

mission will transfer from Air Force Space Command to Air Force Global Strike Command. The pride shared today in the heritage and rich history of the ICBM mission will always be a part of Air Force Space Command's contribution to our national security.

Mr. President, the American people are fortunate to have the dedicated Airmen of 20th Air Force operate, maintain, and secure America's only land-based strategic deterrent 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating the Air Force on 50 years of the highest commitment in carrying out the ICBM mission.●

ABERDEEN MONUMENT TO FIREFIGHTERS

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a special unveiling of the Aberdeen Monument to Firefighters on October 15, 2009. The handsome bronze, carefully crafted by Aberdeen sculptor Benjamin Victor, is a tribute to the firefighters who put their lives on the line and heroically serve with courage, pride and honor. Fully aware that firefighting is inherently dangerous work, these men and women work day and night to save lives, save property and protect the environment.

Benjamin Victor has crafted a spectacular sculpture to commemorate these heroes. It portrays his passion for expression and detail and his natural ability to create unique and inspiring works of art. Ben, at 26 years old, is the youngest artist ever to have a sculpture in the National Statuary Hall in the U.S. Capitol. Art critics and organizations throughout the country recognize the aesthetic and conceptual integrity of Ben's work. Early on, Aberdeen saw his talent and its citizens are very grateful that he continues to share his talents with their community.

I also want to commend the Aberdeen community for their efforts to make this unveiling possible. Using no tax dollars, the entire funding for this project came from businesses, service clubs, schools, fraternal organizations and individuals in the community who saw the significance of this monument. This contribution by the Aberdeen community and Benjamin Victor will commemorate the important role of our firefighters for generations to come.●

TRIBUTE TO FATHER ROBERTO BALDUCELLI

● Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, today I recognize the extraordinary contributions of a patriarch of the Italian-American community in my home State of Delaware, Father Roberto Balducci. On Columbus Day, Father Balducci will be honored by the Columbus Communion Breakfast Committee with its Outstanding Achievement Award.

Father Balducci's 96 years on this Earth, while a true gift to all he has served, reads like a novel. As a 9-year-old boy in the small town of Castelluccio, Italy, he decided that he wanted to pursue an ecclesiastical education in Rome. In 1929, at the age of 16, he joined the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales. After studying in France and Switzerland, he returned to Italy from September 1939 to March 1946.

During World War II, Father Balducci helped save Italian Jews from persecution. The young priest recovered the bodies of civilians killed in bombing raids, was injured in one of these attacks, and sheltered refugees from Nazi persecution.

After receiving a passport to come to the United States, Father Balducci crossed the Atlantic Ocean over the course of 29 days and arrived in New York on April 10, 1946. The young oblate arrived at St. Anthony's of Padua Church in Wilmington soon after and became the church's first Italian priest. In 1959, he became pastor of St. Anthony's.

As a first-rate mason and a licensed contractor in the State of Delaware, Father Balducci oversaw and helped undertake the renovation of an old public school to meet young Catholic students' educational needs, and he helped establish a new school, called Padua Academy, for girls, as well.

His love of welding helped to build St. Anthony in the Hills in the 1960s, a popular summer retreat and sanctuary for children and their families near Hockessin, DE. On his watch, the parish opened a senior and day care center and expanded the regionally prominent Italian Festival in Delaware. He retired as the church's pastor in 1988.

I am privileged to have known Father Balducci for many years. I look forward to breaking bread with him at the Columbus Communion Breakfast in Wilmington's Little Italy on the day of his special recognition.

I hope my colleagues will join me in celebrating Father Balducci's significant accomplishments, which he achieved over the course of a lifetime dedicated to our community. Wilmington and our Italian-American community could not have woven such a fabric of family and strength if it were not for the commitment and foresight of Father Roberto Balducci.●

NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY

● Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I am here today in recognition of National Hunting and Fishing Day, which was recognized on September 26. Hunters and anglers contribute significantly to our Nation's economy. More than 1 million hunters and anglers add over \$3 billion each year into Michigan's economy alone.

From the very beginning, hunting and fishing have been at the center of Michigan's history and culture. Our two great peninsulas, surrounded by

the magnificent Great Lakes, are home to over 8 million acres of public hunting land, tens of thousands of rivers and streams, and some of the best hunting and fishing in the United States. Whether meandering along Hemingway's Fox or Two Hearted Rivers for brook trout and ruffed grouse, or making the annual trip to deer camp with friends and family, Michigan's proud heritage comes with a sense of profound responsibility to protect that legacy for future generations.

We have made some important progress. I have been pleased to spearhead a number of efforts including Federal funding to stop the invasive cormorant from destroying our fisheries. This project has already shown conclusive results in bringing back once-decimated fishing areas. Through my work on the Senate Agriculture Committee, we have invested over \$4 billion in new conservation efforts that will protect wildlife habitats and increase access for hunters and anglers across the country. Most recently, the Senate passed \$400 million in funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative to clean up the Great Lakes.

While we have made progress, there is more work to be done. I will continue to work for passage of the National Fish Habitat Conservation Act and the Clean Water Restoration Act, which will help preserve Michigan's 36,000 miles of rivers and streams, including over 1,000 miles of blue-ribbon trout streams. I will also continue to work to ensure access to public lands and waterways.

Working together, we can preserve our natural resources so others can enjoy our rich hunting and fishing heritage for generations to come.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. CAROLYN PORCO

● Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, today I praise Dr. Carolyn Porco, a professor at the University of Colorado, senior researcher at the Space Science Institute in Boulder, CO, and leader of the imaging team for the Cassini mission. In this last role, she has a front row seat on some of the most exciting scientific discoveries of today coming from the Cassini spacecraft, which for 5 years has been orbiting and studying Saturn and its Moons. I have submitted for the RECORD an article about Dr. Porco from the September 21, 2009, edition of the New York Times.

In Colorado, we are extremely proud of our science and technology enterprise. We have 16 Federal laboratories, top-flight research universities and a vibrant private sector pushing the limits on everything from biomedical research to space exploration. But even in this crowded field, Dr. Porco stands out as an exemplary Colorado scientist. She has repeatedly been recognized as one of the top scientific leaders to watch this century both for her scientific accomplishments and her leadership within the scientific community. As the Times article shows, she

has come a long way from her humble Bronx upbringing.

Thinking about Dr. Porco, I am reminded that great scientists are not born. They are made. They are made through the hard work and determination of the young boy who rejects the stigma that somehow being smart is not cool and the young girl who refuses to take a back seat to any boy. They are made through the guidance and support of countless teachers and mentors who receive far too little credit for the service they give to this country. And perhaps most importantly for this body, they are made through the investments we make in research, development and education. If we want the Carolyn Porcos of the future to be here in the United States—and believe me, we do—we must invest now in our research agencies, and we must have well-paid, high-quality teachers in the classroom.

Dr. Porco is a stellar example of what we can accomplish as individuals and as a nation with focus and a little bit of tenacity. I congratulate her on her accomplishments and well-deserved recognition. I, for one, will be following her progress and expecting many more great things from her in the future.

I ask that the New York Times article to which I referred be printed in the RECORD.

The information follows.

AN ODYSSEY FROM THE BRONX TO SATURN'S RINGS

(By Dennis Overbye)

It is twilight time on Saturn.

Shadows lengthened to stretch thousands of miles across the planet's famous rings this summer as they slowly tilted edge-on to the Sun, which they do every 15 years, casting into sharp relief every bump and wiggle and warp in the buttery and wafer-thin bands that are the solar system's most popular scenic attraction.

From her metaphorical perch on the bridge of the Cassini spacecraft, which has been orbiting Saturn for five years, Carolyn Porco, who heads the camera team, is ecstatic about the view. "It's another one of those things that make you pinch yourself and say, 'Boy am I lucky to be around now,'" Dr. Porco said. "For the first time in 400 years, we're seeing Saturn's rings in three dimensions."

On Monday, Dr. Porco and the Cassini team released a grand view of the rings in all their shadowed glory, including clumps, spikes, undulations and waves two and a half miles high on the edge of one ring.

"We always knew it would be good; instead, it's been extraordinary," Dr. Porco said of the cascade of results that have placed her in a spotlight to which she has become increasingly accustomed. "I feel I'm on a great human adventure," she said.

The work may be carried out by robots, Dr. Porco said, "but we are all explorers."

"It's thrilling," she added, "and I want everyone to know how thrilling it is."

Dr. Porco, 56, a senior researcher at the Space Science Institute in Boulder, Colo., may be the leader of the camera team on the \$3.4 billion Cassini mission, an adjunct professor at the University of Colorado and one of *Wired* magazine's 15 people who should be advising the president. But she is also a proud child of the 1960s who has never let go

of the exuberance of that era when President John F. Kennedy "said that the sky isn't even the limit," as she puts it, and "things were unleashed."

Her entries on the Cassini imaging Web site echo the spirit of the character Capt. James T. Kirk on "Star Trek":

CAPTAIN'S LOG—MARCH 23, 2009

We are almost there. Saturn and we, its companions, have journeyed together now for nearly five years, in a circumnavigation of the outer solar system.

Stanley Kubrick's film "2001: A Space Odyssey" is still her favorite movie, and she still loves the Beatles. On a visit to England in 2001, she and her imaging colleagues recreated the album cover picture of the Beatles crossing Abbey Road, with Dr. Porco leading, dressed in white like John Lennon.

Dr. Porco was born and raised in a Bronx family with four brothers she partly credits for her subsequent success in astronomy. "I'm used to fighting and arguing with males," she said.

Her father, an Italian immigrant, drove a bread truck, and her mother kept house. Dr. Porco attended Cardinal Spellman High School, the same school that Justice Sonia Sotomayor of the Supreme Court attended.

She was a studious child and a spiritual seeker—"13 going on 80"—who lived a lot in her head. Later, as a student at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, she said she spent two years as a chanting Buddhist and even went on a two-week pilgrimage to Japan, where she was the majorette in a Buddhist marching band, wearing hot pants. "Now, THOSE were the days," she wrote in an e-mail message.

By then, Dr. Porco was pursuing the future she had glimpsed at age 13 when she saw Saturn through a neighbor's rooftop telescope. As a graduate student at the California Institute of Technology, she floundered at first but then got a job helping to analyze data from the two Voyager spacecrafts, which toured the outer planets from Jupiter to Neptune from 1978 to 1989.

It was there, said Peter Goldreich, her thesis advisor, that she demonstrated a knack for picking out important things. Among them was a discovery that mysterious dark spokes in Saturn's ring system were connected to the planet's magnetic field. She did her thesis on aspects of the rings and how they were shaped by the gravity of tiny moonlets.

Dr. Porco also did a lot of dancing, and played a guitar and sang in the Titan Equatorial Band, a pickup group of scientists and science writers named after a feature on Saturn's largest moon, and later for a group in Tucson called the Estrogens. "Three women and one very brave guy," she said.

By the time Voyager passed Neptune in 1989, Dr. Porco was a research associate at the University of Arizona and leading a small team trying to make sense of the thin rings around Neptune.

"She was one of the young rock stars of Voyager," said David Grinspoon, of the Southwest Research Institute in Boulder, who was a graduate student at Arizona at the time.

But it had not been an easy climb in the overwhelmingly male and competitive environment of space science. Dr. Porco once described scientists as "schoolyard toughs." She recalled pumping herself up to be an "alpha male" before meetings of her ring team.

Even as a graduate student, Dr. Goldreich recalled, Dr. Porco "was making a deliberate effort to become tough, and she succeeded."

Dr. Porco found an ally and friend in Carl Sagan, the Cornell astronomer, author and a charter member of the Voyager team, who

defended her once when her Voyager colleagues teased her about not being married.

Dr. Porco was subsequently hired as a consultant for the movie "Contact," based on Sagan's novel about a feisty astronomer, Ellie Arroway, who discovers a signal from extraterrestrials.

Although plans fell through for Dr. Porco to meet Jodie Foster, the actress who played Arroway, she did attend a workshop on the script, where she took strong exception to an idea that the character would sleep with her adviser. "She's a let-it-ripper, isn't she?" recalled the movie's producer, Lynda Obst. "She let it rip."

Voyager, Dr. Porco said, was the time of her life. "It had all the elements of Homeric legend," she said. "It was a long 12-year odyssey, punctuated by brief episodes of great discovery and conquest. And then it was back in the boat, oars in the water, until years later we reached our next port of call. It was a defining experience for many of us, and certainly for me."

The chance to channel Dr. Porco's inner Captain Kirk continued with the \$3.4 billion Cassini mission, which was launched on a roundabout course toward Saturn in 1997 and arrived in 2004. Being on the imaging team is like standing on the bridge of the spaceship, she said. "We have the windows," she said. "That's what we're responsible for."

Dr. Porco was chosen over more senior astronomers to head the Cassini camera team in 1990, one of 12 team leaders for the spacecraft. The job swallowed her life, she said, and required her hard-won toughness. "Our experiment has been spectacularly successful," she said, "and that would never have happened if I let people roll over me."

But Dr. Porco said it had all been worthwhile. "Between my participation in Voyager and my role in Cassini," she said, "when comes the time, I will die a happy and gratified woman."

One of the most thrilling Cassini moments was in 2004 when the Huygens probe detached from Cassini and landed on Saturn's largest moon, Titan, a strange, frigid world where rocks are made of ice, and rivers and oceans are formed of what Dr. Porco has described as "paint thinner."

Last month, astronomers announced that they had detected methane storms on Titan, a cloudy moon that has an atmosphere denser than that of Earth.

They also discovered plumes erupting from the south pole of another Saturn moon, Enceladus, suggesting the presence of underground water and prompting talk about a future mission to cruise through the plumes. "Should we ever discover that life has arisen twice," Dr. Porco said, "that would be a game-changer."

The Titan landing, Dr. Porco said in a talk in 2007, should have been celebrated with parades in every major city.

That talk led to another movie adventure. J. J. Abrams, the producer of the television series "Lost," was listening and asked Dr. Porco to consult on his "Star Trek" movie. On a visit to the set, she suggested that a scene in which the Starship Enterprise materialized inside clouds be set on Titan. The scene made it onto the cover of *Cinefex*, a magazine about special effects in films.

In an interview, Mr. Abrams said: "She helped us feel connected to what Gene Roddenberry had been trying to do. This is our future," referring the creator of "Star Trek."

Cassini endures, and Dr. Porco is a member of the team for the New Horizons spacecraft, which is scheduled to arrive at Pluto in 2015. But she said she hoped to spend more of her time popularizing science and hopes to write a book about Cassini.

"To my mind," Dr. Porco said, "most people go through life recoiling from its best

parts. They miss the enrichment that just a basic knowledge of the physical world can bring to the most ordinary experiences. It's like there's a pulsating, hidden world, governed by ancient laws and principles, underlying everything around us—from the movements of electrical charges to the motions of the planets—and most people are completely unaware of it.

"To me, that's a shame."•

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and two withdrawals which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 2:15 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 3607. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, and for other purposes.

At 4:23 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3614) to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 6:11 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 bill:

H.R. 3614. An act to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

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-3153. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled

"Safety Zone; Munitions and Explosives of Concern (MEC); Seal Island, Maine" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USG-2009-0595)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 21, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3154. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Paddle for Clean Water; San Diego; California" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USG-2009-0383)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 21, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3155. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; F/V Patriot, Massachusetts Bay, Massachusetts" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USG-2009-0707)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 21, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3156. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Festivus, Lower Colorado River, Bullhead City, Arizona" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USG-2009-0454)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 21, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3157. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Hornblower Cruises Fleet Week Fireworks Display, San Francisco Bay, California" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USG-2009-0631)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 21, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3158. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Neptune Deep Water Port, Atlantic Ocean, Boston, Massachusetts" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USG-2009-0644)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 21, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3159. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Missouri River, Mile 366.3 to 369.8" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USG-2009-0594)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 21, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3160. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Upper Mississippi River, Mile 427.2 to 427.6, Keithsburg, Illinois" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USG-2009-0646)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 21, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3161. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Sea World Labor Day Fireworks, Mission Bay, California" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USG-2009-0269)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 21, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3162. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; BWRC '300' Enduro, Lake Moolvalya, Parker, Arizona" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USG-2008-1180)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 21, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3163. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Special Local Regulation for Marine Events; Choptank River, Cambridge, Maryland" ((RIN1625-AA08) (Docket No. USG-2009-0749)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 21, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3164. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Special Local Regulations for Marine Events; Patapsco River, Northwest Harbor, Baltimore, Maryland" ((RIN1625-AA08) (Docket No. USG-2009-0251)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 21, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3165. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Drawbridge Operation Regulation; Sabine River, Echo, Texas" ((RIN1625-AA09) (Docket No. USG-2009-0101)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 21, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3166. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Definition of Marine Debris for Purposes of the Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Reduction Act" ((RIN0648-AV68; RIN1625-AB24) (Docket No. USG-2007-0164)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 21, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3167. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Anchorage Regulations; Port of New York and Vicinity" ((RIN1625-AA01) (Docket No. USG-2008-0047)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 21, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3168. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Shipping; Transportation; Technical, Organizational, and Conforming Amendments" ((RIN1625-ZA24) (Docket No. USG-2009-0702)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 21, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3169. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; McCauley Propeller Systems Propeller Models B5JFR36C1101/L114GCA-0, C5JFR36C1102/L114GCA-0, B5JFR36C1103/L114HCA-0, and C5JFR36C1104/L114HCA-0" ((RIN2120-AA64) (9-17/9-22/25173/NM-24)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3170. A communication from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting, pursuant to