

fellow Alaskans as a member of the Alaska Pacific University Nordic Ski Team. Her hard work, training, and dedication have clearly paid off. She is an inspiration to young skiers and athletes everywhere.

I would like to congratulate Kikkan on her championship season and wish her the best of luck as she trains for the 2014 Olympics in Sochi, Russia. All of Alaska is proud of Kikkan and her accomplishments.●

REMEMBERING PETER DOUGLAS

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, earlier this month, California and the Nation lost one of our true environmental heroes when Peter Douglas, the longtime executive director of the California Coastal Commission, passed away. Peter was truly a giant among California conservationists, and our State is a much better and more beautiful place because of his life's work.

Peter Douglas was there at the creation of the California Coastal Commission, which for four decades has worked to protect, conserve, restore, and enhance the California coast and ocean for current and future generations. As a legislative aide in the early 1970s, he helped draft the 1972 Coastal Initiative and the California Coastal Act of 1976, which made the Coastal Commission a permanent public institution. After 7 years as the Commission's Chief Deputy Director, he was named executive director in 1985 and served brilliantly in that capacity for more than 25 years.

When Peter was diagnosed with cancer, he faced it as he did all the other challenges in his life with intelligence, courage, grace, and good humor. Last spring, Peter began writing a cancer blog. As he noted in his first posting, his doctors were "quite pessimistic and advised I get affairs in order and focus on my bucket list. But I am an inveterate and aggressive activist not about to give up on life, especially not my own. My time will come, but not quite yet I hope. Besides, I am too busy to die."

Peter kept writing, producing a remarkable record of his final battle with cancer along with his political autobiography and some profound personal insights. He advised his readers to "live mindfully and fully every moment. Keep hope alive. . . . When the time comes to pass over to the other side, try to embrace that passage with dignity and grace knowing you have done well." Peter Douglas certainly did just that.

On behalf of the people of California, who have benefitted so much from Peter Douglas's life work, I send my deepest gratitude and condolences to his sons, grandchildren, brother, sister, and extended family and friends. Peter's memory and legacy will live on with everyone who loves the California coast and our priceless natural heritage, which he did so much to preserve and protect.●

TRIBUTE TO JAMES MICHAEL KELLY

● Mr. JOHANNIS. Madam President, today I pay tribute to a dedicated public servant and true legal professional, James Michael Kelly. For nearly 40 years, he has served with distinction in his many roles at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. This spring, J. Michael will be retiring from USDA's Office of General Counsel. It is a privilege to take this opportunity to recognize his many contributions and thank him for his service.

Since beginning his career at USDA in 1973, J. Michael has served as the department's Ethics Counselor, Acting General Counsel, Deputy General Counsel, and Associate General Counsel. In these roles, he has distinguished himself as a legal professional of the highest integrity. I had the honor of working closely with J. Michael during my service as Secretary of Agriculture. In fact, throughout his career he has worked with a total of 13 Secretaries of Agriculture. J. Michael has guided many at USDA in upholding all legal and ethical standards. His character, commitment, and professionalism are to be commended.

Though J. Michael's nearly 40-year history with USDA is impressive, it does not reveal the full extent of his service to our country. In addition to his years at USDA, he served for two years in the U.S. Army and for six years at the U.S. Small Business Administration. I thank J. Michael for his combined 47 years of military and civilian service.

I can personally speak to J. Michael's dedication to USDA, which will long be remembered and appreciated. I congratulate him on his retirement and thank him again for his service to our country. I also wish to express my gratitude to J. Michael's wife, Mary Jo (Josie), and their family for supporting his service. May God bless J. Michael and Josie as they begin a new chapter in their lives.●

RECOGNIZING DAVIS HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING BAND

● Mr. LEE. Madam President, today I wish to congratulate the marching band of Davis High School in Kaysville, UT. The band was recently selected to represent Utah and the Mountain West region in the 124th Tournament of Roses Parade, an exceptional honor bestowed upon only 15 of the finest marching bands in the country.

Director Steven Hendricks has been a music educator for 24 years and the director at Davis High School for 22 years. During his time there, the band has tripled in size and has been a five-time Bands of America regional finalist. Mr. President, 2013 will mark the second time that the band will march in the Tournament of Roses Parade under Hendricks's leadership, having already received the honor once in 2003. Earlier this year, Hendricks was recog-

nized as Utah's Outstanding High School Music Educator by the Utah Music Educators Association.

It should also be noted and is of equal importance that Davis High School regularly sets a high standard of academic excellence. The school is consistently ranked as one of the top 1,000 high schools in the country. In addition, the Davis High School advanced placement examination scores are among the highest in Utah.

The members of the Davis High School Marching Band have worked diligently for this day, and the reward is undoubtedly well deserved. They will be able to demonstrate their talent and skill in front of nearly 1 million live spectators and tens of millions more watching on television. I know that the band will represent Utah and the Mountain West with excellence and professionalism.●

TRIBUTE TO LAUREN BARLOW

● Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Lauren Barlow for her hard work as an intern for the U.S. Senate Republican Policy Committee. I recognize her efforts and contributions to my office.

Lauren is a native of Gilbert, AZ, and a graduate from Gilbert High School. She graduated from the Brigham Young University with a degree in English. She has demonstrated a strong work ethic which has made her an invaluable asset to the U.S. Senate Republican Policy Committee. The quality of her work is reflected in her great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Lauren for the dedication she has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have her as part of our team. I know she will have continued success with all of her future endeavors. I wish her all my best on her next journey.●

TRIBUTE TO GREYSON BUCKINGHAM

● Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Greyson Buckingham for his hard work as an intern for the U.S. Senate Republican Policy Committee. I recognize his continued efforts and contributions to my office.

Greyson is a native of Kelly, WY, and a graduate of Jackson Hole High School. He is a student at Georgetown University, where he is majoring in history and government. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic which has made him an invaluable asset to the U.S. Senate Republican Policy Committee. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Greyson for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It was a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know