

returned to Hawaii and obtained a master's degree in library science, before moving back to Spearfish with her husband Herb to take a job at Spearfish High School, where she has served as librarian since 1979.

Rosalie has earned the respect and admiration of all those who had the opportunity to work with her. Her friendly demeanor and wealth of knowledge helped her develop close friendships with various colleagues and students. In Rosalie's honor, her brother, William Vance, has donated an extensive collection of Library of America books to Spearfish High School. As a symbol of Rosalie's dedication to young people, these books will help educate future generations of young Americans.

Over the years, Rosalie has committed herself to helping Spearfish students learn more about their heritage and culture, about themselves and the world around them. She has worked hard to help students find the best in themselves. Thousands of students over the years have benefited from Rosalie's commitment to education and to the library sciences. From assisting students with research options for papers, to finding intricate details about the history of our world, Rosalie has served as a "human bookmark" in the book of life for countless young adults.

On the occasion of her retirement, I want to congratulate Rosalie Aslesen for her tireless dedication to Spearfish High School and her commitment to quality education. I also want to commend her for her valuable service to the community over the years. She has been very active in the United Church of Christ, has served on the board of the South Dakota Education Association, and has spent many years in the Spearfish Education Association, including the past 2 years as president. The lives of countless people have been enormously enhanced by Rosalie's service to South Dakota and her profession. Her achievements will serve as a model for other talented librarians throughout our State to emulate.

Mr. President, I wish Rosalie Aslesen the best on her retirement. ●

TRIBUTE TO REAR ADMIRAL WILLIAM W. COBB, JR., U.S. NAVY

● Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I would like to recognize one of the finest officers in the United States Navy, RADM William "Bill" Cobb, on the occasion of his retirement on May 15, 2003. Admiral Cobb will leave his current job as Program Executive Officers Ships after over 37 years of faithful and dedicated service to the Navy and our great Nation. During his time in Washington, he engaged the Congress on numerous issues vital to our national security. Today, it is my pleasure to recognize some of Bill's many accomplishments and commend him and his family for their service to the Navy and our Nation.

Admiral Cobb entered military service in 1968 after receiving a Bachelor of

Science degree in Engineering from the United States Naval Academy. He continued his education at the Naval Post Graduate School where he earned a Master's Degree in Operations Research in 1975. Admiral Cobb also attended the National Defense University's Industrial College of the Armed Forces, ICAF, in 1990; the Defense Systems Management College in 1992; the Executive Program, University of Michigan, Graduate Business School in 1994; and the Senior Executive Program in National and International Security at Harvard University in 2001.

As Executive Officer aboard USS *Jouett*, CG 29, Admiral Cobb shined as a leader. Even though *Jouett* started out last in every competitive category, Admiral Cobb's ability to motivate all levels of the chain-of-command catapulted the ship to the fleet's number one combatant in battle readiness. He later assumed duties as Commanding Office of USS *Coontz*, DDG 37, where his ship provided the initial response to a distress call after USS *Stark* was struck by an errant Iraqi cruise missile. During his tour as Commander of Naval Surface Warfare Center, Indian Head, Naval Ordnance Command, and Commander Naval Surface Warfare Center, NSWC, he was responsible for all of the Navy's In-Service Engineering Agents, ISEA.

Admiral Cobb also excelled in a variety of key staff assignments including Chief of Staff and Head, Fleet Introduction and Lifetime Support Division, AEGIS Program Office; a tour in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations as Head Readiness Sustainability Team, OP 090; and Chief, Cruise Missile Division, Plans and Policy Directorate, Commander Atlantic Fleet, where he planned all of the Tomahawk strikes for Desert Storm. As Program Executive Officer for Theater Surface Combatants, PEO TSC, he was responsible for the AEGIS shipbuilding program, the Navy's Theater Ballistic Missile Defense, TBMD, program, and introduction of the Cooperative Engagement Capability, CEC. On the international front, he headed shipbuilding programs with Spain and Japan, and worked with thirteen of our closest allies on the Standard Missile program. His tremendous effort significantly enhanced our allied forces' defenses against the growing tactical ballistic missile threat. Admiral Cobb was also responsible for the life-cycle support of several ship classes including Ticonderoga Cruisers, Arleigh Burke Guided Missile Destroyers, Spruance Destroyers and Oliver Hazard Perry Frigates.

In conjunction with the Secretary of the Navy's reorganization efforts, Admiral Cobb took on the significant task of reorganizing three major Program Offices into one. Program Executive Officer, PEO, Ships now has sole responsibility for life-cycle support for all 13 surface ship classes, the heart of our entire Navy. This new Program Office is responsible for the execution of

current and future shipbuilding programs that will carry the Navy well into the 21st century including the DDG 51 Arleigh Burke Class Destroyers, the LPD 17 San Antonio Class Amphibious Ships, the Navy's future destroyer DD(X), X, and the Littoral Combat Ship, LCS. The DD(X), and LCS programs, due in large part to Admiral Cobb's leadership, will revolutionize our Navy with the availability of more lethal and agile firepower than ever before seen in history.

Always an inspiration to those who served him, Admiral Cobb made it a point to recognize those Officers and Sailors who transformed his vision of the Navy into reality. His contribution to the success of our Navy goes well beyond the material changes he made in the programmatic world. Admiral Cobb made each sailor keenly aware of their importance to the Navy and the true appreciation that he held for their efforts. His unique ability to recognize talent and to foster camaraderie among those who served him had an enormous influence on countless junior sailors, and will continue to steer the course of our Navy well into the future.

On behalf of my esteemed colleagues, I offer the sincere congratulations of the United States Senate to Admiral Cobb, his wife Karen, son Bill II, Buddy, daughter Jeanne, and granddaughter Isabelle on a truly magnificent career. Admiral Cobb will be missed by our Navy and has the heartfelt appreciation of our entire Nation. We wish our friend the best of luck in his undoubtedly successful future and bid him "Fair Winds and Following Seas." ●

(At the request of Mr. REID, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

RETIREMENT OF CAPTAIN NICHOLAS PERUGINI

● Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I would like to express my appreciation and congratulations to Captain Nicholas Perugini of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA, Commissioned Corps on the occasion of his retirement. For more than 26 years, Captain Perugini has dedicated himself to the protection of our Nation's oceans and maritime commerce through his exemplary work in NOAA's charting program. He has served aboard three hydrographic survey vessels and a shore-based field party. As commanding officer of the NOAA ship *Rude*, Nick was in charge of the survey investigation into the grounding of the Queen Elizabeth 2. He was also a member of NOAA teams that assisted in the recovery of the TWA flight 800 and John F. Kennedy Jr. crash sites which occurred off the East Coast of the United States. Captain Perugini's commitment and leadership during these sensitive projects are an example of public service at its best. Nick consistently put aside ego and personal glory to do what is best for the Nation.

Captain Perugini now concludes his career as chief of NOAA's Marine Chart Division. A direct result of his tenure as chief was a significant advancement in the longstanding partnership between NOAA and the Coast Guard concerning safety of navigation issues. His vision and leadership led to the advances of new technologies, moving paper charting to the electronic world. Today, mariners know their location, in real time, on an electronic navigation system. This advance was not possible in the paper chart world.

With his guidance, NOAA and the Coast Guard entered into a Memorandum of Agreement, which pooled agency resources and greatly accelerated the production of Electronic Navigational Charts, ENC. He made the ENC data available to the public free, via the internet. This relationship not only saved tax dollars, but the improved navigational tools have greatly increased the safety of navigation. Captain Perugini's work has resulted in a significant reduction in marine accidents, which has saved lives, property, and our environment from degradation.

From July 1998 to August 1999, I was pleased to have Nick as a member of my congressional staff as a legislative fellow. His amazing work ethic, interpersonal skills, commitment to the job, knowledge of maritime issues, and gracious humility made him an integral part of my office. I want to thank him for his work and commitment to our Nation.

I congratulate Captain Nicholas Perugini on his exemplary career and wish him, his wife Lisa, their daughter Katie, and their son Nicholas my best. Through his tireless efforts, he has made a difference and has helped to protect the marine environment and promote safe maritime commerce that is vital to our Nation's prosperity.●

TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT NO. 70

● Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of the dedication and service that the American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 70 has provided to Montana's veterans and their communities. The American Legion Auxiliary was formally founded in 1919 by a group of concerned women who stepped in to fill the role of the men who left home for the battlefields of World War I. These women were driven to service by their compassion, by their sense of civic duty, but, most of all, they were driven by their love of country.

In the more than eight decades since its founding, the American Legion Auxiliary has expanded to include hundreds of chapters in every state and territory. Likewise, their original mission expanded as well to include helping many others in need.

The women of American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 70 have been particularly active in their community. They have donated funds to veteran's facilities and programs in Fort Harrison,

Miles City, Glendive and Columbia Falls, MT. They are distributing more than 900 poppies in recognition of the service and sacrifice our veterans have given their country. During Operation Iraqi Freedom, they tied hundreds of yellow ribbons across Judith Gap to show their support for our troops and their family members.

Mr. President, I thank the women of American Legion Auxiliary Unit No. 70 and all the American Legion Auxiliaries for their service to our Nation's veterans and communities. These women have not only given their time and money in service to our Nation, they have given their hearts as well, and that is the best thing anyone can give.●

TRIBUTE TO GENERAL ELECTRIC'S APPLIANCE PARK

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I rise to honor the workers of General Electric's Appliance Park in Louisville, KY, for 50 years of hard work and quality manufacturing of appliances for the world. From producing the first box car in 1953 to the wide array of products GE manufactures today, generations of Kentucky workers have contributed to the success of the economy at GE's Appliance Park.

The original idea of merging nine plants into one major facility to mass produce GE's consumer products was initially scrutinized and met with skepticism by nay sayers. Doubters didn't think and agree that consumers demanded across America and the world such a vast array and selection of quality products. However, the ingenuity and vision of GE's leadership, behind its strong and committed workforce, considered America's growing population, rise of per capita income and social changes that occurred during the 1950s as evidence that such mass production was needed and wanted by the consumer. History shows they were right, and today General Electric is able to please consumers through offering an array of high quality products at an affordable price.

I am proud to have most of the workers at General Electric's Appliance Park living in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. They possess those core American values which have helped to made GE and this country a great success. I give great pride in calling attention to their excellence and work ethic. I know all will agree that for generations these GE Appliance Park workers "bring good things to life."●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2. An act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2004.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 5(a) of the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission Act (36 U.S.C. 101 note), the Minority Leader appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission for the 108th Congress: Ms. SLAUGHTER of New York; Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.

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-2285. A communication from the Architect of the Capitol, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of all expenditures during the period April 1, 2002, through September 30, 2002, from monies appropriated to the Architect of the Capitol; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-2286. A communication from the Senior Legal Advisor to the Bureau Chief, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.622(b), Table of Allotments, DTV Broadcast Stations, Odessa TX (MB Docket No. 02-95, RM-10421)" received on May 6, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2287. A communication from the Senior Legal Advisor to the Bureau Chief, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Genoa, Colorado) (MM Doc. No. 01-21)" received on May 6, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2288. A communication from the Senior Legal Advisor to the Bureau Chief, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations, (Bishopville and Lamar, South Carolina) (MB Doc. No. 02-197)" received on May 6, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2289. A communication from the Senior Legal Advisor to the Bureau Chief, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, DTV Broadcast Stations, Traverse City, MI (MB Docket No. 02-20, RM-10368)" received on May 6, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2290. A communication from the Senior Legal Advisor to the Bureau Chief, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, DTV Broadcast Stations, Miami, FL (MM Docket No. 00-125, RM-9908)" received on May 6, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2291. A communication from the Senior Legal Advisor to the Bureau Chief, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations, Stuart, Oklahoma (MB Doc. No. 02-287; RM-10569)" received on May 6, 2003; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.