

falling in. I had seen many quarries over the years, but nothing like this. As if guarding a precious artwork, the fence barrier seemed to make the scene that much more spectacular, even otherworldly. The quarry's sheer sides, where blocks and slabs had been cut away, looked like a huge canvas of abstract art, with oxidized water stains dripping like paint. At the very bottom was a turquoise pool, this seemingly out-of-place color created by granite sediments and crystals in the water when slabs of rock are cut. Framing the scene in the far distance, the distinctive outline of Camel's Hump, Vermont's third-highest peak, punctuates the horizon.

About five miles away is the Vermont Granite Museum, housed in a renovated manufacturing shed that dates from the turn of the last century. Although massive (about 30,000 square feet), it was called a "shed" for its open layout and cathedral-like ceiling. Machinery to cut and move the granite blocks was powered by a dam and turbines on the nearby Stevens Branch of the Winooski River. A railroad spur, leading directly to the shed, could then transport the finished stonework. Today's visitors are transported back in time through hands-on exhibits and collections of rock specimens and old tools, even industrial rollers made of granite.

Nearby Hope Cemetery showcases local granite and the artistry it spawned. Established in 1895, the 65-acre, parklike setting is a splendid example of the 19th-century garden cemetery movement, which favored burials in rural, nonsectarian settings. The coincident, ever-more-popular use of granite for tombstones and memorials created an outdoor museum of sculpture. The once-prevalent sandstone slates and marble headstones proved much less enduring than granite.

I've been called a tombstone tourist for past pilgrimages to the dead-celebrity-populated burial ground Père Lachaise in Paris and Cimitero Acattolico, the Roman cemetery where the poet John Keats's gravestone famously reads, "Here lies One Whose Name was writ in Water." But you don't have to be a melancholic taphophile to appreciate the artistry on display in Hope Cemetery, such as a Pietà-like statue and realistic representations of violins and airplanes. It's the "Uffizi of Necropolises," in the words of Vermont folklorist Joseph A. Citro. All of the monuments are made of Barre Gray, and virtually all have been sculpted by Barre stonemasons—some for their own graves before they died.

For Pat and me, who had lost one old friend to covid-19, a lone granite memorial in Hope Cemetery seemed especially poignant. Erected on the centenary of the 1918 pandemic, it commemorated the many Barre residents who had died of the flu. They had suffered disproportionately because of their existing silicosis (called stonecutters' disease) from inhaling granite dust while working in unventilated sheds.

Our visit to Barre was not all about death and granite, however. The trip easily included the Vermont fare of covered bridges, village greens, white church spires and maple syrup. Indeed, Pat insisted that we experience that quintessential summertime taste of the Green Mountain State: a frosty creemee. "What's that?" I asked. The delicious answer came at the Morse Farm Maple Sugarworks: towering swirls of soft ice cream, especially creamy, served in a cup or cone, accented with a generous portion of maple syrup or straight maple sugar.

As granite is hard and enduring, a creemee is soft and ephemeral—a most harmonious balance.

RECOGNIZING STAFF

Ms. WARREN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to enter into the RECORD the names of my staff who worked tirelessly to serve the constituents of Massachusetts and to pass the Inflation Reduction Act. Many of these staffers stayed up late into the night on Saturday, August 5, 2022, and into the next day on Sunday, August 6, 2022, in order to secure the passage of this transformative piece of legislation.

As I told my team in the hours after the bill passed the Senate, we made history today. There are tremendous policy achievements in this legislation: a plan to cut carbon emissions by 40 percent over the next 8 years, capped spending on prescription drugs for seniors and finally—finally—authorizing Medicare to negotiate some drug prices. For the first time in 30 years, we have raised corporate taxes for behemoth corporations. Policy is my love language, but that is because all this wonkiness is ultimately about people—little kids who have fewer asthma attacks and older people who don't have to choose between filling a prescription and having a meal and maybe a breakthrough that means both our democracy and our earth will survive. Making these kinds of changes is exactly why I am here.

To all of you, I offer my deepest thanks. Without you, I couldn't fight the righteous fights. But with you, we have already made big, structural change—and I am convinced there is more to come.

Caroline Ackerman, Branden Alberts, Stephanie Angel, Randy Beltre, Prerna Bhat, Alex Blenkinsopp, Meaghan Body, Jose Danilo Boquin Moran, Tess Byars, Matias Cano, Anthony Chen, Brian Cohen, Kunal Dixit, Jon Donenberg, Gabrielle Elul, Caroline Freedman, Bruno Freitas, Laura Gerrard, Chris Gongora, Daylan Gray, Allyson Huntoon, Maya Jenkins, Daniel Ki, Amielle Kutzen, Carys Lamberg, Catherine Laporte-Oshiro, Dana Larkin, Nikko Mendoza, Diana Nunez Calcano, Beth Pearson, Marielle Rabins, Ruby Robles, Anthony Ruano, Alex Sarabia, Benjamin Schiller, Nyanna Slaughter, Mandy Smithberger, Nikhil Srinivasan, Olivia Teixeira, Astou Thiane, Evan Turnage, Caleb White, Zena Wolf, and Jessica Wong.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. WARREN. Madam President, had there been a recorded vote, I would have voted no on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 1105, Carrin F. Patman, of Texas, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Iceland.

Mr. President, had there been a recorded vote, I would have voted no on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 812, Douglas T. Hickey, of Idaho, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and

Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Finland.

Mr. President, had there been a recorded vote, I would have voted no on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 785, Randi Charno Levine, of New York, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Portuguese Republic.

Mr. President, had there been a recorded vote, I would have voted no on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 979, Margaret C. Whitman, of Colorado, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Kenya.

Mr. President, had there been a recorded vote, I would have voted no on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 782, George J. Tsunis, of New York, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to Greece.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. HAWLEY. Madam President, had there been a recorded vote, I would have voted no on the confirmations of Executive Calendar No. 1069, Carlos Felipe Uriarte, of California, to be an Assistant Attorney General; Executive Calendar No. 1070, Carlton W. Reeves, of Mississippi, to be Chair of the United States Sentencing Commission; Executive Calendar No. 1071, Carlton W. Reeves, of Mississippi, to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission for a term expiring October 31, 2027; Executive Calendar No. 1072, Laura E. Mate, of Iowa, to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission for a term expiring October 31, 2027; Executive Calendar No. 1074, Luis Felipe Restrepo, of Pennsylvania, to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission for a term expiring October 31, 2025; and Executive Calendar No. 1076, John Gleeson, of New York, to be a Member of the United States Sentencing Commission for a term expiring October 31, 2023.

HONORING PRIVATE JOHN SHAUGHNESSY

Mr. TESTER. Madam President, I would like to share a few words today to honor the life and service of Private John Shaughnessy, a first-class Montanan and World War I veteran.

A native son of the Treasure State, John was born and raised in Missoula. His father, John A. Shaughnessy, was one of Missoula's pioneer builders who constructed a portion of the original buildings at Fort Missoula.

Never one to shy away from service or sacrifice, John answered the call to duty at the outbreak of World War I by enlisting in the U.S. Army. He was a member of the 339th Infantry and served in the American North Russia Expeditionary force, more commonly known as the Polar Bear Expedition.

During that expedition, Private Shaughnessy sadly contracted and died

of pneumonia in Archangel, Russia, on September 15, 1918. He was buried in the American cemetery in the town until his body was able to be removed and returned to Missoula in 1929.

While Private Shaughnessy was finally laid to rest in his native land, he never received the proper military headstone he deserved and earned.

It is my honor to say today, 104 years after his passing, Private Shaughnessy will at last receive his long-overdue military headstone in Missoula.

While our debt of gratitude to him can never be fully repaid, this military honor rightly ensures his sacrifices in service to our Nation will never be forgotten.

He is an American hero who has made Montana proud, and our country would not be what it is today without him and others in uniform who put their life on the line in return for our freedoms.

On behalf of myself and a grateful nation, I extend our deepest appreciation to him and his family.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING BURTON “BURT” ALBERT

• Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Madam President, I rise today to recognize Mr. Burton “Burt” Albert, a Connecticut native and remarkable man. Sadly, Mr. Albert passed away in 2019, at the age of 86. He will be remembered for his tireless commitment to community service and his deep devotion to his wonderful family.

Born in Waterbury, Burt spent much of his life in Connecticut, attending Cheshire Academy and Amherst College, where he graduated with a bachelor of arts in 1954. A member of the ROTC program, Mr. Albert went on to serve for 2 years as an intelligence officer in the U.S. Air Force. Burt remained proud of his time in the military, and I applaud his strong sense of patriotism and record of military service.

It was also in the Air Force where Mr. Albert met the love of his life, Sylvia Meisel, who would become his wife of 61 years. They would go on to build a wonderful family together, having three children—Eric, Jonathan, and Debbie—and many grandchildren they adored. Mr. Albert was a remarkable family man and cherished time with his loved ones above all else.

Mr. Albert returned to Connecticut to work in his family’s scrap metal recycling business. Burt became the third generation of Alberts to lead Albert Bros. Inc., a company that recently celebrated 125 years of outstanding industry in the State of Connecticut. I have visited Albert Bros. and seen firsthand the amazing new methods for turning waste material into a useful new resource. The company is an integral part of Waterbury commerce.

Under Mr. Albert’s leadership, Albert Bros. grew substantially, and he was respected by employees and customers alike. Amid all his success, working with his sons and grandson in the family business was one of the highlights of Mr. Albert’s professional career.

Mr. Albert devoted much of his time to serving the Waterbury community, bringing his tremendous leadership skills to many organizations including St. Mary’s Hospital, the Jewish Federation of Western Connecticut, the Harold Leever Cancer Center, and the Connecticut Community Foundation. Mr. Albert was also very active in the United Way of Greater Waterbury and B’nai Israel Synagogue. In these endeavors, Burt generously gave so much of his time and resources to helping others.

Burton Albert leaves behind a remarkable legacy of service—to our country, the State of Connecticut, and his community. But he will be remembered most by his loving family as an extraordinary husband, father, and grandfather. Burt’s sense of humor, passion for learning, and conviction in his beliefs are models for all of us. I hope my colleagues will join me in celebrating the life of Mr. Burton Albert.●

REMEMBERING JUDGE GREG RAY

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Sevier County Judge Greg Ray, who passed away on August 30, 2022, at the age of 61.

Judge Ray was a beloved member of his community and a fearless advocate for his constituents about whom he cared deeply. Those who had the chance to work with him remember his sense of humor, determination, and kindness.

Since 2010, Judge Ray served as a county leader and was intimately involved in a number of county and State organizations, including the County Judges Association of Arkansas—CJAA—where he served as first vice president and developed close relationships with county judges across the State. CJAA Chief Legal Counsel Mark Whitmore reflected that Judge Ray “was a dear friend, full of life and always had a big smile and happy disposition. He was a pillar of the CJAA and a leader in his community.”

Judge Ray was an instrumental figure in establishing the new Sevier County Medical Center, which is set to open at the end of this year. At the ground-breaking ceremony, he praised the residents of Sevier County for the high voter turnout in support of the new medical facility. “The citizens didn’t just show up. They showed out,” he said.

Thanks to his leadership and advocacy, the new hospital will bring much needed assistance to the people of rural southwest Arkansas, a legacy his loved ones and the citizens he served will be proud to reflect and carry on for years to come.

Outside of his role as county judge, he enjoyed fishing and served as a key organizer for the Sevier County Chamber of Commerce’s annual Tri-Lakes Big Bass Festival. He also hosted the annual Senior Citizens Day celebration on the Sevier County Courthouse Square.

I join Judge Greg Ray’s family, friends, and all Arkansans in mourning his passing. He set a worthy example for his hard-working staff and county judges across the State to emulate, and the people of Arkansas are grateful for his dedication to better our lives and communities.●

TRIBUTE TO J. DAVID BAILEY

• Mrs. CAPITO. Madam President, I rise today to celebrate the achievements of a West Virginian who triumphantly fought for our country during World War II. J. David Bailey, who was recently awarded the highest French recognition—the Legion of Honor—is one of the oldest surviving veterans of the Battle of the Bulge. His story is an extraordinary example of the American philosophy to fight for freedom around the world.

David was born in Bluefield, WV, on January 3, 1922. At the age of 21, he, like 16 million other Americans, answered the call to fight against tyranny. He became a dedicated member of the battalion of the U.S. Army’s 422nd Regiment, 106th Infantry Division.

On December 16, 1944, at the beginning of the Battle of the Bulge, the bloodiest and largest battle of World War II, David and his entire battalion were imprisoned by German troops east of St. Vith, Belgium. Ultimately, he escaped imprisonment to rejoin his fellow soldiers and went on to serve in other campaigns, including northern France and the Army of Occupation. He was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army on November 24, 1945.

In recognition of his honorable service to our country, David has received the Combat Infantry Badge, two Bronze Stars, four Battle Stars, and four service ribbons, as well as the Order of St. Maurice Medallion from the National Infantry Association. He also appeared on the cover of a victory edition of the military publication “Stars and Stripes.”

David has also been a key figure in preserving the history of World War II throughout the years. At one point, he served as the national president of the Battle of the Bulge Association. On January 25, 2022, at the age of 100, David was one of several veterans to lay the wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the Arlington National Cemetery to commemorate the end of the Battle of the Bulge. He also attended the opening ceremonies of the World War II Memorial, the 70th anniversary of V-E Day in 2015, and he was also the personal guest of President Barack Obama at the White House for the Veterans Day ceremony in 2011.