

have 6 months to vacate the territory. Unsatisfied that the judge had given O. H. ample time to leave, the complainant in the case appealed and the matter was elevated to the Territorial Supreme Court.

Abner Francis was incensed by the fact that such a law existed in the so-called free territory of Oregon. He described the plight of his brother and detailed the case made before the Supreme Court in a letter to his friend and fellow civil rights advocate, Frederick Douglass. When Judge Orville Pratt ruled against the defense, giving O. H. 4 months to leave the territory, Abner engaged Col. William M. King, then the representative of Portland's district in the State legislature. Representative KING agreed to try to repeal the law outright. The law was not repealed until 1926, but a group of outraged Portlanders, led by Abner, successfully petitioned for an exemption for O. H.

Douglass wasted no time in publishing Francis's letter. Many abolitionists and civil rights leaders were learning of racial injustices in the undeveloped West for the first time when they read of O. H. Francis's case.

Outspoken men and women like Abner Francis forced Oregonians and the Nation to acknowledge that the bitter struggle for equality was to be fought not just in the East, but also in the farthest reaches of the American West. Francis must be recognized as one of the first vocal advocates for racial equality in Oregon. Today, I honor Abner Hunt Francis for his contributions.

#### VOTE EXPLANATION

Mrs. MCCASKILL. Madam President, today I attended the funeral of Connie Karr, my neighbor and city councilwoman in Kirkwood, MO, which is my home. Connie Karr died in a tragic attack on the Town Hall of Kirkwood. I was therefore unable to be present for two rollcall votes taken by the Senate. Had I been, I would have voted aye on the motion to invoke cloture on the conference report to accompany H.R. 2082, the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 2008. I would have further voted aye on final passage of H.R. 2082.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### RECOGNIZING DEBRA BROWN STEINBERG

• Mr. COLEMAN. Madam President, today I want to recognize the accomplishments of Ms. Debra Brown Steinberg. Last year, Ms. Steinberg received the Ellis Island Medal of Honor from the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations for her services in representing the families of noncitizen victims of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center. With this award, she joins past no-

table recipients such as former Presidents Gerald Ford, George H.W. Bush, and Bill Clinton.

Ms. Steinberg has worked tirelessly to help the families of 9/11 victims. She played a leading role in the creation of the New York Lawyers for the Public Interest 9/11 Project shortly after the attacks. Ms. Steinberg was a driving force in the creation of the 9/11 Victims Compensation Fund, which provided a total of \$7 billion to the families of those killed in the attacks, and she drafted a substantial portion of the New York 9/11 Victims and Families Relief Act. Over the 6 years following that tragic day, her selfless service to these families has never ceased.

The Ellis Island Medal of Honor is only the latest in a series of honors that have been appropriately awarded to Ms. Steinberg. In 2006, she received the American Bar Association's Pro Bono Publico award for her many extraordinary efforts on behalf of the families of 9/11 victims, which she performed without compensation. Her public services have also been honored twice by the U.S. House of Representatives, in a New York State Senate resolution, and by New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg. Ms. Steinberg's work was also featured in the documentary film entitled "The Legal Community's Response to September 11th" and in a similar study entitled "Public Service in a Time of Crisis."

Ms. Steinberg's service should serve as an inspiration not only her peers in the legal profession but to all Americans.

##### RECOGNIZING THE GARFIELD-PALOUSE HIGH SCHOOL

• Mrs. MURRAY. Madam. President, today I recognize the Garfield-Palouse High School Junior Engineering Technical Society, JETS, design team from Washington State. These outstanding young students and their teacher, Mr. Jim Stewart, are finalists in the National Engineering and Design Challenge.

The Garfield-Palouse JETS team researched and built a prototype paraplegic agricultural lift to meet this year's National Engineering and Design Challenge to design a device to assist disabled people in the workplace. Their work to build this lift was inspired by their desire to help a classmate and will allow access to agriculture equipment for individuals with a disability. Agriculture is an important part of Washington State's economy, and I am pleased these students worked on a project that highlights a local industry and will help individuals with disabilities attain greater independence.

The JETS program at Garfield-Palouse High School is an integral tool to empower students to take a deeper look at understanding and addressing problems that many individuals with disabilities face.

I would like to commend Colby Cocking, Beau Fisher, Spencer Gray, Anna

Iverson, Travis Mallett, Sean Neal, Miles Pfaff, Aaron Rager, Katie Redman, Steven Tronsen, and Jim Stewart for their accomplishments. Washington State is fortunate to have a talented and motivated team that placed in the top 5 out of over 100 entries in this unique and rewarding competition. I am proud of the dedication and hard work of these students from Washington State. I wish the team well in the final round of competitions.●

##### RECOGNIZING SIOUX FALLS SEMINARY

• Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I wish to recognize Sioux Falls Seminary located in Sioux Falls, SD, as they celebrate their 150th anniversary.

The Sioux Falls Seminary is a North American Baptist Seminary, which prides itself on the strength of their Bible focused curriculum and the valuable hands on ministry experience that they provide their students. The dedication of the Sioux Falls Seminary to educating its students for more than 150 years is truly commendable. I am proud to have such a fine institution in the State of South Dakota.

I would like to offer my congratulations to the Seminary of Sioux Falls on this milestone accomplishment and wish them continued prosperity in the years to come.●

##### TRIBUTE TO SARA MELLEGARD

• Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I honor Sara Mellegard of Rapid City, SD, who has been named the Black Hills Workshop Artist of the Year. This is an impressive accomplishment that reflects Sara's hard work and dedication and I am proud to have such a fine young artist representing the state of South Dakota.

Sara has developed her artistic skills with the help of the staff and resources at the Suzie Cappa Center for Art Expression and Enjoyment, which is part of the Black Hills Workshop. In addition to her painting, Sara also draws and works with ceramics. As a result of her award, Sara's work will be displayed at the Suzie Cappa Center, the Dahl Fine Arts Center and a reproduction of one her paintings, Doves, will be available for purchase as a postcard.

It gives me great pleasure to recognize Sara Mellegard and to congratulate her on receiving this well-earned award. I wish her continued success in the years to come.●

##### TRIBUTE TO JIM WHITE

• Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I honor Mr. Jim White, who is being recognized by the Wellspring Treatment Center in Rapid City, SD, for his many years of service to the local community, his outstanding generosity, and his dedication to encouraging local small businesses. It is people like Jim who make up the backbone of South Dakota's communities.

Jim White is the owner and founder of Sound Pro, a small business that he has operated for the past 32 years. He began the business as a young man and through hard work and dedication, grew the business into an establishment that is both customer and employee friendly. He has been a shining example of a hard-working and reliable businessman.

In addition to his dedication to the local business community, Mr. White has a special concern for the local young people. After reading a newspaper article about a local girl in need of a kidney transplant, he didn't hesitate to get tested as a potential donor. Upon hearing that he was a perfect match, Mr. White generously and selflessly gave his kidney to the young girl in order to save her life.

Mr. White is not only a generous local businessman, he also actively gives his time as a volunteer for many community organizations. He currently serves as a board member and also participates as a Big Brother mentor himself. Jim is a positive influence and great role model for these boys as well as the rest of his community.

Outside of Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Mr. White also willingly donates his time to mentor those in the community struggling with substance abuse and addiction. Despite his extremely busy schedule, he puts a high priority on encouraging and supporting people in the community from all walks of life. This support is also shown by his service as a member of the board of directors of the Wellspring Treatment Center, a local nonprofit agency that provides treatment and services to young people struggling with behavioral, emotional and chemical dependency problems.

In addition to all of his other commitments, Mr. White is the chairman of the Military Affairs Committee for the Rapid City Chamber of Commerce. He is extremely dedicated to this position and has even been given the title of "Honorary Commander" for the Ellsworth AFB Wing Commander.

This honorable recognition is clearly well-deserved. It is dedicated folks like Jim who make up the backbone of South Dakota's communities and it gives me great pleasure to commemorate Jim White on this special occasion and to wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### REPORT OF AN EXECUTIVE ORDER BLOCKING THE PROPERTY AND INTERESTS IN PROPERTY OF PERSONS DETERMINED TO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE CORRUPTION OF SENIOR OFFICIALS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SYRIA—PM 38

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Pursuant to the International Emergency Economic Powers Act, as amended (50 U.S.C. 1701 et seq.)(IEEPA), I hereby report that I have issued an Executive Order taking additional steps with respect to the Government of Syria's continued engagement in certain conduct that formed the basis for the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13338 of May 11, 2004, including but not limited to its efforts to undermine the stabilization and reconstruction of Iraq.

This order will block the property and interests in property of persons determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, after consultation with the Secretary of State, to be responsible for, to have engaged in, to have facilitated, or to have secured improper advantage as a result of, public corruption by senior officials within the Government of Syria. The order also revises a provision in Executive Order 13338 to block the property and interests in property of persons determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, after consultation with the Secretary of State, to be responsible for or otherwise significantly contributing to actions or decisions of the Government of Syria that have the purpose or effect of undermining efforts to stabilize Iraq or of allowing the use of Syrian territory or facilities to undermine efforts to stabilize Iraq.

I delegated to the Secretary of the Treasury the authority to take such actions, after consultation with the Secretary of State, including the promulgation of rules and regulations, and to employ all powers granted to the President by IEEPA as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of my order.

I wish to emphasize, as well, my ongoing concern over the destabilizing role Syria continues to play in Lebanon, including its efforts to obstruct, through intimidation and violence, Lebanon's democratic processes.

I am enclosing a copy of the Executive Order I have issued.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, February 13, 2008.

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:04 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, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 29. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct facilities to provide water for irrigation, municipal, domestic, military, and other uses from the Santa Margarita River, California, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2251. An act to extend the Acadia National Park Advisory Commission, to provide improved visitor services at the park, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3332. An act to provide for the establishment of a memorial within Kalaupapa National Historical Park located on the island of Molokai, in the State of Hawaii, to

honor and perpetuate the memory of those individuals who were forcibly relocated to the Kalaupapa Peninsula from 1866 to 1969, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3468. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1704 Weeksville Road in Elizabeth City, North Carolina, as the "Dr. Clifford Bell Jones, Sr. Post Office."

H.R. 3532. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5815 McLeod Street in Lula, Georgia, as the "Private Johnathon Millican Lula Post Office."

H.R. 4203. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3035 Stone Mountain Street in Lithonia, Georgia, as the "Specialist Jamaal RaShard Addison Post Office Building."

H.R. 5135. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 West Greenway Street in Derby, Kansas, as the "Sergeant Jamie O. Murgans Post Office Building."

H.R. 5270. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

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

H. Con. Res. 209. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Museum of the American Quilter's Society, located in Paducah, Kentucky, should be designated as the "National Quilt Museum of the United States".

H. Con. Res. 281. Concurrent resolution celebrating the birth of Abraham Lincoln and recognizing the prominence the Declaration of Independence played in the development of Abraham Lincoln's beliefs.

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

H. Res. 975. Resolution relative to the death of the Honorable Tom Lantos, a Representative from the State of California.

At 4:58 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 293. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 29. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to construct facilities to provide water for irrigation, municipal, domestic, military, and other uses from the Santa Margarita River, California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 2251. An act to extend the Acadia National Park Advisory Commission, to provide improved visitor services at the park, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 3332. An act to provide for the establishment of a memorial within Kalaupapa National Historical Park located on the island of Molokai, in the State of Hawaii, to honor and perpetuate the memory of those individuals who were forcibly relocated to