

veterans, and their families for their extraordinary commitment to our country. May our country continue to earnestly search for those still missing until they are all at last returned home.

TRIBUTE TO BOB NEWHART

Mr. WELCH. Mr. President, in late July, Vermonters and Americans mourned the passing of Bob Newhart, a talented and award-winning actor who changed the history of comedy forever. His celebrated television show, "Newhart," aired on CBS from 1982 to 1990 and gave the United States a window into dreamy, rural Vermont's picturesque Green Mountain view. As Dick Loudon, Mr. Newhart brought laughter and Vermont Values into the living rooms of millions of Americans.

In "Newhart," Dick and his wife escape New York City and buy the Stratford Inn, better known by the real-world residents of Middlebury, VT, as the Waybury Inn. The production crew saw the Waybury Inn while scouting locations and knew it was the perfect location. The inn still has props from the show on display, and the 214-year-old inn hosts travelers and diners to this day. Over the show's 184 episodes, Mr. Newhart and his cast centered their show around the fictional Stratford Inn, capturing the very real spirit and beauty of Vermont and the hard-working people that make it home.

Television and the arts play the important role in our lives and culture, bringing together friends and families, bridging cultural divides, and helping heal during times of difficulty. Mr. Newhart's Grammy and Emmy award winning performances and countless television shows and movies exemplify the power of comedy—and the essential role the arts play in our social fabric.

Mr. Newhart was an icon of comedy and Hollywood, but Vermonters will always remember his time as our favorite innkeeper.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO BAYARD TRACY

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am honored to recognize Bayard Tracy of Spofford as August's Granite Stater of the Month. For almost 20 years, Bayard has volunteered with the Spofford Lake Association, helping to ensure that the community can use the lake for generations to come.

Shortly after he moved to Spofford in 2006, Bayard got involved with the Spofford Lake Association, first by helping with water testing and then with obtaining grants and conducting studies to understand and improve the lake's water quality. The studies showed that stormwater runoff is the largest source of phosphorus and other pollutants entering the lake—and this can create an unsafe environment for fish and wildlife. Using the information from the studies, Bayard and his fellow association volunteers worked with the State, the town of Chesterfield, and

property owners to develop a multiyear water management plan to improve Spofford Lake's water quality. As part of this plan, the town's select board established a watershed committee and created a wastewater management ordinance for the lake district. Additionally, they created a fund to help protect the lake in case of an invasive species infestation. All of these efforts will help make safe swimming, boating, and fishing on the lake.

Bayard has also led efforts to raise awareness among Spofford residents about the importance of protecting Spofford Lake and to increase the role of the community in the stewardship of the lake. Understanding that everyone needs to have a stake in maintaining the water quality of the lake so that people can continue to enjoy it for years to come, Bayard has encouraged individual landowners to take steps to stop erosion and runoff from their property—which can lead to increased pollution in the lake—and has worked to inform the community about other steps that individuals can take in order to keep the lake clean.

Bayard's commitment to protecting Spofford Lake by volunteering directly at the lake and by increasing community involvement in lake conservation efforts is a great example of the Granite State spirit of environmental stewardship and civic engagement. I am honored to name him August's Granite Stater of the Month. •

RECOGNIZING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF MACOMB COMMUNITY COLLEGE

• Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the 70th anniversary of Macomb Community College. Over the last 70 years, Macomb Community College (MCC) has become a significant partner for local industry, providing high-quality, accessible, and affordable education opportunities to the residents of Macomb County and Southeast Michigan. It is an honor to recognize Macomb Community College's 70th anniversary on September 13, 2024.

Founded in 1954, Macomb Community College was created in response to the Macomb community's growing need for advanced educational opportunities and skilled labor for the growing workforce. A passionate group of educators from the Van Dyke School District came together to form the "South Macomb Community College," which would later be changed to "Macomb Community College." The first classes were held after hours in Van Dyke School District's Lincoln High School for just 84 students.

By 1962, the number of enrolled students at MCC had grown to 3,000, prompting Macomb County to advance a millage with voters and create the Community College District of Macomb. Since then, the college has kept pace with the growing needs of Macomb County and currently operates the Center and East Campus locations in Clinton Township, as well as the South Campus and Michigan Technical

Education Center (M-TEC) locations in the city of Warren.

Today, MCC serves over 28,000 students annually. The programs and courses at Macomb Community College aim to empower students and prepare them for future careers and continued education. With more than 170 degree and certificate programs, in addition to workforce and continuing education (WCE) courses and diverse apprenticeship opportunities, MCC helps prepare its students for a variety of careers and futures. MCC's nationally acclaimed University Center, opened in 1991, was among the first of its kind in the U.S. and, through partnerships with Michigan colleges, offers students the opportunity to attend classes locally and work towards completing a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree from the partner school. Graduates from MCC's academic and workforce programs go on to support Macomb County's workforce in critical areas such as healthcare, public safety, education, and more.

MCC continues to be a key partner in the region that delivers on workforce development needs through continual innovation and investment in their students' success. They further enrich the cultural fabric of the Macomb community by fostering a diverse and inclusive environment across their campuses, supporting the Macomb Center for the Performing Arts and the Lorenzo Cultural Center, and by demonstrating a steadfast philanthropic spirit by hosting annual campaigns and events, such as the annual MCC Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service. Alma mater to current leaders in Macomb, including Macomb County Drain Commissioner Candice Miller and Macomb County Executive Mark Hackel, and future leaders of tomorrow, MCC continues to deliver on its mission to transform lives and communities through the power of education, enrichment, and economic development.

Macomb Community College has greatly and positively impacted the lives of generations of students and has helped to shape Macomb County and Southeast Michigan as we know it. I ask you to join me in recognizing Macomb Community College as they celebrate their 70th anniversary. •

REMEMBERING JOSEPH W. KITTINGER, JR.

• Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, I rise to honor the life of Air Force Col. Joseph Kittinger. Joe Kittinger was born in 1928 in Tampa, FL, and today, his service and life were honored at Arlington National Cemetery. Kittinger's incredible story includes setting a world record by skydiving from a height of over 19 miles and serving three combat tours as a fighter pilot in Vietnam, among many more achievements. His record-setting experiments helped American's human space exploration. I had the honor of meeting Joe a few years before he passed away in 2022 at the age of 94. It was a great joy to hear his story firsthand. He was a true American hero, and we are forever

thankful for his service and contributions to our country.●

TRIBUTE TO JORJA WHEMPNER

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Jorja Whempner, an intern in my Aberdeen, SD, office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past several weeks.

Jorja is a graduate of Summit High School in Summit, SD. Currently, she is attending Northern State University in Aberdeen, SD, where she is pursuing a degree in history education. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Jorja for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR KEVIN HARKEY

● Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, our veterans embody the ideals of “team” and “family” that they learn in the military. For CSM Kevin Harkey, he shares this sense of family with those who need it most in his community. A Huntsville native, Kevin enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1990, at the beginning of the Gulf War. He started out as a mechanic, where he helped maintain our missile launchers. He later retrained as a nurse, serving as an EMT on the frontlines of the Iraq War.

Kevin received numerous medals for his efficiency and devotion, including being named as the 101st Airborne Division’s NCO of the Year in 1999. His passion for mentoring the next generation prompted him to draft a “study guide” for upcoming soldiers on the 30th anniversary of his enlistment. In the guide, he reminds NCOs to “Lead from the front.” Another principle he teaches is the importance of “being present” for those you are leading.

It is no surprise that Kevin still demonstrates these leadership qualities, even since his retirement from the military. In his free time, you can find him mentoring students at local community centers with his Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity. He serves as a consistent role model for teenagers ages 10–17, many of whom come from single-parent homes. Additionally, Kevin is a proud father of three and grandfather of seven. Alabama is grateful for Kevin’s investment in our next generation of leaders. It is my honor to recognize him as the August Veteran of the Month.●

TRIBUTE TO MASTER SERGEANT JERRY WHEAT

● Mr. TUBERVILLE. Mr. President, there is no doubt that our veterans inspire us to see the very best of America. They remind us of the sacrifices

made for our country to be the best in the world. And their patriotism is the reason why the American dream continues to exist for future generations. MSgt Jerry Wheat of Wetumpka is one such example of patriotism.

Jerry joined the Air Force right after graduating high school in 1957, doing more than 40 combat missions during the Vietnam war. He flew more than 5,000 hours total during his three tours of service. Jerry was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his flying missions over enemy territory.

After retiring out of Maxwell Air Force Base, Jerry and his wife decided to make the River Region their permanent home. But Jerry couldn’t stay away from serving our military. He joined the Civil Air Patrol, where he worked for another 20 years at Maxwell, all while going back to college and becoming the first in his family to obtain a college degree.

Despite facing multiple health challenges from exposure to Agent Orange, he doesn’t hesitate to say he would do it all over again. His influence is evident in the impact it has had on his family, including his granddaughter, who nominated him for this recognition. Jerry’s story reminds us of the high price paid for us to have the opportunity to achieve more than those who came before us. It is my honor to recognize him as the September Veteran of the Month.●

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.)

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13848 OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2018, WITH RESPECT TO THE THREAT OF FOREIGN INTERFERENCE IN UNITED STATES ELECTIONS—PM 60

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 the threat of foreign interference in or undermining public confidence in United States elections declared in Executive Order 13848 of September 12, 2018, is to continue in effect beyond September 12, 2024.

Although there has been no evidence of a foreign power altering the outcomes or vote tabulation in any United States election, foreign powers have historically sought to exploit America’s free and open political system. In recent years, the proliferation of digital devices and internet-based communications has created significant vulnerabilities and magnified the scope and intensity of the threat of foreign interference. The ability of persons located, in whole or in substantial part, outside the United States to interfere in or undermine public confidence in United States elections, including through the unauthorized accessing of election and campaign infrastructure or the covert distribution of propaganda and disinformation, continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13848 with respect to the threat of foreign interference in or undermining public confidence in United States elections.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.

THE WHITE HOUSE, September 9, 2024.

REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS DECLARED IN PROCLAMATION 7463 OF SEPTEMBER 14, 2001, WITH RESPECT TO THE TERRORIST ATTACKS ON THE UNITED STATES OF SEPTEMBER 11, 2001—PM 61

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