

the institution's finance and budgeting, information technology, institutional effectiveness, television and radio, strategic planning, athletics, and day-to-day operations. Under his leadership, the University has enjoyed an unprecedented era of growth, doubling worldwide student enrollment to almost 30,000 students. Dr. Patterson has been instrumental in Troy University's glowing record of stewardship and financial stability, garnering praise and awards from the National Association of College and University Business Officers and earning TROY recognition as a "Best Value" university from such publications as MONEY Magazine and The Princeton Review. Dr. Patterson played a key role in the university's decision to move Troy University athletics to the highest level of NCAA competition, bringing national recognition to the university and fostering pride among its students, alumni, and friends. Dr. Patterson was recently honored by Troy University as the Honorary Alumnus of the Year for 2007.

I commend Dr. Douglas C. Patterson, on the occasion of his retirement from Troy University, for his leadership in Alabama higher education and for his outstanding service to Alabama and our country.●

HONORING SIMPLY DIVINE BROWNIES

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, with the holiday season upon us, I rise today to recognize a Maine small business that operates with a philosophy of giving back to those in need. Simply Divine Brownies of Brunswick is a baker and distributor of gourmet brownies and assorted gift packages that recently received well-deserved attention for finishing second in Forbes magazine's Boost Your Business contest.

Founded in November 2004 as a home business by Trina Beaulier, Simply Divine Brownies is a true treat for the taste buds. In just 3 years, the company has grown to 20 employees, including Trina's daughter Meggen, and now operates in Brunswick's historic Fort Andross Mill. Its gourmet brownies range from the chocolate and nut-filled brownies to the more eclectic cappuccino or peppermint frosted brownies. Seizing the opportunity to bring a creative twist to the epicurean world, Simply Divine produces brownies with a unique Maine accent. The Need'him is a chocolate and coconut brownie based on the needham, a traditional Maine cookie. And the Singin' the Blues consists of a chocolate brownie that is covered with blueberry buttercream frosting and topped with wild Maine blueberries. Simply Divine's brownies also come in a variety of shapes, such as Christmas trees, wedding cakes, and lobsters and even palm trees for those seeking a different climate. Remarkably, Simply Divine is also able to offer Reflection Brownies imprinted with a digital image of the

client's choosing, as novel remembrances for special occasions.

What makes the company so special—aside from its delicious baked goods—is what Trina and Meggen do to help the less fortunate. Seeking to use their skills to help others, they developed the Divine Intervention Brownie Collection. These specialty brownies come in the shape of hearts and stars, and after each purchase of one of these sets, Simply Divine donates a portion of the proceeds to Volunteers for America, a national nonprofit group that assists people of all ages in rebuilding their lives. Whether it be helping the homeless find safe and affordable housing, or aiding at-risk teens and those with mental illnesses, Volunteers for America helps over 2 million people in over 400 communities, a task that it has successfully performed since 1896. Volunteers for America's philanthropic acts of kindness and compassion are admirable, and at this time of year, we can be particularly thankful for the work that Simply Divine Brownies and other businesses like it do to make these programs a reality.

For all their hard work and success, the Beauliers have been celebrated in various capacities over the past several years. Their brownies have been cited as the Snack of the Day on the "Rachel Ray Show" and have also been featured on NBC's "Today's Show." Most recently, and perhaps most prominently, Simply Divine came in second in online voting for a Forbes magazine contest to receive a financial assistance package to grow its business. They beat out nearly 1,000 other small companies to place in the final round. Having to create a forward-looking business plan for the contest has been of tremendous benefit to the Beauliers, who say that their newfound knowledge, combined with increased sales and peaked interest in the company, has allowed them to forge ahead with their planned expansion.

In the past 3 years, Simply Divine Brownies has made a name for itself. As a family-owned small business that has flourished and continues to receive accolades of the highest accord, Simply Divine's growth certainly has not gone unnoticed. Yet, through it all, the Beauliers and the employees at Simply Divine have found the will and desire to make a difference, and they are to be commended for their insatiable appetite to brighten the lives of others. I wish Trina and Meggen Beaulier and everyone at Simply Divine Brownies a happy holiday season, and continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO FLOYD RED CROW WESTERMAN

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Floyd Red Crow Westerman. Mr. Westerman passed away early in the morning on Thursday, December 13, 2007, at the age of 71.

Floyd was born on the Lake Traverse Reservation in Northeast South Da-

kota on August 17, 1936. When he was just 5 years old, he was removed from his family to attend Wahpeton Indian School. He later transferred to Flandreau Indian School where he finished out his high school education. After high school, Floyd went on to graduate from Northern State University majoring in art, speech, and theatre.

Mr. Westerman was a very intelligent and talented individual. He was a man of many trades including acting, singing, and songwriting. His acting career was especially extensive. He performed in more than 50 movies and television shows. Some of his more popular acting works included, "Dances with Wolves," "Hidalgo," "The X-Files," and "Walker, Texas Ranger."

His music career was also a successful one. Mr. Westerman performed with many talented musicians including Johnny Cash, Willie Nelson, Bonnie Raitt, Harry Belafonte, Jackson Browne, Kris Kristofferson, and Don Henley.

Floyd Red Crow Westerman was a thoughtful, kind, and inspiring man. Although many will miss him, I know his spirit will never be forgotten.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:10 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills and joint resolution, without amendment:

S. 2174. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 175 South Monroe Street in Tiffin, Ohio, as the "Paul E. Gillmor Post Office Building".

S. 2484. An act to rename the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development as the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

S.J. Res. 13. Joint resolution granting the consent of Congress to the International Emergency Management Assistance Memorandum of Understanding.

At 2:20 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the amendments of the House to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 6) to reduce our Nation's dependency on foreign oil by investing in clean, renewable, and alternative energy resources, promoting new emerging energy technologies, developing greater efficiency, and creating a Strategic Energy Efficiency and Renewables Reserve to invest in alternative energy, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2764) making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending in September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, with amendments, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following resolution:

H. Res. 880. Resolution relative to the death of the Honorable Julia Carson, a Representative from the State of Indiana.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1374. An act to amend the Florida National Forest Land Management Act of 2003 to authorize the conveyance of an additional tract of National Forest System land under that Act, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3179. An act to amend title 40, United States Code, to authorize the use of Federal supply schedules for the acquisition of law enforcement, security, and certain other related items by State and local governments.

H.R. 3454. An act to provide for the conveyance of a small parcel of National Forest System land in the George Washington National Forest in Alleghany County, Virginia, that contains the cemetery of the Central Advent Christian Church and an adjoining tract of land located between the cemetery and road boundaries.

H.R. 3911. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 95 Church Street in Jessup, Pennsylvania, as the "Lance Corporal Dennis James Veater Post Office".

H.R. 4210. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 401 Washington Avenue in Weldon, North Carolina, as the "Dock M. Brown Post Office Building".

H.R. 4220. An act to encourage the donation of excess food to nonprofit organizations that provide assistance to food-insecure people in the United States in contracts entered into by executive agencies for the provision, service, or sale of food.

H.R. 4286. An act to award a congressional gold medal to Daw Aung San Suu Kyi in recognition of her courageous and unwavering commitment to peace, nonviolence, human rights, and democracy in Burma.

H.R. 4342. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 824 Manatee Avenue West in Bradenton, Florida, as the "Dan Miller Post Office Building".

H. J. Res. 15. Joint resolution recognizing the contributions of the Christmas tree industry to the United States economy.

The message further announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. 246. Concurrent resolution honoring the United States Marine Corps for serving and defending the United States on the anniversary of its founding on November 10, 1775.

H. Con. Res. 254. Concurrent resolution recognizing and celebrating the centennial of Oklahoma statehood.

H. Con. Res. 270. Concurrent resolution to make corrections in the enrollment of the bill H.R. 1593.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 4:11 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Brandon, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 6. An act to move the United States toward greater energy independence and security, to increase the production of clean renewable fuels, to protect consumers, to in-

crease the efficiency of products, buildings, and vehicles, to promote research on and deploy greenhouse gas capture and storage options, and to improve the energy performance of the Federal Government, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

At 4:35 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Brandon announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2761) to extend the Terrorism Insurance Program of the Department of the Treasury, and for other purposes.

At 6:47 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 2271. An act to authorize State and local governments to divest assets in companies that conduct business operations in Sudan, to prohibit United States Government contracts with such companies, and for other purposes.

S. 2488. An act to promote accessibility, accountability, and openness in Government by strengthening section 552 of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act), and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3648) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude discharges of indebtedness on principal residences from gross income, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3690) to provide for the transfer of the Library of Congress police to the United States Capitol Police, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the title of the bill (H.R. 3997) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide earnings assistance and tax relief to members of the uniformed services, volunteer firefighters, and Peace Corps volunteers, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House agrees to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3997) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide earnings assistance and tax relief to members of the uniformed services, volunteer firefighters, and Peace Corps volunteers, and for other purposes, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 8:40 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills and joint resolution:

S. 597. An act to amend title 39, United States Code, to extend the authority of the

United States Postal Service to issue a semipostal to raise funds for breast cancer research.

S. 2174. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 175 South Monroe Street in Tiffin, Ohio, as the "Paul E. Gillmor Post Office Building".

S. 2484. An act to rename the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development as the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

H.R. 797. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve low-vision benefits matters, matters relating to burial and memorial affairs, and other matters under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2408. An act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs outpatient clinic in Green Bay, Wisconsin, as the "Milo C. Huempfer Department of Veterans Affairs Outpatient Clinic".

H.R. 2671. An act to designate the United States Courthouse located at 301 North Miami Avenue, Miami, Florida, as the "C. Clyde Atkins United States Courthouse".

H.R. 3703. An act to amend section 5112(p)(1)(A) of title 31, United States Code, to allow an exception from the \$1 coin dispensing capability requirement for certain vending machines.

H.R. 3739. An act to amend the Arizona Water Settlements Act to modify the requirements for the statement of findings.

S.J. Res. 13. Joint resolution granting the consent of Congress to the International Emergency Management Assistance Memorandum of Understanding.

The enrolled bills and joint resolution were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

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-4386. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a violation of the Antideficiency Act by personnel at the Naval Surface Warfare Center; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-4387. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a multiyear procurement that is being sought for UH/HH-60M and MH-60S aircraft for fiscal year 2007 through fiscal year 2011; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4388. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Receiving Reports for Shipments" (DFARS Case 2006-D024) received on December 18, 2007; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4389. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Ship Critical Safety Items" (DFARS Case 2007-D016) received on December 18, 2007; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4390. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Information Assurance Contractor Training and Certification" (DFARS Case 2006-D023) received on December 18, 2007; to the Committee on Armed Services.