

retired personnel and their families has been invaluable in improving long term retention of our armed forces. I am particularly gratified that during the past two years in which I have been privileged to serve as Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee I have been able to enact some of the most substantial quality-of-life enhancements for active, reserve, and retired service members and their families in decades. Colonel Arcari played an important role in this effort.

Colonel Arcari's long and unique career of leadership and personal dedication to fostering readiness by protecting every service member's welfare is an inspiration and a continuing lesson to all who care about our men and women of our military. My best wishes go with him. Colonel Arcari, I salute you on behalf of all the men and women, past and present, who wear the uniform.●

COAST GUARD CUTTER "WOODRUSH"

● Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the men and women who have served aboard the United States Coast Guard Cutter *Woodrush*, WLB 407, homeported in Sitka, in my own state of Alaska.

On March 2, 2001, the USCGC *Woodrush* will be decommissioned, departing for Baltimore, MD. There, she is to be transferred to the navy of the Republic of Ghana.

Although she is the youngest of the 39 seagoing buoy tenders constructed during World War II, the *Woodrush* has logged nearly 57 years of service to our nation.

She was built for less than \$1 million in Duluth, Minnesota, and commissioned on September 22, 1944. For thirty-five years she sailed from Duluth, servicing aids to navigation, conducting search and rescue missions, and icebreaking on the Great Lakes.

In 1979, she began a major refit at the Coast Guard shipyard in Baltimore. She has been homeported in Sitka since leaving the shipyard in 1980.

Woodrush's primary mission has been keeping aids to navigation in good condition. Her crew maintained 165 shore lights and 69 buoys throughout the 2,000 square-mile Southeastern Alaska panhandle. The work of the *Woodrush* has been crucial to the safety of the thousands of tugboats, fishing vessels, ferries, pleasure boats and cruise ships that navigate those sometimes treacherous waters each year.

USCGC *Woodrush* also participated in several notable search and rescue missions. She was one of the first ships to arrive on the scene of the wreck of the *Edmond Fitzgerald* in 1975, when the ore freighter went down with all hands in a violent storm on Lake Superior. Her sonar located two large pieces of wreckage, and she served as a platform

for the U.S. Navy's Controlled Underwater Recovery Vehicle, which found the sunken hull.

In 1980, *Woodrush* responded to the uncontrolled fire and eventual loss of the cruise ship *Princendam* off Graham Island, British Columbia. The efforts of *Woodrush* and her crew, as well as other rescue units, led to the successful rescue of all passengers and crew, with no loss of life.

In August 1993, *Woodrush* assisted the 248-foot cruise ship, M/V *Yorktown Clipper*, after it ran aground. *Woodrush* crewmembers helped control the flooding and ensured that all 130 passengers were taken safely off the vessel.

Not all of the crew's adventures were at sea. In the summer of 1994, personnel from *Woodrush* helped extinguish a dangerous fire in the small community of Tenakee, Alaska. Their efforts helped keep the fire from spreading out of control in the 30-knot winds.

Protection of the environment is yet another of the Coast Guard's many missions. Over the years, *Woodrush* has contributed in many ways, including service as one of the numerous Coast Guard vessels that responded to the 1989 *Exxon Valdez* oil spill in Prince William Sound. Each year, the *Woodrush* crew has trained to handle future accidents. It is reassuring to know that their skills have not been needed to date, but even more so to know they have been, like the Coast Guard's motto, "Always Ready."

During her 57 years of service, the *Woodrush* and her crew earned several awards, including the Meritorious Unit Commendation, the American Campaign Service Ribbon, the World War II Service Ribbon, and the National Defense Medal. *Woodrush* was a Bronze Winner of the Coast Guard Commandant's Quality Award in both 1997 and 1998 and, in 1997, she also won the Coast Guard Foundation's Admiral John B. Hayes Award. The Hayes Award honors the Pacific Area unit that best demonstrates the commitment to excellence and professionalism embodied in the traditions of the United States Coast Guard.

USCGC *Woodrush* will service her last aid to navigation on February 27. To all the men and women who have served as her crew, I extend my thanks and appreciation. Your faithful attention to duty—guiding mariners to safety, aiding citizens in distress, and defending all the interests of the United States will be remembered. You have truly been *Semper Paratus*.●

TRIBUTE TO LAURA STEPHAN

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Laura Stephan of Merrimack, New Hampshire, for being honored with the "President's Award" from the Merrimack Chamber of Commerce.

Laura has served the citizens of Merrimack selflessly with enthusiasm

and loyalty. Her demonstrated ability to continuously provide high quality assistance in all aspects of Chamber activities is commendable.

Laura is a graduate from the State University of New York in Albany with a Liberal Arts degree. She is the Treasurer of the State of New Hampshire Women's Council of Realtors and is an active member of the Nashua Chapter of the Women's Council of Realtors who has received the "Affiliate of the Year Award" from the Greater Nashua Board of Realtors.

Active in numerous community projects, Laura has served as the President of the American Stage Festival Theater Guild and as a member of its Board of Trustees. She is also an active member and committee chairperson for Merrimack Friends and Family.

Laura and her husband, Gary, reside in Merrimack. She is a passionate volunteer for the Humane Society of Nashua and is committed to promoting a better quality of life in the community.

Laura has enthusiastically provided dedicated service to her local community and to the people of New Hampshire. It is an honor to represent her in the U.S. Senate.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:18 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2. An act to establish a procedure to safeguard the combined surpluses of the Social Security and Medicare hospital insurance trust funds.

H.R. 524. An act to require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to assist small and medium-sized manufacturers and other such businesses to successfully integrate and utilize electronic commerce technologies and business practices, and to authorize the National Institute of Standards and Technology to assess critical enterprise integration standards and implementation activities for major manufacturing industries and to develop a plan for enterprise integration for each major manufacturing industry.

H.R. 544. An act to establish a program, coordinated by the National Transportation Safety Board, of assistance to families of passengers involved in rail passenger accidents.

H.R. 559. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 1 Courthouse Way in Boston, Massachusetts, as the "John Joseph Moakley United States Courthouse."

The message also announced that the House passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 279. An act affecting the representation of the majority and minority membership of the Senate Members of the Joint Economic Committee.

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

H. Con. Res. 28. A concurrent resolution providing for a joint session of Congress to receive a message from the President.

H. Con. Res. 32. A concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 1505 of Public Law 99-498 (20 U.S.C. 4412), the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Board of Trustees of the Institute of American Indian Native Culture and Arts Development: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska and Mr. KILDEE of Michigan.

The message further announced that pursuant to sections 5580 and 5581 of the Revised Statutes (20 U.S.C. 42-43), the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: Mr. REGULA of Ohio, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, and Mr. MATSUI of California.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 103 of Public Law 99-371 (20 U.S.C. 4303), the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Board of Trustees of Gallaudet University: Mr. LAHOOD of Illinois.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 2. An act to establish a procedure to safeguard the combined surpluses of the Social Security and Medicare hospital insurance trust funds; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 524. An act to require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to assist small and medium-sized manufacturers and other such businesses to successfully integrate and utilize electronic commerce technologies and business practices, and to authorize the National Institute of Standards and Technology to assess critical enterprise integration standards and implementation activities for major manufacturing industries and to develop a plan for enterprise integration for each major manufacturing industry; to the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

H.R. 554. An act to establish a program, coordinated by the National Transportation Safety Board, of assistance to families of passengers involved in rail passenger accidents; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-632. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; District of Columbia,

Maryland, Virginia; Post Rate-of-Progress Plans, One-Hour Ozone Attainment Demonstrations and Attainment Date Extension for the Metropolitan Washington, D.C. Ozone Nonattainment Area; Correction" (FRL6943-9) received on February 8, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-633. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Water Quality Standards; Establishment of Numeric Criteria for Priority Toxic Pollutants for the State of California; Correction" (FRL6941-1) received on February 8, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-634. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Significant New Uses of Certain Chemical Substances; Delay of Effective Date" (FRL6769-7) received on February 8, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-635. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Approval of Opacity Recodifications and Revisions to Visible Emissions Requirements COMAR 26.11.06.02" (FRL6916-6) received on February 6, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-636. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; New Source Review Regulations" (FRL6922-8) received on February 6, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-637. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Rhode Island; Enhanced Motor Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program" (FRL6913-3) received on February 6, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-638. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Environmental Program Grants for Tribes, Final Rule: Delay of Effective Date" (FRL6943-5) received on February 6, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-639. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Significant New Uses of Certain Chemical Substances; Delay of Effective Date" (FRL6769-7) received on February 6, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-640. A communication from the Director of the Office of Congressional Affairs, Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Guidance on Risk-Informed Decision Making in License Amendment Reviews" (RIS2001-02) received on February 12, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-641. A communication from the Acting Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Designation of Critical Habitat for the Zayante Bad-Winged Grasshopper" (RIN1018-AG28) received on February 12, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-642. A communication from the Acting Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Endangered Species, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Determination of Critical Habitat for the Morro Shoulderband Snail" (RIN1018-AG27) received on February 12, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-643. A communication from the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Threatened Status for Mountain Plover" (RIN1018-AF35) received on February 12, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-644. A communication from the Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Final Designation of Critical Habitat for the Arroyo Toad" (RIN1018-AG15) received on February 12, 2001; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-645. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Bureau Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.622(b), Table of Allotments, DTV Broadcast Stations (Charlotte, NC)" (Docket No. 00-178) received on February 12, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-646. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Bureau Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Columbia City, Florida)" (Docket No. 97-252) received on February 12, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-647. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Bureau Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of Video Description of Video Programming, Report and Order" (Docket No. 99-339) received on February 12, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-648. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Bureau Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Policy and Rules Division, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of Video Description of Video Programming" (Docket No. 99-339)(FCC No. 01-7) received on February 12, 2001; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-649. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Bureau Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Policy and Rules Division, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Review of the Commissions Regulations