

I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, CA.

PFC Rueben J. Lopez, 27, of Williams, CA, died August 11 in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan, of injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his vehicle. Private First Class Lopez was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, NY.

SPC Kevin R. Shumaker, 24, of Livermore, CA, died August 31 in a stateside hospital of a noncombat related illness. Specialist Shumaker was assigned to the Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, NY.

SPC Koran P. Contreras, 21, of Lawndale, CA, died of wounds suffered when enemy forces attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device September 8 in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Specialist Contreras was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, NY.

SPC Douglas J. Jeffries Jr., 20, of Springville, CA, died of wounds suffered when enemy forces attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device September 8 in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Specialist Jeffries was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 87th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, NY.

SSG Daniel A. Quintana, 30, of Huntington Park, CA, died September 10 in Paktika Province, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when insurgents attacked his unit using small arms fire. Staff Sergeant Quintana was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, 172nd Infantry Brigade, Schweinfurt, Germany.

Cpl Michael J. Dutcher, 22, of Asheville, NC, died September 15 while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Corporal Dutcher was assigned to 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, CA.

PFC Carlos A. Aparicio, 19, of San Bernadino, CA, died September 23 in Wardak, Province, Afghanistan, of injuries suffered when insurgents attacked his unit using an improvised explosive device. Private First Class Aparicio was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 4th Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Polk, LA.

SGT Tyler N. Holtz, 22, of Dana Point, CA, died September 24 in Wardak Province, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when insurgents attacked his unit using small arms fire. Sergeant Holtz was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA.

SPC Garrett A. Fant, 21, of American Canyon, CA, died September 26 in Helmand Province, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when enemy forces attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device. Specialist Fant was as-

signed to the 4th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, KS.

SSgt Nicholas A. Sprovtsoff, 28, of Davison, MI, died September 28 while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Staff Sergeant Sprovtsoff was assigned to 1st Marine Special Operations Battalion, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command, Camp Pendleton, CA.

Sgt Christopher Diaz, 27, of Albuquerque, NM, died September 28 while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Sergeant Diaz was assigned to Headquarters Battalion, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, CA.

LCpl Benjamin W. Schmidt, 24, of San Antonio, TX, died October 6 while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Lance Corporal Schmidt was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, CA.

SPC Ricardo Cerros Jr., 24, of Salinas, CA, died October 8 in Logar Province, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when insurgents attacked his unit using small arms fire. Specialist Cerros was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA.

CW3 James B. Wilke, 38, of Ione, CA, died October 10, in Doha, Qatar. Chief Warrant Officer Wilke was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 43rd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, 11th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command, Fort Bliss, TX.

SFC Kristoffer B. Domeij, 29, of San Diego, CA, died October 22, in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when enemy forces attacked his unit with an improvised explosive device. Sergeant First Class Domeij was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA.

LCpl Jordan S. Basteau, 19, of Pekin, IL, died October 23 while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Lance Corporal Basteau was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Twentynine Palms, CA.

LCpl Jason N. Barfield, 22, of Ashford, AL, died October 24 while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Lance Corporal Barfield was assigned to 3rd Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, based at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, CA.

SSgt Stephen J. Dunning, 31, of Milpitas, CA, died October 27 while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Staff Sergeant Dunning was assigned to 9th Engineer Support Battalion, 3rd Marine Logistics Group, III Marine Expeditionary Force, Okinawa, Japan.

SGT Carlo F. Eugenio, 29, of Rancho Cucamonga, CA, died October 29, in Kabul Province, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when enemy forces attacked his vehicle with a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device. Sergeant Eugenio was assigned to 756th Transportation Company, 224th Sustainment Brigade, California Army National Guard, Van Nuys, CA.

LCpl Nickolas A. Daniels, 25, of Elmwood Park, IL, died November 5 while conducting combat operations in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Lance Corporal Daniels was assigned to 3rd Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Twentynine Palms, CA.

I would also like to pay tribute to the one servicemember from California who has died while serving our country in Iraq since July 5, 2011. This brings to 892 the number of servicemembers either from California or based in California who have been killed while serving our country in Iraq. This represents 20 percent of all U.S. deaths in Iraq.

PFC Steven F. Shapiro, 29, of Hidden Valley Lake, CA, died October 21 in Tallil, Iraq. Private First Class Shapiro was assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Advise and Assist Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, TX.

MILITARY FAMILY MONTH 2011

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the men and women of our Armed Forces and their families during Military Family Month 2011.

Each November marks Military Family Month. This is an important time for Americans to recognize and honor the commitment and sacrifices of our extraordinary military families.

And it is a time to express our gratitude. We know that when a servicemember puts on a uniform, the entire family sacrifices for our country. Military families endure frequent moves, long separations, interruptions in careers and education, and the anxiety that comes with having a loved one in harm's way. They face these unique challenges with grace and courage.

We also know that the security of our Nation and the readiness of our military are inextricably linked to the strength of our military families. Not only do these families support our brave men and women in uniform, they come together to support each other and generously dedicate their time to make a difference in their communities.

As cochair of the Senate Military Family Caucus, I am deeply grateful to these incredible men, women and children for their strength and their sacrifice. Their selfless service to their communities and our Nation is an example for us all.

President Obama eloquently stated in proclaiming Military Family Month 2011 that "With every step we take on

American soil, we tread on ground made safer for us through the invaluable sacrifices of our servicemembers and their families.”

While we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude we owe our military families, we can do everything possible to lessen their burden and provide for their needs.

I encourage all Americans to take time this month and all year round to recognize and honor our military families for the countless contributions they make each and every day for our great Nation.

REMEMBERING CASEY RIBICOFF

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and honor the life and legacy of Casey Ribicoff, an inspiration, role model and friend to me and so many others.

Casey Ribicoff was a living legend. She and Abe shared a love that was heartfelt and moving, and obvious to all who knew them. She brought laughter and elegance to every friendship, most especially to her partnership with Abe. Together they traveled the world and country, making new friendships and visiting old ones, all the while creating enough memories to last a lifetime.

Having served on the Abe Ribicoff Senate staff, I can attest to their extraordinary partnership in public service, her deep caring for the people of Connecticut, and her commitment to social justice. She regarded the Senate as a platform for advocacy and hard work on behalf of Connecticut and the public interest. She and Abe were truly a team.

Casey had an impressive energy and strength. She was constantly involved in good causes, leading to her appointment by Jimmy Carter to the board of the Kennedy Center, a position she proudly held for 20 years. A founder of the AIDS Care Center at the New York Presbyterian Hospital, Casey always found new ways to give back and help the community.

As a personal friend, which she was to Cynthia and me, she was endlessly loyal and generous, and she leaves a legacy of good work that will be remembered for decades to come. Casey was kind, generous and loving. She will live on in the friendships and family that she cherished. She will be sorely missed but never forgotten.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

GOODWILL INDUSTRIES OF NEW MEXICO

• Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 70th anniversary of Goodwill Industries of New Mexico. Working in New Mexico communities since 1941, the organization has helped find work and provided training and development for countless needy New Mexicans.

The nonprofit organization provides essential skill development, career-building services, and work opportunities to residents facing serious employment barriers. This is an especially important service they provide considering the continuing difficulties facing many applicants in today’s job market.

Despite high unemployment and a struggling economy, Goodwill Industries of New Mexico placed nearly 850 clients in public and private sector jobs last year. Many of these clients face challenges with various disabilities, homelessness, drug addiction, and traumatic brain injuries, among other barriers. And the impact of the organization’s activities has been felt throughout the entire State. In 2010, Goodwill Industries served nearly 10,000 residents through 8 programs reaching all 33 counties. That is a tenfold increase from a decade ago.

Much of its funding is derived through its retail stores, with 87 cents of every dollar spent on programs and services. But last year alone, in addition to its retail sales, Goodwill Industries of New Mexico salvaged nearly 1,700 tons of textiles, 188 tons of shoes, recycled 536 tons of cardboard and paper, and kept nearly 35 tons of used electronics out of New Mexico landfills. The environmental impact of Goodwill’s initiatives is making a positive difference as well.

The education and training programs provide intensified training to those in need at six training centers across the State. Their programs also help low-income seniors to market themselves and acquire skills to compete in today’s job market and place individuals in subsidized jobs with a host agency with the goal of moving that employee into a permanent position within the community.

Its Pathways programs assist the near homeless and chronically homeless in obtaining access to housing and the opportunity to begin a new life through the power of work. Goodwill Industries’ GoodGuides Mentoring Program pairs adults with at risk teens. Mentors provide structure and a supportive relationship with middle and high school-aged students. Goodwill volunteers work with teens to establish goals, build career plans, and work toward high school graduation to prepare for postsecondary training or college.

Traumatic brain injuries often leave patients confused and bewildered, struggling with simple day-to-day tasks. The caring staff in the TBI case management program assisted over 500 clients in crisis last year from imminent risk to their safety and health. I was also pleased to announce in July that this highly respected organization received over a \$½ million grant from the VA to prevent homelessness among New Mexican veterans and their families.

Mr. President, I join Goodwill Industries of New Mexico in celebrating its 70th anniversary, and I congratulate them on being one of my State’s pre-

mier service providers advocating for the disabled, homeless, and unemployed.●

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT AND MARGARET PATRICELLI

• Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, today I wish to commend Robert and Margaret Patricelli, of Simsbury, CT, for their immense generosity and vision in establishing an institute that will promote and support important public service activities.

Public policy and service have played a central role in the Patricelli’s careers and lives. Graduating from Wesleyan in 1961 and Harvard Law in 1965, Bob was selected as one of 15 people for the first White House Fellows Program. His participation helped shape him as someone who understands the value of public policy and government service. Both he and Margaret are always looking for ways to give back and inspire others.

Their passion for giving back and helping others is what moved them to start the Robert and Margaret Patricelli Family Foundation to bring a tangible reality to programs and projects that serve the greater good. What Bob and Margaret have done through their family’s foundation is inspiring and moving—and will continue to serve the country, and the world, for generations to come. Their philanthropic and service activities have touched countless lives across the State, from the arts to science, hospitals to schools, and programs assisting low-income neighborhoods.

In May of this year, the foundation contributed substantially to Wesleyan University, establishing the Patricelli Center for Social Entrepreneurship. This center will support students seeking to establish programs and organizations, providing workshops, speakers and networking opportunities for students. It will help encourage and embolden students who are focused on becoming social entrepreneurs, as well as award grants to undergraduate students engaged in specific projects. The foundation’s most recent contribution to Wesleyan is one more example of great caring and commitment that lead me to recognize Bob and Margaret for all that they have done for our State and country.

A role model and inspiration to all who value public service, I commend and thank Bob and Margaret Patricelli for their legacy of great work for Connecticut and the country.●

TRIBUTE TO JONATHAN M. TOPODAS

• Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I wish today to pay tribute to Jonathan M. Topodas, who will be retiring this month after a spectacular 38-year-career with Aetna, one of Connecticut’s leading corporate citizens.

Jonathan joined Aetna’s law department after graduating from Southern