

MORNING BUSINESS

CONFIRMATION OF PETER PAUL MONTGOMERY BUTTIGIEG

Mr. PAUL. Madam President, I voted to confirm the nomination of Pete Buttigieg to be Secretary of the Department of Transportation. As a former mayor, Secretary Buttigieg understands that infrastructure in a state of good repair is crucial to economic growth. For too long, American infrastructure has gone without proper investment, while we simultaneously engage in a two-decade-long adventure to remake and rebuild the Middle East. Rather than increase gas taxes, I hope to work with Secretary Buttigieg and the rest of the Biden administration to put an end to endless wars, stop building infrastructure in Afghanistan, and start building infrastructure in America.

REMEMBERING BARBARA A. O'MALLEY

Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, today I rise to pay tribute to Barbara A. O'Malley, a beloved wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, dedicated public servant, and a veritable institution here in the U.S. Senate. She passed away last month at the age of 93.

Barbara Ann Suelzer, the daughter of Joseph and Martha Dix Suelzer, was born in 1928 and raised in Fort Wayne, IN. As a young woman, she was determined to learn how to fly. She obtained her pilot's license when she was 18, using \$100 she received for graduating from high school to pay for the lessons, and later joined the Civil Air Patrol. She was also passionate about politics and especially about being a proud Democrat. She went to Washington to work for her local Congressman and met her future husband, Thomas Martin O'Malley, at the Young Democrats headquarters; they were married in 1954.

Over the next 30 years, Barbara O'Malley raised six children—one of whom, Martin J. O'Malley, became Governor of Maryland. She was a devoted mother, grandmother to 15 grandchildren, and great-grandmother to 8 great-grandchildren.

In 1986, with her children grown, Barbara O'Malley returned to Capitol Hill to work as a receptionist for another Barbara—Barbara Mikulski—who was elected to the Senate that year. She was ecstatic to work for a female Senator. At the time, there were just two female Senators: Senator Mikulski and Senator Nancy Kassebaum from Kansas. Barbara O'Malley stayed in the Senate for as long as Senator Mikulski did—30 years. During that time, she made the Mikulski staff, constituents, other Senators and their staff, and everyone else who visited the Mikulski office an extension of the O'Malley family. Everyone who knew her felt that bond.

Mrs. O, as everyone affectionately called her, had an unwavering cheerfulness, a graciousness, and an uplifting spirit that made her one of the most admired figures on Capitol Hill and around Maryland. I always looked forward to seeing her when I would visit Senator Mikulski's office, which was located just around the corner from my own office. Everyone who knew her treasured her political acumen and institutional knowledge, not just of history and politics and Congress but of the very buildings themselves here on Capitol Hill. Her genuine devotion to public service reflected her strong values and character, which her own children have carried on in their own careers and in service to our State of Maryland and to all Americans. Her legacy will live on in the hearts of those she loved, befriended, inspired, counseled, and mentored.

Mrs. O set so many fine examples for her family and everyone fortunate enough to know her. I work on retirement issues, and one thing experts recommend is for people to keep working if they enjoy their work and are able to continue meeting whatever challenges it presents. After Mrs. O spent 30 years raising her family, she returned to the workforce at an age when many people are retiring or close to retiring, and then she worked for 30 years, until she was 88. Mrs. O was a remarkable woman who gave enormously of herself. Myrna and I join the O'Malley family, Senator Mikulski and her staff, and so many other here in the Senate and across our State, in mourning the death of this wonderful woman, but more importantly, we celebrate and give thanks for her extraordinary life.

As Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "To laugh often and much; to win the respect of the intelligent people and the affection of children; to earn the appreciation of honest critics and endure the betrayal of false friends; to appreciate beauty; to find the beauty in others; to leave the world a bit better whether by a healthy child, a garden patch, or a redeemed social condition; to know that one life has breathed easier because you lived here. This is to have succeeded." At home with her family, in her community, and here in the U.S. Senate, Mrs. O certainly succeeded.

Mr. President, I am not the only person who would like to pay tribute to Mrs. O. Senator Mikulski, who served in the Halls of Congress for 40 years—30 years in this body and 10 years in the House of Representatives—has provided a tribute. She is not only the longest serving woman in all of Congress but also the first Democratic woman elected to the U.S. Senate in her own right, the first woman to chair the Senate Appropriations Committee, an inductee into the National Women's Hall of Fame, and a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom award from President Barack Obama. As we remember Mrs. Barbara O'Malley, this great public servant and longtime staffer to Senator Mikulski, I thought

it would be appropriate to share Senator Mikulski's heartfelt tribute. I also have tributes from former Majority Leader Harry Reid; Senator Mikulski's chief of staff, Dr. Shannon Kula; the Acting Administrator of the National Aeronautics & Space Administration, Steve Jurczyk; and a statement from the Civil Air Patrol. I ask unanimous consent that these statements be printed in the RECORD following my remarks.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

STATEMENT OF SENATOR BARBARA A. MIKULSKI ON THE PASSING OF BARBARA A. O'MALLEY

For over 30 years I have had the good fortune to know one of our state's greatest treasures, Barbara A. O'Malley, and her passing on January 6, 2021 has left a hole in our hearts the depths of the ocean wide.

Barbara Ann Suelzer, the daughter of Joseph and Martha Dix Suelzer, was born in 1928 and raised in Fort Wayne, Indiana, where she graduated from Central Catholic High School. During World War II and while still in high school, she joined the Civil Air Patrol, Group 523, earned her private pilot certificate in 1946, and then remarkably went on to work in the office of Flying Service.

Shortly thereafter, Barbara Suelzer went to Washington, DC to work for Rep. Edward Kruse and then a few years later, while a committee woman at the Young Democrats, she met a young Georgetown University Law School student, Thomas Martin O'Malley. Their love of politics grew into a love for one another and they were married in 1954. Together, they made a home in Rockville, Maryland and raised six wonderful children—four sons: Patrick, Peter, Paul and Martin O'Malley, as well as two daughters, Bridget (O'Malley) Hunter and Eileen (O'Malley) Schempp.

To my amazing good fortune, her son, Martin O'Malley, became my 1986 campaign field director and later he went on to become Mayor of Baltimore City, Governor for the State of Maryland, and even a democratic Presidential candidate. But one of the greatest things Governor O'Malley did for me apart from his own service, was that he recommended his mother apply for the receptionist job in my new Senate office starting in January 1987. It was my distinct pleasure to have her on my staff until my retirement in January 2017.

For all who knew her, Mrs. O, greeted every constituent with kindness, care and consideration in what was after all, the people's house. She had a great love of history, and she knew the history of the Capitol. She knew every nook and cranny, even the basement, and when school groups came to the Capitol, it was Mrs. O who led the tour. She also developed relationships with other staffers and loved playing poker—and became a legend for her skill at the game—especially with other senators. Indeed, her love of flying combined with her passion for history, inspired her volunteer work as a docent for the Smithsonian Air & Space Museum for many years. In 2016, Mrs. O was formally recognized by the U.S. Civil Air Patrol during their 75th Anniversary Gala and received a replica of CAP's 2014 Congressional Gold Medal for her service during World War II.

I, along with my entire office, counted on Mrs. O over the course of 30 years. She was honest, kind, and looked out for one and all. Her life was rooted deep in her Catholic faith and together, we served the people of Maryland and this great nation. My deepest condolences go out to the entire O'Malley family and to her extended Mikulski staff family

who also feel her loss. May she rest in peace with her beloved husband Thomas Martin.

STATEMENT OF SENATOR HARRY REID ON THE PASSING OF BARBARA A. O'MALLEY

Barbara O'Malley was beloved on the Hill. Mrs. O had an amazing love of politics, history, and the Capitol. She lived an admirable life. She earned her private pilot's license as a teenager and later served as Civil Air Patrol in World War II. She worked on presidential campaigns and in public service, working for decades in the United States Senate. She was admired on both sides of the aisle. Mrs. O will be dearly missed by all those privileged to have known her.

STATEMENT OF DR. SHANNON KULA, FORMER CHIEF OF STAFF TO U.S. SENATOR BARBARA A. MIKULSKI, ON THE PASSING OF BARBARA A. O'MALLEY

Barbara O'Malley, warmly known as "Mrs. O," was our source of joy and someone we counted on as always and was a fierce defender of all of us as the BAMMER family. Every day and in every way, Mrs. O was our rock. We counted on her whether it was training new staffers, welcoming thousands of visitors during inaugurations, sit-ins, war protests, or speaking with thousands of constituents on every policy and political issue you could think of, day in and day out. Then, just as she promised them, reporting to the Senator exactly what they were saying. Every person counted and she took her job seriously. She got us through the dark days of 9/11, anthrax and ricin attacks. She helped us celebrate victories whether it was successfully fighting for seniors who were due their social security benefits, the passage of important legislation on the Senate floor, or ushering in the holidays with her famous homemade treats. We loved her resident celebrity status too from legendary Senator poker games to her visit with Tony Bennett. Everyone knew and loved Mrs. O!

She looked out for staff in more ways than I can count. For me, I started my days around 7:30 a.m. and it was a toss-up whether she or I unlocked the doors each morning. In those quiet moments, we'd catch up before the day began and the rest of the staff arrived. Usually, she'd proudly share the latest pictures of her children, grandchildren or great grandchildren. Sometimes we'd then go to 8 a.m. mass together at St. Joseph's across the street. She'd look after all the office plants and helped me learn to grow mine—even reviving the ones I thought were clearly long dead. Most days, I would be running around the Capitol, the Senate floor, meeting after meeting and couldn't get to my desk until 4pm-ish and still had at least five or six hours of work ahead. But as I began to dig out, and was hungry from not having lunch yet, I would find a special Mrs. O tin of goodies waiting for me along with a sweet reminder note that was her mantra: "Keep your eye upon the donut and not upon the hole." Her brownies and Spritz cookies were favorites. We couldn't be more grateful to have known her, worked alongside her, and to have had her in our corner.

Mrs. O embodied exactly what I believe the suffragettes fought for 100 years ago. She not only did all that they hoped for and more, but then reached back to bring more women along with her toward this journey of a more perfect union. She was bold, feared nothing and no one, a trailblazer who literally learned to fly, raised and cherished a beautiful family, had an incredible decades-long career in Congress, followed her faith, never said an unkind word, and was thoughtful and generous to everyone.

I know this former pilot now rides on eagle's wings and that is a comfort . . . but I,

and so many, feel the hole, despite the donut. Mrs. O will be greatly missed but treasured in our memories always.

STATEMENT OF STEVE JURCZYK, ACTING ADMINISTRATOR, NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION, ON THE PASSING OF BARBARA A. O'MALLEY

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration fondly remembers Mrs. Barbara A. O'Malley, who was the first face and voice encountered by 10 NASA Administrators and scores of NASA staff in visiting or calling Senator Barbara A. Mikulski for 30 years. Mrs. O'Malley is an honorary employee of NASA, given her myriad interactions with Agency employees, her close attention to Agency milestones and activities, and her personal assistance in NASA interaction with the Committee on Appropriations and Chairwoman Mikulski. Mrs. O'Malley greeted dozens of NASA astronauts visiting Senator Mikulski and attended all manner of NASA events—including commemorations at the National Air and Space Museum, concerts at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and launches at the NASA Kennedy Space Center and Wallops Flight Facility. Mrs. O'Malley is remembered for her wit, sparkling eyes, and ready smile.

NASA's condolences are extended to the O'Malley family and extended Mikulski staff family.

STATEMENT OF THE CIVIL AIR PATROL ON THE PASSING OF BARBARA A. O'MALLEY

Civil Air Patrol (CAP) mourns the loss of one of its original members from World War II. Mrs. Barbara Suelzer O'Malley, of Timonium, Maryland. She joined CAP in 1943 as a cadet while attending high school in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and stayed passionately involved with CAP throughout her life. She earned her private pilot certificate as a teenager and was a long-time aviation and space enthusiast. She loved working with young people interested in aviation, particularly CAP cadets and she later served as a docent with the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum. All this was in addition to her exceptional and long career in politics.

On December 1, 2016, during CAP's 75th Anniversary Gala at the Smithsonian's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center, Mrs. O'Malley was presented with a replica Congressional Gold Medal (CGM). She was one of only two to be so honored that evening. Presenting the award was retired Senator Tom Harkin and CAP's National Commander, Major General Joseph Vazquez. In the audience was the Secretary of the Air Force, the Honorable Deborah Lee James, among numerous other VIPs. The CGM was given to CAP in 2014 for the unusual and heroic service of its volunteers during World War II.

Civil Air Patrol is truly grateful for Mrs. O'Malley's dedication and service to CAP and our nation over her long life.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, I rise to honor Mrs. Barbara Ann O'Malley, who passed away last month at the age of 93 after a long life guided by kindness, strength, grace, and humility. Mrs. O'Malley—affectionately known as Mrs. O to both Hill staffers and Members alike—served Maryland for 30 years in the office of former Senator Barbara Mikulski. The indelible mark she has left on our State and on Capitol Hill will endure for generations.

Barbara Ann O'Malley was born a pioneer. In her youth, she hungered to fly and earned a pilot's license at the

age of 16 on her own initiative. But it was in the arena of public service where she would soar. Inspired by her father's service as chair of the county Democratic Party where she grew up, Barbara started volunteering for political campaigns when she was still too young to vote. Her passion for public service brought her from Indiana to Washington, where she worked for Democratic Congressman Edward Kruse and later became the national committeewoman for the Young Democrats. And as a mother, Barbara O'Malley raised her three children on the value of serving others. Her son Martin grew up to be the mayor of Baltimore, Governor of Maryland, and a candidate for President of the United States.

After her boys left home, Mrs. O'Malley turned to raising a new family on Capitol Hill. She spread kindness, collegiality, and community from the front desk of Senator Mikulski's office for three decades. She was notorious for dropping off treats at coworker's desks throughout the day, shuttling baked goods back-and-forth from the so-called BAMtry, a cache of snacks that kept the staff running. And she gave moral nourishment to the team by sharing advice cultivated through years in politics. Legions of Hill staffers, from new hires to chiefs of staff, turned to her for counsel. But it wasn't just staff. Senator Mikulski likes to say that Mrs. O gave her the "first briefing of the day" when she walked into work. Senators Jay Rockefeller and Arlen Specter could often be spotted circling her desk just before heading to the Senate floor. And when I served in the House of Representatives, Mrs. O'Malley was always the first to warmly greet me on my way in to see Senator Mikulski, and I always relished the moment.

If flying was her first love, then history was her second. She knew every fact, detail, and anecdote about the U.S. Senate, and for years, Barbara O'Malley's Capitol Hill tours were the hottest tickets in town. She guided Marylanders of all ages and interests through the halls of American democracy with trademark wit—never compromising between her reverence for the Senate and her taste for a good joke. At the front desk, she was known as the office historian, collecting the stories of constituents who passed through and maintaining a long catalogue of staff directories that she held onto throughout her life. She forged deep friendships and kept up with colleagues even after they left the office.

That was Barbara O'Malley's gift. She saw the multitudes that live in all of us and treated each person who crossed her path like they were the first and last thing in the world. That talent for compassion made her the soul of the Senate for 30 years and makes this loss all the more painful for me and for my State. But though she has passed, her spirit survives. Barbara O'Malley's legacy lives on in the generations of Hill staffers, students, and

public servants whom she taught and trained and who now serve throughout Washington and across the country.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO SARAH MOYER

• Mr. DAINES. Madam President, today I have the honor of recognizing Sarah Moyer of Yellowstone County for serving her community in a time of need.

When schools were shut down in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic, hundreds of children who rely on school for getting their meals were sent home. Sarah saw the need to feed her community and did not hesitate to jump in. Her business, Project Lunch, started to make healthy lunches available to anyone in need. By the end of the summer, Sarah and her volunteers had delivered over 21,800 lunches right to the front doors of Montanans—a truly remarkable act of service for her neighbors.

Her dedication to her fellow Montanans does not stop there. Heading into 2021, Sarah opened a pay-what-you-can restaurant in downtown Billings that employs Montanans who are struggling to find employment elsewhere. The community rallied behind Sarah and donated time, equipment, and resources to help get this restaurant started. Her goal for this project is to create a place for folks to give back and support their neighbors. Sarah has brought her community together, inspired volunteers, helped those in need, and started a legacy of service.

I am thankful for Sarah's dedication and heart for the Billings community. She has truly shown us all what it means to put service above self.●

TRIBUTE TO CHUCK ROADY

• Mr. DAINES. Madam President, today I have the honor of recognizing my good friend Chuck Roady of Flathead County.

It is hard to imagine where the Montana timber industry would be right now were it not for the leadership of Chuck. The last few decades haven't been easy on the timber industry or the communities that rely upon it for good paying jobs. Yet, throughout his career, Chuck has met these challenges head-on, fighting tooth and nail to protect timber jobs and advocate for the proper management of our forests.

Growing up, Chuck loved the outdoors and wanted to find a job that would allow him to be in the woods. After graduating from the University of Idaho College of Forestry, he worked for various timber companies across the Pacific Northwest. In 2003, he became lands and resources manager for F.H. Stoltze Land and Lumber Company in Columbia Falls, MT. The Stoltze Mill employs more than 130 hard-working Montanans.

From the beginning of his time with Stoltze, Chuck became a leading voice in the community for our timber industry and proper forest management. Chuck's approach is to build bridges and find common ground amongst groups with different interests. His work has brought people together to find solutions that benefit the mills, the communities that depend on them, and our forests.

Chuck has been a leader on timber issues on the national stage as well. He was a founding member of the Federal Forest Resource Coalition and served as its chair. In this role, he successfully worked to elevate forest management issues to the forefront of our national debates, making real progress along the way. He has given us all a reason to be optimistic about the future.

I thank Chuck for his years of service to this cause and wish him all the best in his retirement.●

RECOGNIZING MIKE THE BORDER COLLIE

• Mr. DAINES. Madam President, today I have the honor of recognizing Mike, a Montana ranch dog who was crowned this year's runner up for Farm Dog of the Year.

As a dog dad to Ruby, Reagan, and Jessie, I know the important role a dog plays in life. Dogs are there for us through the good and the bad, and they are always happy to see you. Our four-legged friends are a source of laughter and always make for a good hunting partner.

In Montana, our dogs take on another role. They become a trusty ranch hand for many. Tim Feddes, a rancher from Manhattan, knows just how important it is to have a hard-working cow dog. That is exactly why he thought Mike, his border collie, should have a shot at American Farm Bureau's 2021 Farm Dog of the Year Contest.

Out of hundreds of furry applicants, an expert panel chose Mike to be crowned as the runner-up for Farm Dog of the Year. Mike is a special dog that takes his job seriously and makes life on the ranch a little bit brighter.

It is my honor to recognize Mike on this incredible accomplishment. He has represented ranch dogs everywhere, and especially in Montana, with pride.●

TRIBUTE TO ELLIOT PERRY

• Ms. HASSAN. Madam President, I am proud to recognize Elliot Perry of Bedford as January 2021's Granite Stater of the Month. Elliot, a fourth grader at Bedford Memorial Elementary School and an ambassador for the Children's Hospital at Dartmouth-Hitchcock—CHaD—has started a fundraising campaign to build two accessible playgrounds at CHaD locations in Lebanon and Manchester to help improve the experience of children who visit these facilities.

Elliot was born nearly 4 months early and given only an 18-percent chance to live. The medical professionals at CHaD worked hard to ensure that Elliot received the best care that they could provide and 121 days later, Elliot went home with his mom and dad.

Since then, Elliot has been one of CHaD's best ambassadors and has helped raise more than \$100,000 for the organization that he and his parents credit with saving his life.

Last year, Elliot launched a new effort to support the patients at CHaD. The 121 Club that Elliot founded aims to raise \$121,000 to build two sensory-neutral playgrounds that are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act's Standards for Accessible Design at CHaD locations in Lebanon and Manchester. With the help of his friends and neighbors, Elliot has already raised a little more than \$80,000 for his cause.

Elliot hopes that these new playgrounds will provide an outlet for any family who wishes to take a break during longer visits, as well as provide a safe space for children of all abilities to play and develop their motor skills.

Elliot embodies the best of New Hampshire. His drive to help others, along with his empathy and inclusivity, has made an enormous difference, especially for children facing particularly difficult challenges and their families. I wish Elliot the best as he continues fundraising to reach his goal, and I look forward to seeing what he accomplishes next.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:31 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that pursuant to sections 5580 and 5581 of the revised statutes (20 U.S.C. 42-43), and the order of the House of January 4, 2021, the Speaker appoints the following Members on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: Ms. MATSUI of California and Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD of California.

MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following concurrent resolution was discharged from the Committee on the Budget pursuant to Section 300 of the Congressional Budget Act, and placed on the calendar:

S. Con. Res. 5. A concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2021 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2022 through 2030.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated: