

FEMA Captain Sklaver used his skills to help Americans prepare for and recover from disaster.

Perhaps the most inspiring chapter of his life came after a 2007 deployment to the Horn of Africa, where Captain Sklaver saw how hard it was for rural Ugandan villagers to obtain clean drinking water. Upon his return to the United States, Sklaver helped found the ClearWater Initiative to help bring access to clean water to war torn regions. In just 2 short years, Captain Sklaver's Initiative provided access to clean, potable water to over 6,500 people in Africa, where his charity work earned him the nickname "Moses Ben."

Guided by a deep sense of patriotism and the Jewish principle of Tikkun Olam, or fixing the world, Captain Sklaver touched the lives of thousands, and his contributions to his country and to those he helped around the world will not soon be forgotten.

All of us owe a deep debt of gratitude to Captain Sklaver and his family. I extend my deepest condolences to Captain Sklaver's parents Gary and Laura, his brother Samuel, his sister Anna, his fiancé Beth Segaloff, and to all those who knew and loved him.

SPECIALIST JUSTIN PELLERIN

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I wish to express my sympathy over the loss of U.S. Army SPC Justin Pellerin, a 21-year-old resident of Concord, NH. Specialist Pellerin was killed while conducting combat operations in Wardak Province, Afghanistan, on August 20, 2009.

Specialist Pellerin was a 2006 graduate of Concord High School. It was there that he met Chelsea, his high school sweetheart, whom he would later marry. The two had just celebrated their 1-year anniversary and were looking forward to Justin returning home in December. His family and friends remember him for his sharp sense of humor, his selflessness, and his love of American muscle cars.

Justin joined the Army because he wanted to make a difference in the world. For his distinguished service, he has been awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, the Good Conduct Medal and the National Defense Service Medal. He, and the thousands of brave men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces, represent the best in America's long tradition of duty, sacrifice, and service.

In addition to his wife Chelsea, Specialist Pellerin is survived by his mother Melissa; stepfather Dale Farmer; and two younger sisters Molly and Hannah. He will be missed dearly by all those who knew him.

I ask my colleagues to join me and all Americans in honoring the life of SPC Justin Pellerin.

SERGEANT MICHAEL C. ROY

Mr. President, I wish to express my sympathy over the loss of U.S. Marine SGT Michael C. Roy, a 25-year-old native of Manchester, NH. Sergeant Roy was killed while conducting combat op-

erations in Nimroz province, Afghanistan on July 8, 2009.

Sergeant Roy was born in Manchester and grew up in nearby Candia before moving with his family to Florida. He served two tours of duty in Iraq prior to his deployment to Afghanistan as a member of the 3rd Marine Special Operations Battalion based out of Camp Lejeune, NC.

According to his family, Sergeant Roy loved being a marine. He joined the service at the age of 18 and often shared his stories of the Corps with his siblings. He was also a devoted husband and the loving father of three young children.

No words can diminish the loss of this devoted husband and father, but I hope Sergeant Roy's family will take solace in the deep gratitude and appreciation all Americans share in honoring his service to our country. He, and the thousands of brave men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces serving today, deserve America's highest honor and recognition.

In addition to his wife Amy and their children Olivia, Michael, and Landon, Sergeant Roy is survived by his father Michael and his mother Lisa Hickey. He will be missed dearly by all those who knew him.

I ask my colleagues to join me and all Americans in honoring the life of SGT Michael C. Roy.

RECOGNIZING ACT, INC.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I come before the Senate today to commemorate the 50th anniversary of an Iowa educational organization that has become a household word for Americans entering postsecondary education or the workforce, and which has gained a solid international reputation as well, ACT, Inc. Over those 50 years, this organization has grown to be one of the most significant gateways between secondary education and postsecondary education or the workplace. I would like to describe some of the work this institution has done that has made such an important contribution to American education.

ACT was founded in 1959 at a meeting in Iowa's old State capitol on the campus of the University of Iowa. It was launched as the "American College Testing Program" by a University of Iowa professor of education, the University of Iowa's registrar, and representatives of 16 Midwestern States. Their goal was to help all students who wanted to attend college find a good match for their interests and abilities, and to help colleges and universities place students into appropriate freshmen-level classes. On November 7, 1959, about 75,000 students took the first ACT assessment. By comparison, in the high school graduating class of 2009, nearly 1.5 million students, or 45 percent of all high school graduates in the Nation, took the ACT.

ACT now conducts extensive research designed to help provide solutions to

the complex education problems facing the country. For example, they have developed a college and career readiness system for students beginning in middle school and continuing through postsecondary education. This system helps students stay on target to be ready to succeed in college or workforce training programs when they graduate high school, without the need for remedial classes, and monitors their success in postsecondary education once they leave high school.

ACT is also involved in researching solutions to the Nation's workforce challenges. For example, ACT developed the National Career Readiness Certificate to confirm that individuals have essential core employability skills. ACT is one of several partners in a new manufacturing skills certification system designed by the National Association of Manufacturers, the Nation's largest industrial trade organization.

Furthermore, ACT is helping build bridges between the United States and many other nations to help them improve their education and workforce systems, and to help people in other nations learn the English language. For example, through local partners, ACT conducts a 9-month pre-university program in 13 countries, including China, Korea, Indonesia, Fiji, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Mexico, and countries in South America. There are more than 30 teaching centers in China. This program prepares students to study in English-language universities in the United States and elsewhere. This contributes to our country's standing in the world. As a nation, we benefit from foreign talent, as students from other nations come to study in U.S. colleges and universities. Individuals who return to their home countries in turn go back with a greater understanding of Americans and our way of life.

I offer my congratulations to the over 1,000 Iowa residents employed with ACT, its directors, and other members of its State organizations on their 50-year history of helping people achieve education and workplace success. I look forward to following their accomplishments for many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO DRS. WILLARD S. BOYLE AND GEORGE E. SMITH

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, I rise to extend my deepest congratulations to Drs. Willard S. Boyle and George E. Smith—two New Jersey scientists who have been awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics, an incredible honor for extraordinary ingenuity in their chosen field and fitting recognition for their outstanding achievement.

They have expanded the boundaries of science, inventing something most of us do not understand, but which has made a difference in our lives. The invention of the charged-coupled device,

or CCD, now found in digital cameras used around the world and by NASA on the ground-breaking Hubble Telescope, revolutionized how we take photographs and manipulate and transfer images. It has given us insight into the deepest reaches of space, allowed us to see remarkable images that have made us better understand the vastness and magnificence of the universe, and better appreciate the simple images in our family photographs.

Dr. Boyle and Dr. Smith have done their work at Bell Laboratories in Murray Hill, NJ, and now have enriched our State's proud tradition of scientific breakthrough and innovation. We can add their names to those of Albert Einstein, who made Princeton his base, and Thomas Edison, who from his Garden State lab invented the incandescent light bulb that lit the world. The names of Boyle and Smith will now loom large in the scientific history of our State. They have made New Jersey and the United States very proud.

Their contribution to science is in their remarkable discovery, but their legacy to mankind is in their pioneering spirit, their ingenuity, and their quest to look further, think harder, and discover what no one else could.

I join with my colleagues and with every American in thanking them for making our lives better and wish them the very best as they continue careers that brought them to this place, having earned a Nobel Prize almost 40 years to the day after they began their long scientific journey.

To Dr. Boyle and Dr. Smith, we offer the best wishes of a grateful Nation.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I recognize the 125th anniversary of the U.S. Naval War College. The Naval War College was established on October 6, 1884, in Newport, RI, to provide an advanced course of professional study for both military officers and civilians. The mission has evolved over the years to include developing strategic and operational leaders, helping the Chief of Naval Operations define the future Navy, strengthening maritime security cooperation, and supporting combat readiness.

The Naval War College serves as a center for research that develops advanced strategic, warfighting, and campaign concepts for future deployment of maritime, joint, and combined forces. The Naval War College works closely with the Navy Warfare Development Command and the Chief of Naval Operations Strategic Studies Group in developing and analyzing national security issues. Through the Naval Command College and the Naval Staff College, naval officers from around the world come to prepare for high command responsibilities, and to learn about the U.S. Navy's methods, practice, and doctrine. The Naval War College also supports combat readiness

among the U.S. Navy's commanders through operational planning, analysis, and war-gaming to respond to changing operational environments.

Some of our Nation's greatest military and civilian leaders have attended the Naval War College including FADM Chester Nimitz, the Commander of the Pacific Fleet during World War II; RADM Alan Shepard, the first American in space; Ambassador Christopher Hill, the current U.S. Ambassador to Iraq; and Marine Corps GEN James Cartwright, the current Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Indeed, even our two combatant commanders in Afghanistan and Iraq, GEN Stanley McChrystal and GEN Raymond Odierno, are both graduates of the Naval War College.

I am proud of the talented men and women who have made the Naval War College the strong institution it is today, and I congratulate the entire Naval War College community on this important milestone.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE SIMPSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I wish to honor the Simpson County Historical Society on their 50th anniversary. This is a momentous occasion for their organization and for the residents of South Central Kentucky.

The society was founded in 1959 by 37 dedicated citizens who wished to preserve the historical treasures in the area. The society began by meeting in a private home, and soon the group acquired a small collection of books that were maintained at the local library.

As the society expanded, its leaders were able to persuade the government of Simpson County to provide the old jail and jailer's house as the permanent facility of the society. This decision led to the creation of the Simpson County Archives and Museum that now holds thousands of books, city and county records, and other historical materials of significant value. The society has also continued the upkeep of the old jail and jailer's house, which date from the early 1800s.

However, the Simpson County Historical Society has not simply collected and preserved documents. They have also been active in encouraging the study of local history and culture. The society has provided scholarships for students wishing to pursue the study of history and maintained numerous historical markers in Simpson County. Finally, the group has positively impacted the economy by supporting tourist visits to historic sites throughout Kentucky.

I am very proud of the service the Simpson County Historical Society has provided to the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Their dedication through these many years makes them one of the oldest historical societies in the State,

and I am confident that their impact will continue for many years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. MICHAEL POSNER

• Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Dr. Michael Posner, Professor Emeritus, Department of Psychology, Institute of Cognitive and Decision Sciences at the University of Oregon. Dr. Michael Posner is one of nine scientists awarded the prestigious National Medal of Science award this year by President Barack Obama.

Dr. Posner received both his bachelor's degree in physics and his master's degree in psychology from the University of Washington in Seattle. In 1962, he received his doctorate in psychology from the University of Michigan. Dr. Posner joined the University of Oregon in 1965 and ever since has inspired students and impressed colleagues.

Dr. Posner is a pioneer in the field of cognitive science and neuroscience and has won numerous awards. His groundbreaking research on brain development and how the brain processes thought have been recognized by numerous organizations such as the American Psychological Association and the National Academy of Sciences.

Dr. Posner has dedicated his career to researching how the brain functions and most recently, on attentional networks in children and infants. He has made invaluable contributions to our medical, educational, and scientific communities. I am proud that Dr. Posner's groundbreaking work at the University of Oregon is helping put our State at the forefront of developing innovative medical and scientific research.

I encourage my fellow Oregonians to join me in celebrating the innovative spirit of Dr. Posner and the entire University of Oregon faculty for their cutting-edge scientific research. Generations of Americans are in debt to Dr. Posner for his breakthroughs that have improved their lives. This recognition for his lifetime of achievement is well-earned. I hope that his example can inspire our State and our Nation to renew our commitment to education and academic research.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, 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.)