

erving on various boards and commissions, including the Garland Civic and Home Arts Club and the Box Elder County Fair. She was recognized for her dedication to improving the lives of young people when she was named the 1990 Weber County Youth Community Connection Woman of the Year, a recognition I know she treasures.

Norma has also been a driving force in many of Utah's premier women's organizations, including the National and State Federation of Women's Clubs and the Utah Womens' Legislative Council. In both of these organizations, Norma assumed numerous leadership positions helping to implement policy that directly affected the health and well-being of Utah women.

Norma's love and loyalty for the Republican philosophy has been evident in the many years she has served promoting the ideals and values of the Republican party. She has literally donated thousands of hours to the party, candidates, and campaigns who share her commitment to republican principles. She has served as the President of the Box Elder County Republican Women's Club and in many positions within the Box Elder County Republican Party. I am confident that her service to the Republican party will continue for many years to come.

In addition to the service she has rendered in the community and office, Norma is a loving mother to her son, Randy, and a loving grandmother. In fact, her granddaughter Emily will be joining us on the floor of the Senate as a page next fall. Norma takes great pride in her family and is grateful for the love that they share. She has a keen interest in and love for antiques and has made her home truly a treasure. She has welcomed many people into her home over the years to share with them the history of the antique pieces she has found and lovingly displays.

I am grateful for the service that Norma Holmgren has given to me, to her community, and to the state. She has been by my side from day one and has always been a vital component of my Senate organization. I will miss her tremendously but know that life holds many wonderful things for her to savor and enjoy. Norma Holmgren is a dedicated public servant, loving mother and grandmother, and fervently patriotic American. I want to wish her the very best in retirement and pray for her continued good health, success, and happiness.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

CARRINGTON WILLIAMS

• Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the Honorable Carrington Williams, a great Virginian who positively contributed to the Commonwealth as both a public servant and a community leader. It was a sad day in Virginia when Carrington Wil-

liams passed away on August 3, 2002 at the age of 83. Carrington Williams leaves behind him a legacy of service to Virginia and so many worthy causes. I speak today of Carrington Williams not only from the perspective of a grateful Virginian, but also as someone who is proud to have called Carrington a friend.

Carrington Williams was born and died a Virginian. During his life, he served in numerous leadership positions, as well as elected ones. Early in his life, Carrington served the United States in the Army Air Corps. Later on, Mr. Williams was a member of the Virginia House of Delegates.

What many will remember Carrington for was his tireless commitment to historic preservation. Mr. Williams was the founding Chairman of the Civil War Preservation Trust and the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields National Historic District Commission, which later became the Shenandoah Valley Battlefields Foundation. Every time one sees the many historic battlefields in Virginia, one should be thankful to Carrington for his commitment to preserving our nation's treasures for many future generations to enjoy and reflect upon.

In addition to these commitments, Carrington served in the positions of chairman of the board of the Washington Airports Task Force, the Dulles Airport Regional Economic Study Commission, and the Western Transportation Corridor Study Commission, and as a member of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority.

While our dear Delegate Carrington Williams is no longer here with us, he will always be remembered by the thousands of Virginians touched by his life. I appreciate having the opportunity to honor Carrington and my thoughts are with his wife, Doreen, and his son and stepdaughter who carry on with his blood and spirit.●

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE SOLOMAN BLATT, JR.

• Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and salute a dear friend of mine and tireless servant of the American people for his long and distinguished service on the Budget Committee of the Judicial Conference of the United States. After 25 years of service, the Honorable Soloman Blatt, Jr., Senior Judge for the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina, will step down as a member of the Budget Committee of the Judicial Conference.

Effective January 20, 2003, the longest tenure of any current member of any Judicial Conference Committee, as well as one of the longest tenures during any era, will come to an end and both the judiciary and the Congress will have lost a tremendous resource.

Ever mindful of the fiscal realities facing Congress and the Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and State, the Judiciary, and Related

Agencies, Judge Blatt has always demonstrated the unique ability to strike a balance, articulating well the most critical needs of the judiciary while recognizing and appreciating the competing demands the subcommittee faces within its vast jurisdiction. During Judge Blatt's more than 25 years of service on the Budget Committee, the judiciary's budget grew from \$438.5 million in fiscal year 1978, to a request of approximately \$5 billion for fiscal year 2003. But perhaps one of his greatest achievements during his tenure on the Budget Committee was revising the role of the committee from that of simply assembling or adding up the resource requirements coming from the substantive committees of the Judicial Conference, to that of formulating a budget request that was fiscally responsible and politically acceptable outside the judiciary, while also addressing the immediate needs of the judiciary's burgeoning workload.

Judge Blatt is an honest broker. Appropriations Subcommittee allocations get tighter and tighter each year, pitting the needs of executive branch agencies against the needs of the judiciary. But I always knew when Judge Blatt came to me concerned about a particular aspect of the Federal courts, it was real, and I would do my best to accommodate his request.

Mr. President, the judiciary, and indeed the Congress, will always be indebted to Judge Blatt for his years of service on behalf of the Federal court system. I know that I will miss his input and candor during our deliberations on funding for the Federal judiciary within the annual Commerce, Justice and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations bills.●

TRIBUTE TO BOB STEELE

• Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise to honor a man who over the course of three generations brought joy into millions of Connecticut homes, Bob Steele. Bob died on Friday, December 6 at the age of 91 after a wonderful life and career on and off the airwaves.

Bob was with WTIC in the weekday early morning slot for an astounding 55 years, from 1936 to 1991. And he even continued doing the show for the past decade, after his official retirement, on the first Saturday of most months. He hosted his last broadcast on November 2 of this year, at age 91.

For all that time, we in Connecticut woke up with Bob, and that made our days a bit brighter. He would talk about the world. He would predict sports scores. He would play from his eclectic collection of music, and whistle some tunes himself. He would carefully pronounce and define the word of the day. He would tell corny jokes, which, I must admit, are my favorite kind. He would tell us the secret to making great scrambled eggs. He would remind us not to leave the house without our keys.

The broadcast I have described may sound more fitting for a small town

than for a State of nearly 3½ million people. But that is the way Bob was. He was always, pun intended, on our wavelength, always on our frequency.

That is what made Bob a legend. That is what got him enshrined in the Radio Hall of Fame, the same hall where Jack Benny and Bob Hope are canonized.

The life he lived and the legacy he leaves are even more amazing when you consider Bob's personal journey. He grew up in Kansas City, MO, with his mother, who rented rooms in their apartment to pay the bills. Bob made ends meet himself by delivering telegrams by bicycle and then delivering emergency drug prescriptions by motorcycle. After high school, he tried professional boxing as a welterweight, but couldn't quite hack it in the ring. So he headed out West to Los Angeles, where he got a few bit parts and took to announcing motorcycle races. Then, in the spring, 1936 season, a Hartford motorcycle race promoter recruited him. With no money in his pocket, not even enough to pay the YMCA the \$1 deposit they required for a room, he came to Connecticut. Since then things have never been the same over the airwaves of our great state.

We should have a special appreciation for Bob Steele today. In this era of nonstop news, shrill political debate, and shock jocks, Bob's voice, one of strength, warmth, kindness, and gentle humor, will resonate for generations.

When he wasn't on the airwaves, Bob was a great family man, and a champion of literacy throughout Connecticut's communities. Bob helped create the Bob Steele Literacy Volunteers Reading Center in Hartford and wrote a book called, "The Word for the Day: 65 Years of Wit & Wisdom on Mispronunciation."

Wit and wisdom were two things he had in surplus. One morning a few years ago, when Bob blew a cue, something that was very rare for someone so seasoned, he recovered gracefully. "That 5-second pause was due to my inexperience," he said. "I'm new here."

The word of the day, which Bob taught us every single morning, was his trademark. In that spirit, let me suggest that one word exemplified every day in Bob's life and career. That word is "friend."

Our thoughts and prayers go out to his widow Shirley, their four sons Robert, Paul, Philip and Steven, and their grandchildren and great grandchildren. May God bless them and bless the memory of Bob Steele.●

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.)

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-342. A communication from the Senior Paralegal, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Alternative Mortgage Transaction Parity Act; Preemption—Delay of Effective Date (RIN1550-AB51)" received on December 12, 2002; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-343. A communication from the Senior Paralegal, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Record keeping and Confirmation Requirements for Securities Transactions; Fiduciary Powers of Savings Associations (RIN1550-AB49)" received on December 12, 2003; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-344. A communication from the Senior Paralegal, Office of Thrift Supervision, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Regulatory Reporting Standards: Qualifications for Independent Public Accounting Performing Audit Services for Voluntary Audit Filers (RIN1550-AB54)" received on December 12, 2002; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-345. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Bureau of Public Debt, Assistant Secretary for Financial Markets, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Governmental Securities Act Regulations: Large Position Rules, amends 17 CFR Part 420 (RIN1505-AA88)" received on December 17, 2002; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-346. A communication from the Deputy Congressional Liaison, Federal Reserve Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Transaction Between Member Banks and Their Affiliates—Miscellaneous Interpretations" received on December 2, 2002; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-347. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Investment Management, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Disclosure of Costs and Expenses by Insurance Company Separate Accounts Registered as Unit Investment Trusts That Offer Variable Annuity Contracts (RIN3235-AI39)" received on November 18, 2002; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-348. A communication from the Director, Office of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Minimum Standards of Integrity and Fitness for an FDIC Contractor (RIN3064-AC29)" received on December 12, 2002; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-349. A communication from the General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban

Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination confirmed for the position of Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, received on December 12, 2002; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-350. A communication from the General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination confirmed for the position of Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research, received on December 12, 2002; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-351. A communication from the Vice Chairman, Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to South Africa, received on November 25, 2002; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-352. A communication from the Vice Chairman, Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to U.S. export transactions involving U.S. exports to Australia, received on December 12, 2002; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-353. A communication from the Vice Chairman, Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to Ireland, received on November 18, 2002; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-354. A communication from the Vice Chairman, Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report relative to transactions involving U.S. exports to Romania, received on November 18, 2002; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-355. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Housing Finance Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Affordable Housing Program Amendments (RIN3069-AB16)" received on November 25, 2002; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-356. A communication from the Under Secretary, Arms Control and International Security, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report concerning an amendment to Part 121 of the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-357. A communication from the Assistant Legal Adviser for Treaty Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, international agreements other than treaties entered into by the United States under the Case-Zablocki Act, received on November 25, 2002; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-358. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the report of a certification of a proposed license for the temporary export of defense articles or defense services sold commercially under a contract to International Waters, Pacific Ocean or French Guiana; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-359. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the International Traffic in Arms Regulations concerning major program authorization (MPA) and Arms Export Control Act, the report of a certification involving the export of electronic power generating systems to Germany, Italy, Spain and the United Kingdom in support of the Eurofighter program; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-360. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the