

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN JOHN
“JACK” FREDERICK WILSON

• Mr. ROMNEY. Mr. President, it is my honor to pay tribute to Captain John “Jack” Frederick Wilson, who celebrated his 100th birthday this past Tuesday, April 2.

Born on April 2, 1919, and raised in Park City, UT, Jack is one of only a small handful of pilots trained at Brigham Young University. He joined the Army Air Corps on December 11, 1941, just 4 days after the Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor.

After training in the B-24 Liberator bomber, he was made a pilot in the 90th Bombing Group in the Fifth Air Force of the Army Air Corps and was deployed to New Guinea. He and his crew were eventually assigned to reconnaissance missions in the North China Sea tracking the Japanese fleet, and his B-24 was stripped of all bombs, machine-guns, and defensive measures to be replaced with extra fuel tanks. Jack said of that time, “My career as a B-24 pilot basically consisted of long periods of boredom punctuated with moments of terror.”

He was a member of the Jolly Rogers and has carried his membership card his entire life, which says, “Having been assigned to the best damned heavy bomb group, and having paid his dues, Captain Jack F. Wilson is hereby considered a member in good standing of the Jolly Rogers.”

As a typhoon threatened the island airstrip where he was stationed, locals from Okinawa showed him a cave that he and his B-24 crew sheltered in, saving their lives. Despite popular opinion at the time, Jack never demonized the Japanese people. He believed “there are good people everywhere” and taught his children and grandchildren the same.

After the war, Jack used his flying skills to help locate wildfires and pioneered the “interagency” concept, establishing the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise, ID. The main headquarters building bears his name.

In honor of a native Utahn and one of the last remaining B-24 pilots from World War II, the U.S. Congress extends warm greetings to Mr. Wilson on April 2, 2019, his 100th birthday. We commend him for his life of service and his valor in defense of his country.●

TRIBUTE TO SAMUEL S. LIONEL

• Ms. ROSEN. Mr. President, it is my distinct honor to recognize Samuel S. Lionel, who is celebrating his 100th birthday. Considered the “Dean” of the Nevada Bar, Sam’s defense of Nevada values stands as a strong reminder of the tremendous work he has done for our State.

For decades, Sam has represented one of the largest law firms in Nevada, fighting for critically important issues such as our thriving tourism industry and defending Nevada’s unique western heritage. The dedication he has placed

into his practice has strengthened our State’s economy and helped shape the Las Vegas Valley that we know and love today. In fact, it was Sam who played a key role in the conception and development of many of the hotels and casinos on the Las Vegas Strip, setting the stage for Nevada’s unprecedented growth and its booming entertainment scene.

Sam is known for his philanthropic heart. He remains particularly active in Jewish philanthropy, and we share a long history of working together in our synagogue, Congregation Ner Tamid. Sam has also been a central benefactor of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, endowing the namesake Samuel S. Lionel Professor of Intellectual Property Law position at the William S. Boyd School of Law in 2016. I know firsthand the wonderful leader Sam is, and his philanthropic work has distinguished him in the Jewish and legal communities not only in Nevada but also throughout the United States. Sam’s name is and will always remain synonymous with his professional and philanthropic dedication to the Silver State.

Happy birthday to Sam, a loving husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, servant leader, and loyal friend.●

TRIBUTE TO WHIT ARMSTRONG

• Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the retirement of Whit Armstrong, a native of Montgomery, AL, from the Alabama Power Company board of directors, effective on April 26, 2019. Whit is an acknowledged leader in the financial and investment arena with over 30 years in the banking industry, including service as a member of the Alabama State Banking Board. He has provided decades of service to improve the quality of life in his community and across the State of Alabama with numerous civic, economic development, educational, and business organizations.

Mr. Whit Armstrong previously served as president, chief executive officer, and chairman of the board of The Citizens Bank in Enterprise, AL, and of its holding company, Enterprise Capital Corporation, Inc. He currently serves as managing member of Creek Capital Investments, LLC, also located in Enterprise, AL.

Whit has earned many recognitions for his contributions, among them a Silver Beaver Award for Outstanding Service to the Boy Scouts and the 1975 Alabama Jaycees’ Outstanding Young Man of Alabama Award. He earned his bachelor’s degree and master of science in finance with a focus in banking from the University of Alabama.

At home in the Wiregrass, Whit is married to Dr. Rebecca Brown Armstrong. They have a son, Whit Junior, and four grandchildren, Whit III, Charlotte, James, and Katrina Armstrong. An engaged resident in his community, Whit is an active member of First United Methodist Church of Enterprise.

His extensive experience in business and civic life, along with his seasoned judgment and knowledge of the Alabama Power Company, have provided great value to Alabama Power’s board of directors.

What is truly remarkable are Whit Armstrong’s many accomplishments and contributions to the State. I am proud to take this time to recognize him for his service on the Alabama Power Company board of directors, which has benefitted the customers of Alabama Power, the people of Alabama, and the State. His achievements and dedication to advancing the industry have not gone unnoticed. I join Whit Armstrong’s friends, family, and colleagues in wishing him the best of luck as he transitions into a new chapter of his life, and I thank him for his commitment to Alabama.●

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF SIGMA NU
FRATERNITY

• Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, I am pleased to advise the Senate of the 150th anniversary of Sigma Nu Fraternity, a principles-based men’s fraternal organization with more than 160 chapters on college campuses in the United States, approximately 12,000 current collegiate members, and more than 250,000 initiates in its history. This year, Sigma Nu celebrates the 150th anniversary of its public founding on January 1, 1869, at the Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, VA. Cadets James Frank Hopkins, James McIlvaine Riley, and Greenfield Quarles joined together to form Sigma Nu as a brotherhood committed to the principles of love, honor, and truth and in firm opposition to hazing. Sigma Nu Fraternity remains the only men’s college fraternity founded in direct opposition to hazing. Its history and its mission to develop ethical leaders for today’s society are worthy of the highest esteem.

Originally founded as the Legion of Honor, Sigma Nu’s central founding value is honor, and the concept that a man’s character and conduct should always be governed by a high sense of honor guides all its work. This value is as relevant 150 years later as it was then.

For 150 years, members of Sigma Nu have led in their respective communities, professions, and families. From NASA to the Pentagon, from the arts to the sciences, and from business to public service, there are few facets of American life and history in which a Sigma Nu initiate has not made his mark.

When this Nation has called upon its citizen-soldiers, Sigma Nu initiates have answered that call. They have fought and died in every major conflict since the Civil War. Its members are veterans of every branch of the Armed Forces, including two Medal of Honor recipients. Sigma Nus have understood the price of freedom and been willing to make the ultimate sacrifice for it.

The 12,000 collegiate members on campuses across the country today serve their communities in student government, interfraternity councils, athletic teams, and other student organizations. Last year, these young future leaders of our Nation performed over 375,000 hours of community service and raised over \$2 million for philanthropic causes.

Whether it is through its award-winning ethical leadership development program, LEAD, or through the mentorship of more than 2,000 volunteer advisors, Sigma Nu continues to be at the forefront of developing the minds, hearts, and character of its initiates, inspiring them to excel with the timeless value of honor.

Today, in its 150th year, Sigma Nu Fraternity calls upon its initiates to renew that legacy, to reflect on the principles of its founders, and to commit to a strong future for this esteemed brotherhood. As a proud initiate of Sigma Nu Fraternity, I would like to congratulate the fraternity on achieving 150 years of love, honor, and truth and to wish it many more years to come.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, 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 withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 11:03 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:

H.R. 276. An act to direct the Secretary of Education to establish the Recognizing Inspiring School Employees (RISE) Award Program recognizing excellence exhibited by classified school employees providing services to students in prekindergarten through high school.

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

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with an amended preamble:

S. Res. 23. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Countering International

Parental Child Abduction Month and expressing the sense of the Senate that Congress should raise awareness of the harm caused by international parental child abduction.

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 27. A resolution calling for a prompt multinational freedom of navigation operation in the Black Sea and urging the cancellation of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline.

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with an amended preamble:

S. Res. 35. A resolution supporting democratic principles and standards in Bolivia and throughout Latin America.

S. Res. 67. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on the importance and vitality of the United States alliances with Japan and the Republic of Korea, and our trilateral cooperation in the pursuit of shared interests.

By Mr. RISCH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 95. A resolution recognizing the 198th anniversary of the independence of Greece and celebrating democracy in Greece and the United States.

S. Res. 96. A resolution commending the Government of Canada for upholding the rule of law and expressing concern over actions by the Government of the People's Republic of China in response to a request from the United States Government to the Government of Canada for the extradition of a Huawei Technologies Co., Ltd. executive.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Ms. MURKOWSKI for the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

***Sam Combs**, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

***Aimee Kathryn Jorjani**, of Wisconsin, to be Chairman of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for a term expiring January 19, 2021.

***David Bernhardt**, of Virginia, to be Secretary of the Interior.

By Mr. GRAHAM for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Daniel P. Collins, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

Kenneth Kiyul Lee, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit.

James Wesley Hendrix, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Texas.

Sean D. Jordan, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Texas.

Mark T. Pittman, of Texas, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Texas.

Nick Edward Proffitt, of Virginia, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Virginia for the term of four years.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 1026. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow workers an above-the-line deduction for union dues and expenses and to allow a miscellaneous itemized deduction for workers for all unreimbursed expenses incurred in the trade or business of being an employee; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MURPHY, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 1027. A bill to clarify the status of the North Country, Ice Age, and New England National Scenic Trails as units of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. BENNET, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CRAMER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. PAUL, Mr. SULLIVAN, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 1028. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide for a new rule regarding the application of the Act to marihuana, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 1029. A bill to allow the use of certified facility dogs in criminal proceedings in Federal courts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. LEE):

S. 1030. A bill to allow individuals to choose to opt out of the Medicare part A benefit; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 1031. A bill to implement recommendations related to the safety of amphibious passenger vessels, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Ms. SMITH):

S. 1032. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the definition of income for purposes of determining the tax-exempt status of certain corporations; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 1033. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a public health insurance option, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. REED, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 1034. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the maximum age for children eligible for medical care under the CHAMPVA program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. ROUNDS (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. HAWLEY, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr.