

his or her Sailors. Commanders are responsible and accountable for the safety, health and welfare of their people; commanders must have authority commensurate with this responsibility, and that includes the authority to maintain good order and discipline.”

My commitment to taking decisive action when necessary to ensure the security and success of our men and women in uniform had me support the reforms in the most recent NDAA and support Senator McCASKILL's bill. Taken together, these reforms meaningfully will change how our Armed Forces address the scourge of military sexual assaults, but they do so in a way that recognizes the unique purpose of the Uniform Code of Military Justice and ensures that our commanders have the tools they need to facilitate that much needed, long-overdue change.

REMEMBERING THOMAS EDWARD

Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, I was saddened to learn of the passing of Thomas Edward “Ed” Braswell, Jr., and I offer my sincerest condolences to his family. Two former chairmen of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Sam Nunn and John Warner, joined in expressing their gratitude for Mr. Braswell's exemplary service at a recent committee hearing.

Mr. Braswell joined the Armed Services Committee staff in 1953 and served as staff director and chief counsel to the committee under the leadership of two of the titans of the Senate—Richard Russell and John Stennis—for 23 years. Mr. Braswell served the committee from the beginning of the Eisenhower Presidency to the end of Gerald Ford's, helping see the committee through most of the Cold War and all of the Vietnam war and its aftermath. As chief counsel to the committee, Mr. Braswell helped to write the first of our annual National Defense Authorization Acts in 1962, and stayed on long enough to play a key role in the next 14 NDAA's, helping start a tradition of legislative accomplishment that continues to this day.

The Armed Services Committee has been blessed over the years with a number of staff members who have served the committee for a period of decades, dedicating their careers to the committee, the Congress, our national security, and our men and women in uniform and their families. Our staffers work behind the scenes, providing us with the informed advice that we need as we consider the myriad of national security issues facing the Department of Defense and the Congress. The long hours and large workloads required for such a career often require significant sacrifices by both our staffers and their families. Without the advice and assistance of these committed public servants, the business of the Senate could not be carried out.

Ed Braswell began his career by serving in the old Army Air Corps during World War II. He went on to go to Har-

vard Law School and worked briefly for the Department of Justice before joining the committee staff. In addition to his hefty commitments in the U.S. Senate, Mr. Braswell also made time to give back to his community. He served as the chairman of the Alexandria Planning Commission for more than 30 years and was instrumental in many of the commission's historic preservation efforts.

I know my Senate colleagues join me in recognizing the mighty contributions of our staff members, both past and present. It is the hard work and dedication of individuals like Ed Braswell who make our work possible, and for that we are very grateful.

2014 PARALYMPIANS

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Madam President, I wish to recognize the impressive accomplishments of the New Hampshire athletes who will be representing the United States this month in the 2014 Winter Paralympics in Sochi, Russia.

These athletes are an inspiration to all of New Hampshire and athletes around the country. They have exhibited incredible dedication to their respective sports and have proven their remarkable abilities in competitions nationally and internationally. A selection to the U.S. Paralympic team is a great honor and a fitting reward for their years of hard work and training.

With access to the unparalleled beauty and terrain of the White Mountains, thousands of miles of trails, and nearly 1,000 lakes, Granite Staters are at home on the snow, on the ice and in the air.

New Hampshire is proud to acknowledge our State's Paralympians and is excited to show the world their talents during the Sochi games.

Taylor Chace of Hampton Falls, NH will be competing in sled hockey. A 3-time Paralympian, a member of the defending Paralympic gold medal sled hockey team and reigning top defenseman from the 2010 Paralympic Games, Taylor will hopefully help Team USA win the gold medal again.

Chris Devlin-Young of Bethlehem, NH will be competing in alpine skiing. As a five-time member of Team USA and 4-time Paralympic medalist, we are excited to see Chris compete again on the Paralympic stage and hope that he can regain the podium in Sochi.

Tyler Walker of Franconia, NH will be competing in alpine skiing. We are rooting for Tyler who is representing Team USA for the third time, and are hopeful that his previous Paralympic experience and recent successes at the World Cup and U.S. Paralympics Alpine Skiing National Championships will translate into victory this year in Sochi.

Each member of the U.S. Paralympics team has overcome incredible challenges and with their resolve, hard work and courage, they represent the best of our Nation.

It is my honor to congratulate these New Hampshire athletes. I wish each of

them, and all of Team USA, the best of luck as they seek to bring home the gold at the 2014 Sochi Winter Paralympics.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIE DAVIS, JR.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Madam President, I wish to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the distinguished public servant and deacon, Mayor Willie Davis, Jr. Mayor Davis began his tenure as Mayor in 1992, though evidence of his service begins much sooner. During the Korean Conflict, Mayor Davis served the country he loved as a member of the United States Army. He also happily served Zion Hill Missionary Baptist Church as a diligent and hard-working deacon, treasurer, and Sunday school teacher for over 20 years.

Mayor Willie Davis, Jr. devoted his career to building up his city of Farmerville and continuing to expedite its economic development. During his four terms as Mayor of Farmerville, Mayor Davis was instrumental in constructing the Farmerville Recreation Center which now bears his name. He also helped to build new police and fire complexes and led the expansion of ConAgra Poultry facilities into Farmerville.

Perhaps Mayor Davis' most memorable impression came from his relationships with the constituents that he served, and even those that he did not. Mayor Davis met no strangers; he was a mentor to many, an example to others, and a friend to all. Mayor Davis' motto and the words that he lived by, “May the work I've done, speak for me,” became more than just his campaign slogan. Let us remember his words as we reflect on his life, the great works that filled it, and his impact on Farmerville and the entire State of Louisiana.

Mayor Davis has been and continues to be an inspiration to all those who have benefitted from his 16 year career as Mayor of Farmerville and his decades of service to his church and community. It is with my heartfelt and greatest sincerity that I ask my colleagues to join me along with Mayor Willie Davis Jr.'s family in recognizing the life and many accomplishments of this incredible Mayor, mentor, and deacon, as well as his lasting impact throughout the Nation.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

KCAM RADIO

• Mr. BEGICH. Madam President, 50 years ago KCAM AM Radio 790 in Glennallen, AK, began airing its signal. Today I commend this remarkable achievement.

KCAM signed on the air March 27, 1964, the day of the magnitude 9.2 Good Friday Earthquake that devastated Anchorage and caused a tsunami that wiped out Valdez and other coastal communities. The community of

Glennallen also felt the effects of the quake.

KCAM had not yet received Federal Communications Commission permission to broadcast, but since their tower was undamaged, the Civil Defense Authority asked the station to go live under Emergency Orders. They signed on and kept residents, emergency workers, and those fleeing the damaged areas up-to-date.

It was quite a beginning for a shoestring station that was founded five decades ago by the late Vince Joy. In 2014, the station is still going strong with a state-of-the-art studio, reaching listeners throughout the Copper River Valley via the airwaves and online streaming.

Along the way, KCAM has earned awards from the Associated Press and was named Inspirational Station of the Year by Skylight Network and Small Market Station of the Year by Focus on the Family.

I want to extend my congratulations to the current crew at the station, including president and manager Scott Yahr, program director Michelle Easty, special projects manager Roger Bovee, and countless other staff and interns over the years who helped keep it going.

As part of their celebration, a newly released book commemorates 50 years of uninterrupted operation by chronicling stories from listeners who have been affected by the broadcasting and reprinting their photos. Anyone who has lived in a small town knows that a radio station is often at the center of the fabric of the community. Such is the case with KCAM, which not only provides music, news, weather, sports, talk shows, and entertainment, but also sends personal messages and makes community announcements.

I send my best wishes to my friends at KCAM Radio, the "Voice of the Copper River Valley," as they observe their anniversary in April 2014.●

REMEMBERING JEFF BAYLESS

● Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to Jeff Bayless. Jeff was a senior captain in the Anchorage Fire Department. He was born and raised Alaskan, and lived his entire life bettering our great State. Jeff began his road to serve in 1986 when he became a certified State of Alaska EMT. He then went on to complete paramedic training, and began serving with the Mat-Su Borough EMS and the Central Mat-Su Fire Department.

In 1991, Jeff was hired by the Anchorage Fire Department. And in 1995 when the Fire Department Emergency Medical Services and Fire Operations merged, Jeff made the move from paramedic to firefighter. In May of 2005, Jeff's steadfast dedication was recognized when he was promoted to senior fire captain. He served at Fire Station 9 in South Anchorage and Fire Station 11 in Eagle River.

Although a hero in his chosen occupation, Jeff was also a champion in his

community. As a North Star Bible Camp board member, a youth instructor, and with his involvement in the Alaska Fallen Firefighters Memorial Committee, he was a pillar of leadership and a stalwart example of selfless service.

Jeff died after participating in a training activity on Friday March 7, 2014. He will be sorely missed. His commitment to God, family, and community will be felt for generations to come. Jeff Bayless is truly an Alaskan hero, and we mourn with his wife, Gail, his entire family, and his brothers and sisters in the Fire Department.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mr. Thomas, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 4:43 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 2019. An act to eliminate taxpayer financing of political party conventions and reprogram savings to provide for a 10-year pediatric research initiative through the Common Fund administered by the National Institutes of Health, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 4152. An act to provide for the costs of loan guarantees for Ukraine.

S. 2110. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to repeal the Medicare sustainable growth rate and to improve Medicare and Medicaid payments, and for other purposes.

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-4860. A communication from the Chair, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2013; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4861. A communication from the Acting Chairman, Consumer Product and Safety

Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Agency Financial Report for fiscal year 2013; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4862. A communication from the Director, Mississippi River Commission, Department of the Army, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Annual Report for calendar year 2013; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4863. A communication from the Chairman, Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the requirements of the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act and the Inspector General Act of 1978; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4864. A communication from the Board Chair and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's annual report concerning its compliance with the Sunshine Act for calendar year 2013; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4865. A communication from the Administrator of the General Services Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administrator's Semiannual Management Report to Congress; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4866. A communication from the Chief Financial Officer of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to financial integrity for fiscal year 2013; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4867. A communication from the Chair of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4868. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-281, "Annie's Way Designation Act of 2014"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4869. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-280, "Closing of a Public Alley in Square 150, S.O. 13-10218, Act of 2014"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4870. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-279, "Expedited Partner Therapy Act of 2014"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4871. A communication from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Semiannual Report from the Office of the Inspector General for the period from April 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013 and a report entitled "Compendium of Unimplemented Recommendations"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4872. A communication from the Chairman, Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2013; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4873. A communication from the Acting Chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law,