

In addition to his exemplary business savvy, Walter was recognized for his sharp intuition and diplomacy skills, and ultimately served as an adviser to three Presidents. President Lyndon Johnson appointed him to serve as an adviser on trade negotiations. President Jimmy Carter appointed Walter to the U.S. delegation that led peace talks between Israel and Egypt in 1978, and to the Committee for the Preservation of the White House. During the Clinton administration, Walter was appointed to serve on the board of directors of the Corporation for National Service and the U.S. Commerce Department Industry Policy Advisory Committee. In 1999, President Clinton presented Walter with the Democratic National Committee's Lifetime Achievement Award for his active service and commitment to the Democratic Party.

Later in life, Walter began donating both his time and money to laudable civic efforts. In 1975, he led a group that placed 2,000 Vietnamese orphans in loving homes in the United States. In 1993, he played a pivotal role in preventing the San Francisco Giants from moving to Florida. A lifelong advocate for education, Walter contributed heavily to several prestigious educational programs and institutes. Along with his wife, he founded the Joan Shorenstein Center on the Press, Politics and Public Policy at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government, named for his talented daughter who lost her life to cancer in 1985. Walter also funded programs at Stanford University's Asia-Pacific Research Center and the Institute of East Asian Studies at the University of California, Berkeley.

Walter stood out as a driven entrepreneur who cared deeply for his community. He will be remembered by his friends and colleagues not only for his business savvy, but also for his tremendous sense of civic responsibility. His vision and hard work greatly shaped and influenced the city of San Francisco, and his civic contributions and leadership skills improved our Nation.

Walter is survived by his son Douglas; his daughter Carole Shorenstein Hays; and his six grandchildren. My thoughts are with Walter's family at this difficult time.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. JAMES KIMPEL

● Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, today I honor Dr. James Kimpel who has served our government for the last 13 years as director of the NOAA National Severe Storms Laboratory, NSSL, in Norman, OK.

Dr. Kimpel held the position of director, where he oversaw research in weather radar, technology transfer from research to applications, and forecast and warning improvements. The activities that Dr. Kimpel coordinated at NSSL helped save lives and property throughout the United States. During his tenure at the lab he provided the

United States with devoted and visionary leadership.

Through research and development during his 13 years as director, NSSL finished development of a Doppler weather radar technology that led to the birth of the national NEXRAD network, which consists of more than 150 radar systems. The NEXRAD network was also upgraded from proprietary to open systems, which enabled dual-polarization upgrades. These technological advancements will greatly increase precision when it comes to estimates of rainfall, delineation of rain from snow, and provide a more exact estimate of hail size. Since its installation, the NEXRAD program has reduced tornado related deaths by 45 percent and reduced personal injuries by 40 percent.

Under the leadership of Dr. Kimpel, radar-based rainfall analyses were created to improve flash flood and river forecasting. He was also a key player in sparking interest and support for new facilities for NSSL that led to the construction of the National Weather Center building, which is shared by the National Weather Service and the meteorology enterprise at the University of Oklahoma.

During Dr. Kimpel's watch as the director, NSSL scientists had over 600 archival, refereed journals published, were granted three patents and participated in four cooperative research and development agreements with private companies. He also played a large role while at the University of Oklahoma as a full professor, dean of the College of Geosciences, provost, and senior vice president of the Norman campus.

Dr. Kimpel's service to our country goes far beyond the NSSL. As a member of the U.S. Air Force, he served in Vietnam and earned the Bronze Star Medal for his acts of courage and valor. He was also elected president of the American Meteorological Society, received the University of Oklahoma Regents Alumni Award, and received the Presidential Rank Award-Meritorious Executive. He is a well-respected academic, researcher, and mentor. He is also the proud father of five children and a grandfather to two grandchildren.

I give my highest regard to Dr. Kimpel and wish him the best. He has contributed much not only to the State of Oklahoma, but to the United States. The achievements and service of Dr. James F. Kimpel are worthy of celebration and commendation.●

RECOGNIZING THE PINK ANGELS

● Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I would like to recognize the dedication and tireless efforts of a group of approximately 50 men and women from the North Shore of Massachusetts called the Pink Angels. Formed in January 2005 as a group with the common goal of finding a cure for breast cancer, they have completed the Boston 3-Day Cancer Walk every year since.

They are survivors, daughters, wives, husbands, sisters, brothers and friends of people stricken with breast cancer. When they first met, they were strangers simply sharing their experience with the disease and now they have become lifelong friends. They began training together that year in February, sharing stories and some tears, creating a bond that holds a reservoir of strength, determination and hope. Their mutual support of one another during the training, the fundraising and ultimately the 60-mile route allowed each of them to begin a transformation from victim to warrior. Each has a different story that brought them to the group but together they created a unity of purpose signified by their crossing of the finish line as a group.

Since 2005, the Pink Angels walk around the city of Boston every year. Many team members have also walked in Arizona, Cleveland, Philadelphia, San Diego, San Francisco, and Washington, DC. In May 2009, under the leadership of Joanne Seneta and Hilda Santos, they achieved a significant milestone by raising more than \$1 million.

On July 23 in Framingham, MA, the Pink Angels will take flight again and on the 25th in Boston they will again cross the finish line as a group. I would like to thank them for their commitment to help find a cure for breast cancer.●

RECOGNIZING THE CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN THEATER FESTIVAL

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, today I congratulate and commend the Contemporary American Theater Festival, CATF, in Shepherdstown, WV, on its 20th season which began this past weekend on July 9. This renowned festival, presented in partnership with Shepherd University, is an extraordinary event that runs for several weeks each summer, bringing thousands of people to our beautiful State and highlighting Shepherdstown's arts community.

More than two decades ago, Ed Herendeen had a dream of producing new works in theater, so he came to Shepherdstown and did just that. He had the vision and dedication to start and nurture this festival. And under Ed's leadership, the theater festival continues to produce and develop new American theater that not only examines current events and reflects on national trends but also serves as a haven for contemporary playwrights. This year, as it does every year, the festival confronts bold and controversial issues to prod the audience and explore new ideas. Since its first season in 1991, CATF has produced 80 new American plays and 30 world premieres.

A recent National Public Radio story described what the festival has meant to the artists and the community:

The Contemporary American Theater Festival at Shepherd University in

Shepherdstown is a dream for the writers of those plays. Over the years, both up-and-coming playwrights and big names—like Sam Shepard and Joyce Carol Oates—have premiered works there. That's in large part due to the festival's hard-working founder, Ed Herendeen. Herendeen founded the festival 20 years ago in partnership with Shepherd University. That first season they did three plays and sold about 2,000 tickets. Today, they do five professional plays and sell more than 11,000 tickets. What's unusual about the festival is that Herendeen says he's never tempted to do a popular play in order to draw more people. The audience that the festival has developed really is expecting it to do new plays.

In addition to its first-class performances, the festival offers lectures and discussion to enhance the audience's understanding of the arts. Over the last 7 years, in partnership with the Appalachian Education Initiative, AEI, the festival has hosted the Annual Elizabeth Francis Teacher Training Institute, a professional development program for high school teachers from West Virginia and other States across the region. This is an opportunity to learn hands on from CATF's professional theater artists. Participants are immersed in the art and craft of theater, gaining insight into acting, production, stage management, marketing, and script analysis. This year, participants will attend every play in the festival's 20th anniversary season, and have a chance to meet and talk with actors, producers, and technicians while receiving graduate level credits for their coursework.

It is hard to overstate the extraordinary economic impact this festival has on the entire region. The annual event brings people from more than 20 States to West Virginia to enjoy theater, immerse themselves in our community, and explore our beautiful natural surroundings. And as the crowds fill our theaters, restaurants, shops, and hotels, their support creates employment and boosts local businesses.

In recent years, festival goers have contributed \$3.2 million to the local economy with the average patron spending \$132 on top of the price of tickets.

Today, I congratulate and thank Shepherd University President Suzanne Shipley, Ed Herendeen, and their talented team for bringing such a truly outstanding theater festival to the stage every year. The Contemporary American Theater Festival in Shepherdstown is an enormous source of pride for me and for every West Virginian.●

TRIBUTE TO VERMONT'S SOLDIERS

● Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, as we celebrate the 147th anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, I celebrate the contributions Vermont's brave citizens made to keep the Union whole.

As the Civil War began, President Lincoln sent a message to Governor Erastus Fairbanks: "Washington is in

grave danger. What may we expect of Vermont?" The Governor's reply: "Vermont will do its full duty."

Fairbanks called a special session of the State legislature and told lawmakers, "The United States government must be sustained and the rebellion suppressed, at whatever cost of men and treasure."

Vermonters fulfilled that pledge.

During the Battle of Gettysburg, waged from July 1 to July 3, 1863, Vermonters fought heroically. Under the command of GEN George Stannard, Vermonters "broke the back of Pickett's charge," helping lead the Union Army to victory in the decisive battle, says George Gunlock, a local historian in my State.

Another Vermonter, William Wells, won the Medal of Honor for leading his men in a daring cavalry charge against Confederate lines during the Battle of Gettysburg. A statue was built in his honor in both Gettysburg and in Burlington's Battery Park. Wells, who rose to the rank of general, served as Vermont's adjutant general after the Civil War.

But it not so much the officers, but the brave men who served under them, that we most remember, even at this historical distance.

Despite its small size, Vermont was a major contributor to the Union Army.

In all, 33,200 Vermonters fought in the war, or more than 10 percent of the State's population at the time. Twenty-eight thousand Vermonters served in the State militia and another 5,000 enlisted for Federal service during the Civil War. At the time, the State's estimated population was 320,000.

According to historians, nearly half of the men in Vermont who were of military age signed on to serve their Nation.

Great sacrifice was exacted from these brave volunteers. Vermonters suffered 5,194 deaths, during the Civil War, including 1,832 Vermonters killed or mortally wounded in battle, 2,747 who died of disease or other causes and 615 who died while prisoners. More than 2,200 Vermonters were taken prisoner during the war.

The history of the Vermonters who fought during the Civil War lives on. The Vermont National Guard's 86th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, now deployed in Afghanistan, uses a famous line from the Civil War—"Put the Vermonters ahead"—as its motto today. The line comes from a famous order by Union GEN John Sedgwick.

When the battle of Gettysburg began on July 1, 1863, Sedgwick's soldiers were in Maryland, 35 miles from the battlefield. "At dusk orders came to move, but it was about 10 o'clock at night before the column started for Gettysburg. It was on this occasion that General Sedgwick issued his famous order: "Put the Vermonters ahead and keep the column well closed up."

As we recognize the dedication of Vermont's soldiers in the Civil War, so

should we recognize the dedication and bravery of Vermont's soldiers today, when more than 1,500 members of the Vermont National Guard are serving in the war zone in Afghanistan. Approaching July 4th, the day which marks our Nation's independence, I want to celebrate the courage of those brave men from Vermont who fought to preserve the Nation in the Civil War, and the brave men and women who are answering our Nation's call today in the mountains and valleys of Afghanistan.●

TRIBUTE TO ALICE KUNDERT

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 90th birthday of Alice Kundert, a valued public servant in my home State of South Dakota.

Alice's public service career began when she was appointed as the deputy superintendent of schools in Campbell County. She served on the town board, school board, and later took on the roles as Campbell County's clerk of courts and registrar of deeds.

She was convinced by a group of teenagers that she counseled to run for political office at the State level. The first governmental office Alice held was as State Auditor for three 2-year terms followed by two 4-year terms as Secretary of State. She was appointed by Governor Mickelson to the Department of Education and Cultural Affairs which allowed her to travel the state teaching children about the history of South Dakota. The last political office Alice held was her 1990 election as a State representative which she served for two 2-year terms.

I would like to send my heartfelt congratulations to Alice on her 90th birthday and to thank her for her years of dedicated public service to the State of South Dakota.●

TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA LUTZ

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Patricia Lutz, who has been named the 2010 South Dakota School Bus Driver of the Year. The award is selected annually by the South Dakota School Transportation Association. I commend Patty for her commitment to providing a safe and nurturing environment for the young people of South Dakota.

Patty and her husband Loren live near Webster. She is employed by Harlow's School Bus Sales and Services and currently drives a route for the Webster School District. Patty recently completed her 30th year of driving a school bus. Along with Webster, she has also driven for the Conde, Gettysburg, and Bristol School Districts. In addition to her school bus responsibilities, she has also served as a school librarian, substitute teacher, and cheerleading advisor.

Patty serves as a shining example of the outstanding faculty and staff members that serve school districts across South Dakota. Always willing to go above and beyond, Patty is committed