

by all of us who are fortunate enough to have worked closely with him.

As he rose to become the Army's senior technical leader in ground system technology, Dr. Bryzik established a legacy of accomplishment that will be difficult to equal. Ten years ago, he was promoted to the highest scientific professional rank in the Army. In 2004, he was presented with the Distinguished Presidential Rank Award for his leadership and technical contributions to the U.S. Government.

Dr. Bryzik's generation of scientists and engineers, and the technologies and systems they developed, are the forgotten part of America's success in winning the Cold War. I often worry that we aren't doing enough to replace this generation of innovators—especially with the quality of individuals like Dr. Bryzik. However, Dr. Bryzik is making an important contribution to this effort. Outside of TARDEC, he has served on the faculty of Wayne State University as a professor in the Department of Engineering, another example of his commitment to the development of the next generation of our Nation's engineers and to the service of his community.

However, most important among his accomplishments are the technologies that Dr. Bryzik helped develop and transition to soldiers in the field. His efforts have helped give our service men and women the most cutting-edge, effective technology possible, and that has been a critical advantage for our Armed Forces as they engage our adversaries around the world. Most importantly, the technological advancements that Dr. Bryzik has overseen have saved lives.

Throughout his career, Dr. Bryzik has been an invaluable resource to me and my staff. In addition to his insight and expert counsel, he has a remarkable ability to convert highly technical subjects into language that the rest of us can understand! I am told he has mentored at least five generations of my staff and helped them navigate the complexities of the work done at TARDEC and throughout the Army.

I am sure my colleagues will join me in congratulating Dr. Bryzik on an extraordinary career and thanking him for his decades of service to our Nation, the Army and TARDEC.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OUACHITA NATIONAL FOREST

● Mrs. LINCOLN. M. President, it is no surprise why Arkansas is called the Natural State. That is because we have been blessed with a tremendous abundance of mountains, hills, streams, rivers, and lakes that contribute to the beauty of our great State. For generations, national parks and outdoor recreation have played a big part in the lives of Arkansans. They also have been the source of our large tourism industry, attracting tens of thousands of visitors to our State to enjoy all that nature offers.

One of the crown jewels of our National Forest System is the Ouachita National Forest. Encompassing 1.8 million acres and stretching from western Arkansas to southeastern Oklahoma, the Ouachita National Forest is the largest and oldest national forest in the South. In fact, on December 18, 2007, the Ouachita National Forest will celebrate its 100th anniversary.

Originally named the Arkansas National Forest, the Ouachita National Forest was created from public lands south of the Arkansas River by President Theodore Roosevelt on December 18, 1907. In 1926, President Calvin Coolidge renamed the forest the Ouachita National Forest to reflect the name of the mountains and river that run primarily through it.

Home to breathtaking mountain views and picturesque streams and lakes, outdoor enthusiasts enjoy recreational activities like camping, boating, biking, and hiking on some of the 37 trails that run throughout the national forest. Its thriving wilderness areas provide ample grounds for fisherman and hunters, including nine different turkey hunting areas throughout the park. The forest also supplies ample timber resources to meet the needs of our Nation.

As the 100th anniversary of the Ouachita National Forest approaches, I wish to express my appreciation for the lasting impact that the national forest has made for the people of Arkansas, Oklahoma, and our great Nation. Ouachita Forest supervisor Norman Wagoner has encouraged citizens to join the park staff in celebrating this historic anniversary at any of the forest's 11 district offices on December 18. The meet and greet will be a wonderful time to reflect on the past contributions of the park and the tremendous role it has played in Arkansas' heritage.●

CASIMIR LENARD

● Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to the life and legacy of a great American who passed away last week—Casimir Lenard.

Cas Lenard was an American patriot, who also made a tremendous contribution to strengthening the friendship between the United States and Poland. He served bravely in three U.S. wars. He was a leader in the Polish American Community. He was also a beloved husband to the late Myra Lenard, his partner in life and his partner in his work on behalf of the Polish American community.

Cas Lenard was born in Chicago to a family of Polish immigrants. Like so many children of immigrants, Cas Lenard embraced his country while never forgetting his homeland.

After hearing that the Nazis had invaded Poland in 1939, Cas joined the Chicago Black Horse Troop, 106th Cavalry, Illinois National Guard. Two years later, he requested and was assigned to the 1st U.S. Infantry Divi-

sion—the first U.S. Army unit to go overseas. From 1942–1945, Cas was engaged in overseas combat duty, participating in the Operation Torch landing at Oran, North Africa, the invasion of Sicily, and in the D-Day amphibious landing at Omaha Beach, Normandy.

After his discharge from the Army in 1945, Cas married his beloved wife, Myra, and began working in the family restaurant business in Chicago. Again heeding the call to service, Cas volunteered for active duty and served for 6 years during the Korean War. In 1962, he was selected for a 5-year tour of active duty with the General Staff at the Pentagon, where he became Chief of the Army Intelligence Reserve Office. Cas then went on to serve in Vietnam and at the U.S. Army Institute of Land Combat at Ft. Belvoir, Virginia.

After 30 years of distinguished service, Cas retired from the military and was awarded many citations, including the Silver Star Medal with Cluster, the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Bronze Star Medal with "V" for Valor, the French Croix de Guerre with Palm, seven overseas campaign ribbons, and the Normandy Medal of the Jubilee of Liberty.

I got to know Cas and Myra Lenard because of their work with the Polish American Congress—where Cas served as its first executive director in Washington.

Cas and Myra worked tirelessly to support the Solidarity movement in Poland. And when the wall came down, Cas and Myra Lenard were strong advocates for Poland's membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, NATO. The Lenards were there every step of the way—organizing the Polish American community to educate their Senators about how Poland's membership in NATO would strengthen America's security.

For all of his efforts on behalf of Polish Americans and for improving Poland's position in the world, Cas received many awards, including the Commander's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Republic of Poland, the Founders Award by the Polish American Congress, and the Polish American Congress Medal of Freedom.

Cas Lenard's life was a triumph. His legacy is a deep friendship and alliance between the United States and a free, democratic Poland. His children and grandchildren are in my thoughts and prayers.●

TRIBUTE TO FIVE VERMONT COMMUNITY LEADERS

● Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, today I would like to make you aware of five individuals who were recently recognized at the Central Vermont Community Action Council's annual meeting.

Sergio Colon moved to White River Junction with his two adopted sons after his community in Port Charlotte, FL, was devastated by Hurricane Charlie in 2004. A single father working hard to make ends meet, Sergio at one

point was forced to move his family to a homeless shelter in Vermont. Yet, even while his family relied on social services to get by, he volunteered for multiple organizations just as he had always done in Florida. Sergio has since returned to college to work on his psychology degree and is currently looking for a job in human services so he can continue to help people who are struggling.

Borgi von Trapp has been a leader in her community for many years. In 1993, Borgi, a mother of six children, founded Children First, an organization devoted to designing and implementing creative educational environments for children. A year later, she helped develop the Mad River Green Farmers' Market, a successful incubator for locally owned, innovative, healthy, and creative businesses. Since then it has grown to include more than 50 full time vendors and over 12,000 customers per season. Borgi is a model of community leadership and creative learning.

Sherrie Pomainville was a single mother for 22 years, raising four children on a minimum-wage salary. She knew the value of education and worked to obtain it. With the help of the Reach Up Program, she was one of the first clients to successfully complete the postsecondary Education program and earn a bachelor's degree in social work. In 2002, Sherrie graduated cum laude and was on the National Association for Social Workers Board for 3 years. This has allowed her to make a better life for herself and her children, while at the same time giving back to the community that helped her. She currently works for various community organizations in southwestern Vermont.

Jessica Kelley has been actively involved as a parent volunteer in Head Start and an important advocate for children and families in her community. She has served on the Head Start Policy Council for the past 2 years and last year was elected the parent representative of the Vermont Head Start Association. In this role, Jessica attends statewide meetings and participates in policy discussions and initiatives, such as parent leadership, Head Start reauthorization, and No Child Left Behind legislation.

Lydia Chartier is a tireless community leader in the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont. Presently, she donates most of her time to Lincoln Center Child Care, where she uses her own vast experience to assist support staff and other volunteers. She also serves as an invaluable resource to the Lincoln Center's staff. In addition, Lydia volunteers at her church, her son's school, and on many other community projects. If there is a good community event happening, there can be little doubt that Lydia is aware of it and promoting it. But most of all, Lydia is dedicated to ending poverty and doing whatever it takes to help those in need.

The quality of life in Vermont, and in our Nation, is strengthened by individ-

uals like these five community leaders, men and women who work to improve our communities and who strive to give back to the places in which they live. I commend their great contributions and the contributions of many like them across the nation to our American society.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD) announced that on today, December 13, 2007, he had signed the following enrolled bills, previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

H.R. 365. An act to provide for a research program for remediation of closed methamphetamine production laboratories, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4252. An act to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 through May 23, 2008, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 11:46 a.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. 4343. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to modify age standards for pilots engaged in commercial aviation operations.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

At 12:07 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3985. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to register a person providing transportation by an over-the-road bus as a motor carrier of passengers only if the person is willing and able to comply with certain accessibility requirements in addition to other existing requirements, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 4404(c)(2) of the Congressional Hunger Fellows Act of 2002 (2 U.S.C. 1161), and the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Speaker appoints the following member to the Board of Trustees of the Congressional Hunger Fellows Program for a term of four years: Mr. JAMES P. MCGOVERN of Worcester, Massachusetts.

The message further announced that the House being in possession of the official papers, the managers on the part of the House at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the bill (H.R. 3093) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes,

shall be, and they are hereby, discharged to the end that H.R. 3093 and its accompanying papers, be, and they are hereby, laid on the table.

At 2:55 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. J. Res. 69. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2008, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the report of the committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2082) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 7:37 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Brandon, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled joint resolution:

H. J. Res. 69. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2008, and for other purposes.

The enrolled joint resolution was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3985. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to register a person providing transportation by an over-the-road bus as a motor carrier of passengers only if the person is willing and able to comply with certain accessibility requirements in addition to other existing requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 4299. An act to extend the Terrorism Insurance Program of the Department of the Treasury, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2461. A bill to authorize the transfer of certain earmarked funds to accounts for operations and activities in Iraq and Afghanistan.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 2483. A bill to authorize certain programs and activities in the Forest Service,