

to collaborate in order to make a comprehensive patient assessment. Effective communication within the facility connects both the physical and mental health of patients, creating a better understanding of the patient's needs. The facility also supports patients with multiple chronic conditions, coordinating home and clinical services. In addition, the Sanford Center for Aging is spearheading the start of a telemedicine program to support our rural communities. Those leading the way at this center stand as role models to our local community, demonstrating a genuine concern in improving the health and well-being of Nevadans. The State of Nevada is fortunate to have a facility like this available to our growing senior population.

The Silver State has one of the fastest growing elderly populations in the country, which is why I am pleased to see the clinic is dedicated to caring for Nevada's seniors throughout the aging process. As a member of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, I am committed to ensuring the needs of this community are met. The opening of the Sanford Center Geriatric Specialty Clinic is another step in providing Nevada's seniors with the support they need and deserve. The groundbreaking care that this facility will provide is invaluable to northern Nevada.

Those serving at this clinic have gone above and beyond to address the needs of our senior community. Today I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the opening of the Sanford Center Geriatric Specialty Clinic.●

#### TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOHN S. WALDEN

● Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to LTC John Walden for his 29 years of exemplary dedication to duty while serving as an officer in the U.S. Army Reserve. I am grateful that he will continue to serve his family and the local community of Oxford after concluding his career with the Army. We wish him well in his retirement.

A native of Georgia, LTC John Walden was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army Military Intelligence Corps from Georgia Military College in 1988. He completed a bachelor of science in criminal justice from Georgia State University in 1995 and his masters of arts in leadership from Luther Rice University in 2013. His military education includes the Military Intelligence Officer Basic Course; Military Intelligence Officer Advance Course; Psychological Operations Officer Course; Counterintelligence Officer Course; Combined Arms Exercise; Command and General Staff College, Intermediate Level Education; and airborne school.

As an Army Reserve officer, Lieutenant Colonel Walden has served with military intelligence, psychological operations, and special operations units at the platoon, detachment, company,

battalion, group, and major command level. Assignments have included: tactical intelligence officer, counterintelligence officer, HUMINT team chief, counter terrorism analyst, Iraq Threat Finance Cell OIC, deputy chief, counter terrorism analyst, intelligence training officer, and deputy commander.

As with all our citizen soldiers, it is important that we acknowledge his service in the civilian sector. Lieutenant Colonel Walden has extensive law enforcement experience, serving as both a deputy sheriff in the Rockdale County sheriff's office and as a detective and special investigator with the Valdosta Police Department. As an ordained minister, he was able to continue serving the community and provide mentorship to those in need. He has also worked at Ford Motor Company and the Maxell Corporation. It is because of all of their cooperation and understanding during his many tours of duty that he was able to make such a positive impact on the Army Reserve.

Considering his many positions and service in both the Army and civilian sector, we must acknowledge the tireless support of John's wife, Shelley, and his children, Johnathon, Lucy, and Samuel. I thank them for their sacrifices and wish them all the best for continued success in the future.

Throughout his 29-year career, LTC John Walden has made positive impacts on the careers and lives of his soldiers, peers, and superiors. I am grateful for his service to our country, his community, and that he chose to serve as an Army leader. I join my colleagues today in honoring his dedication to the United States of America.●

#### REMEMBERING GARY BRAASCH

● Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, Gary Braasch, a gifted photographer of the natural world, died on March 7, 2016. Gary dedicated his career to capturing visually striking portrayals of the devastating effects of climate change. His work has been published in *Time*, *LIFE*, the *New York Times*, *National Geographic*, and *Discover* and featured in the Boston Museum of Science, the Chicago Field Museum, and the California Academy of Sciences. Some of Gary's most well-known photos depict the retreat of glaciers. The juxtaposition of old photos from the turn of the 20th century with Gary's modern photos dramatically demonstrated large amounts of glacial melting. Some of these photos were featured in Al Gore's "An Inconvenient Truth."

Gary also documented the environmental effects of the fossil fuel industry. He famously captured the first images of Shell's ill-fated Kulluk oil rig, as it prepared to drill an exploratory oil well in the Arctic Ocean. The Kulluk is now regarded as a symbol of the recklessness and dangers of Arctic oil drilling and has become a powerful image of our need to transition to low-carbon, renewable energy.

Gary's photographs were also influential in the scientific and policy com-

munities. He worked with scientists to determine how to use photography to accurately portray the science of climate change. He also visited Capitol Hill on numerous occasions, providing visual evidence of our changing environment to me and my colleagues in the House and Senate. His 2007 book "Earth Under Fire" graced my office for many years.

Gary died capturing breathtaking photos on Australia's Great Barrier Reef, a region particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. His images resonated in a way words and data could never do alone and will stand on as a key component of our planet's record of climate change. Gary may no longer be with us but his work will continue to inspire the next generation of photographers and all of us who want to protect our planet and its people.●

#### REMEMBERING BARRY LYNN COATES

● Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, today I wish to honor one of South Carolina's veterans, Barry Lynn Coates. Mr. Coates recently passed away at the age of 46 on January 23, 2016, after a long battle with cancer. He became the voice for veterans across the nation as he fought hard to improve the Veterans Affairs medical system. He fought not for himself, but to improve the lives of all veterans suffering from delays in their medical care.

About a year after first complaining to his doctors of pain, he was finally able to get a colonoscopy. Doctors discovered a cancerous tumor the size of a baseball. At that point he had stage 4 cancer, and it was only a matter of time before he was overtaken by the illness. He suffered for months. A simple medical procedure might have saved his life, but he found himself on a growing list of veterans waiting for appointments and procedures. Barry Lynn Coates was courageous in his fight against cancer and in his fight for other veterans to receive the care they deserve.

Lynn is survived by his wife, their five children, five grandchildren, and a community that loved his bubbly personality and passion for pawn shops and for fixing things. He loved the beach, nature, his family above everything, and he lived for the service of his country.

It is with pride and honor we recognize Barry Lynn Coates and his family today and add their legacy to our March 17, 2016, CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. We will never forget his sacrifice.●

#### TRIBUTE TO BETSY FLEMING

● Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, today I wish to honor one of South Carolina's great college presidents, Ms. Betsy Fleming. Ms. Fleming is the sitting president for Converse College. Converse College is a private master's university in Spartanburg, SC, providing a

distinctive undergraduate liberal arts education for women and innovative programs for co-ed graduate study. President Fleming has decided to step down at the end of the semester after 11 years of leadership at the College.

Through her leadership, Converse College has seen unprecedented growth and extraordinary success. Ms. Fleming has used her passion for the arts to make great strides at Converse, in Spartanburg and statewide. She is leaving quite a legacy in the endowment growth of the school, her decision to cut tuition by 43 percent, and the restructuring of the college to make it more financially sound.

President Fleming's love and understanding of the arts community has also brought value to the students and faculty at Converse College, and she has personified what it means to lead. Her vigorous involvement in the college as well as at the local and State level are second to none, and she truly represents what it means to be an outstanding leader, president, and trailblazer.

It is with pride and honor we recognize Ms. Betsy Fleming and her outstanding achievements today and add her legacy to our March 17, 2016, CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. We will always remember her admiration for the arts, for Spartanburg, and above all for Converse College.●

#### CELEBRATING 125 YEARS OF THE JENKINS INSTITUTE

● Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, I would like to honor and congratulate the Daniel Joseph Jenkins Institute for Children in North Charleston on their 125th anniversary.

In 1891, the Jenkins Institute was founded as Jenkins Orphanage. In 1892, the institute was chartered by the State of South Carolina with the mission of providing a loving and secure home to many children, specifically orphans, in the community.

The Jenkins Institute is an example of an organization that remains committed to the well-being of our community. For 125 years, they have opened their door to orphan children, regardless of their race or socioeconomic backgrounds.

Today the institute continues to welcome those in need of a safe place to call home. They have shown tremendous faith through works of charity, and their honorable legacy will forever be appreciated. I acknowledge with pleasure the Jenkins Institute's influence in North Charleston and therefore recognize their service, dedication, and 125 years rooted in love and faith. Because of places like the Daniel Joseph Jenkins Institute, our children will have a brighter future ahead of them.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, 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 and a treaty which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:57 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, 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. 4416. An act to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project.

H.R. 4434. An act to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project.

H.R. 4596. An act to ensure that small business providers of broadband Internet access service can devote resources to broadband deployment rather than compliance with cumbersome regulatory requirements.

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 10:59 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 2426. An act to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to obtain observer status for Taiwan in the International Criminal Police Organization, and for other purposes.

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

At 2:16 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 1831) to establish the Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking, 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. 4416. An act to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 4434. An act to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 4596. An act to ensure that small business providers of broadband Internet access service can devote resources to broadband deployment rather than compliance with cumbersome regulatory requirements; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, March 17, 2016, she had presented to the President of the

United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 2426. An act to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to obtain observer status for Taiwan in the International Criminal Police Organization, and for other purposes.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ALEXANDER, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

Report to accompany S. 1177, An original bill to reauthorize the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to ensure that every child achieves (Rept. No. 114-231).

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. MCCAIN for the Committee on Armed Services.

\*Jennifer M. O'Connor, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Department of Defense.

\*Todd A. Weiler, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

\*Army nomination of Gen. Joseph L. Votel, to be General.

\*Army nomination of Lt. Gen. Raymond A. Thomas III, to be General.

Army nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Patrick D. Sargent and ending with Brig. Gen. Robert D. Tenhet, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 22, 2016.

Army nominations beginning with Col. Jeffrey J. Johnson and ending with Col. Ronald T. Stephens, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 22, 2016.

Army nominations beginning with Col. Dennis P. LeMaster and ending with Col. Michael J. Talley, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 22, 2016.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Michael K. Nagata, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Todd T. Semonite, to be Lieutenant General.

Marine Corps nominations beginning with Col. Bradley S. James and ending with Col. Kurt W. Stein, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 25, 2016.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Austin S. Miller, to be Lieutenant General.

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Air Force nominations beginning with James B. Anderson and ending with Hyral B. Walker, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 22, 2016.

Air Force nominations beginning with Jeremy V. Bastian and ending with Christopher A. Watson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on February 22, 2016.