

WARREN, NEW HAMPSHIRE

• Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Warren, NH—a town in Grafton County that is celebrating the 250th anniversary of its founding. I am proud to join citizens across the Granite State in recognizing this historic event. This area, drained by the Baker River and built in the shadow of Mount Moosilauke, exemplifies the beauty of the surrounding White Mountain National Forest.

Warren was granted a charter by Governor Benning Wentworth in 1763 and incorporated by Governor John Wentworth in 1770. The town derives its name from British Admiral Sir Peter Warren and was first settled by Joseph Patch and John Page.

Since that time, the population has grown to include over 900 residents. The patriotism and commitment of the people of Warren are reflected in part by their service in most of America's major conflicts, with over 60 serving in World War II alone.

Warren's most notable landmark is a Redstone Ballistic Missile, dedicated in honor of Warren's favorite son, Senator Norris Cotton. Senator Cotton represented New Hampshire in Washington, D.C., for almost 30 years, including 8 years as a Congressman and over 20 as a Senator. The Federal building in Manchester and the Comprehensive Cancer Center at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Hospital, both bear his name.

Another notable resident of Warren was Ira Morse. Mr. Morse was a successful shoe retailer who traveled the world hunting big-game and collecting cultural artifacts. In 1928, Ira Morse opened his collection to the public and established the Morse Museum.

Located in the village of Glencliff is the historic Glencliff Home. This facility first provided relief and treatment for urban workers suffering from breathing impairment. Although its mission has changed, the home is still in operation and is currently administered by the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services.

Warren is a place that has contributed much to the life and spirit of the State of New Hampshire. I am pleased to extend my warm regards to the people of Warren as they celebrate the town's 250th anniversary. ●

WELLSPRING REVIVAL
MINISTRIES

• Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, today I would like to recognize the 15th anniversary of the founding of Wellspring Revival Ministries in Fairbanks, AK. In 1998, Michael and Linda Setterberg recognized the need for more youth activities in the Fairbanks area and set out to do something about it. In 1999, the Setterbergs opened Joel's Place, a place for young people who needed somewhere to belong.

It began with a weekly youth group meeting but it grew to be something

much bigger. Today, relying on volunteers, grants and charitable contributions, Joel's Place is open 6 days a week with a concert hall, a café, a garden, and sports activities including the only indoor skate park in Alaska. Joel's Place works with local school counselors and is a National Safe Place, offering shelter and counseling.

Part of the success of Joel's Place is due to partnerships with other local nonprofits and national foundations, as well as State and local governments. Federal grants from the U.S. Department of Agriculture provide support for the organization's Summer Food Service Program and Child and Adult Care Food Program, which ensures that low-income children receive nutritious meals.

The power to keep the program going comes from the passion and devotion of the founders of Joel's Place, the professionals who run it, the board of directors who oversee the organization and the volunteers who give their time. I give my congratulations to the people who make Joel's Place go, and I look forward to hearing about their continued success. ●

TRIBUTE TO LOREN DUKE
ABDALLA

• Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the military service of Loren Duke Abdalla, the great grandson of Yankton Sioux Tribe Chief Running Bull. Loren Duke Abdalla, a native South Dakotan, fought valiantly as part of the U.S. Marine Corps in World War II.

Loren Duke Abdalla, or "Duke" as he was known by his fellow Marines, began his service to this Nation when he enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1943 at the age of 18. He completed his basic training at Camp Elliot in San Diego, CA, where he was trained as a rifleman and machine gunner.

On September 15, 1944, Duke displayed his bravery at the Battle of Peleliu in the Pacific. In the struggle, three of his comrades were struck down next to him, but Duke still carried on, despite injuries, through the 6-day battle. At the end, Duke survived as one of only 29 Marines left standing in his Battalion. Shrapnel left holes in both of his legs, yet instead of returning home, he recovered in only a few months on the Island of Guadalcanal and returned to Pavuvu Island. He received a Purple Heart and was promoted to Corporal, and became squad leader of the 3rd Squad, 1st Platoon, A Company.

Duke returned to combat and quickly became a hero once again in the Battle of Okinawa. On May 5, 1945, he rescued 2nd squadron leader, Cpl John Brady, throwing him over his shoulder and carrying him to safety under heavy fire. Duke immediately returned to the battle where he began neutralizing machine gun nests leading up a ridge along with his 12-person squadron.

When he reached the fourth nest, he realized he was alone. With his comrades killed or wounded, he forged on to take out the last two nests by himself and reached the top of the ridge. In taking the ridge, he allowed the First Marine Division to advance. Although many of his comrades were honored for their bravery on that day, Duke was not recognized for his action.

Duke ended his service with an honorable discharge on February 28, 1947, ending 4 years of selfless sacrifice for our nation that will not soon be forgotten. At the battles of Okinawa and Peleliu, some of the bloodiest battles in the Pacific Theater, Loren Duke Abdalla proved time and again his courage, perseverance and ability to sacrifice, preventing many potential casualties. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Corporal Loren Duke Abdalla for his exemplary service and dedication to our Nation. ●

TRIBUTE TO GENE MURPHY

• MR. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to a tireless and inspirational advocate for veterans across this Nation. Gene Murphy is retiring as adjutant of the South Dakota chapter of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), just the latest in a number of State and national veterans organizational posts he has served with distinction over the years.

Gene served in the United States Army in Vietnam. Just 30 days before he was scheduled to return home to the United States, Gene was paralyzed by two gunshots to his right side. He holds the Purple Heart and the Bronze Star with V Device.

Shortly after his return to the States, Gene became a lifetime member of the Disabled American Veterans, embarking on a 45-year career of serving the Nation's veterans and their families. Gene has shown tireless advocacy and a strong commitment to ensuring veterans receive the care and attention to their issues that they deserve and were promised.

Gene has been actively involved with the DAV at both the State and national level. From 1987–1988 he served as the DAV National Commander. In 1984, he was selected as the Nation's Outstanding Disabled Veteran of the Year. Gene served 20 years on the South Dakota Veterans Commission. He is a member of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Military Order of The Purple Heart, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the South Dakota Veterans Council. In 1979, he was named South Dakota's Handicapped Citizen of the Year.

Gene has been a steadfast advocate for veterans, whether the issues included improving health care services, conditions and access to care within the Department of Veterans Affairs; expediting consideration and decisions on claims for benefits; or shining the spotlight on the unique health care needs of veterans exposed to Agent Orange, who suffer from post-traumatic

stress disorder, or who were victims of traumatic brain injuries. Countless veterans in South Dakota have been able to make it to their VA appointments because of the DAV's transportation network and Gene's efforts in this area. Gene has brought awareness and education to elected officials and the general public on veterans mental health issues. He is keenly aware that military service impacts family members of veterans as well and has been an advocate on their behalf, too. Gene has also been instrumental in working to get the American Veterans' Disabled for Life Memorial built in Washington, DC, serving on the foundation's board of directors and as the treasurer of the Disabled Veterans' LIFE Memorial Foundation, Inc.

The native South Dakotan has been hawkish on budget issues facing the VA, making sure that the voices of veterans—young and old—are heard. Any effort to minimize, decrease or eliminate services to veterans would meet a stern challenge from Gene Murphy. He is aware of the financial impacts of increased copayments on indigent veterans. He remains steadfastly passionate that veterans, no matter what category or priority they are placed in, receive the full faith and commitment of their government when it comes to care and benefits.

I have always been impressed by Gene's passion and commitment to veterans, their families and their issues—whether it be a widow seeking benefits, a veteran seeking consideration of their overdue claim, or an era of veterans seeking compensation due to chemical exposure in a war zone. I have always valued and appreciated Gene's input on the plethora of issues impacting veterans. During my early years in Congress, Gene was very helpful in providing me with a better understanding of the many important issues facing veterans and their families, and I have relied upon Gene's insight on such issues throughout my congressional career. Gene never sugar-coats his requests or his statements; it is always done with candor and frankness. Nobody can second-guess Gene Murphy's passion for veterans.

Although Gene's term as adjutant of the South Dakota Disabled American Veterans is scheduled to end with the South Dakota DAV's State convention, and there are rumors that Gene may be stepping back from his consistently full plate of activities on behalf of South Dakota's and the Nation's veterans, I cannot believe that Gene's voice will be silent. I hope he will continue to provide me with advice and counsel on veterans issues.

I commend the lifetime of work by Gene Murphy on behalf of the Nation's veterans. I congratulate him on his numerous awards and the leadership roles he has held and taken for veterans over the past many decades. Veterans and their families have a true advocate in Gene Murphy and are better off today because of him. I commend his work

with the DAV and other veterans organizations and wish Gene and his wife Eldine well in his retirement.●

2013 NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL STRATEGY—PM 8

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit the 2013 National Drug Control Strategy, my Administration's blueprint for reducing drug use and its consequences in the United States. As detailed in the pages that follow, my Administration remains committed to a balanced public health and public safety approach to drug policy. This approach is based on science, not ideology—and scientific research suggests that we have made real progress.

The rate of current cocaine use in the United States has dropped by 50 percent since 2006, and methamphetamine use has declined by one-third. New data released this year suggest that we are turning a corner in our efforts to address the epidemic of prescription drug abuse, with the number of people abusing prescription drugs decreasing by nearly 13 percent—from 7 million in 2010 to 6.1 million in 2011. And the number of Americans reporting that they drove after using illicit drugs also dropped by 12 percent between 2010 and 2011.

While this progress is encouraging, we must sustain our commitment to preventing drug use before it starts—the most cost-effective way to address the drug problem. The importance of prevention is becoming ever more apparent. Despite positive trends in other areas, we continue to see elevated rates of marijuana use among young people, likely driven by declines in perceptions of risk. We must continue to get the facts out about the health risks of drug use and support the positive influences in young people's lives that help them avoid risky behaviors.

The Strategy that follows presents a sophisticated approach to a complicated problem, encompassing prevention, early intervention, treatment, recovery support, criminal justice reform, effective law enforcement, and international cooperation.

I look forward to working with the Congress and stakeholders at all levels in advancing this 21st century approach to drug policy.

BARACK OBAMA.

THE WHITE HOUSE, April 24, 2013.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY) announced that on today,

April 24, 2013, he had signed the following enrolled bill, previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

H.R. 1246. An act to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to provide that the District of Columbia Treasurer or one of the Deputy Chief Financial Officers of the Office of the Chief Financial Officer of the District of Columbia may perform the functions and duties of the Office in an acting capacity if there is a vacancy in the Office.

At 2:30 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1067. An act to make revisions in title 36, United States Code, as necessary to keep the title current and make technical corrections and improvements.

H.R. 1068. An act to enact title 54, United States Code, "National Park Service and Related Programs", as positive law.

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2761, and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the British-American Interparliamentary Group: Mr. Holding of North Carolina.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 1067. An act to make revisions in title 36, United States Code, as necessary to keep the title current and make technical corrections and improvements; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 1068. An act to enact title 54, United States Code, "National Park Service and Related Programs", as positive law; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

S. 788. A bill to suspend the fiscal year 2013 sequester and establish limits on war-related spending.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 799. A bill to provide for a sequester replacement.

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-1290. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Methyl Jasmonate; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9382-6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 15, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.