

County has a Little League World Series champion.

This was a great victory for Ocean View's players and coaches as well as their families and the Huntington Beach community that supported their long march to the championship.●

CHARLES TOWN, WEST VIRGINIA

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, today I celebrate the 225th anniversary of the incorporation of the city of Charles Town, WV. Charles Town has a rich history and heritage of great significance not only to West Virginia but to the entire nation.

Charles Town was originally founded in 1786 in what was then Virginia. The city was named after Charles Washington, the brother of our first President, George Washington. Charles Washington moved to the lower Shenandoah Valley in 1780 and there he began building his home known as "Happy Retreat." In 1786, he asked the Virginia State Legislature for permission to incorporate a town there, which he named "Charles Town." After Charles Washington's death, Charles Town became the county seat of newly formed Jefferson County.

Our Nation's focus turned to Charles Town in 1859 with the trial and execution of abolitionist John Brown and his followers after their historic raid on Harper's Ferry. The trial proceedings, and the words uttered by John Brown in Charles Town on the institution that held millions of Americans in bondage, helped shape our Nation's debate on issues surrounding the Civil War. When Virginia seceded from the Union, Charles Town became part of the newly created State known as West Virginia. Today, visitors come to Charles Town from all over to view an area steeped in the history of our Nation.

Charles Town has undergone many changes over 225 years. And those many changes are evident in its abundance of historic sites, including its architectural landmarks and museums, and transitions over time in its local economy. The residents of Charles Town have always met these changes with courage and vision, and have confronted challenges with resilience and strength of spirit. They are proud and hard-working, and will undoubtedly help carry the city into a promising future.

The city's local leaders—both past and present—also deserve credit for the city's success. Their leadership and inspiration have guided Charles Town as it has developed and grown, while remaining true to its heritage and our West Virginia values. I join Mayor Peggy Smith and the city council in celebrating this momentous occasion.

Two hundred twenty-five years ago, Charles Washington had a vision for the city of Charles Town and the people of the lower Shenandoah Valley who would establish their lives there. And, as the citizens and leaders of Charles Town look ahead, I believe

strongly that the city continues to hold great promise for a prosperous future.●

BILLINGS BIG SKY ALL-STARS

● Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I wish to share some exciting news from my home State of Montana. As many already know, the Little League World Series reached its thrilling completion last month. Montana's team, the Big Sky All-Stars from Billings, played in the U.S. Championship Game after a breathtaking, extra-inning victory over California in its previous game.

This Billings team was the first team from Montana to reach the Little League World Series. Only eight teams from the thousands of Little Leagues across the country make it to the World Series held in South Williamsport, PA, each year. One of our boys, Ian Leatherberry, originally said that the team was just hoping to play in the regional tournament. Instead, they played so long that they had a good excuse for missing the first week of school.

Behind the leadership of manager Gene Carlson and his coaches, these Treasure State champs became the talk of the tournament and the Nation. With great pitching, outstanding defense, and timely hitting, they quickly proved they belonged by defeating South Dakota and Louisiana, winning each game by a thrilling two-run margin.

Despite our State not even having a million people, Montana's All-Stars didn't blink when taking on the team from Huntington Beach, CA, for the right to reach the U.S. championship game. Montana's starting pitcher Cole McKenzie battled California's hitters, holding them scoreless. Then Ben Askelson hit a dramatic walk-off home run to give our boys an amazing 1-0 win in extra innings.

It is honestly no surprise to me that the Big Sky All-Stars punched above their class. Whether competing in Little League baseball or showing the rest of the world true sportsmanship, Montana knows how to compete.

Despite their loss in the national championship game, Gene and his players earned the respect of all of Montana. These 12 boys—Ben Askelson, Jet Campbell, Sean Jones, Connor Kieckbusch, Pearce Kurth, Ian Leatherberry, Brock MacDonald, Andy Maehl, Cole McKenzie, Dawson Smith, Gabe Sulser and Patrick Zimmer—played with great skill and determination, making everyone from the Big Sky State proud of their immense accomplishment.●

HONORING RAYMOND MEDER

● Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I honor Raymond Meder and his service to the Army of the United States during World War Two.

Raymond arrived in Normandy 6 days after D-day and went on to fight in the

frigid Battle of the Bulge. After that defining battle, Raymond Meder and his commanding officer were ordered to take a jeep full of ammunition to the front line—in German territory.

A mortar exploded in front of Raymond's jeep, flipping it over. The crash shattered Raymond's wrist and he suffered from shrapnel in his leg. Still under heavy fire, Raymond Meder crawled to the side of the road and covered his commanding officer with his own body. Sadly, that officer never made it. But Raymond returned fire through the night and into the morning with a machine gun until reinforcements arrived.

In a hospital in France, Raymond Meder was visited by an Army captain who told him, "You'll earn medals for this."

Yes, he earned them. But he never received them.

Three weeks later, Raymond returned to the battlefield. His wrist was deformed for the rest of his life. He never complained. And his military records were destroyed by a 1973 fire in St. Louis.

Raymond Meder passed away just a few months ago, on March 30. His son Ray and daughter-in-law Corine started asking questions about Raymond's service. Last month I had the honor of presenting to his family Raymond Meder's Bronze Star, Combat Infantryman Badge 1st Award, World War Two Victory Medal and Honorable Service Lapel Button.

These may be small tokens, but they are powerful symbols of true heroism, sacrifice, and dedication to service.

These medals are presented on behalf of a grateful nation.●

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH CETNAR

● Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I honor Joseph Cetnar.

According to his sister, Joe grew up as "real New York City street kid." He was born to Polish-Ukrainian immigrants who wanted to give their children the American dream. He had to work for the American dream. And he did.

Joe worked hard his whole life from a very early age, when he sold hot dogs on the streets of New York. In 1941, Joe enlisted in the Army Air Corps. And he parachuted into France during the invasion of Normandy.

Like many veterans who returned from war, Joe didn't speak much about his experience in the European theater.

His military records were destroyed by a fire in 1973. And in 2009, Joe passed away, leaving behind his wife of 65 years.

Joe Cetnar never received the recognition he deserved. His sister Dotty and his niece Aleksy started asking questions about Joe's service. And together, we discovered that Joe earned several medals he never received.

Last month I had the honor of presenting to his family Joseph Cetnar's American Defense Service Medal,

World War Two Victory Medal, and Honorable Service Lapel Button.

These may be small tokens, but they are powerful symbols of true heroism, sacrifice, and dedication to service.

These medals are presented on behalf of a grateful nation.●

TRIBUTE TO RAYMOND DEUTSCHER

● Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I honor the military service of Raymond Deutscher.

Raymond enlisted in the Army in his home State of North Dakota in the spring of 1942. He was a born leader who became a combat infantry squadron leader. And he led his troops to the beaches of Normandy, June of 1944.

When Raymond and his troops arrived, he said the water and sand was already stained with blood. In Normandy, on June 11, 1944, Raymond was shot and severely wounded by German forces. His recovery took 7 months at a hospital in England and further hospital stays at home.

Through the long trauma and his long recovery from enemy fire, Raymond Deutscher never received the medals he earned as a hero of World War II.

His military records were destroyed by a 1973 fire in St. Louis. And he passed away on January 10, 2001.

His family reached out to me and started asking questions about Raymond's service and the due recognition he never received.

Last month I had the honor of presenting to his family Raymond Deutscher's Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge First Award with Rifle Bar, World War Two Victory Medal, and Honorable Service Lapel Button

These eight medals may be small tokens, but they are powerful symbols of true heroism, sacrifice, and dedication to service. These medals are presented on behalf of a grateful nation.●

HONORING PETER SCHNEIDER

● Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I honor CPL Peter Schneider and his service to the U.S. Army during World War II.

At the age of 17, Corporal Schneider's parents passed away and he was left to raise two younger siblings. Although he didn't have to go to war, he believed it was his calling. And his older brother agreed to take care of the children.

On July 3, 1944, Corporal Schneider was severely wounded by German troops in Livry, France. His wounds were so severe he spent 4 years recovering in a hospital. The attack left Mr. Schneider 100 percent disabled. But that didn't stop him from working the rest of his life after the war.

Corporal Schneider received a Purple Heart for his sacrifice. His daughter

Marlene keeps the medal in her home as a memorial. But after some research, Marlene discovered her father never received all the recognition he earned for his service in World War II.

A full year before he was wounded, Corporal Schneider served in the 41st Armored Infantry Division under General Patton. And in July of 1943, he was part of the first wave of Allied Forces—the tip of the spear—to storm Sicily and liberate Palermo.

After reaching out to me, we discovered that for his heroism in that significant part of the war, Corporal Schneider earned two more important medals.

Last month I had the honor of presenting to his family CPL Peter Schneider's Bronze Star and European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal.

These may be small tokens, but they are powerful symbols of true heroism, sacrifice, and dedication to service.

These medals are presented on behalf of a grateful nation.

Peter Schneider passed away in 1999 having never seen these medals. But they will be part of his family's history forever.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, 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 which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING RECESS

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 5, 2011, the Secretary of the Senate, on August 5, 2011, during the recess of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives, announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 2715. An act to provide the Consumer Product Safety Commission with greater authority and discretion in enforcing the consumer product safety laws, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2553. 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 the airport improvement program, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of August 5, 2011, the enrolled bills were signed on August 5, 2011, during the recess of the Senate, by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. CARDIN).

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 5, 2011, the Secretary of the Senate, on August 19, 2011, during the recess of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives, announcing that pursuant to section 401(b)(4)(B)(iii) of the Budget Control Act of 2011 (Public Law 112-25) and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction: Mr. HENSARLING of Texas, Co-Chair, Mr. UPTON of Michigan, and Mr. CAMP of Michigan.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 401(b)(4)(B)(iv) of the Budget Control Act of 2011 (Public Law 112-25) and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Minority Leader appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Joint Select Committee on Deficit Reduction: Mr. CLYBURN of South Carolina, Mr. BECERRA of California, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN of Maryland.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following joint resolution was read the first time:

H.J. Res. 66. Joint resolution approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003.

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-2825. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of rear admiral (lower half) in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2826. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of an officer authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of major general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2827. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the 2011 annual report of the Financial Stability Oversight Council; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2828. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pelagic Shelf Rockfish by Vessels Subject to Amendment 80 Sideboard Limits in the Western Regulatory Area of the Gulf of Alaska" (RIN0648-XA556) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 1, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2829. A communication from the Program Manager, Centers for Medicare and