

the Joint Service Achievement Medal, and the Navy Achievement Medal.

It is my honor to commemorate Captain Fitzpatrick's incredible service to our country. Patrick, on behalf of myself and a grateful nation, I thank you and extend our deepest appreciation to you and your family for your enduring service and sacrifices. Your exemplary service in the Navy is what makes our country the greatest in the world and Montana the Last Best Place. You are a true patriot, and after 33 years of service, Montana is proud to welcome you and your family back home to the Treasure State.●

REMEMBERING ARLYNE REICHERT

● Mr. TESTER. Madam President, I rise today to honor the memory of an outstanding Montanan and leader.

Arylne Reichert was one of Montana's greatest public servants, whose legacy is as a State legislator, a Cascade County Study Commissioner, a trustee on the Great Falls Public Library Board, a founder and president of the Great Falls Chapter of the American Cancer Society, an officer for the Great Falls Public Radio Association, a president of the Great Falls Chapter of the Montana Rhodes Scholarship Committee, a chair of the National Civic League, a member of the Montana Comprehensive Health Council of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, a member of the committee responsible for the magnificent restoration of Montana's State Capitol, and the driving force behind the preservation of what was once called the Tenth Street Bridge.

Her service led her to be a delegate at Montana's Constitutional Convention, playing a pivotal role in the vision of our State's constitution, a document that has continued to embody Montana values and forge the way for the greater good in the Treasure State.

Arylne's legacy was one of service. That legacy includes many things we can still see today: a constitution, a bridge, a public radio presence, a medical research institution. But her legacy also includes contributions that we can't see, shaping the character that defines Montana politics: fairness, service, and love for State and country.

Arylne was a true Montanan. She never failed to meet challenges, reach across the aisle, and fight for her community at every turn. Her commitment to Great Falls and the common good left a lasting mark on Montana, and I think we can all learn a thing or two from her.

As the late Montana reporter Chuck Johnson once noted, Arylne Reichert was a Montana treasure.

I stand today to thank her and to ask that we remember her by taking a moment to honor the heroes in each of our lives.●

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE BRIGGS

● Mr. TILLIS. Madam President, today I rise to commend George Briggs for

his remarkable 37-year tenure as executive director of the North Carolina Arboretum.

Under Executive Director Briggs' guidance, the arboretum has flourished, boasting a dedicated staff of 150 and an additional 350 volunteers. His leadership has been instrumental in earning the arboretum the distinction of America's Best Botanical Garden by Newsweek. Throughout his career, he has been a driving force in North Carolina's green industry and tourism economy.

The arboretum welcomes over 600,000 visitors and 100,000 students annually, offering innovative educational programs and a serene environment of natural beauty.

Prior to his tenure, Mr. Briggs served as a professor of horticulture at Virginia Tech and as executive director of the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. As president of the American Public Gardens Association and as the founder and chair of the inaugural World Congress of Botanical Gardens held in Asheville, he worked to establish a policy framework for plant conservation in public gardens worldwide.

A native of Reidsville, NC, Mr. Briggs has championed numerous economic development initiatives that have bolstered Asheville's climate science and business sectors and North Carolina's natural products economy.

This year, Mr. Briggs announced his retirement from the arboretum, marking the end of a career characterized by unwavering dedication to Asheville and our State. I extend my heartfelt thanks to Executive Director Briggs for his lifelong commitment, and I wish him and his family all the best as he embarks on this new chapter of his life.●

REMEMBERING DR. NORVELL V. COOTS

● Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, I rise today to honor Brigadier General (Ret.) Norvell Vandervall Coots, MD, MSS, FAAD, a distinguished healthcare and military leader who passed away on June 12, 2024. Dr. Coots dedicated his life to serving our Nation and improving the health and well-being of countless lives.

Dr. Coots retired from the U.S. Army in 2016, culminating his distinguished 36-year military career as commanding general of Regional Health Command Europe, concurrent with his post as command surgeon for the U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army. Throughout his service, Dr. Coots held numerous key positions, including deputy commanding general of the U.S. Army Medical Command, Assistant Surgeon General for Force Projection at the Pentagon, and Surgeon General for the U.S. forces in Afghanistan. He also served as the final commander of the historic Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC. Dr. Coots' extensive military accomplishments

earned him international recognition in the form of both the U.S. Army's Distinguished Service Medal and the French Legion of Honor, among many others.

Dr. Coots served as the president and CEO of Holy Cross Health in Montgomery County, MD, for 7 years. Under his guidance, Holy Cross Health became a regional leader in comprehensive cancer care. Dr. Coots also established the Trinity Health Military and Veterans Healthcare Program, addressing the unique needs of military servicemembers, veterans, and their families. Notably, the National Medical Association acknowledged Dr. Coots' dedication and achievement by awarding him the Scroll of Merit.

Following his appointment to Maryland's COVID-19 Task Force, Dr. Coots served as chair of the board of the National Institutes of Health's Clinical Center Hospital. In this role, he was instrumental in overseeing operations and fortifying a culture of safety and high-quality clinical care. His leadership was pivotal in strengthening the practices of oversight and compliance, ensuring that the NIH Clinical Center maintained its high standard of excellence. In addition to leadership roles as chairman of the Board for Maryland Physicians Care, with the American Academy of Dermatology, and on the American Hospital Association Board of Trustees, Dr. Coots received recognition from the Pearl S. Buck Society for his contributions to the development of a healthcare program for orphans in Korea. He also founded Project Moldova, a charity organization for vocational training for children in Moldovan orphanages and boarding schools.

Personally, Van was a trusted and treasured member of my United States Uniformed Service Academy Advisory Board, helping to select and shepherd the next generation of military leaders. His vision and passion for mentoring poignantly built on his own legacy of excellence in public service, and generations across our Nation and around the world will feel the ripple effects of his good works.

I extend my deepest condolences and gratitude to Dr. Coots' family, including his wife Claudia and their children Maximilian and Catalina and to his colleagues. His legacy of service, leadership, and excellence will continue to inspire us all.●

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL ESTEE PINCHASIN

● Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam President, I rise today to honor COL Estee Pinchasin, outgoing commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Baltimore District. Since her commissioning as a second lieutenant in 1998, Colonel Pinchasin has diligently served our country through a remarkable tenure with the corps. Appointed to the role of commander on July 16, 2021,

Colonel Pinchasin took on this responsibility with enthusiasm and dedication.

Throughout her time as commander, Colonel Pinchasin has demonstrated effective leadership and command of approximately 1,200 employees, while overseeing critical engineering and construction programs for the mid-Atlantic region. Colonel Pinchasin has been responsible for roughly 7,000 miles of coastline, including the Susquehanna River, Potomac River, and Chesapeake Bay watersheds. Delivering on critical solutions to support disaster resiliency, construction of Federal facilities, and environmental restoration, Colonel Pinchasin has emphasized partnership and coordination with local organizations to meet the goals of the Corps of Engineers.

After the fall of Kabul in 2021, Colonel Pinchasin successfully implemented multiple operational logistical hubs, which allowed for the rapid processing of evacuees from Afghanistan. Stemming from her previous experience as corps officer in charge in Kandahar, Colonel Pinchasin understood the importance of ensuring a comfortable and warm welcome for refugees. Her deep-seated values of respect and collaboration have led to more than a dozen awards and decorations throughout her career so far, including the NATO and Meritorious Service Medals.

In recent months, we have seen the tremendous results of Colonel Pinchasin's leadership. In the aftermath of Maryland's Francis Scott Key Bridge collapse in late March 2024, her work through the Unified Command made it possible for the corps to have an impact in Baltimore that has been nothing short of exemplary. Her steadfast leadership and operational expertise were instrumental in the execution of recovery operations, which were critical to clearing debris and restoring access to the Fort McHenry Channel. Her effective use of mobilized resources facilitated a swift and efficient response that provided the Unified Command with the technical expertise needed to ensure success.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Colonel Pinchasin for her outstanding leadership and service as commander of the Baltimore District, and I wish her continued success in her subsequent posts.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Stringer, 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.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2023, the Secretary of the Senate, on July 23, 2024, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 1105. An act to amend the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 to reauthorize the Debbie Smith DNA Backlog Grant Program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3019. An act to establish an inspections regime for the Bureau of Prisons, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of July 23, 2024, the enrolled bills, except H.R. 1105, were subsequently signed on July 23, 2024, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. OSSOFF).

The enrolled bill H.R. 1105 was subsequently signed on July 23, 2024, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mrs. MURRAY).

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:43 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 1973. An act to require the purchase of domestically made flags of the United States of America for use by the Federal Government.

S. 3249. An act to designate the outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Wyandotte County, Kansas City, Kansas, as the "Captain Elwin Shopteese VA Clinic".

S. 3285. An act to rename the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Butte, Montana, as the "Charlie Dowd VA Clinic".

S. 4548. An act to make a technical correction to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2024 by repealing section 5101 and enacting an updated version of the Foreign Extortion Prevention Act.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills and joint resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 890. An act to increase access to agency guidance documents.

H.R. 2969. An act to establish an Independent Financial Technology Working Group to Combat Terrorism and Illicit Financing, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4136. An act to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Plano, Texas as the "U.S. Congressman Sam Johnson Memorial VA Clinic".

H.R. 6162. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 379 North Oates Street in Dothan, Alabama, as the "LaBruce 'Bruce' Tidwell Post Office Building".

H.R. 7280. An act to require the Inspector General of the Department of Housing and

Urban Development to testify before the Congress annually, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7333. An act to name the Department of Veterans Affairs medical center in West Palm Beach, Florida, as the "Thomas H. Corey VA Medical Center".

H.R. 7377. An act to amend the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982 to improve the management of royalties from oil and gas leases, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7385. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 29 Franklin Street in Petersburg, Virginia, as the "John Mercer Langston Post Office Building".

H.R. 8812. An act to provide for improvements to the rivers and harbors of the United States, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 165. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Non-Discrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance."

The message further announced that the House having proceeded to reconsider the resolution (H.J. Res. 109) providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Securities and Exchange Commission relating to "Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 121", returned by the President of the United States with his objections, to the House of Representatives, in which it originated, it was resolved, that the said joint resolution do not pass, two-thirds of the House of Representatives not agreeing to pass the same.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following resolution:

H. Res. 1366. Resolution relative to the death of the Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee, a Representative from the State of Texas.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 890. An act to increase access to agency guidance documents; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2969. An act to establish an Independent Financial Technology Working Group to Combat Terrorism and Illicit Financing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 4136. An act to name the Department of Veterans Affairs community-based outpatient clinic in Plano, Texas, as the "U.S. Congressman Sam Johnson Memorial VA Clinic"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 6162. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 379 North Oates Street in Dothan, Alabama, as the "LaBruce 'Bruce' Tidwell Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 7280. An act to require the Inspector General of the Department of Housing and Urban Development to testify before the Congress annually, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.