

Army in 1967. He served as a Combat Infantry Soldier in Vietnam and as a Training Instructor at various worldwide locations between 1967 and 1977. He continued his honorable service to the Army in various capacities until his retirement from active duty in 1987.

Following his retirement from active duty Jim worked for Northwestern Mutual Life and Metropolitan Life Insurance in Bismarck, ND, and then served as the Commander and Club Manager of the American Legion Lloyd Spetz Post No. 1 until 1996.

In 1996, Jim took on a new opportunity to serve our Nation and his fellow veterans by accepting his current position as the Cass County Veterans Service Officer. In his role as Cass County's Service Officer, Jim has gained a reputation for tenacious advocacy on behalf of veterans. He is known for his abilities to work closely with veterans to determine any possible sources of assistance they may have earned from their honorable service in the Armed Forces. Jim and I have worked together to assist a number of veterans over the years, and I can personally attest to his strong advocacy on behalf of those veterans that need a helping hand. The veterans of my state have a true friend in Jim.

Jim Brent has spent the majority of his life serving others, including his country, family, friends, and most of all, veterans. He goes above and beyond the call of duty. Jim is a great person, wonderful friend, a true patriot. I am honored to know him.●

COMMENDING JUDGE ANNE E. THOMPSON

● Mr. CORIZINE. Mr. President, I would like to recognize Judge Anne E. Thompson for her most recent accolade, the New Jersey State Bar Foundation's Medal of Honor. This honor is well deserved, presented for Judge Thompson's long-standing dedication to New Jersey's legal system and her remarkable contributions to improve the justice system. Furthermore, I wish to convey my deepest appreciation for her many years of outstanding service as a Federal District Court Judge in New Jersey. She is a distinguished jurist who embodies the best of the New Jersey legal community. We are truly fortunate to have had someone like Judge Thompson on the federal bench for the past 25 years.

Judge Thompson has distinguished herself throughout her career as an outstanding lawyer and judge. In 1975 she was appointed by Governor Brendan T. Byrne to the position of Prosecutor of Mercer County and in 1979 she was appointed by President Jimmy Carter as a United States District Court Judge for the District of New Jersey. Judge Thompson served as Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. Judge Thompson formerly served as Vice-Chairwoman of the Mercer County Comprehensive Criminal Jus-

tice Planning Board and was appointed by the New Jersey Supreme Court to the Statewide Committee on Character and the Criminal Practice Committee. She also excelled as Chairperson of the New Jersey Supreme Court's Committee on Municipal Courts and the Juvenile Justice/Juvenile Standards Committee of the National District Attorneys Association. Judge Thompson presently serves as a member of the Criminal Law Drafting Committee for the National Conference of Bar Examiners and is a member of the committee responsible for oversight of the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts in Washington, D.C.

Even more significant than her many achievements is the exceptional degree of integrity and character that Judge Thompson has displayed as a Federal judge. She is known for her wonderful courtroom demeanor and her willingness to approach each and every case with the utmost thoughtfulness and care. Indeed, her many accomplishments demonstrate the depth of her abilities as well as her understanding that all litigants must be treated fairly and with dignity and respect.

On behalf of the people of New Jersey, I would like to again express my congratulations to Judge Thompson for receiving the New Jersey State Bar Foundation's Medal of Honor. I offer my sincere gratitude for her many years of distinguished service as a Federal judge in New Jersey.●

COMMENDING JUDGE JOSEPH E. IRENAS

● Mr. CORIZINE. Mr. President, I would like to recognize Judge Joseph E. Irenas as a 2005 recipient of the Justice William J. Brennan, Jr. Award. This award, which is given each year by the Association of the Federal Bar of the State of New Jersey, honors those whose actions have advanced the principles of free expression. I wish to convey my congratulations to Judge Irenas and my deepest appreciation for his many years of outstanding service as a Federal District Court Judge in New Jersey. He is a distinguished jurist who embodies the best of the New Jersey legal community.

Judge Irenas has distinguished himself as an outstanding judge and lawyer during his career. He is presently a member of the American Bar Association, American Law Institute, New Jersey Bar Association and Camden County Bar Association. He is also a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (London) and a Fellow of the American Bar Foundation. From 1985 to 2002, Judge Irenas was an Adjunct Professor of Law at Rutgers University School of Law—Camden, NJ. He taught numerous courses, including Commercial Paper, Secured Transactions, Professional Responsibility, First Amendment, High Technology and The First Amendment, and Products Liability.

But even more important than his many achievements is the depth of

character that Judge Irenas has displayed while on the bench. He has approached every case with thoughtfulness and care. Indeed, his many accolades reflect the strength of his abilities and his deep understanding that every case, even the smallest, matters greatly to all those who appear before him.

And so on behalf of the people of New Jersey, I would like to again express my congratulations to Judge Irenas for receiving the Brennan award and my sincere gratitude for his many years of distinguished service on the Federal bench in New Jersey.●

CONGRATULATING ELIZABETH KELLY AND SADIE HARTELL

● Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise to congratulate Elizabeth Kelly and Sadie Hartell, of Willington, CT. Both Elizabeth and Sadie will be presenting projects this week in Washington in celebration of National History Day this Wednesday, June 15.

Elizabeth and Sadie, both of whom attend Hall Memorial School, were selected as 2 of 19 students who will be presenting their projects this week. These students are part of a larger group of 2,300 finalists, who were selected from more than half a million participants in National History Day activities across our Nation.

National History Day is an initiative to promote the learning of history by American students in junior high and high schools. It encourages students not only to read their textbooks but to visit libraries, museums, and archives, and to create exhibits and participate in performances based on historical themes. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the National History Day initiative.

The students who competed in the National History Day competition have spent months doing in-depth research on topics they have selected, and preparing their presentations.

Elizabeth Kelly's project is titled, "The Second American Revolution: Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Her Fight." As part of her research, Elizabeth interviewed Colin Jenkins, a relative of Stanton's, who gave her original letters by Stanton that Elizabeth incorporated into a 10-minute dramatic performance, which she will be presenting at the National Museum of American History.

Sadie Hartell's project is titled, "The Beatles Communicating to Their Generation."

She will be presenting an exhibit and showing a short movie. Sadie did her research at both the University of Connecticut Music Library, as well as at Hall Memorial's school library. Her project, which she will be presenting at the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian American Art Museum, focuses on how the Beatles used their music to express sentiments about the Vietnam War.

I congratulate Elizabeth and Sadie, as well as all those students who participated in National History Day. Knowledge of our history as a nation is critical to our understanding of our present, and our future. They have both demonstrated tremendous dedication and commitment, and it is my hope that their achievements inspire others to learn more about our Nation's rich and storied history. I wish them much success in their studies and their future endeavors.●

HONORING ROBERT M. LA FOLLETTE, SR.

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I say a few words to honor the extraordinary life of Robert M. La Follette Sr., on the 150th anniversary of his birth. Throughout his life, La Follette was revered for his tireless and deeply principled service to the people of Wisconsin and to the people of the United States. His dogged, full-steam-ahead dedication to his life's work earned him the nickname "Fighting Bob."

Robert Marion La Follette, Sr., was born on June 14, 1855, in Primrose, a small town southwest of Madison in Dane County. He graduated from the University of Wisconsin Law School in 1879 and, after being admitted to the state bar, began his long career in public service as Dane County district attorney.

La Follette was elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1884, and he served three terms as a member of that body, where he was a member of the Ways and Means Committee.

After losing his campaign for reelection in 1890, La Follette returned to Wisconsin and continued to serve the people of my state as a judge. Upon his exit from Washington D.C., a reporter wrote, La Follette "is popular at home, popular with his colleagues, and popular in the House. He is so good a fellow that even his enemies like him."

He was elected the 20th Governor of Wisconsin in 1900. He served in that office until 1906, when he stepped down in order to serve the people of Wisconsin in the United States Senate, where he remained until his death in 1925.

As a founder of the national progressive movement, La Follette championed political reform, civil rights and workers' and women's rights throughout his career. As governor, he advanced an agenda that included the country's first workers compensation system, direct election of United States Senators, and railroad rate and tax reforms. Collectively, these reforms would become known as the "Wisconsin Idea."

His terms in the House of Representatives and the Senate were spent fighting for women's rights, working to limit the power of monopolies, opposing pork barrel legislation, and rooting out political corruption. La Follette also championed electoral reforms, and he brought his support of the direct

election of United States Senators to this body. His efforts were brought to fruition with the ratification of the 17th amendment in 1913. Fighting Bob also worked tirelessly to hold the government accountable, and was a key figure in exposing the Teapot Dome Scandal.

La Follette earned the respect of such notable Americans as Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington and Harriet Tubman Upton for making civil rights one of his trademark issues. At a speech before the 1886 graduating class of Howard University, La Follette said, "We are one people, one by truth, one almost by blood. Our lives run side by side, our ashes rest in the same soil. [Seize] the waiting world of opportunity. Separatism is snobbish stupidity, it is supreme folly, to talk of non-contact, or exclusion!"

La Follette ran for President three times, twice as a Republican and once on the Progressive ticket. In 1924, as the Progressive candidate for president, La Follette garnered more than 17 percent of the popular vote and carried the state of Wisconsin.

La Follette's years of public service were not without controversy. In 1917, he filibustered a bill to allow the arming of United States merchant ships in response to a series of German submarine attacks. His filibuster was successful in blocking passage of this bill in the closing hours of the 64th Congress. Soon after, La Follette was one of only six Senators who voted against U.S. entry into World War I.

Fighting Bob was outspoken in his belief that the right to free speech did not end when war began. In the fall of 1917, La Follette gave a speech about the war in Minnesota, and he was misquoted in press reports as saying that he supported the sinking of the Lusitania. The Wisconsin State Legislature condemned his supposed statement as treason, and some of La Follette's Senate colleagues introduced a resolution to expel him. In response to this action, he delivered his seminal floor address, "Free Speech in Wartime," on October 16, 1917. If you listen closely, you can almost hear his strong voice echoing through this Chamber as he said:

Mr. President, our government, above all others, is founded on the right of the people freely to discuss all matters pertaining to their government, in war not less than in peace, for in this government, the people are the rulers in war no less than in peace.

Of the expulsion petition filed against him, La Follette said:

I am aware, Mr. President, that in pursuance of this general campaign of vilification and attempted intimidation, requests from various individuals and certain organizations have been submitted to the Senate for my expulsion from this body, and that such requests have been referred to and considered by one of the Committees of the Senate.

If I alone had been made the victim of these attacks, I should not take one moment of the Senate's time for their consideration, and I believe that other Senators who have been unjustly and unfairly assailed, as I have

been, hold the same attitude upon this that I do. Neither the clamor of the mob nor the voice of power will ever turn me by the breadth of a hair from the course I mark out for myself, guided by such knowledge as I can obtain and controlled and directed by a solemn conviction of right and duty.

This powerful speech led to a Senate investigation of whether La Follette's conduct constituted treason. In 1919, following the end of World War I, the Senate dropped its investigation and reimbursed La Follette for the legal fees he incurred as a result of the expulsion petition and corresponding investigation. This incident is indicative of Fighting Bob's commitment to his ideals and of his tenacious spirit.

La Follette died on June 18, 1925, in Washington, D.C., while serving Wisconsin in this body. His daughter noted, "His passing was mysteriously peaceful for one who had stood so long on the battle line." Mourners visited the Wisconsin Capitol to view his body, and paid respects in a crowd nearing 50,000 people. La Follette's son, Robert M. La Follette, Jr., was appointed to his father's seat, and went on to be elected in his own right and to serve in this body for more than 20 years, following the progressive path blazed by his father.

La Follette has been honored a number of times for his unwavering commitment to his ideals and for his service to the people of Wisconsin and of the United States.

Recently, I was proud to support Senate passage of a bill introduced in the other body by Congresswoman TAMMY BALDWIN that will name the post office at 215 Martin Luther King, Jr., Boulevard in Madison in La Follette's honor. I commend Congresswoman BALDWIN for her efforts to pass this bill.

The Library of Congress recognized La Follette in 1985 by naming the Congressional Research Service reading room in the Madison Building in honor of both Fighting Bob and his son, Robert, Jr., for their shared commitment to the development of a legislative research service to support the United States Congress. In his autobiography, Fighting Bob noted that, as governor of Wisconsin, he "made it a . . . policy to bring all the reserves of knowledge and inspiration of the university more fully to the service of the people. . . . Many of the university staff are now in state service, and a bureau of investigation and research established as a legislative reference library . . . has proved of the greatest assistance to the legislature in furnishing the latest and best thought of the advanced students of government in this and other countries." He went on to call this service "a model which the federal government and ultimately every state in the union will follow." Thus, the legislative reference service that La Follette created in Madison served as the basis for his work to create the Congressional Research Service at the Library of Congress.

The La Follette Reading Room was dedicated on March 5, 1985, the 100th