

Wayne State Law Library. This quickly led to a teaching position at the law school where he taught from 1941 through 1972. During this time, he briefly left to join Samuel Schwartz and Rolland O'Hare in a private practice that my brother, Sander Levin, joined shortly after its inception. After a year in practice, Boaz returned to teaching and was made assistant to the provost and a full professor at Wayne State University Law School.

Although passionate about teaching, Boaz Siegel's first love remained labor law. While teaching at Wayne State in the 1950s, he served as legal counsel to the trustees of fringe benefit, pension and health funds. One such fund, the Detroit and Vicinity Construction Workers Health and Welfare Fund, possessed 45,000 participants. In 1962, he was appointed by the United States Secretary of Labor to a position on the first U.S. Council on Employee Welfare and Pension Plans.

Two years later, his considerable talents as an arbitrator were acknowledged when he became a member of the National Academy of Arbitrators. However, it was his fund work that consumed most of his time, and led him to leave teaching and enter law practice full-time in 1972. His work with many unions, including Local 636, has ensured a better future for thousands of workers and their families.

Boaz Siegel can take pride in his long and honorable service to the working people of Michigan. I am honored to call this man a mentor, colleague and friend. I hope my Senate colleagues will join me in saluting Boaz Siegel for his commitment to working men and women, the labor movement and teaching and practicing law.●

TRIBUTE TO FRAMATOME CONNECTORS USA, INCORPORATED

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to and congratulate Framatome Connectors USA, of Manchester, on their nomination for this year's Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. Their dedication to their employees who serve our country as part of the National Guard and Reserve is admirable and an example for other businesses.

Framatome, which manufactures electrical connectors, serves the needs of its five employees who serve in the National Guard and Reserve in several very important ways. First, their compensation package for all employees includes differential pay between civilian and military salaries. The package also includes medical, dental, and life insurance and 401(k) coverage for the duration of the employee's duty commitment.

Framatome has also established a policy that allows the employee on active duty to maintain his or her posi-

tion with the company for as long as they required to remain on active duty. They believe the service of their employees to their country is important to our nation's defense, and anything they can do to make this service easier for their employees and their families is worth the effort.

Framatome put this generous plan into action recently when one of their employees was mobilized and sent to Bosnia during a Presidential call up. The company believed that when an employee is activated and pulled away from his or her family, a financial cushion should be available to help bridge the gap during the salary transition from civilian to military pay. They wanted to be sure the family of the reservist or guardsman or woman would have the financial resources they needed to continue as close to normal a life as possible while their loved one was away.

I applaud Framatome's effort to make Reserve or National Guard service easier for their employees, and the company's national recognition is certainly well-deserved. I know the employees who sacrifice so much to serve their country are extremely grateful for the chance to serve their country and work for such a compassionate, understanding company. It is an honor to serve all the people of Framatome, USA in the U.S. Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN JOHN O'GRADY

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Captain John O'Grady, who recently completed a charity bicycle ride from Dayton, Ohio to Albuquerque, New Mexico to raise awareness and money for epilepsy charities. I am particularly proud of John because I had the pleasure of coaching this amazing young man during the 1973-74 baseball season at Kingswood Regional High School.

John's desire to make his ride is deeply personal. Just this year, after 23 years as a pilot with United Parcel Service and Airborne Express, John suffered a grand mal seizure while dining at an airport restaurant after a flight. A few weeks later, John was stricken again and diagnosed with epilepsy. This was a shocking blow for a man who flew planes and hot air balloons for so many years.

With his flying and driving privileges permanently taken away from him, John was forced to ride his bicycle everywhere he went. In fact, it was on a bike that he suffered the seizure that led to his epilepsy diagnosis, but John did not give up. Instead, he decided to try to use his experience to help others facing epilepsy and the charities that do such important work as we research and try to find a cure for this terrible disease.

Since John enjoys hot-air ballooning so much and could not bear to miss the annual International Balloon Fiesta, he decided to ride his bike the 1,600 miles from Dayton, Ohio to the event in Albuquerque. Along the way, John has raised more than \$11,000 for several epilepsy charities and inspired others battling epilepsy. John's ride has given people with epilepsy a platform on which they can finally talk about their disease and the discrimination they face on a daily basis. That is perhaps the most important legacy of this magnificent achievement.

I want to congratulate John and wish him well in all he does. I am so proud of his courage and determination, and I am honored to have known him. It is an honor to serve him in the U.S. Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO ERIC KINGSLEY

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Eric Kingsley as he leaves his position as Executive Director of the New Hampshire Timberland Owners Association, NHTOA.

Eric's five year tenure at NHTOA has been marked by progress and success. The organization's programs and services have grown to meet the needs and concerns of its members, and have established a strong, stable foundation for the association's future.

Through the years, I have grown to value Eric's input on the many issues that significantly impact New Hampshire's timberlands. Eric has done an outstanding job of keeping me, and other policy makers, informed on the issues and has been a true leader in making sure the voice of NHTOA was heard throughout the country.

Of all of Eric's achievements at NHTOA, perhaps his most important success came this past spring. Eric helped lead the charge to defeat the Environmental Protection Agency's ill-considered proposal to treat some forestry activities as "point source pollution" under the Clean Water Act. These rules, known as Total Maximum Daily Loads—TMDL—would have required landowners, foresters, and homeowners to obtain federal permits before conducting a timber harvest and could have exposed them to lengthy bureaucratic delays and costly citizen lawsuits.

This past May, I held a field hearing in Whitefield, New Hampshire, on the TMDL issue, and not only did Eric successfully testify, but he organized hundreds of foresters to ensure their message was heard loud and clear in Washington. Thanks in large part to Eric's leadership on this issue, the EPA withdrew the section of the TMDL rules that adversely affected forestry.

My staff and I have also worked closely with Eric on issues of importance to the White Mountain National

Forest. When the President issued his "roadless" initiative stripping the people of New Hampshire and New England with the opportunity to have a voice in the management of their public lands, Eric was there to ensure we took this measure to task. This time we were not successful, but we were very close to creating an exemption for the White Mountain National Forest from this heavy-handed proposal.

Eric also rose to the occasion in the face of destruction from Mother Nature's wrath. The Ice Storm in January 1998 brought unprecedented challenges to New Hampshire's forest lands. Hundreds of thousands of acres were significantly damaged. Eric worked closely with me and my colleagues to help us turn this tragedy into an opportunity. Today, not only has the federal government provided resources to help recover from the storm, but we have a record number of acres under forest stewardship plans.

My staff and I have worked with Eric on a wide variety of other issues during his time at NHTOA, and have always been impressed with his dedication and the depth of knowledge he displayed on issues ranging from estate tax reform to rural economic development. He has always been an effective and honest advocate for the causes he holds close to his heart, and I know he will be greatly missed by me and NHTOA's 1,500 members.

I wish Eric well in all his future endeavors, and am confident he will succeed in whatever pursuits he chooses. It is an honor to represent him in the U.S. Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO BARBARA BEDFORD

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Barbara Bedford of Etna, New Hampshire, on her fine performance at the Sydney Olympic Games. Her hard work, dedication and perseverance in making her Olympic dream a reality are an example for us all, and the people of New Hampshire are so very proud of her excellent performance.

Barbara, along with Jenny Thompson, was part of the gold-medal winning 4x100 medley relay that shattered the world record. It was so great to see Barbara fly through the water during the backstroke leg of the relay with her extremely patriotic red, white and blue-dyed hair. Her Olympic moment was years in the making, as she finally made her first Olympic team at the age of 27 after disappointments at the 1988, 1992 and 1996 Olympic Trials. After those heartbreaking defeats, Barbara could have easily given up her dream of making an Olympic team. However, with the help of her family and coach, Barbara did not retreat. Instead, she worked tirelessly toward her dream and was rewarded at this year's Olympic trials, where she placed first in the

50-meter backstroke. Barbara was able to keep her focus squarely on making the team this year and reach her goal, and this is an inspiration to all of us and proves once again that if we work hard, we can do just about anything. Her positive attitude and passion for her sport is so refreshing in an age when far too many athletes seem more interested in endorsements than their sport.

Once again, I want to congratulate Barbara on her accomplishments, and I wish her all the best in her future endeavors. It is an honor to represent her in the U.S. Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO JENNY THOMPSON

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Jenny Thompson of Dover, New Hampshire on her magnificent performance in the Sydney Olympic games. Her hard work and dedication through three Olympics is an example for all of us, and the people of New Hampshire are extremely proud of her success.

Jenny has done so much throughout her career to make the people of Dover and New Hampshire proud during her distinguished career. Whether it was breaking records at Stanford University or winning numerous competitions, Jenny has set the standard for women's swimming in the United States over the past decade. Jenny's Olympic teammates often cite her achievements as their inspiration for striving for excellence in the pool.

During the Sydney games, American swimmers brought home an impressive 33 of a possible 96 swimming medals, more than any other nation, and Jenny played a key role in that amazing success. She anchored two gold medal-winning relays and brought home her first individual Olympic medal, a bronze in the 100-meter freestyle. These blistering performances brought Jenny's individual Olympic medal count to nine, breaking Bonnie Blair's record for Olympic medals won by an American woman. Jenny performed beautifully under amazing pressure and against tough competition, and she will always be a champion in the eyes of the people of New Hampshire.

As Jenny ends her Olympic swimming career, I wish her all the best as she heads to medical school. I am confident her amazing work ethic and dedication to excellence will serve her well in her career in medicine and any other endeavor she pursues. It is truly an honor to represent Jenny in the U.S. Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS OF MERRIMACK

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the Knights of Columbus Number 6725 of Merrimack, New Hampshire as

they gather to celebrate their 25th anniversary. This is a milestone of which they and the community of Merrimack should be extremely proud.

Throughout its quarter-century of existence, the Knights of Columbus has been a major presence in the Greater Merrimack Area. They have donated their time and energy to making their entire community a better place through public service. Whether it is manning a soup kitchen in Nashua, making annual donations to the New Hampshire Kidney Fund or recognizing Families of the Year, K of C 6725 has shown their dedication to their core values of family, Church, council, and community.

Furthermore, the K of C 6725 has worked to help those who do not have a voice, including the needy, the handicapped, and the unborn. They have donated countless items of clothing to people in need, worked tirelessly to help WMUR-TV with its annual presentation of the Jerry Lewis Telethon and purchased and maintained concession trailers to help generate donations for many charitable organizations. Furthermore, they have sponsored an annual folk music night for Birthright, a group dedicated to protecting the unborn.

The K of C 6725 has shown dedication not only to its community and those in need but to the Catholic Church as well. They are a constant presence, holding an annual Palm Sunday Breakfast, an Easter celebration known as "Birthday Party for Jesus," and setting up an Memorial Mass at Last Rest Cemetery in Merrimack.

In a world where far too few people take the time and opportunity to get involved in their churches and communities, the K of C No. 6725 is an example of the good things we can accomplish when we work together to help others. I congratulate them on this wonderful anniversary, and I wish them all the best as they continue their fantastic work. It is an honor to represent all of K of C 6725's members in the U.S. Senate.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, 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.)