

Perce Tribes. It also holds an important part of our State's history; emigrant pioneers risked their lives crossing the Snake in search of their future in Oregon. Pristine sections of this river and its stunning landscapes provide bountiful opportunities for salmon fishing, rafting, and exploration.

These Oregon rivers and others recognized by the U.S. Postal Service in these stamps contribute to the most stunning landscapes in the country and protect the very qualities that make America's and Oregon's natural treasures so incredible.

#### TRIBUTE TO COLONEL CAROLINE M. MILLER

Ms. ERNST. Madam President, today I wish to recognize Col. Caroline M. Miller, upon her departure as chief, Air Force legislative liaison to the U.S. Senate.

In this role, Colonel Miller managed Air Force senior leader strategic engagement with Senators and their staffs in support of Air Force programs and congressional oversight travel. She served as the Air Force's senior escort for staff and congressional delegation travel to more than 20 countries supporting leadership, Member, and committee offices. Prior to her current position, she served as the 633rd Air Base Wing commander at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, VA, providing installation support to 18,000 Air Force and Army personnel, including Headquarters Air Combat Command, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, four operational wings, eight brigades, and more than 20 major associate units.

Colonel Miller received her commission in 1994 from Officer Training School, Maxwell Air Force Base, AL. During her illustrious career, she has served as a protocol officer, special actions officer, and executive officer for several senior Air Force leadership offices, as well as the Director of Manpower and Personnel for United States Strategic Command. Colonel Miller has commanded at the squadron, group, and wing levels, spending 1 year as the commander, 379th Expeditionary Mission Support Group, Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. She was also hand-selected to participate in the elite Air Force Internship program, as well as competed to attend the Naval Command and Staff College and Air Force's Air War College.

Colonel Miller is married to Colonel (Retired) Rich Miller who, along with their son Ryan, have given her unwavering support throughout her career in the Air Force during multiple moves and combat deployments.

On behalf of the U.S. Congress and a grateful Nation, I extend our deepest appreciation to Col. Caroline M. Miller for her dedicated service to the Senate and to our Nation. We wish her the best on her promotion to brigadier general and her next role as chief of Air Force manpower at the Pentagon. There is no

question that the Air Force, Department of Defense, and the United States will continue to benefit greatly from Colonel Miller's leadership.

#### REMEMBERING DR. JAMES BILLINGTON

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, Dr. James Billington was the 13th person to hold the position of Librarian of Congress since the Library was established in 1800. He was nominated by President Ronald Reagan and served under Presidents George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama.

As Librarian of Congress Dr. Billington managed the Library of Congress, which according to LOC, is the largest library in the world, containing millions of books, recordings, photographs, newspapers, maps, and manuscripts in its collections. It is the main research arm of the U.S. Congress.

Dr. Billington doubled the size of the Library's collections during his tenure from 85.5 million items in 1987 to more than 160 million items. He created the Library of Congress online, which helped bring the Library into the digital age.

In 2003, Dr. Billington testified before the Senate education committee at a hearing I chaired called "Putting the Teaching of American History and Civics Back in the Classroom."

In his testimony that day, Dr. Billington said: "During Alex Haley's 12 years researching his groundbreaking novel, *Roots*, he traveled the globe to uncover his family's story, even taking a slow Atlantic crossing to get some feel for what his ancestors went through on the Middle Passage. He also spent many hours in the reading rooms of the Library of Congress, poring over American Missionary Society files from our Manuscript Collection."

"For the first 190 years of the Library's existence, people could access our vast collections only by traveling to Washington, D.C., and by working in our beautiful reading rooms as Mr. Haley did, or by tapping into our rich holdings secondhand, through books that made use of our collections . . .

"The technology revolution of the past decade has made it possible for the Library to reach far beyond its buildings in Washington. We now deliver 8 million interesting and educational multimedia documents, maps, and images of American history and culture free of charge to stimulate curiosity and humanize the study of history."

"By exploiting the power of the internet and the incomparable resources of our collections, the Library of Congress has emerged as the leading provider of free noncommercial educational content on the Web. Millions of educators, librarians, students, and lifelong learners visit our Web sites daily for materials that once were available only through our reading rooms on Capitol Hill."

Dr. Billington's nearly three decades of distinguished service and his efforts to bring the Library of Congress into the digital age will help ensure that the Library will better preserve our Nation's history and enlighten its people for many generations to come. His legacy will be one of innovation and diligence.

After his passing in 2018, his successor at the Library of Congress, Carla Hayden, said "Dr. Billington has left an indelible legacy on the institution he led passionately for 28 years. With his vigor for philanthropy and tireless efforts to expand the reach and impact of the Library, he achieved so much to advance the Library of Congress as an enduring place for scholars and learners. He will be remembered as a visionary leader, distinguished academic and, most of all, a great American."

At a recent Senate committee hearing, I spoke with Ms. Hayden about Alex Haley and the importance of what he did: writing two bestselling books on the African-American experience, the autobiography of Malcolm X and his book, *Roots*, which tell the story of the African-American experience in America. As Dr. Billington said, Alex did a lot of his research at the Library of Congress, and he found the name and the date of the slave ship that actually brought that ancestor to Annapolis in the Library. I think Alex's example will help people understand how the Library of Congress can be so useful to people who are trying to tell the story of our country.

Ms. Hayden agreed saying, "many notable films and books have started with research at the Library of Congress. We want to emphasize the fact that Alex Haley did research here, and also have his quotes about what it felt like for him to be in that reading room."

Alex Haley used to say, we should "find the good and praise it." Dr. Billington's life's work will help countless Americans "find the good and praise it," when it comes to the history of our country.

#### REMEMBERING LIEUTENANT COLONEL RICHARD "DICK" COLE

Mr. INHOFE. Madam President, today I wish to honor Lieutenant Colonel Richard "Dick" Cole, of the United States Air Force, who was the last living link of the Doolittle Raiders and passed away on April 9 at the age of 103. The Doolittle Raiders were comprised of 80 heroic U.S. Army Air Forces airmen who flew 16 modified B-25 Mitchell bombers off the USS *Hornet* aircraft carrier on the first Allied retaliatory strike on the Japanese Home Islands, just a few months after Pearl Harbor.

In an age before midair refueling and GPS, the USS *Hornet* weighed less than a quarter of today's fortress-like aircraft carriers. With then-Lt. Cole as the copilot to then-Lt. Col. Jimmy

Doolittle, the B-25 Mitchell bomber #40-2344, would take off with only 467 feet of takeoff distance. This audacious and unprecedented raid was a one-way mission against enormous odds. What made the mission all the more challenging was a sighting by a Japanese patrol boat that prompted the task force commander, U.S. Navy Adm. William Halsey, to launch the mission more than 650 nautical miles from Japan, 10 hours early and 170 nautical miles farther than originally planned. Flying at wavetop level around 200 feet with their radios turned off, Cole and the Raiders avoided detection for as much of the distance as possible. In groups of two to four aircraft, the bombers targeted dry docks, armories, oil refineries, and aircraft factories in Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka and Kobe, as well as Tokyo itself. The Japanese air defenses were so caught off guard by the Raiders that little anti-aircraft fire was volleyed and only one Japanese Zero followed in pursuit. With their bombs delivered, the Raiders flew towards safety in nonoccupied China, but had to bail out when their aircraft ran out of fuel.

The bombing mission sent a message that America was ready to fight back, and bolstered spirits on the home front. Lt. Col. Cole remained in the China-Burma-India Theater flying combat and transport missions from May 1942 to June 1943, followed by service with the 5th Fighter Group in Tulsa, OK, from June to October 1943. He retired from the Air Force on December 31, 1966, as a command pilot with more than 5,000 flight hours in 30 different aircraft, amassing more than 250 combat missions and more than 500 combat hours. His decorations include the Distinguished Flying Cross with two oakleaf clusters; Air Medal with oakleaf cluster; Bronze Star Medal; Air Force Commendation Medal; and Chinese Army, Navy, Air Corps Medal, Class A, First Grade. All Doolittle Raiders were also awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in May 2014.

In his final years, Lt. Col. Cole remained a familiar face at Air Force events in the San Antonio area and toured Air Force schoolhouses and installations to promote the spirit of service among new generations of airmen. On September 19, 2016, Lt. Col. Cole was present during the naming ceremony for the Northrop Grumman B-21 Raider, named in honor of the Doolittle Raiders. While he may have slipped the surly bonds of earth to reunite with his fellow Raiders, his legacy will forever live on in the hearts and minds of Americans.

On behalf of my colleagues in the U.S. Senate, I wish to offer our eternal thanks to Lt. Col. Cole and our condolences to his family. May we never forget the courage and honor of the Doolittle Raiders.

## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

### TRIBUTE TO MARK ALAGNA

• Mr. ISAKSON. Madam President, today, I am honored to recognize in the RECORD a gentleman from whom I have had the opportunity to learn and to work with through a great company located in my great home State of Georgia. Mark Alagna is the vice president of UPS global public affairs and has announced he will retire in June after having served the company for 35 years.

The world headquarters for United Parcel Service, called UPS, has been based in Georgia since 1991. It is the second-largest company in Georgia, and in 2018, UPS earned \$72 billion in revenue with locations worldwide. This company means a lot to my State.

In addition to that, UPS is a leader in delivering workforce training and mentorship programs that emphasize the development of professional skills, safety, and efficiency.

As the chairman of the Subcommittee on Employment and the Workplace, I am always looking out for Georgia companies and workers, especially the ones that set the bar high. Mark Alagna has been an important member of that company who has provided me and my staff with needed information and assistance for many years.

Mark's service to UPS is long and distinguished, rising through the ranks as a loyal employee serving a company that reciprocated that sense of loyalty and development for a good staff member. He has been with the company since 1984 when he was hired as a package car driver, delivering packages directly to customers who depended upon this service. For the last 24 years, he has worked in the company's public affairs department, looking out for the company's interests by working effectively with Members of Congress in Washington, with a particular policy focus on labor issues.

Mark also serves as liaison to the board of the National Coalition of Multiemployer Pension Plans, is vice chair of the Labor Policy Coalition, and sits on the labor and pension advisory committee. Prior to joining the global public affairs team, Mark also managed several staff and operational assignments in the mid-Atlantic area for UPS.

I will miss the opportunity to work with Mark, who has been a trusted associate, and his absence will be felt at UPS and by all those who have had the opportunity to work alongside him. We all wish Mark and his family the very best in a long and happy retirement.●

### PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT AWARD

• Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, today I wish to congratulate and honor two Louisiana students who have achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in their

communities. Kate Walker of Ruston and Nikki Leali of New Orleans have been named State honorees in the 2019 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor granted to one high school student and one middle school student in each State and the District of Columbia.

Ms. Walker, a sophomore at Cedar Creek School, is being recognized for raising more than \$70,000 to find a cure for a rare neuromuscular disease known as Friedreich's ataxia, FA. In addition to raising tens of thousands of dollars to bring awareness to FA, Kate used different kinds of media to spread awareness and educate the public about disabilities, including hosting a local screening of a documentary film about FA and starting a YouTube channel featuring weekly videos about the challenges facing people with disabilities. Kate's mission is to teach people the importance of treating people with disabilities the same as everyone else.

Ms. Leali, a seventh grader at Ursuline Academy, is being recognized for organizing a reading club that brings middle school students and younger children together. Nikki organized the club after conducting an annual book donation drive for several years that redistributed more than 55,000 books in her community. Nikki's club allows young children to build confidence in reading in a safe and fun environment, while also providing middle schoolers an opportunity to serve their community. Nikki has grown her club with a website and corporate sponsors, and she now has 15 to 30 children regularly attending her monthly meetings.

It is vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contributions these young people have made. People of all ages need to think about how we, as individual citizens, can work together at the local level to ensure the health and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods. Young volunteers like Ms. Walker and Ms. Leali are inspiring examples for all of us and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

I also would like to salute other young people in my state who were named Distinguished Finalists by the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards for their outstanding volunteer service. They are Hailey Enamorado, 15, of Denham Springs, LA; Julianna Gouthiere, 12, of Shreveport, LA; Myracle Lewis, 17, of Baton Rouge, LA; and Grace Sun, 17, of Shreveport, LA.

All of these young people have demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world and deserve our sincere admiration and respect. Their actions show that young Americans can and do play important roles in their communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.●