

the notches through New Hampshire's White Mountains, Pittsburg contains the majestic Connecticut Lakes and Lake Francis, headwaters of the Connecticut River, and areas of unparalleled scenic and wild beauty. It is a community with a rich heritage of residents skilled in the ways of the woods and with a passion for life in the outdoors.

Throughout its rich history, no one has been more true to the community, its residents, its landscape, and its lifestyles than Bing Judd. An avid and skillful sportsman, knowledgeable in the woods and with an uncanny knack of always knowing where the fish are, his vast experience includes a varied and accomplished record of service to the public: A Pittsburg road agent in the 1960s, a New Hampshire State Representative in 1974, 17 years of service as a forest ranger for the State of New Hampshire from 1975 to 1992, a New Hampshire fish and game commissioner for 10 years, on the Pittsburg Police and Fire Departments for many years and service continuing to this day as Pittsburg health officer, as a Coos County commissioner since 1997 and on the State of New Hampshire's Water Resources Council and New Hampshire Wetlands Board. In addition, as chairman of the Connecticut Lakes Headwaters Citizens Advisory Committee, Bing has been, and continues to be, instrumental in assisting to guide policy for preserving and protecting the vital water and woodland resources of this important region, especially in the recent successful effort to preserve for future generations and traditional uses over 170,000 acres of area woodlands.

In my time of service to New Hampshire as Second District Congressman, Governor and U.S. Senator, I have had no higher privilege than to count on Bing Judd for his sound judgement, sage advice and friendship. I know of no individual more dedicated to his community and his region or more able in its governance. The Town of Pittsburg, Coos County, and the State of New Hampshire have been fortunate he has been willing to share his wisdom and experience on our behalf for so well and for so long. While he will continue to serve his town, region, and State in many roles, it is important his longevity of quality service to his town as selectman be recognized and honored. It is because of the outstanding community service performed by citizens like Bing Judd that civil needs are met, our communities prosper, and our Nation hands to future generations a landscape and a society better off for his selfless and committed participation.

I thank Bing Judd on behalf of his many constituents and neighbors of Pittsburg, NH, who he has served and helped throughout the years.●

TRIBUTE TO THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BELLOW'S FREE ACADEMY OF FAIRFAX VT

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the founding of Bellows Free Academy in Fairfax, VT.

Bellows Free Academy is one of the last schools in Vermont that serves student from kindergarten through 12th grade. As such, many families in Fairfax enjoy the advantage of having their children attend the facility from their first day of school through high school graduation.

And it is a very nice facility. The original 1903 building, which burned down in January 1941, was replaced and dedicated in 1942. Additions in 1960, 1973, 1990, and 1999 have kept the school up to date with modern space, equipment and facilities. Located in the heart of one of Vermont's fastest growing towns, BFA is a venerable school whose playgrounds and athletic fields are framed by woods and meadows, with a new land acquisition providing access to the nearby Lamoille River. Several vantage points reveal majestic views of Mount Mansfield, Vermont's tallest mountain.

In discussing BFA, a point of clarity is in order, as there are two schools in Vermont named Bellows Free Academy, and both are in Franklin County. Each school owes its founding to the same benefactor, but people in Fairfax are quick to point out that theirs is the original BFA, even if it is smaller, in terms of student enrollment, to its namesake in St. Albans.

BFA, Fairfax, was established through the generous provisions of the 1876 will of Hiram Bellows, who was born in Fairfax in 1798.

As a young person, Hiram Bellows lived at the farm of his birth and attended grammar school at a nearby schoolhouse. He advanced to the small graded school in town when good fortune brought a college graduate to Fairfax to teach for a short period of time. Hiram was unable to progress further in formal education, however, because his parents could not afford the academy fees to attend the high school equivalent of his day.

Hiram Bellows was an industrious man and an able judge of character. For some time, he made his living operating a general store and "tinkering" in real estate. It is said that he liked to bargain, and invariably whittled on a piece of wood while studying the face of the man with whom a deal was being contemplated.

He served as State senator from Franklin County; was a charter member of the Vermont and Canada Railroad Company; founding associate of the Parish of Christ Church, Episcopal; and first president of the First National Bank of St. Albans.

In regard to his nature and character, a niece once recalled that he was "a kind, delightful gentleman, whose house was always open."

Upon his death, Hiram Bellows' will included provisions for the establish-

ment of a free academy in Fairfax. Here follows several terms of his will:

I give, and bequeath in trust to my native town of Fairfax, two hundred and fifty shares in the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad Company, the par value, one hundred dollars each.

The dividends thereon as far as practical, to be invested in said stock, until the same shall amount to two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, for the purpose of establishing a free school in said town of Fairfax. Said school to be located upon the premises hereinafter mentioned and described.

Said school to be known and called 'the Bellows Free Academy of Fairfax, Vermont'. In which Academy the primary and higher branches of learning shall be taught. Said Academy shall be conducted in all respects in such a manner as to further the education of children and young men, so as to fit them for usefulness, and so as is practical, it is my wish that children of indigent parents receive and advantage of said school in preference to those who have ample means of support of their children . . .

And so, in the same year that Orville and Wilbur Wright achieved human flight from a sand dune in Kitty Hawk, NC, Hiram Bellows' estate of railroad stock founded a free academy on a village lot in Fairfax, VT.

Generations of Hiram Bellows family have attended and graduated from the school he so generously established. I am old his descendants attend BFA to this day. And with the generations of Bellows', so have been graduated generation after generation of other familiar Fairfax families.

A school of course, does not exist and cannot thrive in and of itself. In this regard, Fairfax has a strong tradition of community support for its school, and that tradition is reflected in the quality of students, teachers, administrators, directors, and staff at BFA over the century of its existence.

The list of those responsible for the continued growth and success of the academy goes on and on. There are specific individuals who, I am sure, are worthy of specific praise. But perhaps even more importantly, there are the countless people who contribute immeasurable hours in innumerable ways to endless projects. They are the backbone of the community; they comprise the sustaining force of the school.

So the Bellows Free Academy of Fairfax owes its beginnings to a remarkable man named Hiram Bellows. It does its proud history to its administration, teachers, students, and above all, its community.

Its future depends on sustaining all of the above. And while there are indeed numerous families who count generations of graduates from Bellows Free Academy, judging by its rate of growth, Fairfax also benefits greatly from contributions of newer residents, many drawn to this community, I suspect, precisely because of the strong reputation of its school system.

So, it is with great pleasure that I offer my congratulations to all those, past and present, involved with the Bellows Free Academy of Fairfax, VT.

Moreover, I am pleased to recognize the generosity and foresight of its founder, Hiram Bellows.

Happy 100th birthday, BFA.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, 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 a treaty, and sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 1875. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the mental health benefits parity provisions for an additional year.

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-5240. A communication from the Secretary of Agriculture, transmitting, a draft of proposed legislation relative to the Commodity Promotion, Research, and Information Act of 1996; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-5241. A communication from the Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to financial holding companies; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-5242. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Closure of the Commercial Fishery for King Mackerel in the Exclusive Economic Zone in the Western Zone of the Gulf of Mexico" received on November 13, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-5243. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Colorado: Final Authorization of State Hazardous Waste Management Program Revision" (FRL#7586-9) received on November 13, 2003; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5244. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, several documents related to the Agency's regulatory programs; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-5245. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Annual Pensions Plan, etc. Cost of Living

Adjustments for 2004" (Notice 2003-73) received on November 13, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5246. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Weighted Average Interest Rate Update Notice" (Notice 2003-74) received on November 13, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5247. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Bureau of Labor Statistics Price Indexes for Department Stores" (Rev. Rule 2003-121) received on November 13, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5248. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "TD: Return of Partnership Income" (RIN1545-BC01) received on November 13, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5249. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "CPI Adjustment for Section 7872(g) for 2004" (Rev. Rul. 2003-118) received on November 13, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5250. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Computation of Required Interest Using Mean Reserves" (Rev. Rul. 2003-120) received on November 13, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5251. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tax Exempt Bond Partnership Revenue Procedure" (Rev. Proc. 2003-84) received on November 13, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5252. A communication from the Acting Chief, Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "CPI Adjustment for Section 1274A for 2004" (Rev. Rul. 2003-119) received on November 13, 2003; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5253. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, a request to permit the use of Foreign Military Financing for the sale of 125 M1A1 ABRAMS tank kits for Egypt; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5254. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the report of a certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles or defense services sold commercially under a contract in the amount of \$100,000,000 or more to the United Kingdom; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5255. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to the Arms Export Control Act, the report of the certification of a proposed license for the export of defense articles and defense services sold under a contract in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5256. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Miscellaneous Changes in Office of Personnel Management's Regulations" (RIN3206-AJ54) received on November 13, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

EC-5257. A communication from the Director, Workforce Compensation and Performance Service, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Regulations Locality-Based Comparability Payments" (RIN3206-AI81) received on November 13, 2003; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. GREGG, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 720. A bill to amend title IX of the Public Health Service Act to provide for the improvement of patient safety and to reduce the incidence of events that adversely effect patient safety (Rept. No. 108-196).

By Mr. SPECTER, from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1136. A bill to restate, clarify, and revise the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 (Rept. No. 108-197).

By Mr. INHOFE, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 793. A bill to provide for increased energy savings and environmental benefits through the increased use of recovered mineral component in federally funded projects involving procurement of cement or concrete (Rept. No. 108-198).

By Mr. HATCH, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 253. A resolution to recognize the evolution and importance of motorsports.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. HATCH for the Committee on the Judiciary.

James B. Comey, of New York, to be Deputy Attorney General.

*Michael J. Garcia, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security.

Federico Lawrence Rocha, of California, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of California for the term of four years.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. ENZI, Mr. BURNS, and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 1868. A bill to authorize a 3-year demonstration program to recruit and train physicians to serve in rural settings; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.