

to the brave men and women who walk in the footsteps of Sergeant Beminio and Officer Martin to protect and serve our communities across the country.

#### HONORING OFFICER JUSTIN MARTIN

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, early this month, in my home State of Iowa, a tragedy took place that shocked our entire State. On Wednesday, November 2, 2016, the lives of Des Moines Police Sergeant Anthony Beminio and Urbandale Police Officer Justin Martin were taken at the hands of an assailant. It is almost unimaginable for somebody to attack the people who dedicate their lives to protecting our communities. Unfortunately, it is a threat all too familiar for everybody who has a family member in law enforcement.

Just after 1 a.m. on November 2, police responded to reports of shots fired and discovered that Officer Martin was shot and killed in his car while he was on duty. A short while later, Sergeant Anthony Beminio was found shot and killed in his car. He was believed to have been responding to the report of shots fired when he was killed by the lone assailant who moments earlier had allegedly killed Officer Martin. At this time, police do not have a motive for the shootings.

Nothing excuses the unforgivable act of attacking a police officer. I praise these heroes who gave their lives carrying out their mission to protect and serve.

Justin Martin obtained a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Simpson College, with a lifelong dream of becoming a police officer. As Officer Martin's father said, "He went into law enforcement for one reason—because he wanted to help people." Justin achieved that dream when he joined the Urbandale Police Department in 2015.

I want to express my deepest sympathy to Officer Martin's parents, Randy and Jayne Martin; his brother Ryan Martin; his maternal grandmother, Ann Margaret Krommendyk; his paternal grandparents, Gene and Carolyn Martin, as well as his extended family and friends for their loss. Officer Martin was an Eagle Scout. He was active in many extracurricular activities such as football, swimming, and he also played the trombone. Officer Martin, like Sergeant Beminio, was a fine example of a community leader whom our young people should aspire to be like. By all accounts, he was a well-rounded, upstanding citizen. Officer Martin left a lasting impact on the communities he was part of, and we should follow the example that he set for us.

These trying times serve as a reminder to show our appreciation to those who watch over our communities and run to danger. We can look to the words of wisdom from an Iowa mother who lost her son, Officer Carlos

Puente-Morales, in the line of duty earlier this year. As she said, "We shouldn't wait for a tragedy to recognize our heroes." We should all live by this sentiment and show appreciation to the brave men and women who walk in the footsteps of Officer Martin and Sergeant Beminio to protect and serve our communities across the country.

#### RECOGNIZING FALMOUTH MIDDLE SCHOOL

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I am delighted to commend the Falmouth Middle School of Falmouth, ME, on being named a 2016 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. This outstanding middle school is one of only 329 schools across the country to receive this prestigious recognition from the U.S. Department of Education.

Created in 1982, the Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private schools that are either academically superior in their States or that demonstrate significant gains in student achievement. The schools singled out for this national recognition are models of high educational standards and accountability.

Falmouth Middle School is among a select group of schools to achieve the Blue Ribbon designation not once, but twice. Since receiving its first award in 2008, the school has continued to excel as a community of collaborative and engaged learners who value diversity, kindness, creativity, excellence, responsibility for self, and service to others.

This award recognizes the hard work and determination of Falmouth Middle School's pupils and staff. This is a top-performing school on State-required assessments, and staff at the school use assessments throughout the academic year as a tool for improving and customizing instruction. A strong commitment to professional development ensures that teachers and staff, as well as students, are lifelong learners.

Falmouth Middle School is known for its extensive extracurricular activities in academics, athletics, and the arts, which help forge a strong school community where students are connected and encouraged to pursue their interests. Just this year, three new after-school clubs were formed—in French, writing, and dance—driven by enthusiastic students and guided by involved teachers.

This Blue Ribbon award is a tribute not only to the students, but also to the administrators, teachers, staff, and parents of Falmouth Middle School. Together, they are succeeding in their mission to generate excitement and momentum for learning. They are making a difference in the lives of their students, helping them reach their full potential as independent, responsible learners and citizens. I congratulate the entire community for this well-deserved recognition.

#### RECOGNIZING REEDS BROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I am delighted to commend Reeds Brook Middle School of Hampden, ME, on being named a 2016 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. This outstanding middle school is one of only 329 schools across the country to receive Blue Ribbon recognition from the U.S. Department of Education.

Created in 1982, the Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private schools that are either academically superior in their States or that demonstrate significant gains in student achievement. The schools singled out for this national recognition are models of high educational standards and accountability.

The Blue Ribbon designation continues Reeds Brook's tradition of quality education. In 1997, just 2 years after it opened, the school became just one of five middle schools in Maine to be accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. Today, after earning reaccréditation in 2007, Reeds Brook Middle School is one of just three Maine middle schools to achieve that distinction.

This award recognizes the hard work and determination of Reeds Brook Middle School's pupils, teachers, and staff. It is a top-performing school on State-required assessments, and educators at the school use assessments throughout the academic year as a tool for improving and customizing instruction. A strong commitment to professional development ensures that teachers and staff, as well as students, are lifelong learners.

Reeds Brook excels as a school built on a foundation of responsibility, respect, honesty, and compassion. Through a unique weekly trading card program, teachers and staff recognize students who demonstrate those values, instilling a sense of individual and school pride.

Reeds Brook Middle School is known for its extensive extracurricular activities in academics, athletics, and the arts, and students are encouraged to pursue their interests. An on-site garden and greenhouse promote volunteerism throughout the community. Students serve their community by working with the local food pantry and recycling center.

Two projects underscore the values that guide Reeds Brook Middle School. Students avidly support the Special Olympics, championing and cheering not just their team, but also athletes from other schools. Through an ongoing project, students meet with and interview local veterans, preserving the veterans' living histories and honoring their service.

This Blue Ribbon award is a tribute not only to the students, but also to the administrators, teachers, staff, and parents of Reeds Brook Middle School. Together, they are succeeding in their mission to generate excitement and momentum for learning. They are

making a difference in the lives of their students, helping them reach their full potential as independent, responsible learners and citizens. I congratulate the entire Hampden community for this well-deserved recognition.

#### RECOGNIZING SEA ROAD SCHOOL

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I am delighted to commend the Sea Road School of Kennebunk, ME, on being named a 2016 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. This outstanding elementary school is one of only 329 schools across the country to receive this prestigious recognition from the U.S. Department of Education.

Created in 1982, the Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private schools that are either academically superior in their States or that demonstrate significant gains in student achievement. The schools singled out for this national recognition are models of high educational standards and accountability.

This award recognizes the hard work and determination of the Sea Road School's pupils and staff. Sea Road School is a top-performing school on State-required assessments, and staff at the school use assessments throughout the academic year as a tool for improving and customizing instruction.

Students also participate in extra-curricular activities, which helps forge a strong school community where students are connected and encouraged to pursue their interests. Indeed, a successful vote on a town ordinance to ban single-use plastic bags in Kennebunk this spring started with research and advocacy by Sea Road School students.

Sea Road School is a member of Regional School Unit 21. Six years ago, Kennebunkport Consolidated School, another member, was also named a Blue Ribbon School. RSU 21 is the first administrative unit in Maine to have two schools attain this distinction.

This Blue Ribbon award is a tribute not only to the students, but also to the administrators, teachers, staff, and parents of Sea Road School. Together, they are succeeding in their mission to generate excitement and momentum for learning. They are making a difference in the lives of their students, helping them reach their full potential as independent, responsible learners and citizens. I congratulate the entire community for this well-deserved recognition.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### REMEMBERING JAMES B. BARLOW

• Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I wish to remember the late James "Jim" B. Barlow.

On October 19, 2016, Oregon lost a great one in Mr. Barlow. To many Oregonians, Mr. Barlow was not only an incredible teacher and community leader, but an extremely loyal friend, brother, uncle, and husband.

Throughout his life, Mr. Barlow was a fierce advocate for Oregon's schools and students. He attended Lewis and Clark College and Oregon State University before teaching at three different Oregon public institutions. His countless teaching awards on both the local and national level, including "Teacher of the Year," speak volumes about Mr. Barlow's pedagogical excellence. He furthered his dedication to students when he served as a senior leader on the Oregon High School International Relations League Model United Nations and the Oregon Council for the Social Studies and Advanced Placement Teachers of the State of Oregon.

In 1964, he took political learning and engagement to another level when he founded the Model Presidential Nominating Convention. These conventions were entirely student-led, but made possible with the encouragement and guidance of Mr. Barlow. The conventions became critical in Oregon's Presidential politics, as national leaders such as Robert Kennedy, George H.W. Bush, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, and Bill Clinton visited and gave speeches to thousands of Oregon high school students.

Mr. Barlow understood, as demonstrated by these model conventions, that civic engagement is fundamental to our "We the People" democracy. In his teaching and leadership, Mr. Barlow spread the message that it is up to all of us to create the change we wish to see in the world.

With his involvement in Oregon schools, model conventions, and his local church, Mr. Barlow became an example of how we can make a significant impact in our communities through simple acts of participation and leadership.

We need more leaders like Jim Barlow in our Nation. I thank Mr. Barlow for his decades-long devotion to his students and to our great State of Oregon. My thoughts are with his family and loved ones as they honor his memory and the truly impressive legacy he leaves behind.●

#### 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.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

##### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 2015, the Secretary of the Senate, on September 29, 2016, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 3283. An act to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Pueblo, Colorado, as the "PFC James Dunn VA Clinic."

H.R. 3004. An act to amend the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Act to extend the authorization for the Gullah/Geechee Cultural Heritage Corridor Commission.

H.R. 3937. An act to designate the building utilized as a United States courthouse located at 150 Reade Circle in Greenville, North Carolina, as the "Randy D. Doub United States Courthouse".

H.R. 5147. An act to amend title 40, United States Code, to require restrooms in public buildings to be equipped with baby changing facilities.

H.R. 5578. An act to establish certain rights for sexual assault survivors, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5883. An act to amend the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921, to clarify the duties relating to services furnished in connection with the buying or selling of livestock in commerce through online, video, or other electronic methods, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 2015, the enrolled bills were signed on October 3, 2016, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. CASSIDY).

##### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 2015, the Secretary of the Senate, on September 29, 2016, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 246. An act to establish the Alyce Spotted Bear and Walter Soboleff Commission on Native Children, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2733. An act to require the Secretary of the Interior to take land into trust for certain Indian tribes, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5944. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, with respect to certain grant assurances, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5946. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income any prizes or awards won in competition in the Olympic Games or the Paralympic Games.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 2015, the enrolled bills were signed on October 3, 2016, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. CASSIDY).

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:05 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: