

his home, was honored by the town of Brattleboro and the Vermont Association of Broadcasters.

Tim's love of radio and community affairs brought him to radio in 1974, and he has faithfully provided local news to listeners in Brattleboro and in Springfield, MA, ever since then. I have enjoyed knowing him and his work for several decades as we often meet at community meetings, conferences and press conferences in the Brattleboro region and across Vermont.

Brattleboro proclaimed Saturday, November 7, 2009, as "Tim Johnson Day" and celebrated with a cake. The same day, at their annual meeting the Vermont Association of Broadcasters heralded Tim for his distinguished service. Distinguished service helps sum up Tim's importance to southern Vermont. His contributions to his community and to Vermont broadcasting have been of the highest quality, and they have been steady. His many hours in the studio each week ensure that residents in Brattleboro receive news that is important, relevant and timely. It is regrettable that today's broadcasting environment sustains less of that kind of community service and community presence.

I know Tim will continue on this path of excellence, and I know that all Vermonters join me in expressing appreciation and admiration for his good work on WTSA.

I ask unanimous consent that a copy of an article from The Rutland Herald be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Rutland Herald, Nov. 8, 2009]

BRATTLEBORO—ON-AIR CELEB JOHNSON
HONORED

(By Susan Smallheer)

BRATTLEBORO.—Tim Johnson is the Energizer bunny of Brattleboro radio: he's on the air day and night, whether it's reporting breaking news, broadcasting local football games and or promoting local food shelf fundraisers.

In fact, Johnson was on the air Saturday morning, not even taking a break on "Tim Johnson Day," hoping to garner some donations for "Project Feed the Thousands."

Johnson, 53, a longtime radio newsman for WTSA AM & FM, was honored by the town of Brattleboro last week with a proclamation and a cake. The proclamation was paired with the Vermont Association of Broadcasters announcement that Johnson was honored yesterday for distinguished service at the organization's annual meeting.

Kelli Corbeil, owner and general manager of the radio station, nominated Johnson for the award.

"He's the hardest worker at the radio station," said Corbeil. "I'm so glad he's on my team."

By Johnson's own estimation, his love of community radio lands him in front of a microphone anywhere from 60 to 80 hours a week.

Corbeil, who along with her late husband Bill purchased the station in 2007, said that Johnson's devotion to local radio news was obvious to everyone in Brattleboro and deserved to be recognized statewide. "I think he has a love and a passion for it. He loves

the community and I think the community is important to him," she said.

Johnson first got into radio back when he was a senior at Brattleboro Union High School, and as the representative of the Future Farmers of America, appeared on a WTSA talk show by Larry Smith. Johnson's predecessor at the news desk. He's been doing radio news ever since, a total of 36 years.

Smith, who left TSA in 1997 for a job at Entergy Nuclear, said that even at 17, Johnson had a noticeable voice.

"Local radio news is a dying art as more stations are purchased by conglomerates," Smith said.

"If anything, Timmy has expanded the coverage. I don't know what he doesn't cover. Every time I listen, he's been to a meeting or a community forum. It's wonderful," he said.

"With so many stations, you're lucky if you get the local weather," Smith said.

After high school, Johnson landed a part-time job as an announcer at cross-town radio rival WKVT in 1973, and eventually left Brattleboro for four years to work at WCFR in Springfield.

Johnson said he came back to his hometown in 1985 to WKVT rather than go to a bigger market because the area was deep in his heart, his parents' health was failing and then-owner Dave Underhill was "a news junkie just like myself."

"Bright lights? Big city? This is my home," he said.

Town Manager Barbara Sondag wrote the proclamation for the Selectboard, and she said until she did the research, she didn't grasp the scope of Johnson's community work.

"I had no idea of all the boards he served on," said Sondag. Johnson is currently working hard on Project Feed the Thousands, the local food drive, as well as the local United Way, Warm Hands Warm Hearts. In addition to that, Johnson is also the town moderator in his hometown of Vernon, and also serves as the moderator for the Brattleboro Union High School annual meeting.

"Tim Johnson has for 36 years continuously provided accurate, reliable, respectful reporting of the issues important to the citizens of Brattleboro," the proclamation said.

"Tim can be found at all emergencies, celebrations, meetings and buffets across Windham County, regardless of time," the proclamation went on with a touch of humor.

Johnson has a well-known proclivity for free food, she said, as well as multi-tasking.

While covering selectboard meetings, he also "watches" Red Sox games on his computer, and keeps people posted on the score, Sondag said.

And Johnson, whose real name is Tim Arseneault, has an uncanny ability to report accurately on a meeting despite a predilection for cat naps during late-night meetings, the selectboard couldn't resist adding.

As the morning show anchor and news director, Johnson gets up at 3 a.m. and heads into WTSA's studio in "the new north end" of Brattleboro by 4:30 a.m. He is on the air by 5 a.m.

He works at least until mid-afternoon.

On a recent day, Johnson was busy juggling family, news and his community commitments, aided greatly that day by instant messaging.

Johnson and his wife Sue's 16-year-old granddaughter recently started living with them, and there's plenty to organize and do.

Smith, who actually hired Johnson to replace himself at WTSA, said that Johnson is a consummate radio professional, and overcame a stutter, as well.

"The first time I ever heard him on the radio, there was no stutter. He does commer-

cials, he overcame that—quite an accomplishment," said Smith.

In radio, the hardest thing, he said, is doing commercials. "You really have to concentrate and Timmy's production is unbelievable and his ad libs are great too," said Smith, himself a 30-year radio news veteran.

"I'm delighted for him," Smith said.

"This is really what I enjoy doing," said Johnson, his newscast devoted this day to the local hospital's reaction to the swine flu epidemic, a major water main break in town, the upcoming Winter Farmer's Market and Feed the Thousands.

"This is really what I enjoy doing and I want to do it for 50 years," Johnson said. "That's another 14 years."

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO NELSON MICHAEL, JEROME KIM, AND MERLIN ROBB

• Mr. AKAKA. Madam President, today I acknowledge three sons of Hawaii. They are remarkable individuals and leaders in the U.S. Military HIV Research Program. COL Nelson Michael, COL Jerome Kim, and COL Merlin Robb have worked vigorously to develop a safe and effective AIDS vaccine that has become a true glimmer of hope paving the way for significant advances in our fight against this disease.

These three men, along with the entire U.S. Military HIV Research Program worked side by side with the Thai Ministry of Public Health to conduct the largest study worldwide, a 6-year vaccine field trial held in Thailand—historically one of the countries hardest hit by AIDS. And Hawaii became a vital midpoint and meeting place for Thai and U.S. military researchers as experts from both Thailand and the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research in Maryland worked tirelessly to move this initiative forward.

The study consisted of 16,000 volunteers and tested two vaccines, one that prepares the immune system by training cells to recognize and destroy the virus and one that intensifies that response. The study found that the two-vaccine approach proved to be 31-percent effective in preventing HIV infection.

COL Nelson Michael, M.D., Ph.D, is a Punahou High School graduate and his father, Jerrold Michael was dean of the University of Hawaii School of Public Health. Colonel Michael is currently the director of the division of retrovirology at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. Prior to serving as director, he was the chief of the department of molecular diagnostics and pathogenesis.

COL Jerome Kim, M.D., is an Iolani High School graduate and a clinical associate professor of medicine at the John A. Burns School of Medicine, University of Hawaii. He is deputy director and chief of the department of molecular virology and pathogenesis, division of retrovirology at the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research.

COL Merlin Robb, M.D., is a Radford High School graduate and a program

director for the HJF HIV U.S. Military HIV Research Program. Dr. Robb is a retired lieutenant colonel from the U.S. Army Medical Corps and serves as assistant professor of pediatrics, department of pediatrics, Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences, USU, in Bethesda, MD.

The published study results were presented at the AIDS Vaccine Conference 2009 held in Paris, France, and show great promise as we all look to one day soon make this disease part of our past. Congratulations to all of you for your hard work and continued service.●

RECOGNIZING THE NASA GLENN RESEARCH CENTER

● Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I wish to honor the men and women of NASA's Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, OH.

NASA Glenn is a leader in space exploration and scientific discovery, delivering success after success in aeronautics and energy research and development.

The first test launch of the Ares-1X test rocket 2 weeks ago is just one example of the important work of NASA Glenn. The Ares-1X test rocket represents a new era in NASA and American space exploration. Its successful launch is a profoundly important victory for our Nation.

The scientists and engineers at Glenn designed and built the upper stage simulator of the Ares-1X at its Power Systems Facility. For more than 2 years, NASA Glenn engineers and scientists molded the simulator into an 18-foot-wide cylinder that weighed between 18,000 pounds and 60,000 pounds and contained more than 250 cameras and sensors. The upper stage simulator is designed to replicate what will eventually be situated above the main booster rocket. It will also carry liquid oxygen and liquid hydrogen to fuel the second stage propulsion for another NASA Glenn-led effort, the Orion crew ship.

The successful completion of the Ares-1X test launch is a testament to the hard work and dedication of NASA employees everywhere. And the contributions of NASA Glenn will only grow as scientists study the vast data from last week's launch.

As NASA contemplates its future, the men and women of NASA Glenn have once again shown that the research center will excel regardless of the future missions it fulfills. As the only NASA center north of the Mason-Dixon Line, the NASA Glenn Research Center in Cleveland, OH, will continue to work with all of NASA's facilities around the Nation to ensure that America remains the world leader in space and aeronautics.●

TRIBUTE TO STEVEN C. MCCRAW

● Mr. INHOFE. Madam President, I wish to recognize a gentleman who has served in law enforcement at the State and Federal levels since 1977. Steven C.

McCraw is a native of El Paso, TX, and holds a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master of Arts degree from West Texas State University. Mr. McCraw began his career in 1977 as a State Trooper and later a Sergeant Narcotics Investigator for the Texas Department of Public Safety.

Becoming an FBI Special Agent in 1983, Mr. McCraw served in the Dallas, Pittsburgh, Los Angeles, Phoenix and San Antonio Field offices. He worked at FBI headquarters in assignments that included Unit Chief of an Organized Crime Unit; Inspector; Deputy Assistant Director; Assistant Director of the Office of Intelligence, which was established in February 2002; and Assistant Director for the Inspections Division where he was responsible for strategic planning, internal investigations and bureau-wide performance evaluations. He also served as the Inspector-In-Charge of the Southeast Bomb Task Force. After the attacks on our Nation on September 11, 2001, the President created the Foreign Terrorist Tracking Task Force and named Mr. McCraw as the director. At the point when our Nation seemed most vulnerable, Mr. McCraw led the charge to identify and locate additional terrorist threats.

Mr. McCraw retired as an FBI Assistant Director in August 2004. After more than 20 years of exemplary Federal service, he could have simply retired. Instead, he answered the call of Texas Governor Rick Perry and was appointed the Director of the Governor's Office of Homeland Security. Mr. McCraw has been instrumental in leading the State's homeland security efforts, from border security to hurricane response, including the successful humanitarian relocation of hundreds of families left homeless by Hurricane Katrina. His extensive background in law enforcement and intelligence has enabled him to make well-informed decisions in preparing for and responding to all hazards and threats in Texas.

On July 17, 2009, Mr. McCraw was selected as the Director of the Texas Department of Public Safety. He will be leading nearly 8,500 commissioned and non-commissioned personnel in the department where he started his law enforcement career.

On behalf of the Congress and the country, I would like to thank Mr. McCraw for his service to the Nation and wish him well as he continues his contributions to the safety and security of the State of Texas.●

RECOGNIZING THE MUDDY RUDDER

● Ms. SNOWE. Madam President, tomorrow, our Nation pauses to honor those brave men and women who have served our country so admirably in the Armed Forces. Veterans Day affords us the tremendous opportunity to reflect on the freedoms we enjoy and to acknowledge those who have sacrificed so much to protect those liberties. Today

I wish to recognize a small business in my home State of Maine that is doing its own part to celebrate the contributions that veterans have made to our country.

The Muddy Rudder—which has locations in Yarmouth and Brewer—has been a mainstay on the Maine dining scene since 1976, when it opened its first location overlooking Yarmouth's Cousins River. The restaurant's Brewer location was opened in 2002 at the site of the former Harborside Restaurant, on the town's scenic and revitalized Penobscot River waterfront. Affectionately known to frequent guests and locals as "the Rudder," these remarkable restaurants have gained a solid following in the communities they serve. Noted for its nautical themed decor and picturesque water views, the Muddy Rudder has also gained welcome attention from people near and far for its expertly prepared fresh seafood.

The reason the Muddy Rudder can lay claim to such a delectable menu comes directly from the talent in the restaurants' kitchens. Brewer's Muddy Rudder is home to award-winning executive chef David Smith, an active member of the American Culinary Federation, who makes frequent appearances on local television preparing creative and exciting dishes for people to attempt at home. And the Yarmouth location boasts the expertise of renowned chef Tom Schwarz, a former fisherman who began his culinary journey as a fishmonger for some of New York City's finest restaurants, hotels, and bistros.

But more than just a place to enjoy a hearty meal, the Muddy Rudder is a visible and active member in the communities they serve. As such, in celebration of Veterans Day, both Muddy Rudder restaurants are providing veterans and active military servicemembers with a free meal tomorrow. And unlike many larger national chains that are offering similar incentives, the Muddy Rudder is giving veterans and active duty servicemembers the option to choose a free entrée from any menu item, with no restrictions. From the Rudder's delicious baked stuffed lobster or Fisherman's Platter to meals preferred by landlubbers, including a New York strip steak or chicken marsala, America's bravest can select a wholesome and appetizing meal as a small but meaningful thank you for the commendable service they have given to our Nation.

The Muddy Rudder's cuisine has long been a staple of the culinary landscape in Yarmouth, and more recently in Brewer. And as demonstrated by their actions this week, it is no secret why they are so popular in the community. I am proud that Peter Anastos, the restaurants' owner, and everyone at the Muddy Rudder have set such a thoughtful and timely example as we celebrate those who protect our freedoms. I thank them for their creativity and passion, and wish them success in all of their endeavors.●