

threatens the lives and property of our citizens across the country, few know that a hard-working, unsung hero is directing the National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman, OK, to provide advanced weather forecasting on these threats. Our friend and colleague, Dr. Jeff Kimpel, Director of the NSSL, is retiring after 13 years of Federal service as the Director of the National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman, OK. He will be sorely missed.

As my colleagues in the Senate know, the NSSL is best known for developing Doppler weather radar technology that led to the establishment of the national NEXRAD network consisting of more than 150 radar systems. During Dr. Kimpel's watch, NSSL performed the scientific and technological research that upgraded the NEXRADs from proprietary to open systems, added superresolution capability and designed dual-polarization upgrades. Dual-polarization will significantly increase the accuracy of rainfall estimates, delineate rain from snow, and provide an estimate of hail size. Since its installation, the NEXRAD program has reduced tornado-related deaths by 45 percent and personal injuries by 40 percent.

Under Dr. Kimpel's leadership, NSSL established strong programs in short-term cloud-resolving, numerical forecast models that are designed to yield estimates of hazardous weather events including tornadoes, windstorms, lightning, hail, and heavy precipitation. He championed radar-based rainfall analyses for flash flood and river forecasting. He was instrumental in establishing support for new facilities for NSSL that led to the eventual construction of the magnificent National Weather Center building shared with the National Weather Service and the University of Oklahoma Meteorology Program. He supported NSSL scientists and equipment to participate in 17 national and international field studies including the high profile Verification of the Origin of Tornadoes Experiment.

While Dr. Kimpel served as Director, NSSL scientists published over 600 archival, refereed journal articles, obtained 3 patents, and participated in 4 Cooperative Research and Development Agreements with private companies. NSSL employees achieved many honors and recognitions during his tenure including a NSSL affiliate being elected to the National Academy of Sciences, a senior researcher being elected to the National Academy of Engineering, and two junior colleagues being invited to the White House as winners of the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers.

Dr. Kimpel's legacy at NSSL will be his establishment of far-reaching research programs designed to vastly improve weather and water warnings and forecasts. He worked tirelessly to launch the Multifunction Phased Array Radar initiative as a possible eventual replacement for NEXRAD. He worked

with the NWS Storm Prediction Center and the Norman Weather Forecast Office to establish the Hazardous Weather Testbed to accelerate the transition of new science into operational warning and forecasting decision processes. He worked with others to support the Warn-on-Forecast initiative that envisions a time when severe weather warnings will be issued using numerical guidance in addition to the present method of detecting precursors or the event itself. Dr. Kimpel expanded NSSL's radar-based flash flood forecasting and water management programs into coastal areas where inundation from land-falling tropical storms and hurricanes is possible.

Prior to becoming the Director of NSSL, Dr. Kimpel served in the U.S. Air Force, including a tour in Vietnam for which he was awarded the Bronze Star. He earned his graduate degrees at the University of Wisconsin before joining the meteorology faculty at the University of Oklahoma. He achieved the rank of full professor and held a number of administrative positions including dean of the College of Geosciences and provost and senior vice president of the Norman Campus. He was named a Fellow of the American Meteorological Society, is a certified, consulting meteorologist, and was elected president of the AMS in 2000. He chaired both the National Science Foundation's Advisory Committee for Atmospheric Sciences and the Board of Trustees of the University Corporation for the Atmospheric Sciences. Dr. Kimpel plans on remaining in Norman and spending more time with his five children and two grandchildren.

Is there an unsung hero protecting Americans? Yes—that hero to all of us is Dr. Jeff Kimpel. We wish him well in his future pursuits, and all of us continue to support those research and day-to-day operations he has championed at the NSSL in severe weather detection, research, and forecasting. ●

TRIBUTE TO BOBBY SOUTHARD

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I recognize Police Chief Bobby Southard of Hot Springs, AR. After a 22-year law enforcement career, Chief Southard will retire at the end of June.

Hired as a police officer in 1988, Chief Southard has enjoyed a successful career, serving as sergeant, lieutenant, captain, acting chief of police, and in February 2007 was selected as chief of the 129-person department.

Along with all Arkansans, I recognize the courage, bravery, and dedication of our Arkansas law enforcement, who risk their lives each day to keep our citizens safe. I thank these public servants for their service and sacrifice. ●

TRIBUTE TO DR. FAUST ALVAREZ

● Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I announce to the Senate that after 24 years as chief of staff for the VA Montana Health Care System, Dr. Faust M.

Alvarez, MD, has decided to retire. Dr. Alvarez was appointed chief of staff in August 1986 and continued in that position until April 30, 2010. He began his career as a staff physician at Fort Harrison Medical Center in 1984. Prior to joining the VA system he was engaged in private practice in the city of Helena for 12 years. During this time he founded and directed the first Montana hemodialysis unit and renal program at St. Peter's Hospital.

When Dr. Alvarez became the chief of staff at the VA, he sought to provide Montana's veterans with a high quality standard of care, and to provide easier access to medical services. These were challenging goals given that the VA Montana Health Care System has only one hospital and Montana is the fourth largest State geographically. Furthermore Montana has the second largest per capita veteran populations in the country. Through hard work and dedication, he and his staff have achieved these goals and have made the VA Montana Health Care System what it is today.

In 1988 Dr. Alvarez began expanding services for veterans by creating satellite clinics. The first clinics were opened in Anaconda and Kalispell. Today the VA Montana Health Care System has a presence in every major city in the state through 12 satellite outpatient facilities. Three of these facilities have telemedicine access and more are to be activated.

Through Dr. Alvarez's leadership and the hard working personnel of VA Montana, the VA Montana Medical System has been recognized on numerous occasions for its quality medical services. In 2005 the VA Montana was selected as the Nation's VA hospital of the year. Dr. Alvarez believes that Montana's veterans should expect and receive the highest quality medical care and services, and he has strived to ensure this expectation is met. By hiring board certified medical personnel, acquiring new state of the art equipment and incorporating current medical trends into the provision of healthcare services at VA Montana, Dr. Alvarez, and his staff, have made the VA Montana Health Care System the facility of choice for veterans across the State.

I thank Dr. Alvarez for his dedicated years of service. We are all proud of his accomplishments at VA Montana and the positive affect that the VA has had across the State during his tenure. I appreciate his initiative and hard work to continually improve medical services for Montana's veterans and to ensure our veterans receive appropriate care. I am certain that those who come after will maintain the same level of commitment and leadership.

Dr. Alvarez is a fellow of the American College of Physicians, an honorary designation recognizing scholarly and professional achievements in internal medicine. Dr. Alvarez was appointed by various Governors of the State of Montana to the State Board of Medical Examiners where he served for a total of 18 years.

Dr. Alvarez is retired from the U.S. Army Reserve where he served as a colonel and regional flight surgeon. He was also State medical commander for the Montana National Guard as well as flight surgeon to the 189th Aviation Battalion. During his service he received multiple decorations, including five Commendation Medals and five Meritorious Service Medals. Upon retirement, he received the Legion of Merit for exceptional meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services and achievements.

Dr. Alvarez and his wife of 43 years, Marie, have been dedicated to and are actively involved in the Helena community. They created the Dr. Faust M. & Marie Alvarez Scholarship in 1975. It is awarded annually to a deserving Carroll College student demonstrating academic integrity and financial need majoring in biology or a health-field program. Dr. Alvarez has also served as a member of the Regional Airport Board and as a senior FAA medical examiner. Both he and Marie are pilots. He also enjoys restoring classic automobiles and building fine wood furniture. He has five daughters and four grandchildren.

Dr. Alvarez has been an outstanding civil servant. I thank him for his service and what he has done for Montana's veterans. I wish him and his wife the best in their future endeavors.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, 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 Committee on Foreign Relations.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 7:57 p.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. 3951. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2000 Louisiana Avenue in New Orleans, Louisiana, as the "Roy Rondeno, Sr. Post Office Building".

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-6234. A communication from the Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "17 CFR Part 190 (75 FR 17297, April 6, 2010), Account Class" (RIN3038-AC94) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 10, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6235. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Bacillus thuringiensis eCry3.1Ab Protein in Corn; Temporary Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 8829-9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 15, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6236. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Pesticide Management and Disposal; Standards for Pesticide Containers and Containment; Change to Labeling Compliance Date" (FRL No. 8830-7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 15, 2010; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6237. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a quarterly report relative to withdrawals or diversions of equipment from Reserve component units from January 1, 2010 to March 31, 2010; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6238. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Vice Admiral Robert T. Moeller, United States Navy, and his advancement to the grade of vice admiral on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6239. A communication from the Acting Director of the Acquisition Policy and Legislation Branch, Office of the Chief Procurement Officer, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision of Department of Homeland Security Acquisition Regulations; Restrictions on Foreign Acquisition" (RIN1601-AA57) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 10, 2010; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6240. A communication from the Associate Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Rule Amending Appendix A to the Iranian Transactions Regulations" (31 CFR Part 560) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 15, 2010; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6241. A communication from the Division Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Local Number Portability Porting Interval and Validation Requirements; Telephone Number Portability" (FCC 10-85) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 16, 2010; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6242. A communication from the Deputy Chief, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Facilitating the Provision of Fixed and Mobile Broadband Access, Educational and Other Advanced Services in the 2150-2162 and 2500-2690 MHz Bands" (FCC 10-107) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 16, 2010; to the Com-

mittee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6243. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to obligations and unobligated balances of funds provided for Federal-aid highway and safety construction programs during fiscal year 2008; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-6244. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval of the Clean Air Act, Section 112(I), Authority for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Air Emission Standards for Halogenated Solvent Cleaning Machines: State of Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management" (FRL No. 9163-2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 15, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6245. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Maryland; Transportation Conformity Regulations" (FRL No. 9164-5) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 15, 2010; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-6246. A communication from the Director, Office of Regulations, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Extension of Expiration Dates for Several Body System Listings" (RIN0960-AH20) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 15, 2010; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6247. A communication from the Deputy Associate Commissioner, Office of Regulations, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Technical Amendment Language Change from 'Wholly' to 'Fully'" (RIN0960-AH16) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 11, 2010; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6248. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Section 41 Research Credit—Intra-Group Receipts from Foreign Affiliates" (UIL No. 41.51-11) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 16, 2010; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6249. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Built-in Gains and Losses under Section 382(h)" ((TD9487) (RIN1545-BG03)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 16, 2010; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6250. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Section 382 Segregation Rules" (Notice No. 2010-49) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 16, 2010; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-6251. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Section 382(I)(3)(C) Fluctuations in Values" (Notice No. 2010-50) received in the Office of the President of the