

the excitement of being inside the news machine as it does its work. But at the same time, she knows that WYMT won't miss a beat with the management team in place, and she's certainly happy about that.

"We have a great cohesive crew here and a great management team in Neil Middleton, Jim Boggs, Louise Sizemore, and Philip Hayes," she noted. "I am leaving the station in very capable hands, thus I have am leaving with a wonderful sense of pride and peace."

Cornett said she doesn't have any specific plans after her retirement is final, and after attending school or working for the majority of her life, she is ready for what she called "unstructured days."

"I have no immediate plans except to enjoy my family, get up every day and do what pleases me," she said, and from all accounts that is something she has certainly earned.

"She's a very compassionate person, and she realizes the needs, day to day, of the people that work here," noted Phil Hayes, chief engineer at WYMT. "She didn't micromanage anyone, but she was able to comprehend and anticipate what it took to make this station operate as efficiently as it has, and she's just a great person to work with."

"You couldn't have a better boss than Ernestine Cornett," added Neil Middleton, WYMT's news director. "I think the way we look at Ernestine is, she was our boss, but more importantly she is our friend, and she is family."

REMEMBERING MARTIN DOCK SCOTT, JR.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an honored Kentuckian and a man of great accomplishment who proudly served our country. Mr. Martin Dock Scott, Jr. of Bowling Green, KY, passed away Wednesday, September 5, 2012, due to cancer. He was 65 years old.

I have great appreciation for Mr. Scott, as he lived such a remarkable life. After graduation from Menifee County High School, Mr. Scott served in the United States Army from 1966 to 1970. He served with B Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Infantry, 198th Light Infantry Brigade. Thus far is evidence enough that Mr. Scott lived a worthy life, yet he continued onward, and so the list of his service and accomplishment also continues.

While in the military, Mr. Scott served in Chu Lai, Vietnam, and operated out of LZ Stinson and other landing zones. Needless to say, Mr. Scott put his life on the line for this country. In July 1970, Mr. Scott was honorably discharged.

Among his many military decorations, he earned two Bronze Stars. The first, with "V" Device, was awarded to Mr. Scott in February 1970 for expressing heroism under combined ground and mortar attack while his platoon was providing security for Dai Loc hamlet. The second medal was received in April 1970 for "meritorious achievement in connection with military operations against a hostile force."

Mr. Scott graduated from Eastern Kentucky University, married ViAnn Ford in November 1969, and started a family. I want to convey my deepest

condolences to the many family members and friends who knew and were loved by Martin Dock Scott, Jr.

I would ask my U.S. Senate colleagues to join me in commemorating his commitment to service and in extending sympathies to the Scott family. The Commonwealth of Kentucky will be proud to remember the life and deeds of Mr. Martin Dock Scott, Jr.

Mr. President, an obituary for Mr. Scott as provided by the family recently appeared in local newspapers. I ask unanimous consent that said obituary be printed in the RECORD.

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

BOWLING GREEN, KY.—Martin Dock Scott, Jr., 65, answered his Lord's call on Wednesday, September 5, 2012, surrounded by family at his residence following a brave battle with cancer.

Martin was born January 10, 1947, in Dayton, Ohio. He graduated from Menifee County (KY) High School in 1965 after which he served his country in the U.S. Army in Korea and in Viet Nam 1966 to 1970, receiving two Bronze Stars during action in Viet Nam. He served on the Bowling Green Police Department as patrolman and later as detective from November 11, 1970 until his retirement on April 30, 1989, when he then became a Commonwealth's Detective for the Warren County Commonwealth's Attorney's Office. Martin served 23 years under Commonwealth's Attorneys Morris Lowe, Steve Wilson, Michael Pearson, and Chris Cohron.

Martin was an active member of the Kentucky Fraternal Order of Police for 39 years, serving as President of Bowling Green Lodge #13 for 12 years and as President of the Kentucky State Lodge for 18 years. He was a 14-year member of American Legion Post #23, a life member of KY VFW 5712 and a Master Mason of Lodge #73 of the Grand Lodge of KY, F. & A.M., and a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University.

He lived a life of service, and most important to Martin was his service to his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ through membership, personal testimony and ministry at Plum Springs Baptist Church.

Martin is preceded in death by his parents, Martin D. and Alpha Vittoe Scott, and by his infant son, William John Scott. He will be greatly missed by his wife of 43 years, ViAnn, and their family: son Martin "Dock" Scott, III and daughter-in-law Stephanie of Bowling Green; daughter Alpha "Amber" Scott Ford and son-in-law Eric of Smiths Grove; and daughter Autumn Annette Scott of Bowling Green; grandchildren Erica, Brooke, Melanie, Cody, Chase, Cole, Zach, Taylor, Lauren, and Reed; great-grandchildren Kaden, Callie, Ean, and Isaac; brothers George Scott of Bowling Green and sister-in-law MaryAnn and Tim Scott of Middletown, Ohio, and sister-in-law Susie; sister Kathy Harris and brother-in-law Arthur; sister Karen Tehrani all of Bowling Green and sister Sue Brashear and brother-in-law Stan of Trenton, Ohio; sister-in-law Janet Bradfield of Leonardville, Kansas, and Nicki Ford of Overland Park, Kansas; as well as beloved aunts and uncles as close to him as brothers and sister, many nieces and nephews, cousins and dear friends.

Visitation is Sunday, September 9, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at J.C. Kirby & Son Lovers Lane Chapel and on Monday, September 10, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Living Hope Baptist Church. Funeral is 1:00 p.m. at the church with burial at Fairview Cemetery #2.

TRIBUTE TO MONTFORD POINT MARINES

Mr. DURBIN. On June 27, 2012, Congress presented the Congressional Gold Medal to the first African Americans to serve in the United States Marine Corps, the Montford Point Marines. More recently, the personal story of three of those marines from southern Illinois was brought to my attention.

Most people have heard of the Tuskegee Airmen and the Buffalo Soldiers, but until recently, the Montford Point Marines were largely unknown to the general public. During the 1940s, segregation and discrimination were pervasive in this country. Unfortunately, the Marine Corps was no exception.

To counteract the injustice, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued an Executive order that prohibited racial discrimination in the national defense industry, including Federal agencies. This order forever changed the Marine Corps from an all-white fighting force to one comprised of those willing to serve.

Camp Montford Point, NC, is the site where the first African Americans who joined the Marine Corps were trained. Nearly 20,000 African Americans trained there, many of whom served honorably in World War II. The marines established Camp Montford Point adjacent to Camp Lejeune and those who trained there were known as the Montford Point Marines.

One man who answered the call to serve was Carbondale, IL, resident Archibald Mosley. In 1942, Mosley said that he was a "girl-crazy" typical teenager ready to graduate from high school in Jackson County, IL. An exceptional student, Mosley was asked by the principal, along with a handful of other students, to serve in the marines.

Mosley enlisted with two of his friends, Saul Griffin, Jr. and James France. Mosley, because his records indicated that he had some college, was chosen to lead the others. They were sent to train at Camp Montford Point.

The conditions for the recruits at Montford Point were miserable. The white men who trained at Camp Lejeune lived in barracks. The African-American men were housed in huts made of beaverboard—similar to thick cardboard. The huts had little, if any, heat in the winter and no relief from the sweltering temperatures in the summer. Nor did they have access to the same equipment. The African Americans didn't know how bad it was—they weren't allowed into the same areas as their White colleagues.

Amazingly, despite their willingness to die for their country, the Montford Point Marines still faced incredible injustices after the deplorable conditions during training. One situation that has continually bothered Mosley was when German prisoners of war were allowed to eat before the African-American Marines. He couldn't understand why the enemy would be able to eat before one of their marine brothers—it appeared that loyalty didn't extend beyond race.

After World War II, marines were sent home to be congratulated by the President. The Montford Point Marines weren't even recognized for their service.

Decades after the doors opened at Camp Montford Point, in November of last year, Congress finally voted to award these honorable men with the highest civilian award in the United States because of their honorable and noble service to America. They were called to serve and they responded—nearly 20,000 strong.

Despite the poor treatment, despite the poor jobs, despite the substandard conditions, the Montford Point Marines served their country. Before all else, they were Americans. Archibald Mosley and his friends lived and breathed the Marine Corps motto, *Semper Fidelis*, “Always Faithful.”

I am thankful that they did. I am also thankful that our Nation took the steps we did to ensure those brave Americans received the recognition they were denied for so many years.

Saul Griffin, Jr. and James France didn't live to see it, sadly, but Reverend Mosley and many of his fellow marines were able to make the trip to Washington this summer to receive the long delayed thanks from a grateful Nation.

ANNIVERSARY OF ENACTMENT OF THE LEAHY-SMITH AMERICA INVENTS ACT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, Sunday marked the 1-year anniversary of the enactment of the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act. One year ago, I was pleased to stand on a stage at the Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology in Virginia with House Judiciary Committee chairman LAMAR SMITH, Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office David Kappos, Acting Commerce Secretary Rebecca Blank, and others. Together, we watched President Obama sign into law the most important changes to our Nation's patent laws in 60 years.

Many of the provisions of the legislation took effect on the 1-year anniversary, while other important changes, such as the shift to first-inventor-to-file, will take effect in 6 months. I commend the Patent and Trademark Office, PTO, for the work they have done, in a transparent manner, to prepare for the new procedures that take effect this week.

At its best, our patent system encourages exploration and invention, creating wealth, and providing jobs. Abraham Lincoln famously said that “the patent system added the fuel of interest to the fire of genius.” But when patents are granted on unpatentable subject matter or on obvious creations already in use, they can be misused to stifle competition.

The new patent law will aid the PTO in separating the wheat from the chaff, weeding out low-quality patents that infect our system, and bolstering those

patents that truly advance “the progress of science and useful arts.”

While the changes made by the patent bill were sweeping, I am under no illusion that they solved all the problems that confront our patent system. The assertion of patents is too often still used by patent trolls to extract payment even where there is not infringement of a valid patent because the cost of litigation makes settlement more expedient, and the “tech patent wars” among the large mobile phone companies show the perils to competition that can come when companies do not reach business-to-business resolutions of their patent disputes. But the improvements made by the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act will go a long way to making the system work better for inventors and implementers.

Enactment of the patent bill was more than a victory for American inventors, large and small; it was a demonstration that Congress can still work in a bipartisan, bicameral matter. I stood proudly on the stage 1 year ago with a Republican chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, watching the President sign a law on which Chairman SMITH and I had worked closely together for 6 years.

The legislative success of the patent bill shows what we can achieve when we put aside rhetoric and, instead, negotiate and collaborate in good faith. We held countless bipartisan, bicameral meetings, briefings, and discussions with all interested parties. We worked closely with Director Kappos, then-Secretary of Commerce Locke, and Members of Democratic and Republican leadership in both the Senate and the House of Representatives.

In short, the process that took the patent bill from the Congress to the President for his signature was one of which we can all be proud. In an increasingly partisan Congress, I was pleased to have the opportunity to lead a legislative process that was, from start to finish, both bipartisan and bicameral.

GENERAL CRAIG MCKINLEY

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, next month, a distinguished member of our Armed Forces will retire. I want to recognize and congratulate GEN Craig McKinley, who has spent the last 38 years in service to our country, and who has led the National Guard through a unique period of challenge, change, and triumph.

General McKinley's service began during another period of dramatic change. He received his commission as a distinguished graduate of the ROTC program at Southern Methodist University and entered undergraduate pilot training at Moody Air Force Base in Georgia in 1974. With the conclusion of military engagement in Vietnam, the nation's military leaders faced a number of questions, including the future role of the National Guard. These same questions would later guide Gen-

eral McKinley's efforts to lead the National Guard toward its current role as an operational force.

General McKinley has had a distinguished career, including assignments as an instructor pilot, the commander of the 125th Fighter Wing, the commander of the 1st Air Force, and the commander of the Continental United States Region of the North American Aerospace Defense Command. He served in the U.S. European Command and as Director of the Air National Guard. These assignments culminated in General McKinley earning his fourth star as Chief of the National Guard Bureau. He did all of this while logging over 4,000 flying hours in a wide range of aircraft and earning the rating of command pilot.

While I could reflect on many notable moments in General McKinley's career, I will never forget one in particular. It was November 10, 2011, when Senator LEVIN and Senator MCCAIN convened an historic hearing of all six sitting Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Department of Defense General Counsel, and General McKinley, to examine a proposal I had introduced to add the Chief of the National Guard Bureau to the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Despite the arguments against this change by all six sitting Joint Chiefs, General McKinley's measured and reasonable responses won the day. Ultimately, 71 senators came to agree with General McKinley and joined as cosponsors of what is known commonly as the second National Guard Empowerment Act. This bill became law in December 2011, and General McKinley was a decisive factor in this victory for the National Guard. Without his resolve to see the almost half a million men and women of the Guard represented at the top military panel in the national command structure, we would not have triumphed.

General McKinley has offered steady leadership to the Guard during a truly historic period. I am grateful to have had him as a partner. Without him, I doubt our nation would have the world-class operational reserve that we have today.

Congratulations, General McKinley. Best wishes to you, Cheryl, Patrick, and Christina as you retire to civilian life.

REQUEST FOR CONSULTATION

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that my letter to Senator MCCONNELL dated September 19, 2012, be printed in the RECORD.

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

U.S. SENATE,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, Sept. 19, 2012.

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,
Senate Minority Leader,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR MCCONNELL: I am requesting I be consulted before the Senate enters into any unanimous consent agreements or time limitations regarding the Local Court-house Safety Act of 2012, S. 2076.