

have been selected to compete for Team USA in various events. Congratulations to hockey players Gillian Apps, Kacey Bellamy and James Van Riemsdyk; alpine skiers David Choudounsky, Julia Ford, Nolan Kasper, Mikaela Shiffrin and Andrew Weibrecht; cross country skiers Ida Sargent and Sophie Caldwell; freestyle skier Hannah Kearney; and Hannah Dreissigacker, Susan Dunklee and Sara Studebaker, who will compete in the biathlon.

Each of these world-class athletes and coaches has made it to Sochi as a result of hours of dedication, perseverance and hard work. They have put in long hours at the gym, on the slopes or the ice, hoping that one day their Olympic dreams come true.

I know all Granite Staters are so incredibly proud of this talented group of athletes and I look forward to cheering them on as they go for the gold in Sochi.

REMEMBERING STEPHEN
MACHCINSKI AND JAMES
DICKERMAN

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the service and the memory of two Ohio firefighters, Private Stephen A. Machcinski and Private James Dickman of the Toledo Fire Department. Like so many of the men and women who serve as first responders in our country, these two men knew that every day, they were putting their lives on the line to keep their community—their friends and neighbors—safe. When things were at their worst, they were at their best. When others needed help, they were there to give it. When others ran out, they ran in.

Tragically, Private Machcinski and Private Dickman gave their lives in the line of duty, doing the job they loved, the one they were trained and prepared to do, while fighting an apartment complex fire in Toledo, OH, on January 26, 2014. But although they are gone, we will not forget them. Today, we honor their sacrifice and remember these fallen heroes who put themselves in harm's way for the good of their family, their friends, their neighbors, and the entire Toledo community.

Mr. President, for their commitment to saving lives, protecting the public, and willingness to make the ultimate sacrifice, I would like to recognize Private Stephen A. Machcinski and Private James Dickman. We will continue to keep these two men and their families in our thoughts and prayers.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING ARTHUR "ART"
ORTENBERG

• Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, today I wish to remember the life of a dear friend of mine, and Montana's, Art Ortenberg.

Art grew up in Newark, NJ, the son of a Russian upholsterer father and a Polish seamstress mother. As a boy, Art lived across the street from a public library, where he spent countless hours devouring its offerings. The local library was a second home to Art. It gave him the chance to expand his horizons and dream of opportunities and lives that he had never before imagined.

Art, with his wife of almost 50 years, Liz Claiborne, built a Fortune 500 fashion empire—the first to be headed by a woman. Art was utterly devoted to Liz. They were deeply in love and they were inseparable. Together, they made high fashion affordable and revolutionized the fashion industry. While Art and Liz may be known for their exploits in the fashion world, Montanans know, and love, them for their unassuming generosity and deep sense of community.

Art and Liz first came to Montana seeking a respite from the rigors of the business world in Montana's wide-open spaces. Once there, they made Montana their home.

Art and Liz loved Montana as deeply as any Montanan. And, as John Steinbeck famously recognized, it's difficult to analyze love when you are in it. To Art, the slow, switchbacking country highway on the way to his Triple 8 Ranch was "a glorious, intoxicating drive," the road "traversing [the] landscape in serpentine coils."

I don't think anyone has so lovingly described Route 279's slow crawl over the Continental Divide, and it shows the depth of Art's affection for Montana.

But Art's deep love for Montana didn't stop at mere admiration for our outdoors—it spawned action. Indeed, Art and Liz were philanthropists in the true sense of the word: They loved the people and communities of Montana. They adopted Montana as their home, and they gave generously of their time, their energy, and their resources.

Art and Liz wanted to open doors for young Montanans in the way that the local library did for Art. Together, they started preschools and music programs in small mountain towns, saved local libraries from closure, and loaned money to a local timber mill so that it could make downpayments on new equipment. They encouraged our young people to take pride in their hometowns through the Montana Heritage Project, fostering a sense of community in a generation of students.

Art and Liz recognized the importance of providing our young people with an opportunity to dream and grow, just like that Newark library had done for Art.

Art and Liz also cared deeply about conservation, funding projects to restore the Blackfoot River, reintroduce endangered species, and conserve valuable habitat and public lands. They recognized that Montana's public lands are our greatest assets and the importance of preserving our outdoor heritage for future generations.

As Art once said, "What we do here matters." He knew that few are as fortunate as he and Liz had been. Art and Liz gave to Montana's communities generously and quietly. They sought to leave the world a better place than they found it, and they pursued this goal without pretension. In fact, Art and Liz could often be found down at the Windbag Saloon in Helena, quietly eating cheeseburgers in an old frontier brothel.

Liz is buried at the Triple 8 Ranch in Montana, in an unmarked gravesite in a "Liz Red" urn. Art planned to be buried next to her, returning to rest in the State where they both gave so much to so many. I know he will be missed. •

• Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life and legacy of Arthur "Art" Ortenberg, an apparel manufacturer and conservationist, who passed away yesterday in New York City.

Art and his late wife, designer Liz Claiborne, founded Liz Claiborne in 1976. After incredible early success, the company went public and soon appeared on the Fortune 500 list of America's biggest industrial firms.

Fourteen years after the creation of Liz Claiborne, Art and Liz retired from day-to-day management of their fashion company and chose to start a foundation dedicated to conservation. The Liz Claiborne and Art Ortenberg Foundation supports projects in the United States, Europe, and Central and South America, but their main focus is on Africa. To this day, the foundation continues to support efforts to save the jaguar, the tiger, and the African elephant.

Art also had a particular passion for the American West, spending much of his time over the past 25 years on his ranch in Condon, MT. Art and Liz provided assistance to the Seeley Lake Elementary School, helped Pyramid Lumber in Seeley Lake convert to a more efficient mill operation, and supported public radio, Humanities Montana, the Canyon Creek Fire Department, the Helena Public Library, and the Montana Wildlife Federation.

As we bid farewell to Art, we recognize that he was a true pioneer for the fashion industry and a leader in the conservation community.

My thoughts and prayers are with Art's partner, Cathy Horyn; his son, Neil; daughter, Nancy; stepson, Alexander Schultz; and all of his family and many friends. •

TRIBUTE TO JEFF NELSON

• Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate Jeff Nelson on his well-earned retirement after nearly 40 years of service at East River Electric Cooperative in Madison, SD, including 23 years as General Manager.

Jeff's wealth of knowledge and friendly demeanor have helped him develop close relationships with his colleagues and with community leaders

throughout our State. He has been a tireless advocate for the population served by East River, and deeply engaged in discussions of energy and economic development policy for decades. As he has worked with me and my staff over the years, his input has always been appreciated and valued. He leaves behind an undeniable legacy of thoughtful and progressive leadership.

Jeff's work has left a mark on many facets of energy policy. Under his tenure as General Manager, East River has received national recognition, being named the 2013 Wind Energy Cooperative of the Year by the Energy Department. He undertook the daunting task of establishing a load-management system, the largest in the world at the time of its implementation. He also looked out for the unique interests of rural South Dakota in discussions of hydropower access and in helping the ethanol industry gain a foothold.

It is also important to note the vital economic development work Jeff has been involved in through the Rural Electric Economic Development, REED, Fund. The REED Fund has been crucial for the establishment or expansion of many South Dakota businesses and his work in this area has facilitated an improved rural economy.

He has been active in public service in his personal time, as well, using his expertise to make continued contributions to his community and our state. This service includes serving as Chair of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association's Power and Water Resources Committee and Board President of the South Dakota Wind Energy Association, among other commitments.

Beyond his commendable career, I also take this opportunity to thank Jeff, and his wife Trudi for their years of friendship to me and Barbara. It was also a pleasure having Jeff and Trudi's son, Erik, serve as a valuable member of my staff for many years.

Though he will be missed at East River, I know that Jeff will continue to be engaged in policymaking and service projects. Once again, I am pleased to recognize Jeff for his many years of service to the people of South Dakota and applaud him for his exemplary career.●

AMERICAN INSTITUTE FOR FOREIGN STUDY

● Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues an important accomplishment achieved by the American Institute For Foreign Study, AIFS, based in Stamford, CT. In 2014, AIFS will be celebrating its 50th year of providing unique cultural and educational opportunities to young people around the globe through its mission—"we bring the world together". Through its study and travel abroad, high school exchange, camp counselor, au pair, and gifted education programs, young people from diverse backgrounds have

interacted with others from different cultures, gaining a better understanding of their values and ideas.

Since its inception, AIFS has provided this educational opportunity to over 1.5 million people. In fact, over 800,000 American high school or college aged students have broadened their horizons by traveling abroad in structured educational programs. Whether it is through faculty-led educational travel programs or college semester/summer study abroad programs, young Americans have gained unique insights into a world that is rapidly shrinking.

Mr. President, I congratulate the leadership of AIFS for its tireless pursuit of its goal of achieving a greater global understanding. Working closely with the U.S. Department of State, AIFS' programs have positively changed the way their participants view the world as well as their place within it.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Williams, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:42 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. 3590. An act to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3964. An act to address certain water-related concerns in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley, and for other purposes.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1996. A bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 3590. An act to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3964. An act to address certain water-related concerns in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley, 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-4560. A communication from the Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to competitions initiated or conducted in fiscal year 2013; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4561. A communication from the Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Improper Payments Elimination and Recovery Improvement Act of 2012 (IPERIA); to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4562. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Inspector General, Office of Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 31, 2014; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4563. A communication from the Acting Director, National Science Foundation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the Foundation's fiscal year 2013 Agency Financial Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4564. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, reports entitled, "Audit of the Office of the People's Counsel Agency Fund for Fiscal Year 2009," "Audit of the Office of the People's Counsel Agency Fund for Fiscal Year 2010," "Audit of the Office of the People's Counsel Agency Fund for Fiscal Year 2011," and "Audit of the Office of the People's Counsel Agency Fund for Fiscal Year 2012"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4565. A communication from the Board Members, Railroad Retirement Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Railroad Retirement Board's Performance and Accountability Report for fiscal year 2013, including the Office of Inspector General's Auditor's Report; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4566. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-266, "Closing of a Portion of the Public Alley in Square 5452, S.O. 12-03541, Act of 2014"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4567. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-267, "Microstamping Implementation Temporary Amendment Act of 2014"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4568. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-272, "Public Charter School Historic Preservation Amendment Act of 2014"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-4569. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 20-265, "Minimum Wage Amendment Act of 2013"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.