

One might think he deserves some sort of monument.

Well, he has one, a monument that he more than anyone else created.

It stands a few blocks from this Capitol at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue, New Jersey Avenue, and G Street. It is the Victims of Communism Memorial, dedicated to "more than 100 million victims of Communism and to those who love liberty."

Authorized by Act of Congress in 1993, it was first suggested to Lee by his wife Anne, who was also his partner in his writing.

If this memorial were a mandatory stop for all the high school tours that come to DC every spring, graduates would be better inoculated against the ignorance of radical leftism that infects too many of our universities.

Lee's work continues through his Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation, here in Washington, where visitors are reminded that one-fifth of humanity still lives under communism in China, Cuba, Vietnam, Laos, and North Korea, as well as other countries where oppressive Marxist-Leninist practices impoverish and subjugate millions.

Whatever honors have been bestowed upon him in the past, and whatever accolades await him in the future, Lee Edwards remains that rare person of enormous achievement for liberty, whose greatest reward will always be the joyous sound of breaking chains across the world, the shattering of tyranny, and the anthems of a free people.

TRIBUTE TO JOE CASTIGLIONE

• Mr. MARKEY. Madam President, for 42 years, Joe Castiglione's resonating voice has been the bridge between Boston's great cathedral Fenway Park and Red Sox fans listening to the game in garages, kitchens, workplaces, and vehicles across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and throughout New England.

Whether you were turning your dial to 93.7 FM in Boston or Lawrence or Malden, 105.5 FM in Springfield, 1440 AM in Worcester, or 96.3 FM on the Cape, Joe Castiglione made you feel like you were in the bleachers with peanuts and a score card. When you were listening to him, you always knew who was at bat, you always knew the count, and you always knew how many runners were on base.

With humility, grace, and an encyclopedic baseball mind, Joe Castiglione took us on a journey every season. It was Castiglione who introduced us to our new ball club each spring after the snow of winter gave way to the green grass of spring. It was Joe Castiglione who ushered us through the dog days of summer, when winning and losing streaks began to cement our spot in the standings. And it was Joe Castiglione who carried us through four magical, crisp October runs that cemented Boston's status as the City of Champions.

On behalf of Red Sox fans everywhere, thank you, Joe Castiglione. I hope retirement brings you as much joy and happiness and entertainment as you have brought Red Sox Nation. Your wonderful wife Jan, sons Joseph Jr. (Duke) and Thomas, daughter Kate, and six grandchildren are fortunate to have you.

As a poet, a wordsmith, an alltime orator, we leave with some of Joe Castiglione's greatest words: "Swing and a ground ball, stabbed by Foulke, he has it, he under hands to first, and the Boston Red Sox are the World Champions! For the first time in 86 years, the Red Sox have won Baseball's World Championship. Can you believe it?!"

TRIBUTE TO KEN MCNEELY

• Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I rise today to recognize the 32-year career of Ken McNeely, AT&T western region president, ahead of his retirement at the end of this month.

Ken joined AT&T in 1991 as a senior attorney specializing in corporate litigation and has held several key positions for the company since. As vice president of law and government affairs, the longest serving president of AT&T California, and now as president of the western region, Ken has been an exceptional leader and a trusted partner to colleagues in the public and private sectors.

As president of the western region, Ken has led AT&T's activity in 19 States and overseen a workforce of over 50,000 employees, working tirelessly to deliver greater reliability for communities throughout California.

Ken is also a dedicated member of his community, serving on several boards, and supporting numerous philanthropic organizations over the years. He has also been recognized by others for his outstanding leadership, including by the Black Business Association with their Top 100 African Americans in Technology Award, Equality California with their Vanguard Award, and Our Family Coalition with their Luminary Award.

Ken has always represented our State and its values, and thanks to his work, we have made great strides in bridging the digital divide, ensuring first responders can stay connected to their communities, and preparing our students for future careers in the STEM field.

Today, I want to congratulate Ken on his many accomplishments and to thank him for his work over the past three decades. I wish him, his husband Inder, and their children Kabir and Meera well in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING SACRAMENTO STATE

• Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I rise today to recognize the students and faculty of California State University, Sacramento—or "Sacramento

State"—as they embark on their first year as California's first-ever "Black-Serving Institution," as well as the inaugural class of their "Black Honors College."

Reflective of the most diverse State in the Nation, Sacramento State has long been a leader in providing quality, higher education to students of all backgrounds. Already, they are recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as both a Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) and an Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institution (AANAPISI).

But as the home to the largest enrollment of Black and African-American students in the California State University (CSU) system, this past summer, the California State Assembly recognized Sacramento State as the first "Black-Serving Institution" in the State of California, a testament to the university's support of Black students who come from around the world to enroll.

Sacramento State is always looking for more ways to attract, support, and help graduate more Black students. That is why earlier this year, they created and launched the Nation's first Black Honors College, an enhanced curricular college providing specialized coursework for students interested in Black history, life, culture, and contributions.

Thanks to the vision and leadership of Sacramento State president Dr. Luke Wood, inaugural dean of the Black Honors College Dr. Boatamo Mosuppyoe, and CSU chancellor Dr. Mildred Garcia, Sacramento State is building a world-class academic environment for Black students to follow their passions and to thrive.

Today, I want to congratulate Sacramento State on their official State recognition and to wish the inaugural class of the Black Honors College enormous success in the years ahead.

TRIBUTE TO JACKIE REED

• Mr. WICKER. Madam President, on behalf of the people of Mississippi, I commend the accomplishments and career of Jackie Reed.

Jackie is a veteran driver known for his lofty standards of care. The Collinsville, MS, resident has notched 3 million safe miles in his 34 years behind the wheel, and he has been increasingly recognized as a leader in the Nation's vital trucking industry. His lifelong commitment to excellence has made our highways safer and helped power the American economy.

For the past few years, Jackie has competed at the National Truck Driving & Step Van Championships. The event—known as the "Super Bowl of Safety"—has consistently demonstrated his knowledge of safety requirements, his industry awareness, and his driving skills. In 2022, he secured the Mississippi Grand Champion award in the three-axle category. He

returned the next year, finishing second place in the State's two-axle group.

In 2024, Jackie topped all his previous achievements. He was named America's top truck driver, besting 421 other elite contestants from almost every State. Jackie earned the Bendix Grand Champion title, and he also won first place in the tank truck vehicle class.

Jackie says he has won big awards because he has paid "attention to the small stuff." He scours the Facts for Drivers guidebook. He diligently inspects his truck. That level of detail pays off in trophies, and it also benefits Americans nationwide. Jackie's careful driving helps deliver goods to consumers, and it keeps his fellow drivers from accidents along the way.

Mississippi is lucky to have such an outstanding representative on the national stage. It is for his decades of distinction, his many achievements, and his continued quality that I commend Jackie Reed today. ●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:16 a.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 bill, without amendment:

S. 612. An act to reauthorize the Lake Tahoe Restoration Act, and for other purposes.

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

H.R. 1103. An act to require the President to remove the extension of certain privileges, exemptions, and immunities to the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices if Hong Kong no longer enjoys a high degree of autonomy from the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3208. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a DHS Cybersecurity On-the-Job Training Program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7073. An act to improve public-private partnerships and increase Federal research, development, and demonstration related to the evolution of next generation pipeline systems, and for other purposes.

H.R. 8057. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 9317 Bolsa Avenue in Westminster, California, as the "Little Saigon Vietnam War Veterans Memorial Post Office".

At 1:55 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, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1657. An act to provide for a land exchange in the Chippewa National Forest, Minnesota, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1726. An act to require the Secretary of the Interior to partner and collaborate with the Secretary of Agriculture and the State of Hawaii to address Rapid Ohia Death, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2468. An act to require the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the State of Utah certain Federal land under the administrative jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land

Management within the boundaries of Camp Williams, Utah, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2950. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, through the Coastal Program of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, to work with willing partners and provide support to efforts to assess, protect, restore, and enhance important coastal landscapes that provide fish and wildlife habitat on which certain Federal trust species depend, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4094. An act to amend the Central Utah Project Completion Act to authorize expenditures for the conduct of certain water conservation measures in the Great Salt Lake basin, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4259. An act to amend the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to require notification with respect to individualized education program teams, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4596. An act to reauthorize the Bureau of Reclamation to provide cost-shared funding to implement the endangered and threatened fish recovery programs for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins.

H.R. 5302. An act to designate the Air and Marine Operations Marine Unit of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection located at 101 Km 18.5 in Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico, as the "Michel O. Maceda Marine Unit".

H.R. 5490. An act to amend the Coastal Barrier Resources Act to expand the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5509. An act to modernize permitting systems at the Department of the Interior, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5646. An act to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require institutions of higher education to disclose hazing incidents, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6474. An act to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to expedite geothermal exploration and development in previously studied or developed areas.

H.R. 6852. An act to designate Holcombe Rucker Park, in Harlem, New York, as a National Commemorative Site, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7370. An act to amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to establish a deadline for processing applications related to geothermal leasing.

H.R. 7422. An act to amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to provide cost-recovery authority for the Department of the Interior.

At 4:40 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 bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 9747. An act making continuing appropriations and extensions for fiscal year 2025, and for other purposes.

At 6:33 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 656. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to revise the rules for approval by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs of commercial driver education programs for purposes of veterans educational assistance, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 522. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of

Veterans Affairs to provide or assist in providing a vehicle adapted for operation by disabled individuals to certain eligible persons, to pay expenses associated with the delivery of such vehicle, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6656. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Commissioner of Social Security to implement automated systems with callback functionality for each customer service telephone line of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Social Security Administration, respectively, and for other purposes.

H.R. 7323. An act amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to disapprove courses of education offered by a public institution of higher learning that does not charge the in-State tuition rate to a veteran using certain educational assistance under title 10 of such Code, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 522. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide or assist in providing a vehicle adapted for operation by disabled individuals to certain eligible persons, to pay expenses associated with the delivery of such vehicle, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 1657. An act to provide for a land exchange in the Chippewa National Forest, Minnesota, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

H.R. 1726. An act to require the Secretary of the Interior to partner and collaborate with the Secretary of Agriculture and the State of Hawaii to address Rapid Ohia Death, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

H.R. 3208. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish a DHS Cybersecurity On-the-Job Training Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 4259. An act to amend the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to require notification with respect to individualized education program teams, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 5302. An act to designate the Air and Marine Operations Marine Unit of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection located at 101 Km 18.5 in Cabo Rojo, Puerto Rico, as the "Michel O. Maceda Marine Unit"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 5509. An act to modernize permitting systems at the Department of the Interior, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 6474. An act to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to expedite geothermal exploration and development in previously studied or developed areas; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 6656. An act to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Commissioner of Social Security to implement automated systems with callback functionality for each customer service telephone line of the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Social Security Administration, respectively, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 6852. An act to designate Holcombe Rucker Park, in Harlem, New York, as a National Commemorative Site, and for other