

Several of these 2011 inductees are well-loved for touching their communities through a wide range of public leadership initiatives. Samuel Beamon, Sr., Rev. Dr. G. Kenneth Carpenter, and Richard Rampone served in Vietnam in the U.S. Marine Corps. Samuel Beamon, Sr. was honored for his exceptional work with the Young Marines Program in Waterbury, CT and as past commandant of the Department of Connecticut Marine Corps League, as well as his esteemed legacy as lieutenant of the Waterbury Police Department. Rev. Dr. G. Kenneth Carpenter has been recognized as a constant source of spiritual guidance as pastor of the Union Baptist Church in Mystic; in addition, he is founder and president of the Mystic Area Shelter and Hospitality, MASH, which gives temporary shelter and counseling to families—especially those with children—who are struggling in this tough economy. Richard Rampone, who worked to protect his community as Patrolman for the Berlin Police Department, is the State commandant of the Marine Corps League Department of Connecticut, whose mission is to assist marines entering civilian life.

Many of our honorees participate in more than one organization, dedicating a vast amount of time to helping servicemembers and veterans. Ronald Catania, who served in the U.S. Air Force in Vietnam, has given countless hours to numerous groups, including the Connecticut Police Chiefs Association, Connecticut Veterans Memorial, Connecticut National Guard during the Hurricane Katrina disaster, the American Red Cross, and the Special Olympics. On September 11, he worked the day after the attacks to transport donated goods to Ground Zero for emergency responders. Burke Ross, who served in the U.S. Marine Corps during World War II, has been a fervent supporter and participant of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, MOPH, volunteers at the West Haven VA Medical Facility, and for the past 25 years has planned the annual Memorial Day Services and Parade in the Derby-Shelton area; in 2001, he was selected as the Disabled American Veteran, DAV, of the Year for his more than 30 years as an officer and then chaplain to his local DAV chapter.

The civic dedication of a number of these inductees spans decades. John Chiarella, who served in the U.S. Army in Korea and Vietnam, has spent 10 years ensuring that Waterbury-area students have an education in our patriotic traditions, including developing a program called Forever Wave, whose mission is to instruct on the flag salute. He is also known for his role as chairman of the Waterbury Veterans Memorial Committee. U.S. Army veteran Phillip Kraft has been a voice for veterans' benefits as an instructor at the International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace, and Agricultural Implement Workers of America, UAW, annual conference. Also, for many

years, Mr. Kraft has watched over burial services and maintained the upkeep of the Spring Grove Cemetery in Darian, where approximately 1,500 veterans have been laid to rest, and also takes the lead as CEO of the National Veterans Services Fund. Honoree Ronald Perry, who served in the U.S. Marine Corps in Vietnam, has been a solid support system for the Meriden, CT, Marine community, speaking out on behalf of several veterans associations, including the Marine Corps League of Meriden, and arranging the birthday celebrations of Meriden-area Marine Corps veterans.

The remaining two Connecticut veterans honored in 2011, Dr. Madelon Baranoski and Harold Farrington, have used the skills and experiences they developed in a professional capacity to positively affect the military and veterans communities of Connecticut. After serving in Vietnam in the U.S. Army Nurse Corps, Dr. Baranoski has compiled research on the physiological consequences of stress to foster greater understanding about the mental conditions of veterans in our communities and to help reform the criminal justice system. She is currently an associate professor of psychiatry and the vice chair of the Human Investigation Committee at Yale University School of Medicine. Harold Farrington, Jr., has spent 30 years helping veterans and their families navigate the bureaucracy and reap the benefits of government programs as an employee of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. In an article for New London's *The Day*, Mr. Farrington candidly captured the emotions he felt as a 2011 Connecticut Veterans Hall of Fame Inductee: Having dedicated his life to service, he acknowledged that "to know my work is being recognized is very rewarding."

I hope this honor from the State of Connecticut will start to reflect and manifest the pride felt by the family, friends, and fellow veterans of these inductees. It gives me great pride to laud these courageous and selfless individuals who have not hesitated to serve and sacrifice in and out of uniform. To them, I say with gratitude: Today, your country publicly recognizes your contributions and deep, heartfelt commitment to our U.S. veterans.

#### NATIONAL INFERTILITY AWARENESS WEEK

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, building a family is an exciting milestone in the lives of millions of American families. Unfortunately, the road towards conceiving a child is often difficult and painful for the nearly 7 million Americans diagnosed with the disease of infertility.

This week, men and women across the country will share their stories during National Infertility Awareness Week. This movement, organized by RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association, brings attention to the dis-

ease of infertility and encourages the public to take charge of their reproductive health. Let me take this opportunity to commend RESOLVE for its work providing community and giving voice to women and men experiencing infertility.

Over the last few decades, significant medical advancements, such as in vitro fertilization, have provided a solution for some would be parents. However, the high cost to undergo infertility care often poses an additional barrier for couples to overcome. It costs more than \$12,000 for a couple to undergo one cycle of infertility treatment, and insurance coverage is often dismal. For some patients, multiple cycles are required to achieve a successful pregnancy outcome. Federal Government insurance plans do not specifically cover infertility treatments, and only 15 States offer any level of coverage.

I have introduced a bill that would alleviate some of the costs associated with infertility care. The Family Act, S. 965 creates a Federal tax credit for individuals who are diagnosed with infertility by a licensed physician. A tax credit will help make this vital patient care more accessible and affordable to those who lack insurance coverage for these services.

I hope you will join me during National Infertility Awareness Week and become a cosponsor of the Family Act. This is a necessary step towards ensuring that all of our citizens have the ability to raise a family, without compromising their financial future.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### LOST AT SEA

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, it is with great sadness that I speak in memory of five extraordinary sailors who recently died at sea during a boat race off the coast of California.

On Saturday, April 15, the sailing vessel *Low Speed Chase* was one of 49 boats participating in the Full Crew Farallones Race, which has been run annually from San Francisco to the Farallon Islands and back since 1907. As the yacht rounded an island, it was broadsided by huge waves and crashed onto the rocks.

Three sailors survived and were rescued by the U.S. Coast Guard. Tragically, the lives of five others—Alexis Busch, Alan Cahill, Jordan Fromm, Marc Kasanin, and Elmer Morrissey—were lost.

Alexis Busch, who as a teenager had been a beloved batgirl for the San Francisco Giants, managed the Ross Valley Swim and Tennis Club and crewed in sailing races from San Francisco Bay to Australia. Her longtime boyfriend and sailing partner, Nick Vos, was one of the survivors on the *Low Speed Chase*.

Alan Cahill was a married father of two children and a master marine craftsman who served as caretaker for

many boats at the San Francisco Yacht Club. Originally from Cork, Ireland, Alan moved to the Bay Area to pursue his love of racing. He was a talented sailor and good friend, who served as the best man at the wedding of his crewmate, Bryan Chong, one of the three survivors.

Jordan Fromm was a lifelong sailor who was a fixture at the San Francisco Yacht Club, where he had been a member since childhood and participated in its youth sailing programs. Fromm planned to start his own yacht restoration business.

Marc Kasanin grew up in Belvedere, started sailing at age 5, and spent most of his life on the water as a sailor and a nautical artist. His artwork was recently displayed at the Tiburon Art Festival.

Elmer Morrissey earned a Ph.D. in energy engineering and worked as a software designer at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. In addition to sailing, he enjoyed playing music and rugby and writing humorous sports blogs.

These crew members were some of the Bay Area's best sailors. Their loss is a devastating blow to their families, to their friends, to their crewmates, and to the entire sailing community. At this most difficult time, my heart goes out to them all.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DOROTHY INGRAM

● MRS. BOXER. Mr. President, I am honored to remember the life, accomplishments, and service of Dorothy Inghram, a pioneer who was California's first African American school district superintendent and San Bernardino County's first African American school teacher and principal. Ms. Inghram passed away at her San Bernardino home on March 14 at the age of 106.

Dorothy Inghram was born on November 9, 1905, the youngest of Henry and Mary Inghram's seven children. While at San Bernardino Valley College, Ms. Inghram wrote the school's alma mater and later transferred to Redlands University to complete a bachelor's degree in music in 1936. She began her teaching career in Texas but later returned to California and accepted a teaching position in the Mill School District. For the next 3 decades, she devoted her life to education and literacy in the community.

Over the years, Ms. Inghram's professional contributions have been acknowledged on many occasions, including numerous awards, a city-proclaimed Dorothy Inghram Day, and a library named in her honor. Most rewarding to her personally, however, were the admiring and grateful former students who credited her with helping them recognize undiscovered talents and sparking interests that led to successful careers.

I ask my colleagues to join me, and her grateful community in honoring the life and trailblazing legacy of Dorothy Inghram.●

#### TRIBUTE TO MR. WAYNE R. GRACIE

● Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Mr. Wayne R. Gracie upon his retirement after an outstanding career of 37 years of distinguished civil service to our great Nation.

Since 1975, through seven Presidential administrations, Wayne has worked with Congress and directly supported the Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Air Force, as well as the Chief of the Air Force Reserve. He has worked on logistics, budgets, and legislative interactions—turning words into programming actions—that resulted in new Department of Defense policies and programs.

Wayne excelled at providing both Houses of Congress with new insight and understanding of the Air Force Reserve's need to transition from a Cold War force to the modern force operating around the world today. His efforts resulted in new funding and development of both a "strategic reserve" for surge operations, as well as a cost-effective "operational reserve" for use in daily military missions.

In 1997, backed by his credibility and good will on Capitol Hill, Wayne led the preparation, messaging, and testimony for congressional hearings that resulted in the formation of Air Force Reserve Command, the ninth major command in the Air Force. This authorized a three-star commander and energized new Reserve component personnel benefits.

After conducting more than 20 years of continual combat operations in Iraq, Bosnia, Kosovo, Afghanistan, Horn of Africa, Libya, and many other locations around the globe, the Air Force Reserve's success is evident today. Wayne's efforts were critical to presenting, justifying, and enacting new legislation supporting Air Force reservists, their civilian employers, and their families who were impacted by increased Reserve operations. Thanks to his continuous dialogue with Congress, reservists now get improved health care, new credits toward retirement, inactive duty training travel pay, and post-9/11 G.I. Bill benefits.

Also, Wayne was pivotal to facilitating Air Force Reserve testimonies before the Senate Armed Services Committee and Senate Appropriation Committee that resulted in additional funding for equipment modernization. His efforts directly led to increased combat effectiveness as well as improved humanitarian and disaster response operations. These updated capabilities were essential to successful relief missions in Japan and Haiti, as well as in the United States for Hurricanes Katrina and Ivan, for aerial firefighting in the Southwest, and for containing the gulf oil spill.

Because of Wayne's visionary leadership, planning, and foresight, the Air Force, the Department of Defense, and the Nation will long reap the benefits of his tenure at the Pentagon and his

work with us here on Capitol Hill. It is experienced, dedicated, professional people like Wayne who make the Department of Defense and Air Force Reserve the outstanding institutions that they are today.

I thank Wayne for his many years of dedicated service and wish him and his wife Candace the very best as they enter retirement.●

#### RECOGNIZING JOHN T. CYR AND SONS, INC.

● Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, today I wish to offer my congratulations to John T. Cyr and Sons, Inc., on its 100th anniversary. This outstanding Maine company demonstrates why family businesses are so important to our Nation's economy and to communities in every State. The determination and vision that led to a century of success define America's entrepreneurial spirit.

Sometime around 1903, John Thomas Cyr moved his family from Caribou, ME—my hometown—to Old Town, near Bangor, where he found work in a lumber mill. Nine years later, in 1912, at the age of 51, John T. Cyr struck out on his own. Joined by his son, Joseph, they started a livery stable and delivery business.

What began with horses, buggies, and wagons is today a thriving enterprise of 22 luxury motor coaches, 200 schoolbuses, and nearly 250 employees. A company that got its start hauling lumber for a local canoe factory now serves 17 school districts across Maine with an exemplary safety record. They offer tours throughout the United States and Canada—from New York City at Christmas to Washington, DC, in cherry blossom season. As a native of Aroostook County, I know how valuable their daily intercity service is to the towns and cities of northern Maine.

Handed down and nurtured through the generations, this is a true family business, owned and operated by the founder's grandson, Joe Cyr, joined by his brother, Pete, son Mike, and daughter Becky.

Their remarkable story of growth, of meeting challenges, and of delivering value was expertly told in a recent article in Maine Trails magazine. I would like to complement that account with my personal observations.

Before coming to the Senate, I worked at Husson University in Bangor, where I had the pleasure of getting to know Joe Cyr, class of 1962, and his wonderful wife Sue, class of 1965. Joe has been a longtime member of the Husson Board of Trustees, and Sue has been a volunteer supporter of uncommon energy. Joe and Sue's generosity to Husson includes significant gifts to athletic programs, a new home for the university president, the annual fund, and most recently, the new Cyr Alumni Center. The countless ways they serve—from the Boys Scouts and the Y to St. Joseph Hospital—touch people of all ages.

People throughout Maine are fortunate to have such a family as the Cyrs,