

This is where I want to end my comments because, during my tour of Graphite One, I saw firsthand how even in these very developmental stages, this project is already benefiting these Alaska Native communities.

Graphite One is committed to Alaska hire. They are working with a program that they call Arctic Access to help place disadvantaged individuals into meaningful jobs. We were able to talk a little bit about that program.

One of the individuals who really struck me was a gentleman by the name of John. He was from Brevig Mission. He had been the water treatment operator there in Brevig for some years. He was hired to run Graphite One's very sophisticated water and wastewater system. John told me he knew next to nothing about this state-of-the-art system there, which could have been disqualifying in some places, but at Graphite One, it didn't matter. Rather than hiring somebody from the lower 48, they hired people to train him, and he is now succeeding. The guy was just beaming from ear to ear about the opportunities and the excitement that he has not only for the job but what this mine meant for the region.

For people like John and other Alaskans, Graphite One is doing it right. I am proud to have them operating in Alaska.

This is an opportunity for us as a country. Again, when we think about our dependence, when we think about our vulnerability on others for critical minerals and particularly our growing vulnerability on one country—China—everything we can do to responsibly address this is a step forward, and Alaska has a significant opportunity in front of us.

I would hope that every Member of the Senate and every member of the administration will look at these as opportunities and join in doing everything we can to support this important work.

With that, I yield the floor.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KELLY). The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all postcloture time on the Cartwright nomination be considered expired and the confirmation vote occur at a time to be determined by the majority leader following consultation with the Republican leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session and be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

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

NOMINATION OF ROSEMARIE HIDALGO

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today, the Senate will vote to confirm Rosie Hidalgo as Director of the Office on Violence Against Women, OVW. Ms. Hidalgo is a proven champion for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, and her extensive experience, as well as her longstanding commitment to justice, will make her an outstanding Director of OVW.

Ms. Hidalgo received her B.A. from Georgetown University and her J.D. from New York University School of Law. She began her legal career providing direct representation to survivors of domestic violence, as well as assisting them in securing custody of their children. She then joined the nonprofit Esperanza United, where she advocated on behalf of victims of gender-based crimes and promoted policies designed to improve public safety. Ms. Hidalgo is particularly equipped to lead OVW, having worked there as deputy director for policy. In this capacity, she implemented Violence Against Women Act—VAWA—related grants and engaged with relevant agencies and stakeholders to devise new ways to improve the law.

Today, Ms. Hidalgo serves as a Special Assistant to the President and Senior Advisor on Gender-Based Violence at the White House, where she played a key role in securing the bipartisan reauthorization of VAWA.

After more than a decade without a Senate-confirmed Director, OVW will benefit from Hidalgo's expertise, leadership, and unwavering commitment to aiding survivors of gender-based violence.

I strongly support her nomination and urge my colleagues to do the same.●

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

NOMINATION OF KYMBERLY KATHRYN EVANSON

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today the Senate will vote to confirm Kymberly Evanson to the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington. A native of Longview, WA, Ms. Evanson received her bachelor's degree

from Seattle University and her law degree from Georgetown University Law Center. Ms. Evanson began her legal career as an associate with K&L Gates, where she practiced for 2 years before joining her current firm, the Seattle-based Pacifica Law Group.

At Pacifica, Ms. Evanson has a varied practice with an overarching focus on public interest legal work, including on behalf of legal municipalities and municipal agencies. She has handled cases that touch on a broad range of issues, from the State constitutional amendment process and federalism to immigration, trade secrets, and clemency. Her work also includes two briefs before the U.S. Supreme Court. The American Bar Association rated Ms. Evanson "well qualified," and she has the strong support of Senators Murray and Cantwell.

Given her breadth and depth of litigation experience, as well as her commitment to equal justice and the rule of law, Ms. Evanson will make an outstanding addition to the Western District of Washington.

I strongly support her nomination and urge my colleagues to join me in voting for her confirmation.●

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

VOTE EXPLANATION

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 174, confirmation of the nomination of Xochitl Torres Small to be Deputy Secretary of Agriculture. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted yea.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 175, motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Rosemarie Hidalgo to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, Department of Justice. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted yea.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 176, motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Kymberly Kathryn Evanson to be U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Washington. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted yea.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 177, confirmation of the nomination of Rosemarie Hidalgo to be Director of the Violence Against Women Office, Department of Justice. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted yea.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 178, confirmation of the nomination of Kymberly Kathryn Evanson to be U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Washington. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted yea.

I was necessarily absent for rollcall vote No. 179, motion to invoke cloture on the nomination of Tiffany M. Cartwright to be U.S. District Judge for the Western District of Washington. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted yea.●

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER NICKOLAS WILT AND OFFICER CORY GALLOWAY

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, across our Nation, thousands of law enforcement officers make great sacrifices to preserve our freedoms and keep the peace. These law enforcement officers not only serve at great risk but also start every shift with a sense of uncertainty.

On April 10, 2023, Louisville, KY, was fortunate to have two heroes respond to the call of duty. A gunman began shooting innocent citizens at the Old National Bank and took the lives of five individuals. Within minutes of being dispatched, Officer Nickolas Wilt and his training officer Officer Cory Galloway were the first to arrive on the scene. Officer Wilt was on his 10th day of patrol following his graduation from the academy. But the actions of Officer Wilt were that of a seasoned veteran.

Without hesitation, the two officers left the cover of their patrol car and approached the bank while the shooter fired at them with a rifle. Body camera video shows the officers acted with remarkable heroism, bravery, and dedication to save innocent lives. Knowing that each passing second could result in further loss of innocent lives, Officers Wilt and Galloway proceeded toward the gunman. Officer Galloway was struck by rifle rounds in his ballistic vest, causing him to be knocked to the ground and seek cover from further gunshots. During this time, Officer Wilt was struck in the head by one of the assailant's rounds.

At this point, disregarding his own safety, Officer Galloway proceeded back toward the gunman and was able to eliminate the threat as he continued taking fire. Officer Galloway continued into the bank through the shot-out windows and told other responding officers to care for Officer Wilt, who was critically injured.

Today, I stand to honor Officer Nickolas Wilt and Officer Cory Galloway, as well as a multitude of fellow officers, fire, and emergency medical personnel who responded to this chaotic scene. Each of them displayed the true meaning of service before self. The actions of these individuals as well as the dispatchers taking the frantic calls, saved countless lives, including the life of Officer Wilt.

May the actions of each responder be forever remembered as a clear display of heroism in action.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL JAMES HARVEY III

Mr. BENNET. Mr. President, I rise to honor LTC James Harvey III, a Tuskegee Airman and decorated fighter jet pilot in celebration of his 100th birthday on July 13, 2023. Lieutenant Colonel Harvey flew as part of the 99th Fighter Squadron in World War II before becoming the first African-American U.S. Air Force pilot to fly in Ko-

rean airspace during the Korean war. The U.S. Army was segregated when Lieutenant Colonel Harvey joined in 1943, but his perseverance and heroism, both at home and in the skies, continue to inspire us all.

Lieutenant Colonel Harvey excelled in high school as senior class president and valedictorian. Drafted in April 1943, he was initially assigned to the U.S. Army Air Corps as an engineer. It was there, on a train bound for Fort Meade, he first encountered prejudice and discrimination. While in the Army, he worked to carve airstrips out of jungle terrain before applying for cadet training. He later received his wings and commission in 1944 at Tuskegee Army Air Field. From there, Lieutenant Colonel Harvey was assigned to the 332nd Fighter Group's 99th Fighter Squadron, where he served as one of the original members of the "Tuskegee Airmen." The 332nd Fighter Group was noted as one of the Army Air Forces' most successful and most-decorated escort groups and helped encourage the eventual integration of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Lieutenant Colonel Harvey's skill stood out even among those decorated pilots. In 1949, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force arranged an aerial weapons competition among the best pilots in each group. In May of that year, Lieutenant Colonel Harvey joined his group's three-member team to compete at the inaugural "Top Gun" team competition, which was hosted at the Las Vegas Air Force Base, now known as Nellis Air Force Base. Lieutenant Colonel Harvey's team led the competition from the beginning to the end, ultimately winning against teams flying far more advanced equipment.

Lieutenant Colonel Harvey's service to the Air Force did not end there. He was the first African American fighter jet pilot to see combat in the Korean war. On October 16, 1950, he led an element of four F-80s in close support to a bomber mission under adverse weather to attack enemy troops three miles north of Yongsan, Korea. Flying at a low ceiling of 800 feet, Lieutenant Colonel Harvey's flight found the enemy encampment and immediately inflicted heavy damage. For this engagement, he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, along with multiple Air Medals. His heroism on that day and on the 140 total missions he flew during the Korean war will never be forgotten.

After the Korean war, he served as a flight commander, test pilot, assistant group operations officer, flight safety officer, and battle staff training officer for the Commanding General of the North American Aerospace Defense Command, NORAD. Lieutenant Colonel Harvey retired from the Air Force on May 31, 1965, joined Oscar Mayer as a corporate salesman, and settled down with his family of four daughters in Denver, where he still resides.

Lieutenant Colonel Harvey won numerous awards during his decorated 22-year career in the U.S. Army Air Corps/

U.S. Air Force. These awards include the WWII Victory Medal, Air Medal with 10 oakleaf clusters, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and the United Nations Service Medal. Lieutenant Colonel Harvey, along with every member of the Tuskegee Airmen, received the Congressional Gold Medal in 2006.

As Americans, we owe a debt of gratitude to Lieutenant Colonel Harvey for his heroism. His service to our Armed Forces, recognized by 11 medals during his Air Force career through segregation and discrimination, is an inspiration for generations to come. It is in this spirit of gratitude that I rise today to honor Denver's own Lieutenant Colonel James Harvey III on his 100th birthday.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE WILLIAM S. GREENBERG

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Judge William S. Greenberg, a dedicated public servant, celebrated jurist, and fierce advocate for our Nation's veterans.

Born in New Jersey and raised in New Jersey, Judge Greenberg received his undergraduate degree in 1964 from Johns Hopkins University and his J.D. in 1967 from Rutgers University in Newark. Upon graduating from law school, Judge Greenberg enlisted in the U.S. Army as an armored cavalry crewman beginning his long history of service to our Nation. In 1970, he earned a commission in the Judge Advocate General's Corps and eventually retired as a brigadier general in 1994 after decades of honorable service in the U.S. Army Reserves.

Judge Greenberg spent the beginning half of his career in private practice as a litigator. He was a founding partner of Sterns & Greenberg from 1970 until 1976 and of Greenberg & Prior from 1976 to 1989. He retired from private practice as a partner in McCarter & English in 2012, after he was nominated to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims by President Obama. After his confirmation in the Senate, Judge Greenberg was sworn in for a term of 15 years on December 28, 2012, allowing Judge Greenberg to apply his skills and energy as a judge to two of his greatest passions: the law and veterans service.

This nomination to the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims was the culmination of a career dedicated to advocating for our Nation's veterans, both in and out of the courtroom. Judge Greenberg devoted much of his career to ensuring his fellow veterans had the best legal representation. After the horrific attacks on September 11, 2001, Judge Greenberg established the New Jersey State Bar Association's Program of Military Legal Assistance for members of the military Reserves who were called to active duty. This pro bono program connects volunteer lawyers with soldiers who need legal representation for everything from disability benefits claims, to employment