

will be live music, a street dance, pancake breakfast, golf tournament, rodeo, fireworks, a classic car show, and a parade.

I ask that my colleagues in the U.S. Senate join me in congratulating Towner, ND, and its residents on their first 125 years and in wishing them well in the future. By honoring Towner and all other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the great pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Towner that have helped shape this country into what it is today, which is why this fine community is deserving of our recognition.

Towner has a proud past and a bright future.●

TRIBUTE TO KRISTINE SCHUMAN

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, this week marks the 48th annual celebration of National Small Business Week, a time to honor the enormous contributions of small businesses to our nation's economy. We know that small firms are truly our country's greatest job creators, responsible for two-thirds of new jobs annually, and they have consistently led us out of economic downturns historically.

Presently, we have thousands of servicemembers returning from Iraq and Afghanistan each month. As these proud veterans attempt to reenter civilian life, many seek to start their own business. For the past several years, veterans in the midcoast region of Maine have had a counselor and advocate named Kristine Schuman helping them achieve their goals. In recognition of her outstanding commitment to these brave men and women, Kristine recently received the Maine Veteran Small Business Champion of the Year award from the U.S. Small Business Administration. Today I applaud Kristine for her selfless service, and offer my sincerest thanks for her work.

A resident of Topsham, Kristine is the manager of the Base Realignment and Closure, or BRAC, Transition Center at Naval Air Station Brunswick, or NASB. The town of Brunswick has been home to NASB since 1943, when it was constructed to assist in the Allied effort during World War II. Over the years, thousands of Navy officers and civilians have worked and trained at NASB, contributing to a sense of community at the base. Regrettably, NASB was recommended for closure by the 2005 BRAC Commission, and is expected to close later this year.

As the local community undertakes efforts to redevelop the base, many who have served at NASB over the years have stayed in the Brunswick area and now call it home. Indeed, Maine boasts the second highest per capita veteran population in the Nation, and those looking to start their own business or learn new job skills have a phenomenal counselor in Kristine Schuman. Since 2008, Kristine and

her staff have assisted in the retraining and transitioning of over 1,000 servicemembers and their family members, as well as civilian workers, in the midcoast region. Furthermore, Kristine has served as the project manager for the military spouse career advancement account at the base, helping close to 200 military spouses receive the training necessary for placement in new employment opportunities.

Our Nation owes our veterans in Maine, and throughout the country, a debt of gratitude that can never be fully repaid. Regrettably, the unemployment rate for veterans returning from Afghanistan and Iraq is 12.5 percent—a full 3.5 percent higher than the national unemployment rate for the overall population. That is what makes the work of Kristine Schuman and people like her all the more critical. I thank Kristine for her incredible work, and wish her success in future endeavors.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following concurrent resolutions were discharged from the Committee on the Budget pursuant to Section 300 of the Congressional Budget Act, and placed on the calendar:

S. Con. Res. 18. A concurrent resolution setting forth the President's budget request for the United States Government for fiscal year 2012, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2013 through 2021.

S. Con. Res. 19. A concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2012 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2013 through 2021.

S. Con. Res. 20. A concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2012 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2013 through 2016.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

S. 1022. A bill to extend expiring provisions of the USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005 and the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 until December 31, 2014, and for other purposes.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and placed on the calendar:

S. Con. Res. 20. Concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2012 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2013 through 2016.

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-1786. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Naval Air Station Corpus Christi Air Show, Oso Bay, Corpus Christi, TX" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USCG-2011-0139)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 17, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1787. A communication from the Associate Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Implementation of Section 224 of the Act; A National Broadband Plan for Our Future" (RIN3060-AJ64) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 17, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1788. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Cable Union, WI" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2010-1169)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 12, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1789. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Kokomo, IN" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2010-0605)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 12, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1790. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Carizzo Springs, Glass Ranch Airport, TX" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2010-0877)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 12, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1791. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Point Lookout, MO" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2010-1172)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 12, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-1792. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Bedford, IN" ((RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2010-1026)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 12, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.