

against Hatfield, one of the Nation's earliest opponents of the United States' Vietnam policy.

Two years later, Bob lost by only about 10,000 votes when he ran against Wayne Morse in the Democratic primary for Oregon's other Senate seat. Morse eventually lost to Republican Bob Packwood. In 1972, he lost again to Morse in a Democratic primary for the U.S. Senate.

Never one to remain idle, Duncan having moved to Portland, won an open congressional seat in 1974, making him the only person in Oregon history to represent U.S. House districts in different parts of the State.

But Bob Duncan's life should not be defined by races won and lost. He was a tireless advocate for civil liberties, civil rights and eliminating the scourge of poverty in America. His friends and you can count me among them remember him as tenacious and hard working with a brilliant legal mind.

I will always remember him as a larger-than-life figure who loved telling stories and never let politics getting in the way of doing what he felt was right. Despite running a hard-fought race against each other, Duncan and Mark Hatfield became close friends and working partners. Thanks to Hatfield's efforts, a government building in downtown Portland now bears Duncan's name.

Please join me in extending my condolences to his wife Kathryn and his children. All of Oregon shares in their loss.

#### NATIONAL VA RESEARCH WEEK

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I would like to recognize the accomplishments and discoveries of investigators and scientists at the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA, who have brought about critical advances in health care delivery and medical knowledge through innovative medical research. These researchers and the veterans that make it all possible will be honored this week by National VA Research Week, which celebrates the historic success of VA research collaborations through this year's theme of "Discovery and Collaboration for Exceptional Health Care." I would like to share some of the amazing breakthroughs that have resulted from VA research and that have advanced the quality of health care for all Americans.

At the conclusion of World War I, it was clear that servicemembers returning from a new type of warfare needed innovative medical treatment. VA research began conducting hospital-based medical studies in 1925 and since then has continued to publish significant research studies on a regular basis. While VA research studies have changed dramatically over the years to reflect the needs of veterans of each conflict, the goal of providing quality care has remained paramount.

This commitment to quality care has led to a litany of medical breakthroughs and discoveries that are respected and have been utilized around the world. Without the tireless efforts of VA researchers, the medical community would not have lifesaving tools such as the pacemaker and the heart stent. Without the breakthroughs of VA research, the world may never have seen a successful liver transplant, a safer cure for tuberculosis, or genetic mapping that may one day lead to the eradication of Alzheimer's disease. The many successes of VA research continue today as ongoing projects close in on a possible cure for cancer, create new pharmaceutical solutions for serious mental illness, and build new prosthetics and assistive devices that make a return to normal life possible for our wounded warriors.

VA research holds the promise to improve treatment and rehabilitation for our Nation's veterans. From developing new prosthetics to understanding and treating traumatic brain injuries, veterans can be certain that VA medical staff will always be prepared to best heal their wounds. Wounds, both visible and invisible, must receive the best care and treatment possible, and I am proud that VA is leading the way on new treatments for post-traumatic stress disorder, PTSD.

VA breakthroughs in the treatment of PTSD have not only helped thousands of veterans but have served as an example for both the American and international mental health community. Most recently, VA has been a resource for the people of Japan while they grapple with the mental wounds of the tragic earthquake and tsunami that so violently shook that country earlier this year. Today, while the first responders and the resilient people of Alabama and the areas affected by recent tornado destruction begin physically rebuilding their homes and communities, they can rely on the Psychological First Aid Field Operations Guide to provide tips on how to begin the healing process.

Medical and scientific advances from VA research have often come through collaboration. VA has the privilege of relying on one of our Nation's greatest assets, the men and women who serve. These veterans understand that oftentimes, their participation in VA Research may not directly benefit their lives. Instead, they continue to serve their fellow Americans by trying to ensure better quality care for those who return from armed conflicts in the future. By partnering with 1 million veterans, VA is launching the Million Veteran Project, an effort to learn more about how genetics affect health.

VA also has the ability to partner with some of the best medical research institutions through their relationship with the Association of American Medical Colleges. This year's theme marks the 65th anniversary of an agreement which allowed VA to join with medical schools and create innovative partner-

ships directly impacting the quality of care. This partnership is a significant reason for VA research being so successful at finding innovative solutions to health care problems. Because of this collaboration, VA scientists and researchers have access to both VA medical centers and various university medical centers to conduct their research. This partnership brings together the brightest minds of our medical and scientific communities and yields positive results for our veterans.

I am proud to have been a long-time, ardent supporter of VA research. I know that VA's world-class researchers could easily work elsewhere, but they continue to work with the Department in fulfilling its obligations to constantly improve the quality of care for our veterans. At a time when more and more veterans are coming home from war and relying on VA for their health care needs, we here in Congress must make sure we can lead the way with a strong investment in our veterans and the high quality care we are committed to providing them.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF BUENO FOODS

• Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, "red or green?" That is the question. As anyone who has ever dined in my State well knows, this inquiry refers to whether one prefers the zesty green chile or the piquant red chile when ordering New Mexico's unique native cuisine. In fact, in my State of New Mexico "red or green" is our official State question, and as I understand it, New Mexico is the only State that has designated a State question.

For hundreds of years, chile has been central to the culture of New Mexico. Early Spanish settlers brought the chile plant to New Mexico from the Valley of Mexico. Today, growing and processing chile peppers is New Mexico's signature industry providing about 5,000 jobs and a total value of about \$400 million per year. The chile pepper and the frijole—or pinto bean—are also the State's official vegetables.

Today I honor the Baca family of Albuquerque and the 60th anniversary of Bueno Foods. Just as chile peppers are integral to New Mexican cuisine, for generations Bueno Foods has been integral to the preparation of delicious products made from chile. The Baca family is a pillar of New Mexico business and of the Barelás neighborhood in the South Valley of Albuquerque.

Three brothers, Joe, Ray, and August Baca, members of a long-established New Mexican family, returned to New Mexico in 1946 from serving in World War II. They opened a local grocery, the Ace Food Store in Barelás. Soon they started offering their mother's legendary cooking, adding a carry-out component to the store. At first, from the kitchen of their childhood home,