

start I will go a little farther and call it what it was: a baptism by fire. But through his five decades of thoughtful leadership, he has always been devoted to the city he loves and has never stopped working to improve the lives of its residents.

During his time as mayor, the local population has increased, area businesses have grown, and the economy has expanded.

And along the way, some have reported, Bob Butler became the longest-serving currently active mayor in America.

After first being elected, a fire wasn't the only problem he had to deal with he also had to dig the city out of financial trouble.

Under Mayor Butler's guidance, Marion got itself back in the black and began building a platform to allow for future growth.

And then, a few years later, another disaster hit. A tornado tore through the city, killing 10 and injuring hundreds including the Mayor and leaving tens of millions of dollars of damage.

After crawling out of his car, which had been thrown 300 feet and turned upside down, Mayor Butler showed the sort of resilience we don't see much anymore and dove headfirst into recovery efforts.

His efforts, along with those of many others, helped lead to a boom in economic and residential development that we still see effects of today.

Without Mayor Butler's leadership, Marion would look very different than it does now. His touch can be seen on everything from the civic center to the city's businesses to the local minor league team, the Miners.

His leadership helped guide Marion through many trying experiences, and the city's voters kept their faith in Bob Butler. He has served them well each and every year.

Despite all of his hard work and his clear record of results, Mayor Butler has always remained humble.

He may be mayor, but he always gives credit to the people of Marion for their city's success.

This week, the people of Marion are gave some credit back to Mayor Butler.

They honored his five decades of good work with a life-size bronze statue at the site where that fire once raged so many years ago—in Tower Square, just across from city hall.

I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Mayor Butler and his family for this impressive achievement and wish him the best when he enters retirement at the end of this term.

TRIBUTE TO PASTOR JOSEPH R. JORDAN

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, in my hometown and in cities and towns across this country, houses of worship and the men and women who lead them care for the spiritual needs of our people. But they do more. They are pillars of neighborhoods. They minister to the

sick in body or spirit. They feed the hungry. They help resolve the lamentable but all-too-human divisions in our communities.

This has been the role of Corinthian Baptist Church in Hamtramck, MI, and its pastor, the Rev. Dr. Joseph R. Jordan, who will in a few days be honored for leadership and community spirit. Under Pastor Jordan's leadership, Corinthian Baptist has been a rock for its community. Pastor Jordan is a thoughtful and respected shepherd of his flock. He and the church are actively engaged in community service, helping to fight hunger and sickness in Hamtramck and Detroit. His service and leadership include serving on the board of trustees of Henry Ford Health System, one of the Nation's largest medical service providers.

Pastor Jordan has been a tireless seeker of justice. Nothing exemplifies this better than his long years of work and advocacy to help resolve a housing discrimination case that dates back to the 1960s, the resolution of which has taken decades. Pastor Jordan and others never gave up on their community or on the idea of justice, and thanks to the hard work of many, and despite significant challenges, the case has been resolved.

I should note that I am among the many who have benefitted from Pastor Jordan's wisdom and leadership. Over the years, I have valued his friendship and his counsel. And so I am pleased that the city of Hamtramck will, on April 28, rename a section of Caniff Street, including the block on which Corinthian Baptist sits. It will be known as Rev. Dr. Joseph R. Jordan Street. I join Pastor Jordan's many friends in congratulating him for this honor, and I personally thank him for his decades of service to his church and his community.

WORLD WAR II VETERANS VISIT

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise to recognize a very important event that will be occurring this Sunday and Monday. About 90 World War II veterans from Montana will take part in the "Big Sky Honor Flight," and come to Washington, D.C. to visit their monument—the WWII Memorial.

Their trip is hosted by the Big Sky Honor Flight program. The mission is to recognize American Veterans for their sacrifices and achievements by flying them to Washington, D.C., to see their memorials at no cost. The program, which has already sent 184 Montana veterans to visit the memorials, is generously funded by businesses, student groups, and folks all across Montana.

These veterans come from all parts of our great State, and while they are in Washington, they will see the WWII Memorial and other monuments, enjoy a banquet honoring their service to the country, and fly home the next day.

This is a special two days for this group of heroes, but it is also a time to

give thanks for the courage and sacrifice of all our veterans and servicemembers. It is a time to reflect on the sacrifices made by those who fought on the front in Europe, on the battlefields of Korea, in the jungles of Vietnam, the deserts of Iraq, and those who are currently fighting in the mountains of Afghanistan. We must not forget their sacrifices.

I am so pleased I will be able to meet with these courageous Montanans. I ask the Senate to join me in welcoming these heroes to our Nation's capital this weekend. They are:

Robert E Anderson, George P Ardelean, William Bakker, Lorraine F Blank, Roy Boettger, Charles E Brickman, Richard A Caruso, Edward B Campen, Roy F Cattrell, Robert W Cook, Donald P Culliton, Louis J Day, Roy S Dimond, Raymond V Drake, Marvin Duncan, Theodore E Eklund, Joseph Fahn, Everitt D Foust, Leo C Fowler, Robert M Frankforter, Colin Glasgow, Maurice Graham, Joseph Hartman, John Hepler, Rudolph Hergenrider, Russell S Hodge, Vance Holbrook, William C Howard, Amy Johnson, Robert C Johnston, Bruce D Jones, Jack Jurgens, Gertrude Kalan, Lester L Kath, Joseph C King III, Robert Kinyon, Gordon Kirkwood, Donald B Koeppen, Henry J Kornegay, Howard Largent, Raymond Leone, Robert L Lubbers, Pierre Mangen, Donald J Marshall, William Clayton, George R McMurray, Paul Milam, Irvin J Miller, William Mills, Richard Miner, Ruben F Oberlander, John M Richards, Ivory L Robinson, Gerald C Schlichenmayer, Kenneth Schneider, Ernest D Sells, Donald C Siers, George E Sexton, John St Germain, Paul Stengel, Harry K Stine, Myron J Stratton, Myron R Stutterheim, Kent T Swift, Margaret J Talmage, Everett V Tande, Agatha F Twist, James A Vick, Robert L Wagnitz, Robert E Willems, Andrew R Winter, William D Worth, Kenneth Baeth, Raymond A Bergstrom, James Kenaley, James J Bertrand, George A Moore, William Bug, Edgar E St John, Gordon P Slovarp, Donald Shay, Edmund M Bouchard, George L Schuyler, Elizabeth Riley, Raymond J Rae, Ralph Stone.

DOOLITTLE TOKYO RAIDERS

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize David J. Thatcher, a remarkable Montanan and American. On April 18, 1942, Thatcher was one of 80 Doolittle Raiders who carried out the first air raid on Japan during World War II. The unit was named for their commander, Lt. Col. Jimmy Doolittle, who planned and led the mission that dealt a devastating psychological blow to the Japanese Empire in the wake of the Pearl Harbor attacks.

I ask my colleagues in the Senate to join me in honoring Mr. Thatcher and his comrades for their heroic deeds, carried out 71 years ago today.

Staff Sergeant Thatcher was born on July 31, 1921 in Bridger, MT and entered the Army in December 1940. He volunteered for the secret mission that later became known as the Doolittle Raid and was assigned as an engineer/gunner to Crew 7 of the "Ruptured Duck."

On April 18, 1942, the Doolittle Raiders launched their B-25 bombers off the USS *Hornet* aircraft carrier, 250 miles