

through bold leadership, determined activism, and collective will. Its legacy has reverberated far beyond the military, contributing to the broader struggle for civil rights and social justice, including the landmark civil rights legislation of the 1960s and the ongoing quest for racial equality today.

As we celebrate this significant milestone, it is essential that we reflect on the progress made and acknowledge the work that remains unfinished. While E.O. 9981 marked a pivotal moment, we recognize that systemic racism continues to persist in various forms, demanding our unwavering commitment to its eradication. In honoring the 75th anniversary of E.O. 9981, let us recommit ourselves to the enduring principles of equality and justice for all. Let us continue to strive for a society that values diversity, inclusivity, and equal opportunity, where the color of one's skin does not determine their worth or limit their potential.

As members of Congress, entrusted with the duty of shaping legislation and promoting the well-being of all Americans, I urge you to draw inspiration from the spirit of E.O. 9981 and to uphold our fundamental American values. Although our painful history cannot be erased, let us work together to enact policies that dismantle systemic barriers, rectify historical injustices, and build a more equitable and harmonious future for our Nation.

HONORING CAPTAIN ROBERT C. HARMON AND PRIVATE JOHN R. PEIRSON

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, today I rise to honor posthumously half-brothers Captain Robert C. Harmon and Private John R. Peirson from New Richmond, WI, who both made the ultimate sacrifice for our great Nation during World War II.

A week before the D-Day invasion on the Normandy coast and on his 51st mission, Captain Harmon's plane was shot down over occupied France by German artillery. Initially listed as missing-in-action, Captain Harmon was officially declared dead on May 29, 1945, by the U.S. War Department.

Motivated by a sense of duty to his country, as well as the loss of his older half-brother, Private Peirson enlisted in the U.S. Army. He was mortally wounded during the April 16, 1945, Easter Day assault on the island of Okinawa, Japan, and died of his wounds the following day.

A joint memorial service was held in New Richmond, WI, on April 26, 1949, for the repatriated remains of the two fallen brothers. They are buried side by side at the Fort Snelling Cemetery in Minneapolis, MN. Both were posthumously awarded the Purple Heart.

In recognition of their service and sacrifice, I was proud to sponsor and witness successful passage of S. 2932 during the 117th Congress, a bill to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal

Service located at 430 South Knowles Avenue in New Richmond, WI, as the "Captain Robert C. Harmon and Private John R. Peirson Post Office Building." This legislation was passed in the Senate by unanimous consent on May 25, 2022, and was signed into law by President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., on December 29, 2022.

The official dedication and celebration of the Captain Robert C. Harmon and Private John R. Peirson Post Office Building will take place on August 25, 2023. Family, friends, fellow veterans, elected leaders, and community members will come together to remember these brothers and their service to our country. Local support of this dedication includes the New Richmond City Council, along with Mayors Fred Horne and Jim Zajkowski; the New Richmond Chamber of Commerce; the Butler-Harmon American Legion Post 80; and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 10818 New Richmond/St. Croix County. Special recognition is due to Ms. Sally Berkholder who has been a tireless advocate for this dedication and ensuring that the family and community is able to properly celebrate and honor the service of the Harmon/Peirson brothers.

Captain Harmon and Private Peirson heroically gave their lives serving our country during World War II. They bravely fought for our American values and freedom, and we are indebted by their sacrifice. I am proud that their memory will live on by the official dedication of the New Richmond Post Office as the "Captain Robert C. Harmon and Private John R. Peirson Post Office Building."

REMEMBERING WALTER KNIGHT

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Walter Knight, who passed away on June 20, 2023, at the age of 89. Mr. Knight will be remembered for his numerous acts of leadership in the community of Beloit, WI—notably, serving as the first African-American on the Beloit Police and Fire Commission and the first African-American to be elected to the Beloit City Council.

Mr. Knight spent the first 17 years of his life in Arkansas where he attended segregated public schools and graduated from Union Grove High School in 1951. Upon graduation, he moved to Beloit, WI, where he went on to work for Fairbanks Morse in the foundry. The grueling conditions of the foundry motivated him to enroll in Blackhawk Technical College. This allowed him to move into a position in the machine shop at Fairbanks Morse where he remained for 25 years. Later in his career at Fairbanks Morse, he was elected the president of the Local Union 1533 United Steelworkers of America from 1972–1976.

To further advance his educational career, Mr. Knight studied union policy at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. At the time he attended Madison, less than 1 percent of students were Af-

rican-American. After securing higher-level education, Mr. Knight's activist voice and profound leadership in the Beloit community led him to be elected the first African-American on the Beloit City Council, where he served from 1972–1985. Mr. Knight's involvement and dedication to the Beloit community did not stop there. As an African-American, he spent his early years in Beloit fighting segregation by exposing and assisting in the closure of local discriminatory and prejudice businesses.

In addition to his fight for racial justice, Mr. Knight spent over 30 years with the Rock County Opportunities Industrialization Center. As executive director, he dedicated his time to helping minority and other local residents build occupational and social skills to enhance their career prospects. Mr. Knight always wanted to be remembered as someone who did all he could to help others. His life of selfless acts for his community accurately displays this. From working in the foundry at Fairbanks Morse to becoming president of the Beloit City Council, Mr. Knight was truly a trailblazer and has left an indelible mark on the Beloit community.

By creating opportunities and a voice for the minority community in Beloit, Mr. Knight's leadership granted him induction into the Beloit Historical Society Hall of Fame in 2014. Additionally, as a part of the 2019 Juneteenth celebration, the Portland Avenue Bridge in Beloit was renamed "Walter R. Knight Bridge" in his honor. Mr. Knight will be whole-heartedly missed and always remembered for the years of compassion and love he bestowed upon his community.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF TRUE COMPANIES

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of True Companies. This network of Wyoming businesses spans several major industries that directly benefit Natrona County, Wyoming, and our Nation.

Headquartered in Casper, WY, True Companies is a Wyoming institution. Proudly owned and operated by the True family, the businesses that make up True Companies are diverse. They contribute to multiple industries including energy, agriculture, real estate/development, and the financial sector. True Companies employs over 1,000 individuals across the United States in Wyoming, Colorado, Montana, North Dakota, Utah, New Mexico, Arizona, Missouri, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Oklahoma.

In Wyoming, we follow the Code of the West, a set of cowboy ethics that drive and shape our values. These principles remind us to take pride in our work and to do what has to be done. Today, the Code of the West hangs in the lobby of True Companies, serving as a reminder of the values of its

founder H.A. "Dave" True, Jr. Henry Alphonso True, Jr., or Dave as he was known to friends and family, was born in 1915 in Cheyenne. He married his high school sweetheart Jean in 1938. After earning his engineering degree from Montana State University, he followed in the footsteps of his father. Dave worked for Texaco, formerly known as the Texas Company, in Cody, where he lived with Jean and their four children: Tamma, H.A. "Hank" III, Diemer, and David L. In 1948, the family relocated to Casper. Here, Dave became part owner and manager of the Reserve Drilling Company, a one-rig drilling outfit that would change the course of his career. Just 3 years later, he was the president of Reserve Drilling and then opened his own drilling enterprise, True and Brown Drilling Contractors.

Dave had an uncanny ability to anticipate the needs of a then-booming oil industry. In 1954, he founded True Oil and True Drilling. He discovered several oil reservoirs in the ensuing years. In the next two decades, he founded eight additional businesses, each uniquely situated to meet the needs of—and capitalize on—the booming oil sector and Casper's growing population. It was also during this period that Dave began to diversify his interests. In 1957, he entered the ranching sector. True Ranches, a 36-head cattle operation included Nugget, his lone bull. Other endeavors were the Belle Fourche Pipeline Company, Black Hills Trucking, and Eighty-Eight Oil LLC. In all his business dealings, Dave was a consummate professional. He valued integrity and respect over making a quick buck. He was known to say, "A good deal is not a good deal unless it's good for both parties."

Quiet and hard working, Dave took seriously his role of sharing his time and talent with his community. In 1961, he established a scholarship program for the children of True Companies employees. For over six decades, the program has rewarded deserving, high-achieving students with money to pursue their education. Dave also taught his children the importance of public service and giving back. Today, the True family is well-known for its generous philanthropic efforts. In May of this year, the University of Wyoming, our State's only 4-year university, established the H.A. "Dave" True Jr. Family College of Business Deanship. This distinct honor recognizes the True family's legacy of dedicated service and entrepreneurial spirit.

The history of True Companies began with the humble vision and determination of Dave and Jean. After Dave died in 1994, Jean continued as the family's matriarch until she passed in 2006. She was 90 years old. Today, the company's heritage lives on through their children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and even great-great-grandchildren.

Hank III and Karen True have three children: Thea True-Wells and Scott

Wells with children Eric, Christopher, Jean Marie, and Katelin Wells; H.A. "Tad" IV and Jennifer True with children H.A. "Henry" V, Sam and Charlie; and Barbara True.

Diemer and Susie True have four children: Kip and Chris True with children Hailey True, Hannah and Steven Gutenberger, Hollie and Seth Snitker, Hayden and Lydia True, Harrison and Meghan True, Haines, Helaina, Hadleigh and Hyldie True; Kyle and Caridee True with children Connor and Suzanna True, Kennedee and Shawn Dalke, Cross and Megan True, Johnathon and Jacqueline True, Jordan, Sophia, and Patton True; Tara and Kirk Aamot with children Abbie and James Cooksey, Mark, David, and Grace Aamot; and Tracy True-Propp with children Mikayla and Preston Propp.

Dave and Melanie True have four children: Shane and JoAnn True with children Ellie True, Elijah and Katherine True, Rand, Delaney, Finn, and Reagan True; Christy and Quintin LeClercq with children Brayden, Kellan, Lincoln, and Zanden LeClercq; Bryce and Kelsey True with children Taggart, Roark, and Akston True; and Ashley and Gene VanDeest.

Dave and Jean's eldest daughter Tamma True-Hatten died in 2017. Her husband Donald Hatten predeceased her in 2002. Their memories live on through their two children Jaci and Dale Kerns with children Kodi Kerns, Jake (JD) and Dawn Kerns, Josh and Randi Kerns, and Joel Kerns; and Dave Hatten with children Kaci Hatten and Kara and Christian Sabo.

True Companies includes the following businesses: True Oil, True Drilling, True Ranches, Toolpushers Supply Company, Black Hills Trucking, Measurement Services LLC, Bridger Pipeline LLC, Eighty-Eight Oil LLC, Equitable Oil Purchasing Company, Hilltop Bank, Flowstate, and Brick and Bond, in addition to numerous other ranches and properties.

This year, members and employees of the True Companies family will celebrate its 75th anniversary by giving back to the community. On August 19, 2023, True Companies will join Bluepeak in sponsoring the annual 5150' Festival, a free community event hosted by Visit Casper. It is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate all that Casper has to offer with food, vendors, and live music.

True Companies was built on a foundation of humble service and hard work. Its founder, H.A. "Dave" True, Jr., established a culture that encouraged employees to "talk less and say more." Bobbi and I are honored to celebrate its 75th anniversary, and we look forward to the next 75 years of success.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MILWAUKEE MEXICAN FIESTA

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Mexican Fiesta in Milwaukee. I

am proud to honor this tradition that showcases the rich cultural history of the Hispanic community in Wisconsin.

What began as a small street festival in Milwaukee has grown to be one of the largest celebrations of Mexican culture in the country. In 1973, proud members of the Mexican-American community closed down one street in downtown Milwaukee to celebrate Mexican Independence Day. Today, the Mexican Fiesta attracts thousands of visitors from across the State to enjoy Hispanic cuisine, dance to Mexican artists, and learn more about the rich history of this community. With more than 450 exhibitors and vendors, it has also become an opportunity for Wisconsin small businesses, nonprofits, and local artisans to showcase their products and reach new customers.

This 50-year tradition is not only a celebration of Hispanic heritage; it is also a chance to support students across the State as they pursue an education. Money raised through the Mexican Fiesta goes towards the Wisconsin Hispanic Scholarship Foundation, which expands access to higher education for the Hispanic community. Since its founding, the foundation has awarded \$1.8 million in scholarships. Thanks to their efforts, young Hispanic men and women across the State have been empowered to explore their interests and jumpstart their futures.

The original organizers of the Mexican Fiesta were searching for a way to share their traditions and culture with the rest of their community. It has been inspiring to watch that vision become a reality over the last 50 years. Armed with the knowledge that education opens doors, the Wisconsin Hispanic Scholarship Foundation has used the reach and popularity of this celebration to empower young Wisconsinites to pursue their dreams. I am proud to recognize this important tradition on their 50th anniversary, and I look forward to celebrating the countless contributions that Mexican Americans have made to our State for years to come.

TRIBUTE TO SEAN FARRELL

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. President, today I bid a fond farewell to my chief of staff Sean Farrell. Sean has been an indispensable member of my team for 6 years. During that time, he has worn several hats, each coming with its own challenges. Sean joined Team Blackburn when I was serving on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, where he mastered some of the most complex issues that the U.S. Congress examines. After I was elected to the Senate, Sean agreed to move from the House to the Senate and assumed the formidable task of managing my legislative agenda, as well as a gaggle of young lawyers and policy experts.

When I asked Sean to serve as my chief of staff, I knew I was asking him to face challenges far beyond those normally associated with the position.