

principal is not the same as for a teacher. A principal must be able to set the agenda for learning for not only the students but for teachers and other staff as well. He or she is in charge of not only the safety, well-being, and future of the children in the school but must also guide and inspire the staff. The principal must be a diplomat, bring the community into the school, satisfy the taxpayer, and meet the needs of the school. The principal must mediate, command, and inspire any number of groups on any given day. The best of them are often taken for granted because everything just works. So I encourage my colleagues and the Nation to include in their appreciative thoughts this week our schools' hard-working, multitasking educational leaders—our Nation's principals.

In closing, as my colleagues here in the Senate consider, applaud, and recognize the hard work of the many Americans who work every day to make our schools the best, I would also encourage them to do their part. As you know, the Senate HELP Committee continues to work toward reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. I look forward to continuing and completing that work next year. We know that this law's goal is to help ensure that every single child in every community across the country has the opportunity and the tools to succeed, that is, that every child will fulfill his or her potential regardless of wealth, ethnicity, disability, or location. We all want that. Regardless of our views on the role or the degree of the role the Federal Government should play in our Nation's schools—whether we think Federal funding should come with the strings of accountability or not and to what degree—I hope we can all agree on one thing, and that is the proud tradition of bipartisanship we and our predecessors have achieved when it comes to education issues. We may disagree about our points of view, but in the end the final product is one most of us have been able to support.

I hope that as we observe American Education Week and in the days and months to come our Nation's children as well as the adults can look back at us with pride and say we got something good done for the country through civility, cooperation, bipartisanship, and a genuine love for our Nation.

TRIBUTE TO COL MICHAEL J. JENSEN

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a truly exceptional Iowan. After more than 31 years of honorable military service, in November of this year, COL Michael J. Jensen is set to retire. His dedication and tireless devotion to the service of our great country is without question. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to COL Mike Jensen.

Colonel Jensen was born in Estherville, IA. He attended and grad-

uated from Estherville Community High School in 1975, received an associate of science degree in computer science from Iowa Lakes Community College, a bachelor of arts degree in business management from Buena Vista University, and a master's degree in public administration from Drake University. Colonel Jensen also attended General Staff College, where he was the distinguished honor graduate.

Mike Jensen enlisted in C Battery 1st Battalion 194th Field Artillery on June 14th, 1979. He was commissioned a second lieutenant, Field Artillery, in June 1982 and graduated from the Iowa Military Academy Officer Candidate School at Camp Dodge in Johnston, IA. Duty assignments over his career include a number of positions in the 1-194th Field Artillery, 34th Infantry Division; Recruiting and Retention; the Secretary of General Staff; and Director of Military Support. In 2006, Colonel Jensen assumed his current position as the Commander of the Counterdrug Task Force, Iowa National Guard.

Over his admirable military career, Mike Jensen received a number of awards and decorations, including seven awards of the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Army Achievement Medal, and the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal. Colonel Jensen is also an accomplished outdoorsman and avid fisherman.

Congratulations again to COL Michael Jensen. The Iowa National Guard will no doubt miss his daily contributions; however he continues as a model of honorable and distinguished service to his country. I thank him for his unwavering commitment to Iowa and to the United States of America.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE VOICES OF UNITY YOUTH CHOIR

• Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, today I honor the Voices of Unity Youth Choir of Fort Wayne, IN, for outstanding achievement this past year at the sixth World Choir Games in Shaoxing, China.

The Voices of Unity Youth Choir was the first Indiana choir invited to participate in the World Choir Games, the world's largest choir competition. Known as the Choir Olympics, this year's contest featured more than 400 choirs comprised of 27,000 singers from 80 countries around the world.

One of only six American youth choirs invited to China, Voices of Unity won gold medals in two musical categories: popular choral music and gospel and spiritual. In addition, these Hoosiers won the title of World Grand Champion in the gospel and spiritual category.

Voices of Unity benefitted tremendously from the support of the Fort Wayne community who gave time and money to ensure these students had

the opportunity to travel to China and share their talent with the world. In just 5 short months, Voices of Unity raised enough money to send 101 students and volunteers to China for the competition.

I particularly want to recognize Marshall White, founder of Unity Performing Arts Foundation, the home of Voices of Unity, for his tireless leadership.

I am honored to congratulate the World Champion Voices of Unity Youth Choir of Fort Wayne for this extraordinary achievement and for the teamwork, discipline, and hard work it takes to become champions.●

REMEMBERING HELEN MCKINNEY

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, today I honor the life of Helen McKinney. I join with her family and many friends in mourning her passing. Helen has been a great source of support and encouragement to me and many others. The peace of mind that Helen provided me and others is immeasurable. Helen took on challenges with good humor and cheer. Helen had passion and strength that far exceeded her physical presence. Her energy and enthusiasm were inspiring. She was a steadfast, giving, driven, kindhearted, and focused leader. She was very firm but tactful.

Throughout her life, Helen was a hard worker. She has rightly been described as being able to do everything. When you look at the variety of jobs and tasks she took on, this could not be more accurate. In the 1940s, she worked in the newspaper business. Helen also taught junior high. In the 1970s, she directed the Caldwell Chamber of Commerce. Helen served in the Idaho House of Representatives. She also was a member of the Idaho Judicial Council. Additionally, Helen is widely known for her efforts with the Canyon County Republican Party. Helen served as regional chair. She also served as a national convention delegate and State and precinct committeewoman. Her great service and hard work have been recognized through her induction into the Idaho Republican Party's Hall of Fame.

No matter the task, Helen did her work very well. She was straightforward, diligent, and determined. Helen had an abundance of light and intelligence of hope in her eyes. She was serious and paid attention to details. However, she never lost her sense of humor, and her positive outlook dominated her personality. When Helen spoke, people listened. She also did not hide her talents. She openly shared and mentored others. She was bold in defending her principles, but she was also gracious. Helen truly reflected Idaho values and the constitutional values of a land she loved so much.

I will greatly miss Helen, and I will never forget her thoughtful support and genuine example.●

TRIBUTE TO DON SHELBY

• Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to one of our Nation's finest local newsmen and a Minnesota legend, Don Shelby, who is retiring after 32 years of service as a pioneering anchor, broadcaster, and reporter for WCCO in the Twin Cities.

A native of Royerton, IN, Don first arrived in Minnesota in 1978. But for those of us who tuned into him every night for our news, it is as if he has always been one of us.

When he first assumed lead anchor duties for the 10 p.m. newscast, Don had the tall task of replacing another Minnesota institution, Dave Moore, who had anchored the WCCO news desk for nearly 50 years. But Don's passion for bringing Minnesotans the stories that traditionally went unreported quickly made him a fixture on our television sets and in our hearts.

Don never forgot his roots as an investigative journalist. And he has never been one to just sit at the anchor desk and read the news.

Don is an intrepid reporter who will go to the ends of the Earth to bring his story home. Whether it was trekking to the Arctic with Will Steger, walking the beaches of Prince William Sound to expose the lasting damages caused by the Exxon Valdez oil spill, or traveling to Iraq to document the unprecedented service of our Minnesota National Guard troops, Don has brought the world home to living rooms across Minnesota.

Don's professional compass has guided him to what is important and away from the temptations of tabloid journalism and the "if it bleeds, it leads" sensationalism that too often dominate our news cycles today.

Minnesotans have benefited from Don Shelby's spirit of public service and commitment to journalistic values. For Don, it is never just about reading the headlines—it is about helping inform his viewers about the world around them.

Just one example of this was his trailblazing "Project Energy" series—with accessible, informative news reports on our energy future, including renewable energy, climate change, conservation, transportation alternatives, and much more. In short, Don represents public service journalism at its best.

Of course, it isn't just reporting that drives Don. There is also his ever-expanding list of hobbies, from mountain climbing, to bass fishing, to organic gardening, to playing guitar, and on and on. Don's intellectual curiosity knows no bounds.

For more than three decades, Minnesotans have turned to Don Shelby because they have trusted his experience and honesty.

While he has never been elected to public office, it is fair to say that he has become one of Minnesota's senior statesmen. And he became one by simply asking the important questions and telling the truth—with compassion, decency, and dignity.

So when Don signs off from his final broadcast this month, we will miss him dearly, but we can take comfort in knowing that our State is a better place because of his work.●

MARCUS CORPORATION

• Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, today I recognize the 75th anniversary of the Marcus Corporation. Not only does this month mark a monumental anniversary, it also gives us a time to look back at the accomplishments of the Marcus family.

Founded by Ben Marcus, the company opened a theater with just one screen in Ripon, WI. This small business became the basis of the Marcus Corporation, a leading name in hotels and movie theaters in the Midwest. Your hotels, like the Pfister in particular, serve as beautifully preserved landmarks, well-known meeting places, and home away from home for guests and employees alike. The Marcus family has consistently recognized and credited the work of their employees for the company's success, providing a rewarding environment for staff. The company has shown its integrity not only through its business operations but also in its contribution to the communities that house its theaters and hotels.

The Marcus Corporation has shared its success with the communities surrounding its businesses through both financial contributions and extensive volunteer programs. Employees of the businesses are encouraged to give back to their patrons through volunteer hours at a local program or cause of their choice. In fact, to mark this special anniversary, the Marcus Corporation will collectively volunteer 75,000 hours of community service. Milwaukee organizations such as the United Way of Greater Milwaukee and the United Performing Arts Fund have benefited from the company's generosity. I am proud that the heart of such a great company calls Wisconsin home.

I thank the Marcus family and Corporation for all they have done for Wisconsin. I am pleased to recognize the outstanding efforts and accomplishments of this company, and I send all the best for health, happiness, and continued achievement. On a personal note, to my dear friend Steve Marcus, together with sons Greg and David, congratulations on achieving much success in everything from your tremendous business growth and civic leadership down to your terrific tuna salad and for sharing it so generously.●

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL P. CLINE

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today, I recognize of retired MSG Michael P. Cline for his years of distinguished service with the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States, EANGUS. His efforts as one of the longest serving executive directors

in the military association community are to be commended, and I thank him for his 38-plus years of military service to this country.

Mike has held the position of EANGUS executive director since 1990 and was selected as an honorary chief master Sergeant for the Air National Guard in 1999. For the previous 11 years, he has also served on the Secretary of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Education. Over the years, he has also remained very active in the Military Coalition, TMC, a consortium of nationally prominent uniformed services and veterans associations representing over 5.5 million members. In addition to being a founder of the TMC Guard and Reserve Committee, he served as president of TMC for 5 years and codirector for 8 years.

Throughout his career of advocacy, Mike has worked tirelessly on behalf of the U.S. military, as well as our servicemembers, veterans, and their families. In particular, he has frequently led the fight to ensure that the men and women of our National Guard and Reserves receive enhanced care and benefits that are more commensurate with their increased service to our Nation.

In recent years, Mike and EANGUS have been at the forefront of efforts to provide larger military pay increases, health care that is more affordable for servicemembers and military retirees, enhanced educational benefits for servicemembers and veterans, and expanded access to retirement benefits for the men and women of the National Guard. He also played an active role in securing legislation providing burial and retirement flags for reservists, drill pay for funeral honors duty, increased health care benefits for reservists and retirees, and special compensation for severely disabled retirees.

Over the years, it has been a pleasure for me and my staff to work closely with Mike on a number of issues of great importance to our National Guard. In particular, we have worked to improve the readiness of our National Guard by providing greater access to medical, dental, and mental care for Selected Reservists. We have also called for an increase in the Montgomery GI Bill rate for members of the Reserve components and in the travel reimbursement for those traveling to drill duty. Additionally, we have championed legislation that would justly grant full veteran status to members of the Reserve components who have 20 years or more of service and do not otherwise qualify under law. The list goes on and on.

Due in large part to the dedication, counsel, and passion of advocates such as Mike Cline, the courageous men and women of our Armed Forces and their families have seen a number of significant improvements to their way of life in recent years. These efforts have also strengthened our ability to recruit and retain more quality men and women to serve in uniform and have increased