

say that our students would be well-served if Marie was the lodestar for our teachers. Her grace and passion for the profession made a tremendous difference in the lives of our young people, and we are all in her debt. Thank you, Marie. May she rest in peace.●

TRIBUTE TO ASHLEY KEMMIS AND BRIANNA PAGE

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the honor of recognizing Ashley Kemmis and Brianna Page for their entrepreneurial spirit in Valley County.

Ashley and Brianna saw a need in the community for more options for women's clothing after Shopko closed in Glasgow in 2019.

They teamed up together to launch Thistle and Thread, an online women's clothing boutique. Since they launched their website one year ago, Ashley and Brianna's project flourished into a successful operation out of Eastern Montana.

Women across the country can purchase the boutique's clothing online and those in eastern Montana can visit their storefront in Glasgow.

It is my honor to recognize Ashley and Brianna for taking the initiative to successfully launch Thistle and Thread. Thistle and Thread is a now a proud part of the Glasgow community, and I am grateful for Ashley and Brianna's entrepreneurship.●

TRIBUTE TO JERRIANNE BOGGIS AND VALERIE CUNNINGHAM

● Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am proud to recognize JerriAnne Boggis of Milford and Valerie Cunningham of Portsmouth as February's Granite Staters of the Month for their work to bring to light New Hampshire's too often forgotten Black history and engage communities across our State in conversations about New Hampshire's full past.

JerriAnne has said that it took 25 years after emigrating from Jamaica to New Hampshire for her to discover that New Hampshire had a Black history. JerriAnne was surprised to learn that the town she lived in, Milford, was home to Harriet E. Wilson, one of the first African Americans in North America to publish a novel. To commemorate Harriet's incredible achievement, JerriAnne established a nonprofit organization to erect a statue of Harriet, which also marked the first statue in New Hampshire to honor a person of color.

Valerie grew up in Portsmouth, where her parents were leaders of the local civil rights movement and encouraged their daughter to explore New Hampshire's Black history. Valerie followed her parents' encouragement and spent years documenting African and African-American history in New Hampshire. Valerie would later go on to create a physical embodiment of her decades of research by establishing the

Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail in 1995, with the intent of bringing public awareness to Portsmouth's Black history.

Today, the Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail has expanded to become the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire. The foundation that Valerie founded is now led by JerriAnne, the trail's executive director. JerriAnne is working to expand the organization's mission to other towns across New Hampshire with the hope of growing public awareness of the Black history that exists in every region of the State.

The Black Heritage Trail plays an important role in engaging Granite Staters about the complex topic of race in America. To help jumpstart these necessary conversations, the organization hosts community dialogues, called Tea Talks, focused on discussing the intersection of race with different facets of American life, including health, education, and the arts. It also hosts a variety of events throughout the year, including the Black New England Conference, held last year at Southern New Hampshire University.

The Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire brings a long overdue focus on our State's Black history. African Americans in New Hampshire have made profound contributions to our State, and thanks in part to the work of JerriAnne and Valerie, these stories and achievements will be remembered in history. It is a great honor to recognize the work of these women and their dedication to creating a more informed, inclusive, and just New Hampshire.●

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF STEVENS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

● Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize and congratulate Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, NJ on the 150th anniversary of its founding.

On February 15, 1870, Stevens Institute of Technology was founded as the first college of mechanical engineering in the United States, with a bequest from Edwin A. Stevens, a member of "America's first family of inventors." Over the past 150 years, the university has expanded to include comprehensive academic offerings in a wide array of engineering and science discipline, and has an accredited School of Business and a College of Arts and Letters.

From its earliest days, Stevens has honored its mission to inspire, nurture, and educate leaders in the technology-centric environment of the future, while equipping them with the tools to find innovative solutions to the most challenging problems of our time. Today Stevens is among the fastest growing universities in the Nation, attracting top students and faculty from New Jersey, the Nation, and across the globe.

Stevens is also one of the largest producers of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, STEM, de-

gree recipients in New Jersey and ranks first in the State and 15th in the Nation in the production of engineering graduate degrees. Students at Stevens benefit from the university's technology-centric education, which provides a unique and entrepreneurial approach to learning that encourages problem-solving and is a passport to success. Stevens has an outstanding 96 percent placement rate for its graduates, and its alumni have launched and led numerous companies and organizations.

Stevens faculty, student, and alumni have pioneered research and innovations in many diverse fields, including transportation, telecommunications, resiliency, sustainability, artificial intelligence, machine learning, healthcare, biomedicine, cybersecurity, maritime security, and systems engineering. It is no exaggeration to say that Stevens has changed and improved the way we live, work, and communicate, greatly benefiting society. Stevens has also contributed significantly to the community and local, State, and national economy.

It is my great honor to recognize Stevens for this significant milestone in the history of the university and to thank its leadership, faculty, students, and alumni for their profound and farreaching contributions to the communities of Hoboken, Hudson County, the State of New Jersey, and to the United States.●

REMEMBERING WESLEY AIKEN

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I want to take a few minutes to recognize the life of Ugiagvik Wesley Aiken, who died January 6, 2020 at the age 93 years old, only 19 days shy of his 94th birthday.

With the passing of Native elder Wesley Aiken, Alaska has lost a highly respected Inupiat leader who dedicated his life to leadership in the Alaska Native community and ensuring that cultural and traditional knowledge will be passed down to younger generations.

Wesley Aiken was born in 1926 in Utqiagvik, to a completely subsistence lifestyle north of the Arctic Circle. He grew up in a small village, Isuk, which lays east of Utqiagvik, until the age of 12, moving for his education. As a teenager, he became a reindeer header for 3 years in order to help out his family. He was a man of many trades—he was a mechanic, laborer, member of the Alaska Territorial Guard, and later a member of the Alaska National Guard. He served as the land chief for Ukpeagvik Inupiat Corporation following its formation in 1973. He was a spiritual leader for the community and was always asked to pray. He would pray when the whale was caught, before big celebrations, the Nalukatak blanket toss, the Winter Games, and he prayed with the whaling captains. He loved the gatherings of the people and strived to see all the community's children participate. He was a hard worker