wisconsin and across the globe.●

TRIBUTE TO VICKIE VANZANDT AND STEVE HICKOK

● Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I wish to recognize Vickie VanZandt and Steve Hickok for their exemplary record of public service to the Bonneville Power Administration, the people of Washington State, and the Pacific Northwest.

Vickie VanZandt retired on March 28, 2009 after 35 years with the Bonneville Power Administration. She most recently served as Bonneville's transmission business line senior vice president. As the senior executive, Vickie assured the transmission grid operated safely and reliably in order to provide power to over 12 million customers. Her work involved coordinating and setting policy for transmissions system planning, design, construction, operations, and maintenance—clearly, no small feat.

Vickie graduated magna cum laude from the University of Washington's School of Engineering, is a registered engineer, and is a member of Tau Beta Pi engineering honor society. She has been a board member of the Western Regional Transmission Association, past president of the Northwest Regional Transmission Association, and has chaired the arbitration committees of both of these organizations. At the request of the Department of Energy, she also chaired the Operations Team investigating the East Coast Blackout of August 13, 2003.

Steve Hickok, Bonneville Power Administration's deputy administrator, retired on April 4, 2009, after 27 years of faithful service. Previous to his time with Bonneville, Steve served on the staff of my former colleague, Senator Mark Hatfield, as well as with the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Senate Committee on Appropriations. His experience here in the Senate served him well, and at Bonneville, Steve has served as the assistant administrator for conservation and renewable resources development, the chief operating officer, and the group vice president for sales and customer service. He was appointed as the deputy administrator, the organization's second highest-ranking position, in 2001.

Steve graduated with honors from Pomona College in Claremont, CA, and is also a graduate of the Stanford Executive Program. He has received many awards during his time at Bonneville, including the Secretary of Energy's Meritorious Service Award and the prestigious Presidential Rank Award, which he earned in both 1992 and 2000.

Steve has served on the boards of directors of the Electric Power Research Institute, the Western Energy Institute, the American Leadership Forum of Oregon, the Portland Business Alliance, and the Bonneville Environmental Foundation.

Again, I express my thanks to both Vickie VanZandt and Steve Hickok for their years of invaluable service to the Bonneville Power Administration, and to the entire Pacific Northwest region. The people of Washington State and the region have certainly benefited from their dedicated public service and experience. I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 2009, the Secretary of the Senate, on April 13, 2009, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 383. An act to amend the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (division A of Public Law 110-343) to provide the Special Inspector General with additional authorities and responsibilities, and for other purposes.

S. 520. An act to designate the United States courthouse under construction at 327 South Church Street, Rockford, Illinois, as the "Stanley J. Roszkowski United States Courthouse".

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 2009, the enrolled bills were signed on April 13, 2009, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

MEASURES REFERRED

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 77. Concurrent resolution recognizing and honoring the signing by President Abraham Lincoln of the legislation authorizing the establishment of collegiate programs at Gallaudet University; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1256. To protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products, to amend title 5, United States Code, to make certain modifications in the Thrift Savings Plan, the Civil Service Retirement System, and the Federal Employees' Retirement System, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 131. An act to establish the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission.

ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on April 14, 2009, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 383. An act to amend the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (division A of Public Law 110-343) to provide the Special Inspector General with additional authorities and responsibilities, and for other purposes.

S. 520. An act to designate the United States courthouse under construction at 327 South Church Street, Rockford, Illinois, as the "Stanley J. Roszkowski United States Courthouse".

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1203. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Swine Health Protection: Feeding of Processed Product to Swine" (Docket No. APHIS-2008-0120) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 3, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1204. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Review Group, Commodity Credit Corporation, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Sugar Program" (RIN0560-AH86) as received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 9, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1205. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Review Group, Commodity Credit Corporation, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Marketing Assistance Loans and Loan Deficiency Payments" (RIN0560-AH87) as received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 9, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1206. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Importa-

tion of Sweet Oranges and Grapefruit From Chile" (Docket No. APHIS-2007-0115) as received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 9, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1207. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision of the Hawaiian and Territorial Fruits and Vegetables Regulations; Technical Amendment" (Docket No. APHIS-2007-0052) as received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 9, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1208. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Agricultural Bioterrorism Protection Act of 2002; Biennial Review and Republication of the Select Agent and Toxin List; Delay of Compliance Date for Newly Registered Entities" (Docket No. APHIS-2007-0033) as received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 10, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1209. A communication from the Acting Administrator, Risk Management Agency, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Common Crop Insurance Regulations; Tobacco Crop Insurance Provisions" (RIN0563-AB98) as received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 6, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1210. A communication from the Director of the Policy Issuances Division, Food Safety and Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Mandatory Country of Origin Labeling of Muscle Cuts of Beef (including Veal), Lamb, Chicken, Goat, and Pork; Ground Beef, Ground Lamb, Ground Chicken, Ground Goat, and Ground Pork" (RIN0583-AD38) as received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 9, 2009; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1211. A communication from the Acting Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the use of Aviation Continuation Pay during fiscal year 2008; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1212. A communication from the Vice Chair and First Vice President, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving exports to Saudi Arabia; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1213. A communication from the Vice Chair and First Vice President, Export-Import Bank of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving exports to various countries; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1214. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Information Systems and Chief Information Officer, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the acquisitions made by the Department from entities that manufacture articles, materials, or supplies outside of the United States for fiscal year 2008; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1215. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the details