

that a 14-year-old New Jersey boy sat before his family room television set in Monmouth County and chose to turn the channel, not to a game show or sitcom, but to C-Span, the History Channel, and CNN in order to learn yet more about us and the work we do. How many young men and young women, boys and girls are there today, tuning in, attentive, and eager to learn more about this Nation's leadership and work? Unknown to us, Alton Hovnanian was watching and I am honored by his attention. If any of us wonder why it is we get up in the morning, remember this: there are 14-year-olds like Alton watching us, and they care. How powerfully inspiring it is for us to remember the reach of the work afforded by our office.

Alton Hovnanian was not a head of state or a captain of industry, though he seemed certainly well on his way, as the achievements in his young life were many. Indeed, Alton set the standard in his age group. With a lifelong love of boating and the water, especially the New Jersey coastline near his home, Alton earned the rights and privileges of a full captain license and the highest scuba diving accreditation. He was the recognized leader in community service outreach efforts at the Rumson Country Day School and was voted the "Most Likely to Succeed" by his peers at that excellent institution at its middle school graduation just weeks ago. Having traveled extensively with his family throughout much of the world, Alton was comfortable in many different nations and maintained an active curiosity about other countries, cultures, traditions and cuisine. He brought home, however, an ironclad insistence that things be right here at home, with concern for the comfort and care of our less fortunate citizens, and in the proper order of things within this Nation.

Alton Hovnanian represented the best of young America. He wanted the best for this Nation and for those around him. He was a loving son, a good citizen, a student of history and government and a responsible leader among his peers. He has honored all of us with his life.

May we always remember him as his father would, "Good sailor, brave captain, dear friend, let your gentle spirit fill our sails." •

THE BIG QUARTERLY

• Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, each year on the last Sunday in August, a commemorative festival is held in Wilmington, DE. Known as the Big Quarterly, or the August Quarterly, the festival celebrates the heritage of the independent black church movement, and the continuing importance of the movement's cultural, political and social, as well as religious, influence.

For us in Delaware, as for our Nation as a whole, the history is both proud and painful. The first fully independent black church was founded in Wil-

ilmington in 1813; originally called the Union Church of Africans, it is now known as the African Union Methodist Protestant, AUMP, Church. It was founded by a former slave, Peter Spencer, and was built on land purchased with the help of Delaware's Quaker community, which notably included the station-master of the Underground Railroad, Thomas Garrett.

Affectionately known as "Father," and formally as Bishop, Peter Spencer believed in the "twin" forces of education and religion to empower and to liberate African-Americans. The movement toward religious freedom was closely linked with the anti-slavery campaign, just as predominantly black churches in more recent times have provided leadership in the civil-rights movement and in the ongoing work toward equality of opportunity.

The Big Quarterly, also initiated in 1813, commemorates the founding of the Mother AUMP Church, and honors Peter Spencer's visionary leadership. The festival combines worship with a cultural celebration and a spirit of reunion, of renewing ties with family, friends and with a history of activism that continues to inspire us all.

The history and spirit represented by the Big Quarterly are important to our identity and character as a community and as a nation. It is an event that both reminds us of what has been overcome, and challenges us to complete the journey. •

TRIBUTE TO HARRY QUADRACCI

• Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I pay tribute to a Wisconsinite who died tragically this week, but whose life and work will be long remembered.

Harry Quadracci was many things: an entrepreneur, an innovator, a community leader, a committed philanthropist, and a dedicated husband and father. Harry lived an extraordinary and exemplary life. The founder and president of Quad/Graphics, Harry started from scratch, building a printing business which has become a dominant force in the industry and the largest privately held business of its kind in North America. He brought thousands of jobs to Wisconsin and was renowned as an outstanding employer.

As a community leader, Harry leaves a tremendous legacy to the Milwaukee area and to the entire State of Wisconsin. He and his wife Betty Quadracci pledged \$10 million toward the beautiful new addition to the Milwaukee Art Museum. They also gave generously to many other causes, including the Milwaukee Repertory Theater and the restoration of St. Josaphat's Basilica in Milwaukee.

Harry Quadracci's passing is a great loss to all those who knew him and all those whose lives were touched by his many good works. I am deeply saddened by his passing, but I know that his leadership and generosity have left a lasting mark on our State. He will be remembered for many years to come. •

TRIBUTE TO BG JAMES D. HITTLE, USMC (RET.)

• Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to BG James D. Hittle, USMC (retired) who was buried at Arlington Cemetery on July 24, 2002.

I was privileged to serve with this distinguished military office and public servant in the Navy Secretariat during the Vietnam war years. His main responsibilities were naval manpower and reserve affairs, but his wisdom was sought not only by me as the Under Secretary of the Navy but also by Secretary of the Navy John Chafee and Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird. He remained my friend and valued adviser throughout his life.

I ask that the tribute to a great American General Don Hittle which was delivered at his funeral by General Paul X. Kelly, USMC (retired), the 28th Commandant of the Marine Corps be printed in the RECORD.

The tribute follows:

A TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES D. HITTLE, USMC (RETIRED)

Brigadier General James Donald Hittle—devout Christian—great American—Marine officer—gentleman and gentle man—loving husband—caring father—always a friend in need!

Commissioned a Marine Second Lieutenant in 1937, Don Hittle was a "plank owner" when Major General Holland Smith activated the 1st Marine Division for World War II—was D-4 for the 3d Marine Division under Major General Graves Erskine on Guam and at Iwo Jima—and after the war commanded 2d Battalion, 7th Marines, in the Occupation of North China.

After serving his Corps for 23 years, Don Hittle's future life could easily qualify him as a quintessential "Renaissance Man."

He was Director of National Security and Foreign Affairs for the Veterans of Foreign Wars; syndicated columnist for Copley News Service; commentator for Mutual Broadcasting System; Special Counsel for both the Senate and House Armed Service Committees; a founder and Director of the D.C. National Bank; Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Manpower and Reserve Affairs; Senior Vice President for Pan American Airways; consultant to the President of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation; advisor to several Secretaries of the Navy and Commandants of the Marine Corps—and the list goes on and on and on.

Colonel Don Hittle came into my life during the summer of 1956, when Major General Jim Riseley dragged me kicking and screaming from a cushy tour in what was then the Territory of Hawaii to the labyrinthian corridors of Headquarters Marine Corps. As many of those here today will recall, this was the long, hot summer of Ribbon Creek, and Don Hittle was Legislative Assistant to Randolph McCall Pate, our 21st Commandant. I was a young, eager, starry-eyed Captain, very naive in the arcane world at the Seat of Government—but, I was soon to learn. My first lesson was a negative one—that a junior officer should never ask the Legislative Assistant to the Commandant for a description of his duties and responsibilities. With that said, I did notice that every time Colonel Hittle came charging into General Riseley's office he closed the door behind him. While I readily admit to not being a "rocket scientist," I did surmise that there were some "big time" discussions underway. But, as the saying goes: "Nothing succeeds quite like success." I was soon to learn that

by working closely with the Congress, where Members and their staffs knew him, respected him, and trusted him, Don Hittle had effectively minimized the repercussions from Ribbon Creek. One senior member from the House of Representatives was heard to say: "Don Hittle is the best damned Legislative Assistant the Marine Corps has ever had."

One could go on for hours, perhaps days, about Don's myriad contributions to his Country and his Corps. As an example, I could tell you how he more than any other saved the Army Navy Club from extinction. Senator John Warner, who is here with us today, could tell you that when he was Secretary of the Navy he never had a more imaginative and dedicated Assistant Secretary. Joe Bartlett, the former House Reading Clerk and a retired Marine Corps General, could tell you how Don Hittle was responsible for the creation of the dynamic Congressional Marine Club. Incidentally, Jim Lawrence, who is also with us today, once said of this organization: "Congress created the Marine Corps—Congress has sustained the Marine Corps—Congress has mandated the mission of the Marine Corps—through this organization we are now bonded to each other forever."

In the end, however, all of his many other contributions to his Country and to his beloved Corps pale by comparison to what he accomplished as a member of the renowned "Chowder Society", that elite group of brilliant Marine officers who, in the aftermath of World War II when the very life of our Corps was threatened, insured that our existence, our roles, and our missions were written into law. Don's critical role in the survival of his Corps was best described by General Merrill Twining when he inscribed his book, *No Bended Knee*, "To: Don Hittle, Who saved our Corps." There can be no doubt that our Corps we have today, with three active divisions and wings written into law, owes an enormous debt of gratitude to Brigadier General James D. Hittle, USMC (Retired).

Isn't it ironic to remember that fifty-five years ago certain groups, whose objectives were inimical to the survival of our Corps, were attempting to relegate us into insignificance. Today, with a lion's share of the credit for making it possible going to Don Hittle, we have just heard that Jim Jones, our 32d Commandant, is soon to be the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe. Our congratulations go to Jim—his Corps is very proud—Don Hittle is very proud!

Several years after my retirement, Don asked me to join him for lunch at his Army Navy Club. His purpose was to ask if I would give his eulogy. I was honored beyond belief, but did not look forward to the day when it would become a reality.

Before closing, let me share with you a story that Joe Bartlett told me last week.

Jinny and Joe are members of a Bible class at their church. As a gesture of their love and caring for those who are terminally ill, the class prepares an audio tape for their listening. On one side they include the patient's favorite hymns, and, on the other, a medley of their favorite tunes. During Don's last days with us—a time when he was under heavy sedation—Joe swears that Don's body stiffened to attention every time the Marines Hymn was played.

In closing, let me remind you that Don lived by two simple words—words which have given inspiration to our Corps for over 200 years—*Semper Fidelis*—always faithful.

Don Hittle was always:

Semper Fidelis to his God.

Semper Fidelis to his Country.

Semper Fidelis to his Family.

Semper Fidelis to his Corps.

And, *Semper Fidelis* to his fellow man.

In Don's memory, then, let us share these meaningful words with each other as we

leave this holy place—and let us pray that one day we can live in a world where all of its citizens are *Semper Fidelis* to each other. Don Hittle would like that.●

RECLAMATION OF LA SIERRA PARK

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise to share with the Senate a very special and important story about a few hometown heroes who changed the face of an entire neighborhood.

La Sierra Park is in the heart of the La Sierra neighborhood in Riverside, CA. Two years ago, gangs came to frequent the park, transforming this small treasure into a place of crime and fear. Playful interaction among children was replaced with drug dealing. Residents were robbed and could not use the park unless they paid gang members an entrance fee. However, when a woman was raped in the park in late 2000, local residents decided to fight back.

Marisol Ruiz and Araceli Moore, co-founders of Friends of Myra Linn, led a growing number of neighbors in the effort to take back the park. They passed out flyers, held Neighborhood Watch meetings and attended City Hall meetings. They did everything they could to gather support.

This project turned into "Operation Safe Park." City workers got volunteers to help transform the park back into the treasure it once was. Volunteers augmented police patrols at the park, increased lighting and trimmed the foliage so criminals had nowhere to hide. Soon, residents were enjoying a soccer game and school dance performance held at the park. It is clear that the park was back in the hands of the community.

The story of "Operation Safe Park" shows what a neighborhood can do when it comes together for community improvement. I applaud Marisol Ruiz, Araceli Moore and all those who worked so hard to make a difference in this neighborhood. In taking back this park, these people made their neighborhood a safer and better place for now and for future generations. Their exemplary dedication and commitment serve as an inspiration to us all.●

TRIBUTE TO BRIAN HONAN

● Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, on Tuesday, Boston lost one of its greatest public servants, City Councilor Brian Honan. Brian was raised in a family that held public service in the highest regard. He learned early in life the value of community and the strength of working together on a common goal. In his brief life, Brian touched so many people in countless ways. The true measure of Brian's contribution to Boston and Massachusetts may never be known, but the life he lived and the love he gave will live on in the hearts of his friends, his family and the city of Boston for years to come.

In his years of service to his community, in the District Attorney's Office or as a City Councilor from Allston and Brighton, Brian never forgot his principles and ideals, never forgot those he served and the city he loved so well, and never forgot the need to fight for those who are unable to fight for themselves. There is no greater example of willingness to serve his fellow man than the life and legacy of Brian Honan.

A bright light in the Boston community was lost to us all on Tuesday but the strength and power of that light lives on in Brian's legacy, and is a powerful reminder to us all about what public service is all about. He will be dearly missed.●

APPRECIATION FOR AMBASSADOR MALEEHA LODHI

● Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and my colleagues I would like to place in the record a bipartisan statement of appreciation for the outgoing Ambassador of Pakistan, Dr. Maleeha Lodhi.

Ambassador Lodhi has served her country with exceptional distinction. Her prior experience as both an academic and a journalist has proved to be a great advantage: she has always articulated her government's positions with the precision of a scholar and the persuasive reach of a news analyst.

Perhaps most significantly, Ambassador Lodhi has served as a cultural bridge. She has played an invaluable role in harmonizing the various goals shared by Pakistan and the United States, goals ranging from advancing the international war on terror to de-escalating tensions in South Asia. Moreover, Ambassador Lodhi has—by both her words and her personal example—helped bridge the chasm of misunderstanding between the United States and the Islamic world.

Ambassador Lodhi's mission has been to serve the people and nation of Pakistan, and she has fulfilled that mission superbly. But at this critical juncture, Ambassador Lodhi has also been a great asset in furthering the common interests not only of Pakistan and United States, but of many voices of moderation, tolerance and progressive thinking all across the Muslim world. Her presence here in Washington will be sorely missed, and we wish her all the best on her return home.●

KING BISCUIT TIME

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, ever since it hit the airwaves one lunchtime fifty-six years ago this November, "King Biscuit Time" has profoundly influenced the development and popularity of the blues. As the oldest and longest-running blues program on the radio, it helped promote the careers of bluesmen who pioneered this musical style and later brought it from street corners and juke joints in the South to an international audience. And today,