

many of our Nation's legendary leaders: Generals Marshall, MacArthur, Patton, Eisenhower, Arnold, and Bradley. Today, the college continues to prepare a new generation of leaders who are tasked with protecting our country from threats here at home and abroad, around the world.

The 21st-century national security challenges we face are often complex and require the cooperation of several Federal agencies. It is not uncommon for officials from the Department of State to be working alongside the Department of Homeland Security or Department of Defense on the same project. From the provincial reconstruction teams in Afghanistan to responding to hurricanes or manmade disasters, the capability of agencies to work together is vital to the success of this mission. By working together and learning from previous mistakes, our government will become better prepared to keep our country safe and secure.

To improve coordination within agencies tasked with our national security, the Command and General Staff College Foundation, under the leadership of retired COL Bob Ulin, established the Arthur D. Simons Center for the Study of Interagency Cooperation at Fort Leavenworth in Kansas. Thanks to a very generous financial gift from Ross Perot, the center was created last April and named after Mr. Perot's good friend, retired COL Arthur "Bull" Simons, who led a rescue mission of U.S. Special Forces to free American prisoners in Vietnam in 1970. The Simons Center focuses on generating solutions to challenges often encountered when government agencies must work together. By drawing on real-world experience, the Simons Center works to facilitate broader and more effective cooperation within our government at the operational and tactical levels through research, analysis, publications, and outreach.

The center is also actively engaged in working with Members of Congress. Most recently, the center has been working with the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, of which I am a member, and on legislation to help facilitate better communication and coordination among personnel in the national security and homeland security fields.

The Interagency Personnel Rotation Act is scheduled to be considered in committee tomorrow and would give security professionals the opportunity to work alongside one another in a different agency for a period of time. The bill reminds me of the old saying "Before you judge a man, walk a mile in his shoes." By giving staff the opportunity to work within another agency—to walk within his shoes—I imagine perspective will change and cooperation will increase. If the legislation is approved by Congress, the Simons Center will play a role in implementing these policies.

In addition to offering policy recommendations, the center also part-

ners with several organizations to host conferences focused on how to improve interagency coordination. For example, the center recently cohosted a symposium on interagency transitions in Iraq, Afghanistan, and beyond with the Combined Arms Center and the U.S. Institute of Peace. Conferences such as these help provide senior government officials a helpful forum to further analyze ongoing challenges and develop practical solutions.

I wish to thank the center's executive director, Ted Strickler, who joined the center after a 30-year career in the State Department, for his hard work over the past year to get the center up and running. I also wish to recognize retired COL Bob Ulin of the Command and General Staff College Foundation for his ongoing dedication to this important initiative. Under the colonel's leadership, the foundation has successfully supported our country's oldest and largest military staff college in its mission to educate the next generation of our military leaders.

Finally, I urge my colleagues to take a closer look at the valuable work taking place at the Simons Center. We all recognize the importance of improving our government's ability to harness the strength of its various agencies. By promoting interagency cooperation, the Simons Center is helping to strengthen our national security capabilities so that our country and its citizens are better prepared for their future.

Mr. President, I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that on Wednesday, October 19, when the Senate resumes consideration of H.R. 2112, the vehicle for the Agriculture, CJS, and Transportation-HUD appropriations bills, the time until noon be equally divided between Senators MCCAIN and BOXER or their designees for debate on the McCain amendment No. 739; that at noon, the Senate proceed to vote in relation to the McCain amendment No. 739; and that there be no amendments or points of order in order to that amendment prior to the vote other than budget points of order.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE DAVID A. TAPP

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the Honor-

able Judge David A. Tapp, an exemplary Kentuckian and recent recipient of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, NADCP, prestigious "All Rise Leadership Award." Judge Tapp currently serves as a circuit court judge for Lincoln, Pulaski, and Rockcastle Counties in my home State of Kentucky.

Judge Tapp was honored at the NADCP Annual Training Conference that was held in July in Washington, DC. The annual conference is considered the world's largest on substance abuse and the criminal justice system. Chris Deutsch, director of communications for the NADCP, praised Judge Tapp for being an outstanding ambassador for drug courts both in Kentucky and around the world saying, "It is an honor for the NADCP to present Judge Tapp with this award." Judge Tapp was recognized alongside actors Martin Sheen, Matthew Perry, and Harry Lennix during the closing ceremony of the event.

Let me add here that I had the pleasure of seeing Judge Tapp here in Washington this past July when he attended the NADCP conference. I was honored to be presented with the NADCP's "All Rise Leadership Award," and one of those presenters was Judge Tapp himself. I am a longtime supporter of Kentucky's drug courts and was pleased to meet with Judge Tapp and his fellow Kentucky drug court judges on this important issue. He is truly an impressive fellow.

In addition to his regular duties as a circuit judge, Judge Tapp volunteers his time in presiding over the drug court for the three counties and has been doing so since 2005. The drug court is similar to some 2,700 others nationwide and serves seriously drug-addicted individuals through intense treatment and supervision, says Judge Tapp.

"I do drug court for the small moments," said Tapp. "At some point during the process you look at them and you see a new confidence. You see a gleam in their eye that wasn't there before, and you know that they get it. I take great pride in these efforts and applaud the hard work and dedication of all drug court staff members. These people volunteer their time and effort to do good deeds for thousands of people within the Commonwealth annually and they get almost no recognition for these efforts. They deserve a great amount of credit."

I would ask all of my Senate colleagues to join me in congratulating the Honorable Judge David A. Tapp in receiving such a distinguished award for his efforts in rehabilitating drug offenders. Judge Tapp's work in drug court is commendable and he has served as a model for others in Kentucky and around the country. The Pulaski County Commonwealth Journal published an article in September highlighting Judge Tapp's accomplishments. I ask unanimous consent that the full article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Pulaski County Commonwealth Journal, Sept. 30, 2011]

TAPP WINS PRESTIGIOUS JUDICIAL AWARD

A local judge received a prestigious award earlier this summer for his efforts as part of a national program that aims to rehabilitate drug offenders.

Pulaski County Circuit Court Judge David A. Tapp was awarded with the National Association of Drug Court Professionals "All Rise" award during a star-studded conference in Washington, DC.

"Judge Tapp is an outstanding ambassador for Drug Courts both in Kentucky and around the world," said National Association of Drug Court Professionals Director of Communications Chris Deutsch in a press release. "His work in Drug Court has affected countless lives and his interview with Congressman Rogers will be critical to helping Drug Courts maintain funding in the coming budget cycle.

"It is an honor for NADCP to present Judge Tapp with this award," Deutsch continued.

The NADCP Annual Training Conference is considered the world's largest on substance abuse and the criminal justice system, according to a press release provided by the NADCP. This year's event took place from July 17 to July 20 and brought nearly 4,000 state and federal justice leaders, celebrities, judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, clinicians, police and probation officers, military veterans, business owners, Drug Court graduates and their family members to the nation's capital. Tapp was recognized along with actors Martin Sheen, Matthew Perry and Harry Lennix during the closing ceremony of the conference on July 20.

Tapp was honored for his role in securing and conducting an interview with Congressman Hal Rogers (R-KY), Chairman of Appropriations in the U.S. House of Representatives, last December for NADCP's All Rise Magazine.

"The interview was so successful that it was featured as the cover story of the quarterly," stated the press release.

During the interview, Tapp asked Rogers if he felt it was important to further expand Drug Courts to reach more individuals.

According to the press release, Rogers responded, "Yes, I'd like to see Drug Courts available everywhere. I've seen how effective they are. We did not have Drug Courts in my district and now that we have them, I've seen the difference that they can bring."

Tapp's remarks "brought nearly 3,700 attendees to their feet," stated the press release.

"I do Drug Court for the small moments," said Tapp upon receiving the award. "When you look at an offender who has struggled . . . and at some point during the process that small moment comes where you look at them and you see a new confidence.

"You see a gleam in their eye that wasn't there before, and you know that they get it. That's why I do Drug Court."

Tapp, who serves Pulaski, Lincoln and Rockcastle counties, has presided over Drug Court since 2005. Circuit Court Judge Jeffrey T. Burdette also serves as a Drug Court judge for Pulaski, Lincoln and Rockcastle counties.

The judges volunteer their time to preside over Drug Court.

"This Drug Court, like the nearly 2,700 in existence nationwide, serve seriously drug-addicted individuals through intense treatment and supervision," the press release stated.

Nationally, Drug Courts have been proven to significantly reduce drug abuse crime and

recidivism while saving money, according to the press release.

"Drug Courts are one example of successful efforts made by criminal justice professionals to rehabilitate high-risk offenders," Tapp stated through the press release. "I take great pride in these efforts and applaud the hard work and dedication of all Drug Court staff members."

"These people volunteer their time and effort to do good deeds for thousands of people within the commonwealth annually, and they get almost no recognition for these efforts," Tapp continued. "They deserve a great amount of credit."

TRIBUTE TO LOUISVILLE PLATE GLASS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a native Louisville business that is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year, Louisville Plate Glass, and the company's owner, my good friend, Bill Stone. Louisville Plate Glass specializes in custom glass products such as laminated and insulated glass and was founded in 1911. The company is among an elite group of Louisville firms that have survived 100 years of business success.

Louisville Plate Glass has been hit hard by the struggling economy and faltering housing market that we are all familiar with, due to its close attachment to the real estate industry. Owner Bill Stone, 75, reclaimed ownership of the business in 2009 in order to ensure the business stays afloat. At the time, Bill was a partner in parent company United Glass Corp. when it announced its plans to sell Louisville Plate Glass to consolidate the company's business into other holdings outside the State.

Bill's pride took control however, and he decided to trade in a portion of his shares in United Glass Corp. to independently reacquire Louisville Plate Glass. "It's not about money," Bill said. "It's about pride now. It's about making it a success again." Bill says he is taking a "survive-and-advance" strategy with the business until the real estate market picks up again, and he rarely takes a salary from the company to further help company profits.

Louisville Plate Glass has recently had major projects at William Paterson University in Wayne, N.J., and also an outlet mall in New Hampshire, and Bill is optimistic that the real-estate industry will pick up soon and the business will grow. The company is also responsible for work on other notable projects in my hometown of Louisville, including Churchill Downs, the Humana Building, Louisville Slugger Field, Preston Pointe, and the University of Louisville Medical Faculty Building.

Bill is currently flirting with the idea of adding a tempering plant to grow the business. He says there is a "50-50" chance that he will invest in the new plant, which would add 20 employees and would bring in-house the production of safety and architectural

glass work that is currently outsourced. The new plant would require several million dollars in investment, and Bill says his decision will be based upon whether he can secure State or local funding for the project.

"I take a great deal of pride in this business," says Bill, as he is determined to protect the 30 employees currently working at the company's headquarters on West Broadway. For anyone who is concerned with surviving the current down economy in similar fashion, Bill has three suggestions: always keep a strong balance sheet with cash reserves even when times are good, build the best product and provide the best service and the money will follow, and finally, answer every client phone call and customers will take notice.

Mr. President, I would ask all of my Senate colleagues to join me in congratulating Louisville Plate Glass as it celebrates its 100th anniversary. Owner Bill Stone's wisdom and effective business practices will, I hope, provide the company with great opportunities for success moving forward. Louisville Plate Glass is an inspiration to the businesses of Louisville and the people of Kentucky, and it is my hope the company will continue to prosper in the years to come. The Louisville publication, Business First, recently published an article recognizing the company's accomplishments over the past 100 years. I ask unanimous consent that the full article appear in the RECORD as follows.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From Business First, Aug. 26, 2011]

LOUISVILLE PLATE GLASS STRIVES TO SURVIVE AS IT MARKS ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY (By Ed Green)

Louisville Plate Glass Co. owner Bill Stone admits that he should be celebrating a major milestone.

His business, which traces its roots to 1911, is among an elite group of Louisville firms to last 100 years.

Stone, a longtime Louisville businessman, recognizes the achievement and said he is proud the firm has lasted this long. But he's not exactly jumping for joy. Louisville Plate Glass produces custom glass products, designing and assembling products such as insulated and laminated glass.

Its business is closely attached to the commercial real estate industry, so the company has seen declining business in recent years as real-estate development and construction practically halted, he said.

BACK IN BUSINESS

That's one reason Stone, 75, took back ownership of the business in 2009 from Louisville-based United Glass Corp., a partnership in which he was involved.

Now, he said, he is working to get the business back on its feet and protect the about 30 jobs remaining at the company's headquarters and plant on West Broadway.

"In our 100th year, we're taking a licking but keep on ticking," Stone said.

He declined to say whether the business remains profitable but said sales are in the "mid-seven figures" range and about 40 percent of the record levels set in 2007.

Employment has dropped from its peak of about 50, but none of the job cuts has come from layoffs.