

After working a lot, Abraham Lincoln finally became the sixteenth president of the United States. He married Mary Todd Lincoln and had four children. He went against slavery and tried to prove that to people who didn't believe slavery should be stopped. He has once said, "Whenever I hear anyone arguing for slavery, I feel a strong impulse to see it tried on him personally." He fought for the slaves' freedom in the Civil War and won. He signed the Emancipation Proclamation and set all the slaves free. But during the Civil War, Lincoln gave one of the most brilliant speeches of all time. It wasn't very long but it had tons of meaning. It was called the Gettysburg Address. He gave it after the brutal battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. That speech made him famous back then and what makes him important today.

Even though he is not with us today, he is very hard to forget. He is on the penny and five dollar bill. He also has famous monuments made for him, such as the Lincoln Memorial and Mount Rushmore. He will be especially remembered in Illinois, because he spent a lot of his time here. He's known for his tall hat and the first president with a beard. He was also fond of pets. He is known for his many quotes, such as "I leave you, hoping that the lamp of liberty will burn in your bosom, until there shall no longer be doubt, that all men are created equal". There are many more credentials of Abraham Lincoln, but I think I'll stop right there because I don't think there are enough pieces of paper to list all of Lincoln's accomplishments.

Abraham Lincoln was living a great life but had to end because while he was enjoying a play at Ford's Theater, he was assassinated by John Wilkes Booth in 1865. He lived to be fifty-six years old. Lincoln's death broke the heart of many people. He was buried in Springfield, Illinois.

Abraham Lincoln will be missed a lot. His death was very unfortunate, especially since he was in his second term as president. He was important in so many ways. Although he is not with us today he will be remembered forever.

WHY IS ABRAHAM LINCOLN STILL IMPORTANT TODAY?

(By Hannah Binnion, Grade 3, Miss Alday)

Abraham Lincoln is still important today because he was honest. He had a customer that paid too much so he ran miles to give her extra change back. Abe didn't like slavery so he made a law when he was the president stating "There was to be no more slaves." This law helped free slaves. It seemed that he cared not only for himself but for others as well. He wanted to avoid war at any cost it was difficult.

President Lincoln liked to be funny and kind. He loved books for fun and to learn. Lincoln set an example that if we helped others even if their from different cultures we'll get along better.

I feel this is why Abraham Lincoln is still important today. I feel that it is important for us to be honest and not think of people from different cultures as bad and different then we are because of who they are, we should be treated equal.

Lincoln set an example that if we follow his example, it would make us and our community better. He helped us regain our freedom for our countries rights.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the

memory of Luke Cole, a leading environmental attorney and founder and executive director of the Center on Race, Poverty and the Environment. Mr. Cole passed away on June 6th as the result of a car accident in Uganda. He was 46 years old.

Luke Cole was born in North Adams, MA, on July 15, 1962. He spent parts of his childhood in New York and Santa Barbara, where his father was an art historian at the University of California at Santa Barbara. During this period, Mr. Cole often accompanied his father on research trips to Nigeria. He graduated from Stanford University and Harvard Law School.

Mr. Cole decided against potentially more lucrative career paths in favor of one that allowed him to follow his heart and enable him to make an impact on issues that he cared about most deeply: social justice and the environment. As a result of Mr. Cole's determination and vision, what began with a desk and a phone at a friend's office became the San Francisco-based nonprofit law center, the Center on Race, Poverty and the Environment. Today, the center has a staff of 20 and offices throughout central California.

Mr. Cole's accomplishments as the executive director of the Center on Race, Poverty and the Environment were numerous and significant. From the rural communities of California's San Joaquin Valley to a 4,000-year-old Inupiat Eskimo village in Kivalina, AK, his legacy can be seen in the traditionally underserved communities that he worked so hard to save from the effects of harmful pollutants. His unyielding commitment to environmental justice inspired and empowered many people from minority communities to take a more active role in combating environmental racism.

In addition to his leadership of the Center on Race, Poverty and the Environment, Mr. Cole also served on the United States Environmental Protection Agency's National Justice Advisory Council and taught environmental justice seminars at Stanford Law School and UC Berkeley's Boalt Hall School of Law. A man of many interests, he was also a dedicated bird watcher and root beer connoisseur, and possessed an extensive collection of miniature spy cameras and bobblehead dolls. He will be missed.

Mr. Cole is survived by his wife Nancy Shelby; father Herbert; mother Alexandra Cole, and stepmother Shelley Cole; two brothers Peter and Thomas; sister, Sarah; stepbrother Daryn; and son Zane.●

COMMENDING TOM MASTERSON

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to Tom Masterson for being selected by the U.S. Small Business Administration as the Kentucky Small Business Person of the Year.

Tom Masterson is president of T.E.M. Electric Company, a minority-owned firm with offices in both Louisville and

Lexington. He was nominated by Bechtel Parsons and subsequently selected as the recipient of the Kentucky Small Business Person of the Year award. Not only was Tom Masterson honored at the Governor's Mansion in Frankfort, but the award was also presented during National Small Business Week in Washington, DC. As stated by President Obama at a White House ceremony, Masterson started the business with his own funds and worked from his own home until he landed his first contract. Today, he now employs 75 people and has more than \$12 million of annual revenue.

I now ask my fellow colleagues to join me in congratulating Tom Masterson, the recipient of the Small Business Person of the Year for Kentucky award. His work ethic and dedication are to be admired and he is an inspiration to us all.●

RECOGNIZING SHAWN P. MOORE

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I would like to recognize Mr. Shawn P. Moore as a recipient of the 2009 James Madison Memorial Fellowship. Mr. Moore is a teacher at Russell High School in Russell, KY, and was given this award as a result of his success at the 18th annual fellowship competition.

Mr. Moore was selected for a James Madison Fellowship in competition with applicants from each of the 50 States and U.S. territories. This award requires its recipient to teach American history or social studies in a secondary school for at least 1 year for each year of fellowship support. This fellowship is directed toward current and prospective teachers of American history and social studies and supports graduate study of the history and principles of the Constitution of the United States.

Again, I congratulate Mr. Moore for his hard work and thank him for his dedication to shaping the minds of young Kentuckians. It is teachers like Mr. Moore who will ensure that there will always be a bright future for the Commonwealth.●

CONGRATULATING BEECHWOOD HIGH SCHOOL IN KENTUCKY

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I would like to take this time to congratulate Beechwood High School in Fort Mitchell, KY.

Newsweek magazine recently published a list of the top 1,500 public schools in the country. The 15 schools that made the list from Kentucky rank among the top 6 percent of public schools in the Nation. What is even more impressive is that Kentucky had three more schools ranked this year than in 2008, showing improvement in our State's schools. Placing as 1 of 15 schools from Kentucky on this list, Beechwood High School has earned national recognition for the fine performance of its students and faculty.

I am proud of the students of Beechwood High School. Their commitment

to education is an example for the entire Commonwealth and I take pride in recognizing them on the floor of the U.S. Senate.●

CONGRATULATING CAMPBELLSVILLE UNIVERSITY

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I congratulate Campbellsville University for competing in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics, NAIA, World Series in Lewiston, ID. This is the first time the Campbellsville University Tigers have in the school's history made it to the first round of the NAIA World Series.

Head coach Beauford Sanders has led the Campbellsville University Tigers to the NAIA Region XI Qualifier six times in the past 11 years. In addition to their achievements on the field, the CU Tigers also have achieved in the classroom a graduation rate of 90 percent of players reaching senior status and a cumulative grade point average of 3.0.

Again, I congratulate Campbellsville University for making it into the NAIA World Series. The CU Tigers have given Kentuckians a team that we can hang our hat on and be proud to call our own. I commend the CU Tigers baseball team for their achievements not only on the field but also for their academic accomplishments.●

CONGRATULATING EASTERN HIGH SCHOOL

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I would like to take this time to congratulate Eastern High School in Louisville, KY.

Newsweek magazine recently published a list of the top 1,500 public schools in the country. The 15 schools that made the list from Kentucky rank among the top 6 percent of public schools in the Nation. What is even more impressive is that Kentucky had three more schools ranked this year than in 2008, showing improvement in our State's schools. Placing as 1 of 15 schools from Kentucky on this list, Eastern High School has earned national recognition for the fine performance of its students and faculty.

I am proud of the students of Eastern High School. Their commitment to education is an example for the entire Commonwealth and I take pride in recognizing them on the floor of the U.S. Senate.●

CONGRATULATING HIGHLANDS HIGH SCHOOL

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I would like to take this time to congratulate Highlands High School in Fort Thomas, KY.

Newsweek magazine recently published a list of the top 1,500 public schools in the country. The 15 schools that made the list from Kentucky rank among the top 6 percent of public schools in the Nation. What is even

more impressive is that Kentucky had three more schools ranked this year than in 2008, showing improvement in our State's schools. Placing as 1 of 15 schools from Kentucky on this list, Highlands High School has earned national recognition for the fine performance of its students and faculty.

I am proud of the students of Highlands High School. Their commitment to education is an example for the entire Commonwealth and I take pride in recognizing them on the floor of the U.S. Senate.●

CONGRATULATING MALE TRADITIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I would like to take this time to congratulate Male Traditional High School in Louisville, KY.

Newsweek magazine recently published a list of the top 1,500 public schools in the country. The 15 schools that made the list from Kentucky rank among the top 6 percent of public schools in the Nation. What is even more impressive is that Kentucky had three more schools ranked this year than in 2008, showing improvement in our State's schools. Placing as 1 of 15 schools from Kentucky on this list, Male Traditional High School has earned national recognition for the fine performance of its students and faculty.

I am proud of the students of Male Traditional High School. Their commitment to education is an example for the entire Commonwealth and I take pride in recognizing them on the floor of the U.S. Senate.●

COMMENDING DELEGATE CAROLYN J. KRYSIAK

● Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I congratulate Delegate Carolyn J. Krysiak on the occasion of her 70th birthday. Carolyn is a mother of five children whose husband Charles served with me in the Maryland House of Delegates and then as chairman of the Maryland Workers' Compensation Commission. Carolyn became interested in public service to serve her community. She served on boards that worked to create jobs and to support and attract neighborhood businesses. She was a founding member of the Southeast Senior Housing Initiative and an active member of the Polish Women's Alliance and the Polish Home Club.

Carolyn was elected to the Maryland House of Delegates in 1990. She has served her constituents in Baltimore City and the State of Maryland with distinction. As a member of the House Economic Matters Committee, she has provided leadership on subcommittees dealing with such diverse issues as health insurance, real property, unemployment insurance, property and casualty insurance, and business regulation. She has chaired the House Facilities Committee and the Worker's Compensation Benefit and Insurance Over-

sight Committee, as well as the Democratic Party Caucus.

I ask my colleagues to join me, Delegate Krysiak's colleagues, family, and friends in thanking Carolyn for her dedication and commitment to public service and wishing her a happy birthday.●

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF BOTTINEAU, NORTH DAKOTA

● Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I am pleased today to recognize a community in North Dakota that is celebrating its 125th anniversary. On June 18 to 21, the residents of Bottineau will gather to celebrate their community's history and founding.

Originally founded in 1883 as Oak Creek, the town was designated the county seat in 1884. It changed its name to Bottineau, taking its new name from Pierre Bottineau, a pioneer, hunter, and frontiersman. 3 years later, the town relocated 1½ miles so that it would be along the newly installed railroad tracks. The town lies in north-central North Dakota and is now home to over 2,000 residents.

Today, Bottineau has many things to be proud of. The Bottineau County Fair is North Dakota's oldest county fair. The county also houses Bottineau Winter Park, often called the Jewel Above the Prairie, which remains a perennial attraction. And the town of Bottineau is known for "Tommy Turtle," the world's largest turtle, which stands 30 feet tall and is said to have been built as a symbol of the Turtle Mountains.

The citizens of Bottineau clearly value education, as their town is home to Minot State University's Bottineau Campus. Apart from its academic success, the campus has also seen athletic success in recent years, with the Lumberjacks hockey team claiming three consecutive national championships in the last 3 years. Both the Lumberjacks and the Ladyjacks have had accomplished seasons in the past several years. Additionally, the campus has added new sports teams in recent years—something that bodes well for the future of the school.

In honor of the city and county's 125th anniversary, officials have organized a vibrant celebration that includes basketball and golf tournaments, art and quilt shows, class and city gatherings, games for the young and old, a dance, and a centennial parade.

Mr. President, I ask the Senate to join me in congratulating Bottineau, ND, and its residents on their first 125 years and in wishing them well in the future. By honoring Bottineau and all other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the great pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Bottineau that have helped shape this country into what it is today, which is why this fine community is deserving of our recognition.

Bottineau has a proud past and a bright future.●