

them perished in the onslaught of withering German machine gun and artillery fire before they even made it to shore. Those who did make it to the beaches encountered thick shell smoke that obstructed their visibility, and they heard the cries for help from their fellow soldiers lying wounded nearby as German machine gun fire relentlessly rained down on them.

Charles "Harry" Heinlein, a 22-year-old Army private from Baltimore, MD, described the scene as total confusion, recalling, "It seemed like hours to get off the beach. At this point, the only orders being yelled to those still able to fight was, 'Get off the beach! Get off the beach!'"

William Bladen of College Park, MD, was a 19-year-old paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division. In the dark, early hours of that morning, Private First Class Bladen parachuted into Normandy with two 20-pound satchels of TNT attached to him and unable to see where he would land. Mr. Bladen said, "War is hell—in fact, it's worse than hell." But he had a mission and he did it.

Joe Heinlein of Parkville, MD, provided context to the American casualties suffered. He pointed out that before D-day, Bravo Company, 175th Regiment, of the 29th Infantry Division, had about 200 men; by June 19 about a dozen men remained. Mr. Bladen added, "I hope people remember that a lot of men gave their lives for others."

Freedom is not free. The Normandy American Cemetery serves as the final resting place for 9,380 American military dead, most of whom lost their lives in the D-day landings. On the Walls of the Missing are inscribed another 1,557 names of soldiers whose remains were never recovered or identified. We must never forget those who, in Abraham Lincoln's immortal words, "have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom." The Americans who died on the beaches and in the fields of Normandy made the ultimate sacrifice, but they did not die in vain. They helped to defeat fascism, totalitarianism, and the Nazi regime. They helped to liberate Europe and the concentration camps. In GEN Dwight Eisenhower's D-day address, he declared to Allied troops, "The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you . . . The free men of the world are marching together to victory."

We remember and we honor the intrepid heroes of the 29th Infantry Division and all the other members of the "Greatest generation" who marched together into battle and demonstrated remarkable acts of valor and sacrifice 75 years ago tomorrow.

As the poet Archibald MacLeish wrote, "There are those who will say that the liberation of humanity, the freedom of man and mind is nothing but a dream. They are right. It is the American Dream." But it is a dream

that we Americans share with all people who cherish freedom and human dignity now, just as we did on June 6th, 1944.

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 19TH AMENDMENT

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I am proud to rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the day my home State of Wisconsin became the first State in the Nation to ratify the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, giving women the right to vote.

Although the outcome was a historic victory, women did not gain the right to vote without a struggle. The road to Wisconsin's ratification of the 19th Amendment was paved with more than 70 years of advocacy and speeches, marches and rallies, legislation and lawsuits by strong Wisconsin suffragists. Many of the battles were lost before they were won.

When Wisconsin became a State in 1848, only White male landowners over 21 years of age could vote. In 1869, women won the right to run for local school boards in Wisconsin but ironically could not vote for themselves. In 1886, Wisconsin voters approved a statewide referendum allowing women to vote in school elections. When women tried to exercise their new rights for the first time in 1887, however, many women's ballots were discarded because there was no way to verify that women voted only in school elections. Racine suffragist Olympia Brown sued to have her ballot accepted, but the State supreme court said the law was vague and needed to be rewritten. Fourteen years later, the Wisconsin Legislature approved the creation of separate ballots for women that only included school elections.

In 1911, Wisconsin suffragists persuaded the legislature to authorize a statewide referendum on voting rights for women, but it was soundly defeated by an electorate that didn't include women. Two years later, the legislature again called for a referendum on women's suffrage, but it was vetoed by the Governor. In 1915, another attempt at a referendum was rejected by lawmakers.

Women's suffrage fared much better when the debate over voting rights shifted from individual States to the national stage. Congress passed the 19th Amendment on June 4, 1919. Less than a week later, on June 10th, the Wisconsin Legislature ratified the amendment, narrowly beating out its neighbor to the south. Illinois had actually ratified the amendment an hour before Wisconsin, but a paperwork error delayed the filing of the Illinois documents. By August 26, 1920, the necessary 36 States had ratified the 19th Amendment, and women were granted full voting rights.

As we celebrate the centennial of this historic moment, it is important to acknowledge that ratification of the 19th Amendment did not extend voting

rights to all women. Advocacy for suffrage for Black women was often abandoned in an attempt to gain support for ratification in the South. African-American women faced disenfranchisement tactics that ranged from separate long lines and civics tests to poll taxes and even beatings. Many of these tactics continued until passage of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Wisconsin owes its unique position in history to the voices of powerful Wisconsin women who not only spoke truth to power but who also shattered the glass ceiling in their professional lives. Belle Case LaFollette, originally from Summit, was the first woman to graduate from law school in Wisconsin. Laura Ross Wolcott from Milwaukee was Wisconsin's first woman physician. Olympia Brown of Racine was the first woman to be ordained a minister in the entire country. Nationally renowned suffragist Carrie Chapman Catt from Ripon was indispensable to passage of the amendment. As the first woman to represent Wisconsin in the U.S. House of Representatives and now the U.S. Senate, I am humbled to walk the path these strong women helped forge for their successors.

One hundred years ago, after decades of struggle by brave women and men, our Nation finally extended to women the most fundamental right in our democracy—the right to vote. As we celebrate this historic milestone in our Nation's history, let us vow to continue to fight for full equality for women, including access to health care, in workplace salaries, and in representation the Halls of Congress.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### REMEMBERING DON FRASER

● Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, today I wish to acknowledge the passing of a true champion for good—former Congressman, Minneapolis mayor, and my friend and neighbor—Don Fraser, who died at the age of 95 on June 2, 2019. Those who knew him best described Don as thoughtful, decent, intelligent, tough, and absolutely wonderful.

Don Fraser was born in Minneapolis, MN, in 1924. He fought in World War II and later studied law at the University of Minnesota Law School. He joined the law firm of Larson, Loewinger, Lindquist, Freeman, and Fraser before he was elected to the Minnesota State Senate in 1954. In 1962, Don was elected to the House of Representatives, representing Minnesota's Fifth District, where he served for 16 years. Don went on to serve as mayor of Minneapolis from 1980 to 1994, making him the longest serving mayor in Minneapolis history.

Don was married to Arvonne Skelton Fraser, who dedicated her life to improving the lives of women around the world. Together, they had six children: Thomas, Mary, John, Lois, Anne, and Jean.

Known as the Quiet Crusader, Don was always ahead of his time. As a Congressman, he fought for the environment and human rights and exposed human rights abuses around the world. As mayor of Minneapolis—a job he believed was truly the most rewarding of his career—he advocated for early childhood education and put an end to the ingrained politics of the city's police department. Tom Fraser may have summed up his father's service best when he said, "He persuaded people by the power of his argument, not the volume of his speech." Public service was Don's calling.

My first job in Democratic politics was serving as the volunteer president of the DFL Education Foundation, a group Don Fraser founded. His mission? Ideas matter in politics. And he lived that. Don and Arvonne were the heart and soul of the group.

In this era of sound bites and quick fixes to problems, Don and Arvonne yearned for something more substantial in the way they talked about issues. They worked to promote more citizen involvement in politics.

I remember when Don used to introduce me at events during my run for Hennepin County attorney, and he used to say, "I used to work for the city of Minneapolis." In reality, Don has never stopped working for Minneapolis and his country. Don was a great public servant and an outstanding mentor to the next generation. He understood that his public service didn't end with him.

It has been said that it is lucky to have somebody who makes it hard to say goodbye. It is hard to say goodbye to Don Fraser, but I count myself lucky to have known him as a friend. My family and I greatly miss Don. We miss seeing him walking with Arvonne arm in arm in our neighborhood, and we miss their passion for public service and their love for their family and friends.●

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#### TRIBUTE TO PETER MELVIN THOMPSON, JR.

● Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and celebrate the life of Peter Melvin Thompson, Jr., a decorated Vietnam war veteran and proud member of the White Earth Nation, who passed away on Wednesday, January 30, 2019. Today, on June 5, 2019, Mr. Thompson will be buried with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery for his service to this country. He is the first member of the White Earth Nation to receive this honor.

Mr. Thompson served in the Army for 12 years, during which time he received six Purple Hearts, one Silver Star with valor device, and 3 Bronze Stars with valor device. In 1960, at the age of 17, Mr. Thompson talked his dad into signing papers allowing him to enlist in the U.S. Army. He attended basic training and was posted to Fort Leonard Wood, MO, before volunteering to go to fight

in the Vietnam war. Mr. Thompson deployed twice to Vietnam, first with the First Cavalry Regiment in central Vietnam from January 1968 to 1969. During this deployment, Mr. Thompson was wounded twice and earned a Bronze Star.

Soon after returning to the States, Mr. Thompson volunteered for a second tour in Vietnam. During his second tour, Mr. Thompson served as platoon leader in charge of seven armored personnel carriers and three tanks. He was wounded four more times. In 1970, while on a rescue mission, Mr. Thompson was injured in combat for the last time. He was airlifted to Hawk Hill, where he helped identify all the lost men in his platoon before being sent to a field hospital to begin recovery. Mr. Thompson was transferred to Colorado, where he finished his recuperation and served as a probation officer at Fort Carson before being discharged in 1972.

Mr. Thompson met and married Evelyn Auginaush on July 10, 1973 at St. Phillips Church in Rice Lake, MN. Together they moved throughout Minnesota before returning to Mr. Thompson's home in Rice Lake. Never one to be idle, Mr. Thompson found work as a trapper for the State and Tribe Predator Control and also worked at the Leech Lake Indian Health Hospital Facilities as a manager, where he won two awards for his service. Mr. Thompson's time in the military also left an indelible mark on his life and led him to start the White Earth Honor Guard, which he remained a part of throughout his life.

Today, Mr. Thompson is being laid to rest with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery by his wife Evelyn, daughters Cheryl and Carol, 15 grandchildren, 6 great grandchildren, and many others. I am proud today to recognize Peter Thompson for his service to this country, to Minnesota, and to the White Earth Nation.●

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#### 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS ALASKA

● Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, this week we are celebrating the 50th anniversary of Special Olympics Alaska, an organization that has done so much for so many Alaskans living with intellectual disabilities in my State and across the globe.

The rise of the Special Olympics is one of the world's great stories. It demonstrates both on the political and personal fronts what can happen when a group of people get together to ensure that everyone has the ability to participate in sports and, furthermore, develop skills and friendships that will last them a lifetime.

The story of Special Olympics dates back to the 1960s, when one woman, Eunice Kennedy Shriver, decided to make a difference. Mrs. Shriver had a sister, Rosemary, who had an intellectual disability and with whom she was very close. She knew that Rosemary's disability shouldn't hold her or anybody

else back from competing in sports and fulfilling her dreams.

In the summer of 1968 in Chicago, Eunice Shriver opened the first national games for Special Olympics. One thousand athletes from 26 States and Canada competed in track & field and swimming. Jump forward to today. Because of Mrs. Shriver's vision and advocacy for people with intellectual disabilities, there are now nearly 5 million Special Olympics' athletes around the world, and as many as 80,000 competitions are held every year, including in the great State of Alaska.

In 2001, Alaska hosted the Special Olympics World Winter Games. Mrs. Shriver said it was the best World Winter Games in Special Olympics history. That success was only possible because of the hard working staff, board, volunteers, and athletes from the Special Olympics Alaska organization and the complete support of a caring, engaged community.

Special Olympics Alaska will be celebrating its 50th anniversary this weekend in conjunction with the Special Olympics Alaska Summer Games. Hundreds of athletes and unified partners from across the State will gather in Anchorage for 3 days of competition. They have been dedicated to their training in aquatics, basketball, gymnastics, powerlifting, and track & field, and this weekend will strive for their personal best and, no doubt, have a lot of fun. There is no better place to see the joy of competition and pure sportsmanship than at a Special Olympics event.

My family is proud to be part of a community that supports our Special Olympics athletes and, to brag a little, part of a State with a world-class training center and program that is the envy of many other States and nations. Special Olympics Alaska's success would not be possible without the dedicated support of so many Alaska families and the passion our athletes have for sports and this organization. Our athletes inspire all of us. They show us the true meaning of grit, determination, and perseverance. Our athletes know, more than any of us, what Vince Lombardi meant when he said, "It's not whether you get knocked down; it's whether you get up."

Congratulations again to all the athletes, staff, board, and volunteers of Special Olympics Alaska for an incredible 50 years of serving the community.●

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#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

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#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations