

and support a diplomatic solution. The alternative is famine, displacement, and unending misery for the people of Tigray, and for this Nobel Peace Prize winner to be held accountable for crimes against humanity.

(At the request of Mr. THUNE, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

MISSED VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, due to unforeseen travel disruptions, I will miss today's votes. •

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. HAWLEY. Madam President, had there been a recorded vote, I would have voted no on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 412, Rahul Gupta, of West Virginia, to be Director of National Drug Control Policy.

TRIBUTE TO MICHIGAN'S VETERANS

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I rise today to honor all of the brave Michigan veterans who have served in our Nation's military.

When the scourge of slavery threatened to tear our Nation in two, Michiganders selflessly marched to war. When fascism rose in Europe, Michiganders built an Arsenal of Democracy and kept freedom alive. And when terrorists attacked our own country 20 years ago, Michiganders stood up and signed up. Over and over again, Michigan men and women have served our country to protect our freedoms.

These veterans all fought different battles and had different missions. But all of them were patriots. All of them—and their families—made incredible sacrifices. And all of them were willing to lay down their own lives to protect their fellow Americans and this Nation we love.

Perhaps there's no better Michigan example of this than Charles S. Kettles. Charles was born in Ypsilanti in 1930 and fell in love with flying while attending Edison Institute High School in Dearborn. Aviation was in his blood; his dad was a military pilot.

In 1951, Charles was drafted into the Army. He attended Army Aviation School and served tours in Korea, Japan, and Thailand. He retired from Active Duty in 1956 and continued to serve in the Army Reserves.

During the Vietnam war, the Army was in desperate need of helicopter pilots. So in 1963, Charlie volunteered for active duty and learned to fly the UH-1D, "Huey."

Those skills would save lives on May 15, 1967. Then-Major Kettles volunteered to lead a flight of six Hueys on a rescue mission.

Charles's helicopter came under fire, but he kept on flying. After the second rescue flight, his helicopter was leaking fuel, and his gunner was severely

wounded. He found a helicopter that wasn't leaking and went back to rescue the stranded men.

On the way back to the base, he learned that eight troops had been left behind. Without a second thought, he returned to the landing zone.

His helicopter was hit by gunfire and a mortar round. Yet somehow, Charles made it back to the landing zone, picked up the stranded troops, and brought them safely back to the base. In total, he saved 44 lives that day.

Typically, the Medal of Honor must be awarded within 5 years of the heroic act. But this kind of heroism has no expiration date. In 2015, I introduced legislation with Senator GARY PETERS and Congresswoman DEBBIE DINGELL to allow Charles to receive the Medal of Honor. In 2016, he did.

And earlier this year, it was an incredible honor to be there when the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Ann Arbor was renamed after Charles. Lieutenant Colonel Kettles saved lives back in 1967, and the Lieutenant Colonel Charles S. Kettles VA Medical Center is saving lives today.

"We got the 44 out," he said during his Medal of Honor ceremony in 2016. "None of those names appear on the wall in Washington. There's nothing more important than that."

Humility, a spirit of service, and the willingness to sacrifice. Michigan's veterans have done so much for us. It is our solemn duty to keep each and every promise we have made to them.

Thank you.

HONORING CHARLES "CHARLIE" E. WHITE

Mr. TESTER. Madam President, I rise today to honor the life of Charles "Charlie" E. White, an outstanding American and decorated Vietnam War veteran.

While Charlie is no longer with us, his legacy lives on. On behalf of my fellow Americans, I would like extend our deepest gratitude for his service to this Nation.

Charlie was born on May 21, 1944, in Kansas City, MO, to Owlén and Lucille White. His parents raised him alongside his brothers Bobby and Jerry and sister Judy in Independence, MO.

Charlie never shied away from service or sacrifice, and when the Vietnam war broke out, he quickly answered the call to duty and enlisted in the U.S. Army. He served our country heroically as a member of the U.S. Army Special Forces, the Green Berets.

As a sergeant in the Green Berets, he engaged in many perilous combat missions in Vietnam, including one where he was wounded by an enemy soldier's bayonet. He donned a scar across his face for the rest of his life from this encounter and was awarded for his exemplary valor with multiple service medals.

After the war, Charlie returned to Kansas and settled into his life as a loving husband and devoted father.

Known by many for his hard work ethic and determination, he led a long career working for BNFS Railway and provided a great life for his family.

He is survived by his wife Diane, sons Jack and Steve, daughter Tambra, nine grandchildren, and one great-grandson. His memory lives on through each of them and through his enduring legacy.

I now have the profound honor of recognizing Charlie White with the following honors for his bravery in the line of duty: Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart Medal, and Silver Star Medal.

These medals represent a small token of our country's appreciation for Charlie's incredible service and sacrifice.

He is an American hero who has made our country proud, and we owe him a great debt of gratitude.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING FLORENCE'S EXQUISITE CHOCOLATES

• Mr. RISCH. Madam President, as a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each month I recognize and celebrate the American entrepreneurial spirit by highlighting the success of a small business in my home State of Idaho. Today, I am pleased to honor Florence's Exquisite Chocolates in Rexburg as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for November 2021.

As the namesake and founder of the business, Florence Manwaring had a long-standing passion for making chocolate. To pay her way through college, Florence began working in a chocolate factory where she learned the art of chocolatiering. Florence combined her work experience, passion, and giving spirit to make candies for her friends and family. Her chocolates became popular with her friends, and with their encouragement, Florence and her husband Var considered launching a business so she could pursue her passion. As the economy hit a downturn in the 70s, Var switched his focus from construction to helping his wife open a small business, and in 1981, Florence's dream became a reality.

Despite initial struggles, the shop quickly gained the attention of the Rexburg community and grew so rapidly that Florence's family became involved as well. A true family-owned business, the Manwarings have the distinction of employing every single family member, each of whom has been critical to the company's success.

Some of Florence's iconic chocolates include turtles, haystacks, toffees, caramels, and mints. The business has received widespread recognition, garnering positive reception from leaders of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and then-President Ronald Reagan. Florence's shop has not only found success selling locally, but has also distributed its candies throughout the region.

Today, Florence's Exquisite Chocolates remains a family-owned staple in Rexburg. Florence's son Brian and his wife Michelle keep the tradition of quality-crafted sweets thriving by making their products available in other stores and maintaining an online presence to connect with their loyal customers nationwide. They look forward to continuing to serve their community.

Congratulations to the Manwaring family and all of the employees of Florence's Exquisite Chocolates on being the Idaho Small Business of the Month for November 2021. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to your continued growth and success.●

REMEMBERING DEXTER RANDALL

● Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, I rise today to honor the memory of Dexter Randall of Newport Center, VT. In Dexter's passing, Vermont and the Nation has lost a great champion for farmers.

Dexter was born in Lyndon, VT, in 1945 but spent most of his life with his family on their farm in Troy, VT. On September 3, 1971, he married Alice Gilman, who we sadly lost a year ago, on June 2, 2020. Along with their five children—Lisa, Justin, Jordan, Irene, and Jason—Randall and Alice ran their small organic dairy farm for 37 years before Justin and Irene took over operations.

While Dexter was first and foremost a farmer, he was also a public servant. In the Northeast Kingdom, an area of the State often known for more conservative points of view, Dexter charted a unique political path, serving as a Progressive State representative with a strong independent streak. Dexter felt that his political philosophy was not all that different from that of his father, who had been a Republican, but that the Vermont Republican Party of earlier generations had undergone significant change. During his time in and out of the Vermont Statehouse, he was an unwavering voice for farmers and small family farms, fighting for fair milk prices and to safeguard Vermont's agricultural heritage.

Both in elected office and during his 30 years on the board of Rural Vermont, Dexter showed a fearlessness in advocating for bold policy change. He understood that in order to save family farms and ensure the future of agriculture in Vermont, we needed to fundamentally rethink agricultural policy and fight against corporation consolidation. He was at the center of some of the biggest agricultural debates of his time, including the creation of the New England Dairy Compact and fighting to protect farmers from the corporate greed of companies producing genetically modified organisms—GMO—seeds. Dexter's work was not limited to Vermont. In 2006, he traveled to Mali to learn how U.S. policies impact Africa's agricultural sec-

tor. On this and many other topics, Dexter demonstrated an ability to translate complex policy issues into plain language, making it easy for his constituents to understand and relate to.

Caring for the land was at the heart of Dexter's work. Despite farming being more than a full-time job, he was active with the Missisquoi Basin Association, the American Devon Cattle Association, the Orleans County Natural Resources Conservation District, and the Vermont Center for Sustainable Agriculture. At a time when agriculture and environmental protection were often pitted against one another, Dexter showed that farmers can and often are strong conservationists and excellent stewards of the land.

When I first met Dexter 35 years ago, his reputation as a fearless champion for rural Vermonters and farmers preceded him. Some probably would have considered us to be unlikely friends; he was a dairy farmer in a remote part of the State, and I was the first Independent mayor of the State's biggest city of Burlington. Those people, of course, were wrong. It was 1986, milk prices were low, and both Dexter and I understood that farmers were suffering. To raise spirits and money, Rural Vermont held a fundraiser near Dexter and Alice's farm. For my part, I drove the 2 hours to the Northeast Kingdom because not only did I understand the importance of the issue, I was impressed by the grassroots advocacy of Dexter, Alice, and the organizers. From that day on, Dexter and I enjoyed a long friendship that included a pig roast on his farm each year. At the heart, these events were very much about good food, comradery, bringing people together, and appreciating the pastoral landscape of Vermont. These events were also where good, old-fashioned democracy took place. People could talk about the issues that were important to them and feel like politicians were actually listening. I learned a great deal at these events about the struggles of working people, especially in rural Vermont, and for that, I am eternally grateful to Dexter.

I was sad not to be able to join Dexter on the farm this year, and I will miss traveling there and seeing Dexter each year, but I am thankful for our many years of friendship. To my mind, Dexter represented the best of Vermont; he was not only deeply engaged in the issues, but he also genuinely cared about the wellbeing of his friends, family, neighbors, fellow farmers, and his rural constituents. He believed everyone deserves a fair shot, and he tirelessly advocated for Vermonters at every opportunity he could, whether by supporting universal healthcare or milk prices that enabled farmers to keep the lights on and live in dignity.

Ultimately, Dexter brought his ethos about farming—that “if you take care of the land it will take care of you, so you can leave it a little bit better than

you found it”—to his community and his State. Vermont is indeed a better place, and Vermonters are better off, thanks to Dexter Randall.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

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.)

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13067 OF NOVEMBER 3, 1997, WITH RESPECT TO SUDAN, RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE ON OCTOBER 29, 2021—PM 15

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to Sudan declared in Executive Order 13067 of November 3, 1997, is to continue in effect beyond November 3, 2021.

Sudan made strides in its transition toward democracy since 2019, but the military takeover of the government and arrest of civilian leaders now threaten those positive gains. The crisis that led to the declaration of a national emergency in Executive Order 13067; the expansion of that emergency in Executive Order 13400 of April 26, 2006; and the taking of additional steps with respect to that emergency in Executive Order 13412 of October 13, 2006, Executive Order 13761 of January 13, 2017, and Executive Order 13804 of July 11, 2017, has not been resolved. The situation in Darfur continues to pose an