

rural Iowa, I have always been a loyal friend and fierce advocate for family farmers and rural communities. I have been a member of the House or Senate Agriculture Committee for 40 years—including more than 10 years as chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee. Across the decades, I have championed farm policies for Iowans that include effective farm income protection and commodity programs; strong, progressive conservation assistance for agricultural producers; renewable energy opportunities; and robust economic development in our rural communities. Since 1991, through various programs authorized through the farm bill, Shelby County has received more than \$2.1 million from a variety of farm bill programs.

**Wellness and health care:** Improving the health and wellness of all Americans has been something I have been passionate about for decades. That is why I fought to dramatically increase funding for disease prevention, innovative medical research, and a whole range of initiatives to improve the health of individuals and families not only at the doctor's office but also in our communities, schools, and workplaces. I am so proud that Americans have better access to clinical preventive services, nutritious food, smoke-free environments, safe places to engage in physical activity, and information to make healthy decisions for themselves and their families. These efforts not only save lives, they will also save money for generations to come thanks to the prevention of costly chronic diseases, which account for a whopping 75 percent of annual health care costs. I am pleased that with the help of community leaders like Sheri Bowen with the public health department, Shelby County has recognized this important issue by securing \$162,500 for wellness grants and through direct appropriations for mental health services for distressed farmers.

**Disability rights:** Growing up, I loved and admired my brother Frank, who was deaf. But I was deeply disturbed by the discrimination and obstacles he faced every day. That is why I have always been a passionate advocate for full equality for people with disabilities. As the primary author of the Americans with Disabilities Act, ADA, and the ADA Amendments Act, I have had four guiding goals for our fellow citizens with disabilities: equal opportunity, full participation, independent living and economic self-sufficiency. Nearly a quarter century since passage of the ADA, I see remarkable changes in communities everywhere I go in Iowa—not just in curb cuts or closed captioned television but in the full participation of people with disabilities in our society and economy, folks who at long last have the opportunity to contribute their talents and to be fully included. These changes have increased economic opportunities for all citizens of Shelby County, both those with and without disabilities. And they make us

proud to be a part of a community and country that respects the worth and civil rights of all of our citizens.

This is at least a partial accounting of my work on behalf of Iowa, and specifically Shelby County, during my time in Congress. In every case, this work has been about partnerships, cooperation, and empowering folks at the State and local level, including in Shelby County, to fulfill their own dreams and initiatives. And, of course, this work is never complete. Even after I retire from the Senate, I have no intention of retiring from the fight for a better, fairer, richer Iowa. And I will always be profoundly grateful for the opportunity to serve the people of Iowa as their Senator.●

#### TRIBUTE TO SARAH JOHNSON

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Sarah Johnson, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Sarah is a graduate of Custer High School in Custer, SD. Currently, she is attending South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, where she is majoring in mining engineering. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Sarah for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO MEGAN ASSMAN

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Megan Assman, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Megan is a graduate of Winner High School in Winner, SD. Currently, she is attending South Dakota State University, where she is majoring in political science. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Megan for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JENNESSA SCHOLL

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Jennessa Scholl, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Jennessa is a graduate of Spearfish High School in Spearfish, SD. Currently, she is also a graduate of Black Hills State University, where she majored in mass communications. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Jennessa for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO ADAM WEK

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Adam Wek, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Adam is a graduate of Roosevelt High School in Sioux Falls, SD. Currently, he is attending South Dakota State University, where he is majoring in political science. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Adam for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DAVID JENSEN

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Mr. David Jensen, a native of Lemmon, SD, for being awarded the Office of the Secretary of the Department of Defense Medal for Valor. The Medal for Valor is the highest civilian award for valor, and David received this honor for his actions while deployed in Afghanistan on September 10, 2012. He was recognized for his bravery in an awards ceremony at the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes on April 14, 2014.

David served in the 75th Ranger Regiment and the U.S. Army Special Operations Command before he was honorably discharged. He is now a special operations task force advisor at Fort Bragg, NC, working for the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization.

David has also worked as a contractor for Wexford Group Inc., serving with the U.S. Army Asymmetric Warfare Group. In 2012, David was deployed to Afghanistan as an operational adviser for the Asymmetric Warfare Group alongside Company C, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division. On September 10, 2012, David and Company C were set to fly out of Bagram Airfield with Afghan National Security Forces to conduct a partnered air assault operation in Parwan Province. During preflight operations, however, one of the CH-47 Chinook helicopters was struck by an enemy rocket, igniting the fuel tanks of the aircraft. Despite the high risk of danger and personal harm, David immediately began evacuating wounded soldiers from the burning aircraft, making several trips before the flames overcame the entire aircraft. After evacuating four wounded soldiers from the wreckage, David promptly began administering medical attention to the injured. A humble man, David has said that he merely reacted, doing what needed to be done.

David Jensen is most deserving of the Medal for Valor for his exemplary bravery in the face of danger and putting the concerns of others before his own. His selfless acts saved the lives of his

colleagues, and our Nation will always be grateful for his dedicated service. As thankful citizens, we must never take for granted the courage of heroes like David who selflessly answer the call to duty.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JOSE ELGUEZABAL

● Mr. WALSH. Mr. President, I wish to honor Jose Elguezabal, a veteran of the U.S. Army.

It is my honor to share the story of Jose's service, because no veteran's story should ever go unrecognized.

Jose was born in Eagle Pass, TX, and served our Nation during World War II. Unfortunately, most of the records of his service were destroyed in the fire at the National Personnel Records Center in 1973.

Jose told his daughter Anna how his platoon came under fire, killing every member but Jose. Jose was captured by enemy forces and spent 6 months as a prisoner of war in France.

When Jose returned home, he and his wife of 63 years had 10 children—9 girls and 1 boy. His children said he was a great father and a true patriot who flew an American flag and a Prisoner of War flag outside of his house every day until he passed away.

His family pieced Jose's military service record together to finally track down the medals Jose earned through his service.

We were joined by Jose's daughter Anna and her husband John, who recently retired after spending 40 years serving Malmstrom Air Force Base as a firefighter.

It was my honor, along with the commanding officer at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Col. Robert Stanley, to present to Anna the medals that long ago should have been presented to her father: The Bronze Star Medal, Good Conduct Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal & Bronze Star Attachment, WWII Victory Medal, Combat Infantryman Badge, Honorable Service Lapel Button, and Marksman Badge & Rifle Bar.

These decorations are important tokens of Jose's heroism. But these decorations are also powerful reminders that we should never let a veteran's service go forgotten.

These medals were presented on behalf of a grateful nation.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN ROBERT VIERECK

● Mr. WALSH. Mr. President, I wish to honor John Robert Viereck, a U.S. Army veteran from World War II.

It is my honor to share the story of John's service, because no veteran's story should ever go unrecognized.

John was born in Wilmington, CA, in 1924.

John's father loved the sea and encouraged his son to join the Merchant Marines. John joined up but was so seasick after his first trip that his career in the Merchant Marines came to an end.

On July 8, 1942, John enlisted in the U.S. Army.

John was a radioman and cryptographer for the Big Red One—the Army's First Infantry Division, Anti-tank Company, 26th Infantry Regiment.

He served in Algeria, Tunisia, Sicily, England, France, Belgium, Germany, and Czechoslovakia.

John served in seven campaigns, including the Battle of the Bulge, and spent a total of 31 months in Europe and Africa.

When John returned home to the United States in 1943, he was diagnosed with shell shock, something we know today as post-traumatic stress disorder.

After World War II, John attended the Frank Wiggins Trade School to study TV and radio. John bought his first TV in the late 1940s and his daughter Fran remembers that from then on the Viereck household always had a TV.

John worked as a truck driver in Wilmington, as a taxi driver in Gardena, and then as a Zamboni operator in Torrance, CA. He was also a ham radio operator.

Weather, politics, war, and the military have been lifelong topics of interest to him.

John moved to Helena in 2003 to be closer to his daughter.

In the presence of John's family, it was my honor to present to him the Bronze Star Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster; the Good Conduct Medal; the American Campaign Medal; the European-African-Middle Eastern, EAME, Campaign Medal, with 4 bronze stars, meaning he served in four of these campaigns; the WW II Victory Medal; and the Honorable Service Lapel Button.

The medals are a small token but they are a powerful symbol of service and sacrifice.

These medals were presented on behalf of a grateful nation.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

##### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 12:30 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 994. An act to expand the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 to increase accountability and transparency in Federal spending, and for other purposes.

The bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

At 12:54 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 627. An act to provide for the issuance of coins to commemorate the 100th anniversary

of the establishment of the National Park Service, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4167. An act to amend section 13 of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, known as the Volcker Rule, to exclude certain debt securities of collateralized loan obligations from the prohibition against acquiring or retaining an ownership interest in a hedge fund or private equity fund.

H.R. 4414. An act to clarify the treatment under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of health plans in which expatriates are the primary enrollees, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4488. An act to make technical corrections to two bills enabling the presentation of congressional gold medals, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 627. An act to provide for the issuance of coins to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the National Park Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 4167. An act to amend section 13 of the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, known as the Volcker Rule, to exclude certain debt securities of collateralized loan obligations from the prohibition against acquiring or retaining an ownership interest in a hedge fund or private equity fund; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

#### ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, April 30, 2014, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 994. An act to expand the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 to increase accountability and transparency in Federal spending, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-5423. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 13-134); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5424. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 13-180); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5425. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 14-006); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-5426. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to section 36(c) of the Arms Export Control Act (DDTC 14-022); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.