

to make an economic impact in London and improve the lives of his fellow Kentuckians.

Today, it is my honor to recognize Mr. Larry Corum for his contribution to the Laurel County economy through his own small business and his extensive service to the London-Laurel County Chamber of Commerce. His dedication to the community has made London, KY, an attractive area in which businesses can invest and grow. I ask my colleagues in the U.S. Senate to join with me in celebrating Mr. Larry Corum's service to the greater Laurel County, KY, area.

A recent article published in the Chamber News, a publication of the Laurel County-area newspaper the Sentinel Echo, highlighted Mr. Corum's accomplishments. I ask unanimous consent that said article appear in the RECORD.

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

[From the Chamber News: The Sentinel Echo, May 30, 2012]

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: LARRY CORUM

Larry Corum has served as manager of the London-Corbin Airport since February 2008. The airport is the sixth-largest and one of the busiest general aviation airports in the state of Kentucky. It serves as one of the important gateways for business and commerce to Laurel County and eastern Kentucky.

In 1990, Larry moved to Laurel County with his wife, Lois, and children, Chris and Gienah. Seeing a business opportunity and using his wife and sister for labor and as partners, he opened an American Speedy Printing franchise in the London Shopping Center. The business began to grow and was able to move to a stand-alone building on South Main Street in 1994. In 1998, a second building was acquired through the purchase of Durham Printing and the business name was changed to Allegra Print and Imaging. After completing college, both Chris and Gienah joined Larry in the business. Larry continued in the business until 2008, when he turned over the operation to his son, Chris, who has added sign-making capability. He now operates the business under the name of Allegra Print Sign and Design.

Larry grew up in Clay County, graduating from Clay County High School in 1958. He later attended Sue Bennett College and Eastern Kentucky University, graduating from ECU in 1965. Larry worked several jobs while completing his education, including teaching school in Clay County, Cleveland, Ohio, and Miami, Fla. In 1967, Larry joined the U.S. Air Force and became an officer. He then married his wife, Lois, and they began a grand adventure together traveling the world and making a career. In 1969, Larry was awarded his wings, assigned to an airplane in the strategic air command and moved to a permanent military base. Over the next 20 years, Larry served the Air Force as a flight crew member, flight instructor, flight evaluator, and command evaluator in the EC, KC, and RC-135 Aircraft. Larry, Lois, and their children lived in or visited most all of the 50 states and many foreign countries. Larry retired from the Air Force as a lieutenant colonel and the commander of the 384th Transportation Squadron, McConnell AFB, Wichita, Kan., in 1989.

Larry's involvement in the London-Laurel County Chamber of Commerce began when he opened his business in London with a rib-

bon cutting in 1990. He was later invited to join the board of directors. In addition, he has served on the board of the American Red Cross, the United Way of Laurel County, SCORE, London-Corbin airport, Saint Joseph-London, and the executive board of the Chamber. Larry is an active member, Sunday school teacher, and deacon of the First Baptist Church of London.

Larry believes that London and Laurel County is one of the best places in America to bring up a family and grow a small business. He feels that the Chamber can and will help with growth and community improvement. He is proud to be a member of this community and the London-Laurel County Chamber of Commerce Executive Board.

TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER JEFFREY SMITH

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, today I rise in recognition of U.S. Navy CDR Jeffrey Smith, captain of the USS *Kentucky*. Commander Smith, a Kentucky native, is the youngest commanding officer of an *Ohio*-class submarine. The commander has accomplished great feats in his naval career and he proudly represents the State of Kentucky with everything he does. I know he is especially honored to command the ship that bears the name of our beloved Commonwealth.

Commander Smith was born in Covington, KY, and moved to Independence, KY, shortly thereafter. Upon graduating from Simon Kenton High School, he attended Xavier University and then transferred to the University of Kentucky. In 1995, Commander Smith graduated with a degree in physics and was commissioned in the Navy, where he began nuclear power training in Florida.

His dedicated service to the U.S. Navy brought him to the post of commanding officer of an *Ohio*-class submarine. The youngest man in his position, Commander Smith leads both the Gold and Blue Teams and is charged with overseeing the drills, maintenance, and day to day operations of the USS *Kentucky*.

Respected as a leader by his crew, Commander Smith also makes time to share his love of his State, the namesake of the submarine, with his men. After each announcement, it has become his trademark to lead the men in a round of "Go Big Blue" cheers. A true Kentucky Wildcats fan, he loves to talk University of Kentucky basketball and "bracketology" with his men come NCAA Tournament time. By sharing some of these beloved hallmarks of the Bluegrass State, Commander Smith not only shows his own pride in being a Kentuckian, but also provides his men a sense of attachment to the place for which their ship was named.

Commander Smith, besides being an avid UK Wildcats fan, enjoys reading, playing video games, and spending time with his four children. He credits his interests and leadership capabilities to his education from the University of Kentucky. From physics and engineering courses which enable him to

effectively operate the ship, to psychology courses which allow him to understand his men and their attitudes in different situations, a diverse educational and experiential background allows Commander Smith to lead his men effectively.

It is my privilege today to recognize a Kentuckian who has truly devoted his life to the service of this Nation. A rising star in the U.S. Navy, CDR Jeffrey Smith has committed himself to excellence and to proudly representing the State of Kentucky. I ask my colleagues in the U.S. Senate to join me in saluting U.S. Navy CDR Jeffrey Smith.

A recent publication by the University of Kentucky newspaper the Kentucky Kernel highlighted the accomplishments of the Commander. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that said article appear in the RECORD.

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

[From University of Kentucky, Kentucky Kernel, July 3, 2012]

USS KENTUCKY'S COMMANDER IS A PROUD UK ALUM

(By Sarah Geegan)

There's just no telling where an education from the University of Kentucky can take you.

For U.S. Navy Cmdr. Jeffrey Smith, the journey that began at UK has taken him around the world and deep below the ocean's surface, as captain of the USS *Kentucky*, a nuclear submarine.

"Having been born in Kentucky and growing up there, I can't imagine any pride greater than serving as commander of the ship that bears my home state's name," says Smith, whose parents and sister still live in Kentucky.

Born in Covington and raised in Independence, Smith graduated from Simon Kenton High School and attended Xavier University for a year before transferring to UK. After graduating in 1995 with a bachelor's degree in physics, Smith was commissioned in the Navy and went to officer candidate school in Pensacola, Fla., where he began nuclear power training.

At 39, Smith is the youngest commanding officer of an *Ohio*-class submarine. The *Kentucky*—560 feet long and 42 feet in diameter, and producing around 18,000 tons of displacement—is about the size of the largest ships that worked during World War II. It has a crew complement of 160, and it is capable of sinking more than 800 feet and traveling faster than 25 knots. ("That's pretty much freeway speed for a submarine," Smith says.) The *Kentucky*'s primary mission, as a strategic nuclear deterrent, is to provide a credible, survivable launch platform for ballistic missiles from sea.

The ship is really a world of its own, Smith says, and it's a complex world with tens of thousands of moving parts. For the commander of the *Kentucky*, a day's work involves taking care of the ship and making sure its crew members are prepared for any situation they could face while at sea.

"Life aboard a nuclear submarine is all about mitigating risk, while still making sure that you are able to perform your mission," Smith says. "A submarine at sea is really a dangerous environment. Everywhere within reach, there are cables carrying high-voltage electricity. There are pipes containing rapidly moving sea water. There are

high-pressure hydraulics lines. And we live constantly within just a few feet of the most unforgiving, deadly, crushing environment, right on the other side of our hull—the deep sea. It's of paramount importance that we keep it on the other side of that hull."

A naval submarine will operate at sea for about 50 to 100 days before coming back to port for a couple of months, during which time it undergoes a regimen of critical maintenance and a crew rotation. The Kentucky has two crews, a Blue Team and a Gold Team. Smith commands both.

While the Kentucky is under way, the daily routine is one of training, planning and maintenance. Breakfast begins at 05:00 (5 a.m.) and is over by 06:30, at which time the crew receives briefings before commencing drills at 08:00. Drills consist of simulations of various different situations that could be encountered aboard the ship, such as fires, floodings, and casualties.

On some days, the crew performs strategic exercises, in which the crew practices the tasks they could be asked to perform while on a mission—everything from processing messages to walking through a strategic launch. This part of the day is usually done by 15:00 (3 p.m.), followed by a few hours of planning, training, and debriefing before dinner at 17:00 hours. There's usually a movie for the crew around 20:00, and then it's lights out.

Running parallel to that daily routine, the ship maintains a regular watch schedule, in which at any given time, one-third of the crew is manning a watch station on their part of the ship. The watch shifts run for six hours in an 18-hour rotation.

In port, the routine centers around maintenance, with anywhere from 50 to 150 separate scheduled maintenance items every time the ship comes in.

"The scheduled maintenance on a car is a good comparison," Smith says. "Think of all of the things that you have to check on your car every 5,000 miles. Well, a submarine is a lot bigger and a lot more complex than a car. And a typical car owner might keep their car for five or six years, while a submarine has to last for 40. So we have to ensure that the ship is in good shape for another whole generation of submariners."

Smith says he works conscientiously to instill a sense of Kentucky pride in his crew. One of the first things he did after taking command was to implement "Go Big Blue!" as the ship's rallying cry. He ends every shipboard announcement over the loudspeaker with that call, and the crew echoes it back.

"I think you'll find it's true, on any of the ships named after a state, that the commanders will try to get the whole state-pride thing going among the crew," Smith says. "I have just a little extra fire in my belly, being a native of Kentucky and a graduate of UK. My crew definitely knows that we're representing a great state."

Smith says the education he received at UK has helped to prepare him for his role in the Navy in ways he couldn't even have imagined when he was a student some 20 years ago.

"The experience that I had in college—not just in physics, but the whole multidisciplinary aspect of what college is—has served me very well throughout my career," he says. "I use the physics every day, and the engineering and math. But there's also philosophy—particularly the connection between philosophy and anthropology: How do we live in a multinational society? There's psychology, which helps me to be able to interpret the reactions of my crew in an objectively harsh environment. I use business management and financial accounting. Even the Russian I studied has served me well.

There was not a single class that I took at UK that I have not gone back and leveraged in my career at some point."

A lifelong Wildcat fan, Smith says he was thrilled to see the Cats bring home their eighth NCAA Championship this year. He offers his own, admittedly biased, take on bracketology:

"I tell my fellow officers that when you pick your bracket for the NCAA tournament, you need to realize that there is a Center of Awesomeness in the Universe, which is Rupp Arena, and the farther any team is based from there, the less of a chance they are going to have of making it to the Final Four."

Smith is also father to four children. In his spare time, he enjoys reading broadly on diverse topics, including philosophy, poetry, and music. He is an avid video gamer, who welcomes challenges from his crew in just about any game imaginable.

"I try to remain as interdisciplinary as possible," he says.

TRIBUTE TO GLENN "BUDDY" WESTBROOK

Mr. MCCONNELL. Madam President, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Glenn "Buddy" Westbrook of London, Kentucky, and his service to both this nation and the State of Kentucky, specifically Laurel County and the surrounding region. Passionate about development of the London community, Mr. Westbrook worked to build the Laurel County economy and strengthen the tourism industry in southeastern Kentucky.

Born in 1930 to J. Hamp and Flo Pearl Westbrook, Buddy Westbrook was raised in London, Kentucky. His nickname, Buddy, stuck when his older sister, Madge, called him Buddy because she could not say Glenn. He began working at an early age when he helped his father separate type for the printing shop the family owned. Buddy enjoyed working because it made him feel grown up. However, like all boys, he enjoyed spending time outdoors, especially at Kidds Pond, and he also had a knack for getting into mischief, such as climbing telephone poles.

Buddy graduated from high school in London but during his sophomore year attended classes at Berea College to study chemistry. After high school he attended Sue Bennett College and worked in his father's gas and LP appliance store. Throughout his life, he was taught that civic duty and serving others was an important part of being a member of a community. In 1950, Buddy joined the U.S. Army and served in Germany during the Korean War.

When he returned to London, Buddy took over his family store. As an active member of the Jaycees, an organization that promotes community development, he was able to attend a conference in Ashland where he met his wife, Jeanne. The couple had eight children. In 1970, Governor Wendell Ford named Buddy to the Kentucky Institute for Children.

In 1975, Buddy was offered a position with the Cumberland Valley Area Development District. His service

through this post was especially of benefit to the tourism industry in the region. Not only did Buddy and members of the commission share information about the region at travel shows, but he also organized the first Tourism Industry Development Symposium held in Lexington.

After the death of his wife, Jeanne, and son, Don, in 1983 and 1984, respectively, Buddy understandably endured some difficult times. However, a friend, Susan Mitchell, who later became his wife, helped him through this dark period. After retiring in 1993, Buddy organized Vision 2000 for London, Kentucky, a plan to define goals for the city which ultimately came to fruition during the new millennium.

Buddy Westbrook is truly an outstanding citizen of the London, Kentucky, community. Passionate about the development of Laurel County and the surrounding region, his lifetime commitment to economic and tourism development have proved to be invaluable to southeastern Kentucky. Buddy's dedication to his community is exemplary, and I am privileged today to recognize his many contributions to Kentucky. I ask my colleagues in the U.S. Senate to join me in celebrating Mr. Glenn "Buddy" Westbrook. A recent article published in the Sentinel-Echo, a Laurel County-area publication, highlighted his accomplishments. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that said article appear in the RECORD.

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

[From the Sentinel-Echo, May 2, 2012]

WESTBROOK: "THIS IS MOST EXCITING TIME IN HISTORY"

(By Tara Kaprowy)

Upon opening the door for his Living Treasures interview, 81-year-old Glenn "Buddy" Westbrook announces he just has a couple of hours to chat; he's going four-wheeling on the Salt River with a friend and, with the spring morning warm and clear, time's, as they say, a-wastin'.

But upon stepping into his kitchen, it's clear Westbrook's interest hasn't completely been kidnapped by the prospect of ATVing. He's laid out his dining room table with croissants, marmalade and several types of tea in anticipation of the impending discussion—and, in his characteristic way, to make things lovely and enjoyable.

Westbrook was born June 14, 1930, to J. Hamp and Flo Pearl (Eversole) Westbrook. His mother was born in London and her maternal grandfather, J.N. Robinson, was the first photographer and jeweler in town. "My mother's father was Roscoe Eversole, and he was the cashier of the First National Bank in London and was also mayor when they first started putting in sidewalks and culverts. Before that, it was boardwalks. And so I grew up with examples of leadership, a love of London and Laurel County, and an appreciation of the people."

His father came from the cotton farms of Georgia and, together, he and Flo Pearl made a cozy home with their young family in an apartment above First National Bank. Westbrook's sister Madge was two years his elder and, unable to pronounce the name "Glenn," he soon acquired the nickname