

The time has come for Congress to move forward with a thoughtful and responsible framework for drug reimportation. In a free market economy such as ours, it seems unfair that we have permitted a system that only allows the manufacturers to reimport drug products. It is essential that we find ways to reduce drug prices for Americans and one approach is by allowing drug reimportation. As such, we can and should, with the appropriate safeguards, allow a more open prescription drug reimportation regime to take hold in this country. The Dorgan-Snowe proposal offers a reasonable and responsible framework for such an endeavor to begin.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I will be unable to be in Washington from Tuesday, May 15, to Wednesday, May 16, due to the graduation of my daughter from Columbia University in New York. I therefore ask that I be granted leave from the Senate under rule VI, paragraph 2.

#### WACHOVIA CHAMPIONSHIP

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the fifth anniversary of the Wachovia Championship golf tournament and its contribution to charitable causes in North Carolina.

Several years ago, a group of North Carolinians gathered to begin the planning for this first-class event. Under their leadership, the Wachovia Championship has quickly risen to the top echelon of sporting events in the country. In only 5 short years, the Wachovia Championship has become known as one of the preeminent golf tournaments in the country—second only to the major championships.

The organizers desired to create a premier sporting event that would provide a first-class experience for patrons, PGA tour players, and volunteers that at the same time would have a significant economic impact for the Carolinas, showcase our State and region to a national and international television audience, and most importantly, raise significant funds for charitable causes in the State.

On all accounts, the Wachovia Championship has been a resounding success story. This year alone, the Wachovia Championship will have an economic impact of over \$45 million in the state of North Carolina.

The primary beneficiary of the success of the Wachovia Championship is Teach for America. Funds generated from the tournament are used to support the national efforts of this organization. Teach for America is the national corps of outstanding college graduates who commit 2 years to teach in low-income communities and become advocates for expanding educational opportunity. Since 1990 nearly 17,000 college graduates have joined Teach for America, impacting the lives of over 2.5 million students.

In North Carolina, Teach for America has over 250 corps members teaching in Charlotte, Durham and communities across the eastern half of the State.

Since the inception of the tournament, over \$4 million has been generated for Teach for America from the success of the Wachovia Championship in Charlotte.

As you can see, this is much more than just a golf tournament. The Wachovia Championship is a community and economic success story.

I congratulate the organizers and the thousands of volunteers that make the Wachovia Championship one of the special events that makes our state of North Carolina proud.

#### HONORING DEE SARTON

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, as you know, the month of May is Foster Care Month, when we take special note of the young people served by our Nation's foster care system, and the dedicated volunteers and professionals who work with and for them.

Today, I rise to pay tribute to a fellow Idahoan who is making a tremendously positive difference in the lives of foster children in our State.

Dee Sarton is a reporter at KTVB News Channel 7. Since November 1998, she has used her talent and experience to produce segments promoting the adoption of children out of the foster care system. On Wednesday nights, just before signing off the early evening news, she introduces sibling groups or older youth who are waiting for adoptive homes, and her compelling, sensitive interviews with these young people have touched the hearts of families across the Nation. She has introduced more than 500 children and has partnered with the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare in helping them find stability and love through adoption.

Dee brings energy, intuition, and a sincere concern for the future of each child to each production day. Although these young people have troubled histories and range from the gregarious to the shy, she manages to form an immediate bond with them. Her empathy and patience come from an abiding desire to help them achieve the normalcy they have described over and over in similar ways: "I just want to be treated like a regular kid."

For her outstanding work on behalf of Idaho's youth, I nominated Dee Sarton to receive the 2006 "Angel in Adoption" award presented by the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute, and I am very proud to share her story with my colleagues today.

#### RECOGNIZING RALEIGH TIAHRT

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize Raleigh Tiahart, an intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several months.

Raleigh is a graduate of Vermillion High School in Vermillion, SD. Currently he is attending the University of Minnesota where he is pursuing majors in mathematics and philosophy. He plans to finish his education at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Raleigh for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

#### RECOGNIZING SARA KOCH

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize Sara Koch, an intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several months.

Sara is a graduate of Custer High School in Custer, SD. Currently she is attending South Dakota State University where she is pursuing majors in business and political science. She has also been active in Teenage Republicans and College Republicans. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Sara for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### ARMY RESERVES

• Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to a special group of Americans—the members of Company B, 7th Battalion, 158th Aviation Regiment. The dedication and patriotism of this Army Reserve unit from Olathe, KS, truly makes all Kansans and Americans proud.

In October 2005, Pakistan suffered a severe disaster when a 7.6-magnitude earthquake devastated the country. This unit, known as the Spartans, was in the midst of training at Fort Sill, OK, to prepare for its deployment to Afghanistan when they received orders to assist in the humanitarian relief efforts. The unit immediately responded by disassembling their entire fleet of Chinook helicopters, flying to Afghanistan where they reassembled their aircraft, and then deploying to Islamabad to participate in relief efforts. All this was accomplished in a mere 4 days—a phenomenal feat. During the 5 months of this operation, the Spartans flew 2,633 missions where they delivered more than 18 million pounds of supplies, transported almost 7,000 refugees, and medically evacuated 311 casualties. This mission proved to be the longest and largest helicopter relief mission in the history of the United States.

Following their relief mission, the unit deployed to Afghanistan to provide heavy-lift support for combat operations at Kandahar Airfield in southern Afghanistan. During their 7-month

deployment, the unit contributed to three major offensive operations by transporting troops and supplies in some of the most difficult conditions for aviation operations.

In early October 2006, the unit returned to Pakistan for Operation Promise Keeping, a mission to commemorate the 1-year anniversary of the earthquake. The unit delivered more than 87 tons of steel sheets, cement, and construction materials to help with rebuilding efforts in Pakistan.

This weekend, at the Army Aviation Association of America's annual convention, the unit is being recognized as the Army Reserve Aviation Unit of the Year. The Pakistani people will forever remember the servant hearts of these military members. It is with an overwhelming sense of gratitude that I wish to recognize these fine service members and their families for their dedication to the cause of freedom and congratulate them on their much deserved award.●

#### RETIREMENT OF MARGARET SPRING

● Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to a member of my staff who retired from service to the Senate after dedicating 8 years to the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee. Margaret Spring, Democratic general counsel for the Commerce Committee, left the Senate for love. In doing so, she will be leaving behind a record of accomplishment that will be difficult for anyone to match. During her 8-year tenure on the committee, more than 10 major ocean and coastal initiatives, which she was heavily involved in drafting, have been enacted into law, including the National Sea Grant College Program Reauthorization, the Oceans and Human Health Act, Coast Guard Reauthorization Acts, the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Amendments Act, the Tsunami Preparedness Act, and the Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act. Probably most notable are the first and last pieces of legislation Margaret worked on. The first was the Oceans Act of 2000, and the final bill was the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act.

What is clear from the passage of all these bills is both Margaret's ability to successfully negotiate and work in a bipartisan fashion, regardless of whether she was in the minority or the majority, and her unwavering commitment to making the world we live in a better place for today and for the future. Her trustworthiness and constant striving for perfection provided a process where every staffer who worked with her believed the final product was a true reflection of negotiations and discussions, and the outside parties that had an interest in the legislation, whether environmental or industry groups, while not necessarily agreeing

completely with the ultimate outcome, felt like their voices were heard. The best example of her abilities is the Magnuson-Stevens Act, which passed by unanimous consent with support from the fishing industry and environmental groups, a rarity in this day.

A hallmark of Margaret's legacy will be a cleaner and healthier environment for generations to come. The Oceans Act, which passed in 2000, created the Ocean Commission, consisting of this country's leading ocean experts. Without the legislation enacted through her efforts, Congress and the administration would be without a landmark blueprint. Margaret's work, in combination with efforts of other dedicated members and staff, has given us guideposts for what we must do to sustain the ocean environment for future generations.

While Margaret has left the Senate, she has not left her call to public service, to preserving the coastal environment, or to improving the planet for the next generation. While she and her new husband have decided to move to the West coast, she also decided to continue her passionate interest in the marine environment with a nonprofit organization whose mission is to preserve environmental diversity through the protection of lands and waters. The Commerce Committee, the Senate, and this country have benefited from Margaret's dedication during the past 8 years, and while she will be missed, the country will continue to benefit from her commitment, dedication, and tireless efforts to improve the world we live in.

On the eve of Margaret Spring's wedding to Mark Bunter, we wish her well as she embarks on a new chapter of her life.●

#### TRIBUTE TO GREG STEVENS

● Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the late Gregory Clark Stevens—an incredible political strategist, loyal Republican, wonderful husband and father and a terrific friend to me and my wife Janet.

Last month, our Lord took Greg from us after 58 years on Earth. Greg's last days weren't easy on him or his family as he suffered from brain cancer. But he was able to find an inner peace that I know helped him in his final days.

Looking back, Greg had a full and accomplished career—a career that led to many people, including myself, getting elected and doing immense good for our Nation.

After graduating from the University of Maine in 1971, he spent half a decade as a reporter in New Jersey, and was then hired as President Gerald Ford's reelection campaign press secretary. He was hired by former New Jersey assemblyman turned campaign manager for Ford, Thomas Kean. Kean later returned to New Jersey and, after a defeat running for the same office, he was later elected Governor and hired Greg to be his communications director.

When Kean was reelected in 1981 he made Greg his chief of staff.

A fellow Ohioan, Roger Ailes, hired Greg in 1988 to work on Vice President George H.W. Bush's campaign for the Presidency. Then, 2 years later, Greg ran my successful campaign to be Governor of the great State of Ohio.

A few years later Greg opened his own consulting business in the Washington suburbs and had many clients. I remained one of them, with Greg running my multimedia campaign in 1994 for my second term as Governor, then in 1998 and 2004 for my current Senate seat. He did a marvelous job and we became good friends. And it meant a great deal to Janet and me that we had someone working with us who cared so much about us personally. We always said hiring Greg was the best decision we ever made.

But it was his genuine caring for me and my family that translated into his incredible television ads that helped get and keep me elected. Greg always "got us," we used to say, and got our values. And he communicated those values through his commercials in a way that no one else could.

Over the years Greg has worked for many famous people and been involved in numerous historic and epic political battles. But that is not how I really remember him. I remember Greg as a fine man and good friend.

As time goes on and we get older, and our families seem to grow and grow, our free time seems to shrink more and more. So there wasn't a lot of time for me to make it up to Maine to see my friend Greg. But I did take the time to send him a letter right before he passed.

In that letter I reminded him of the good work he did on behalf of me and the Nation, and about how I cherished our friendship and fighting the good fight together, but also about how worried I am about our kids and grandkids and what kind of opportunities they will have in the future. I told him I would love to talk to him about these things again soon but, unfortunately, time ran out.

Greg Stevens meant a lot to a lot of people. And he did so much good while he was with us here on Earth.

A minister's son, I know Greg found comfort knowing this life was not all there was. I concluded my letter to Greg with this: "I'm sure you are comforted by the thought that you will be with our Father, eternally happy, and that one day we all will be together again."

I look forward to seeing my good friend Greg once again.●

#### HONORING DEL GREENFIELD

● Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, those of us entrusted to represent our States in the Senate are so unbelievably fortunate thanks to the wonderful people we meet and work with along the way. These encounters remind us on a regular basis of the inherent goodness of