

good fortune to travel with the Byrds when her health was better. Their relationship is just as JAY ROCKEFELLER said—people married for nearly 60 years who were like teenagers—teenagers in love.

I know Senator BYRD is a better person because of the person he chose to be his wife, but as a result of that, all of us are better people because of the influence Erma Byrd had on ROBERT C. BYRD.

My thoughts go to ROBERT BYRD. I spoke with him yesterday. He was strong, resilient, saying this is what Erma would want, for him to be strong. I haven't heard his voice as powerful as it was yesterday, at 2 or so in the afternoon, for a number of years because he suffered the pain his wife suffered. We all felt that. Her pain is past. Senator BYRD's pain is past.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF WINSTON CHURCHILL'S IRON CURTAIN SPEECH AND HONORING SENATOR BAKER

Mr. FRIST. March 2006 marks the 60th anniversary of what is regarded as one of the most influential speeches of the 20th century. March 5, 1946, Winston Churchill gave his famous "Iron Curtain" speech at Westminster College, in Fulton, MO. Historians date the beginning of the cold war to this speech.

In this speech Mr. Churchill introduced to the world the phrase "Iron Curtain" to describe the division between Western powers and the area controlled by the Soviet Union. This speech not only marked the onset of the cold war but drew attention to the unique relationship between the United States and Great Britain. This special relationship spans three eras from Winston Churchill and FDR to Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher and now to George W. Bush and Tony Blair.

In celebration of this historic event and the special relationship between our Nation and Great Britain, the Howard H. Baker Jr. Center for Public Policy at the University of Tennessee and the Churchill Archives Centre at Cambridge University, the United Kingdom, have come together for a stellar international conference and to honor one of America's greatest statesmen and one of Tennessee's greatest sons, the Honorable Howard H. Baker, Jr.

This premier occasion has brought together two great universities and two great centers, each dedicated to preserving and presenting their complementary historical resources. This coming together has formed a new

partnership for the 21st century and will support an ongoing, trans-Atlantic and international educational alliance.

Here are excerpts from the Iron Curtain speech:

The United States stands at this time at the pinnacle of world power. It is a solemn moment for the American democracy. For with this primacy in power is also joined an awe-inspiring accountability to the future. As you look around you, you must feel not only the sense of duty done, but also you must feel anxiety lest you fall below the level of achievement. Opportunity is here now, clear and shining, for both our countries. To reject it or ignore it or fritter it away will bring upon us all the long reproaches of the aftertime.

From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended across the Continent. Behind that line lie all the capitals of the ancient states of Central and Eastern Europe.

The safety of the world requires a new unity in Europe, from which no nation should be permanently outcast. It is from the quarrels of the strong parent races in Europe that the world wars we have witnessed, or which occurred in former times, have sprung.

Fraternal association requires not only the growing friendship and mutual understanding between our two vast but kindred systems of society, but the continuance of the intimate relationship . . .

Beware, I say; time may be short. Do not let us take the course of allowing events to drift along until it is too late. If there is to be a fraternal association of the kind I have described, with all the extra strength and security which both our countries can derive from it, let us make sure that that great fact is known to the world, and that it plays its part in steady and stabilizing the foundations of peace. There is the path of wisdom. Prevention is better than cure.

LOCAL RADIO BROADCAST EMERGENCY SERVICES

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, on Wednesday, March 15, 2006, I joined Senator SNOWE and Senator BAUCUS in introducing S. 2418, a bill to preserve local radio broadcast emergency and other services and to require the Federal Communications Commission to conduct a rulemaking for that purpose.

Growing up in my home town of Pascagoula, MS, I had my own radio show. Through local radio, I had the opportunity to have a voice in my community. Local radio keeps communities informed about what is going on in their back yards, and gives local leaders an opportunity to communicate with their supporters.

Over the years, I have been actively voicing my concerns on the issue of media ownership. I believe that the problem of the pervasiveness of indecency in broadcasting is related to my concerns about media ownership. When media conglomerates become too large, they are less responsive to the concerns of the American viewing public and less accountable to local communities. Media companies which use publicly owned airwaves must become more responsive to public needs, respectful of local values and reflective of community standards which seem to

be constantly ignored by executives in east and west coast high-rise office buildings.

In order to ensure that radio remains an independent source of information for local communities, I am pleased to introduce a bill to preserve local radio broadcast emergency and other services and to require the Federal Communications Commission to conduct a rulemaking for that purpose.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

A COLORADO LEADER: MONTE PASCOE

• Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a good and decent man, who left an indelible mark on Colorado, but who sadly left us suddenly and too soon.

Monte Pascoe of Denver died unexpectedly on March 2, at age 71, leaving behind his wonderful wife Pat, children Sarah, Ted and Will, a brother Patrick, and a legacy as a "servant leader," a model we would all do well to follow.

Monte was a friend and mentor to me. He was a lawyer who worked on water and natural resource issues, helping protect the natural heritage of our great State of Colorado. He served as the executive director of the Colorado Department of Natural Resources, a post I held in later years. He was a longtime member of the Denver Board of Water Commissioners; member of the Colorado School of Mines board; president of the Iliff School of Theology; and chairman of the Colorado Water Quality Commission.

Monte led the Colorado Democratic Party as its chairman during the early and mid 1970s, when Colorado elected such illustrious public servants as Gary Hart, Pat Schroeder and Tim Wirth to the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives; Dick Lamm to the Governor's mansion; and my good friend Ruben Valdez as the first Hispanic Speaker of the Colorado House of Representatives.

In 1969, Monte ran for the Denver Board of Education, losing in a campaign defined by the issue of the segregation of public schools. Monte fought the good fight, standing firm for equality in access to public schools. Even though he lost that election, he helped organize the legal effort which eventually led to the desegregation of Denver schools.

In 1983, Monte ran for mayor of Denver among a crowded field that included the eventual winner, former U.S. Secretary of Energy and Transportation, Federico Peña.

Monte stood beside his wife Pat during her own distinguished career in the Colorado State Senate.

Monte was a community leader in the best sense of the word, active in his church, Montview Presbyterian Church, and numerous nonprofit and community organizations.

Up until his death, Monte, along with his friend of over 30 years, Ed Benton,

walked from his home to his law firm, Ireland Stapleton Pryor & Pascoe, where he had worked since 1960.

Monte was born Jan. 4, 1935, in Ames, IA. His family moved to Denver when he was a young boy, settling in the Park Hill neighborhood. He graduated from East High School and went to Dartmouth College, where he met Pat, and earned his law degree from Stanford University.

We in Denver and Colorado counted on Monte and turned to him when a task needed to be done, or a problem solved, or a perspective gained. He carried out his role as a "servant leader" with humor, grace, selflessness and humility. Our community will miss him tremendously, and our thoughts and prayers are with his wonderful family.●

TRIBUTE TO GARLAND RASH

• Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, today I would like to share with you Garland Rash's inspiring story of bravery and determination that saw him use his remarkable talent for woodwork to serve his country during the dark days of World War II.

Born in 1924, Garland was raised in Drew County, AR, where he put himself through school and developed an interest in carpentry. Like so many other Americans, he was horrified at the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 and immediately set out to aid in the country's war effort. This led him to California, where he dedicated himself to building wooden racks that could be used to raise ships out of the water to be repaired.

Garland soon realized during a visit home on Mother's Day in 1943 that he wanted to do more for his country. That summer, he enlisted in the Navy and underwent a grueling period in boot camp. Garland was then assigned to the 116th Naval Battalion as part of the construction unit of the Navy, nicknamed the "Seabees."

After more training in Rhode Island and Bay St. Louis, Garland was shipped to Pearl Harbor where he, alongside many other talented carpenters, was part of a covert operation to equip U.S. military planes with a more advanced type of engine. While there, Garland decided to collect several pieces of wood and Plexiglas from the debris of the 1941 bombing. During his non-working hours, Garland used these pieces to fashion two wooden boxes, using parachute scraps for the lining and Plexiglas from windshields to create a beautiful inlaid mosaic pattern on the lid.

While in Pearl Harbor, a young marine named Bob Crosby, brother of famed singer Bing Crosby, was struck by the workmanship of these boxes. He asked Garland whether he would be willing to sell one to him and Garland agreed. Though Garland never saw him again, Bob Crosby would go on to become an accomplished actor and musician through the 1950s.

Garland continued his distinguished military service in Iwo Jima, the Phil-

ippines, and Japan where he and his fellow American troops accepted the surrender of Japanese forces in 1945. After returning to the United States in December of that year, Garland resumed his relationship with Kathleen Lawson, a woman he had dated while on leave from the Navy during the war. They were married on March 1, 1946.

Today, their home in Monticello, AR, is filled with loving pictures of several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Remarkably, Garland managed to hold on to the other wooden box that he carved from the rubble of Pearl Harbor and keeps it today as a remembrance of the war and his service.

Looking at this box today, I, like Bob Crosby so many years ago, am amazed by the extraordinary craftsmanship, and I am awestruck knowing its historical significance. Garland, like so many World War II veterans, is truly a part of the "greatest American generation" and I hope you will join me in paying tribute to his extraordinary service to this Nation.●

RECOGNIZING DARLYS J. BAUM

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Darlys J. Baum on her retirement from the South Dakota Housing Development Authority after 30 years of dedicated service to our State. Dar has served under six South Dakota Governors. Prior to being named executive director in 1995, Dar served as deputy executive director for 11 years. Before that, she served in various capacities, including director of rental housing programs.

In addition to her duties as executive director, Dar found the time to bring South Dakota's rural housing perspective to regional and national boards. She served as a member of Fannie Mae's National Housing Impact Advisory Council from 2002-2003 and as a member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines from 2002-2004.

Under Dar's leadership, the South Dakota Housing Development Authority issued nearly \$2.27 billion in long-term and \$1.95 billion in short-term home ownership bonds. During this time, 23,869 families and individuals took advantage of SDHDA's low-interest mortgage loan opportunities, accounting for more than \$1.8 billion in loans purchased. Additionally, more than \$12.8 million was loaned to 7,602 families for downpayment and closing cost assistance.

Working with lenders, service providers, and realtors, Dar helped create the Homeownership Education Resource Organization, HERO, to provide high-quality home buyer education. Pursuing the American dream of homeownership can be a daunting challenge for many families, and home buyer education services can help walk these families through the home buying process.

Since Dar became executive director, SDHDA allocated more than \$16.4 mil-

lion in housing tax credits for 89 developments across South Dakota. Nearly 3,300 affordable housing units were created or preserved, totaling more than \$242 million in project costs.

During that same time, SDHDA used the HOME Investment Partnership Program for 939 HOME-assisted units in 88 multifamily developments, receiving more than \$39 million in funding for construction or rehabilitation. Also, more than \$1.6 million in HOME funding was utilized for homeownership rehabilitation in 222 homes. Total development costs contributed to South Dakota's economy from the HOME Program were more than \$102 million during Dar's tenure as executive director.

Dar was instrumental in helping lead the charge to end homelessness in South Dakota. She helped form the statewide Housing for the Homeless Consortium and the Governor's Interagency Council on Homelessness. These organizations were created to unite those who work to provide shelter, employment opportunities, food, education, health care, and support for those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Since its creation, the Housing for the Homeless Consortium has been awarded about \$6.5 million through the Continuum of Care Grant Program, which is a competitive grant program administered through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

As you can see, under Dar's extraordinary leadership, the South Dakota Housing Development Authority has done an impressive amount of work on South Dakota's housing needs. I, again, want to thank Dar for her tireless efforts to improve the housing opportunities available to South Dakota families. My staff and I have always highly valued her advice on so many important housing issues. Dar has a unique ability to generate creative solutions and bring people together in partnerships that solve so many critical housing problems. Dar Baum's commitment and dedication to public service is an example for others in public service to emulate.●

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 sundry nominations and two withdrawals which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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