

hours volunteering her time and talents to the benefit of everyone who comes through the doors. She feels that the health of a community is directly tied to the health of its people.

The values that Susie and the McMurry Foundation promote go hand in hand with the mission of the Boy Scouts of America. They both work to ensure youth have the knowledge and skills needed to become future leaders of Wyoming. Their continued focus on education, leadership, and community service will serve these young people and our State for generations.

Susie's kindness, generosity, and grace are true reflections of her character. She believes that fulfillment in life comes from making a difference in the lives of others. Whether it is volunteering at the Wyoming Medical Center to support patients and families or raising funds for the Boys and Girls Club of Central Wyoming, she has made a huge difference in the lives of so many people. Susie continues to have a positive and lasting mark on our community.

It is with great honor that I recognize this exceptional member of our Wyoming community. My wife, Bobbi, joins me in extending our congratulations to Susie McMurry for receiving this honorable distinction.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MISSOURI ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT FINANCIAL AID PERSONNEL

• Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the Missouri Association of Student Financial Aid Personnel, MASFAP, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary. MASFAP organized in 1967 with a steering committee of five members. Today the association has grown to over 800 members. The observance of MASFAP's 50th anniversary provides an opportunity to recognize the work of Missouri's student financial aid personnel and the association's partnerships and to raise awareness about the affordability of a postsecondary education.

MASFAP is a dynamic association dedicated to serving and advocating for practitioners, users, and providers of student financial aid programs. Most families and students are aware of student financial aid programs because they provide valuable funds to assist in the costs of a postsecondary education, without which many would be unable to achieve their education goals.

As a former high school teacher and university president, I know how fortunate it is for Missouri to have so many great post-secondary education options. With the assistance of student financial aid administrators throughout Missouri, students are learning about the resources available to help them attend one of the great schools of their choice. As a result, students are getting the education and training they need to succeed.

When I served as Missouri Secretary of State, I had the opportunity to sign the first articles of incorporation for MASFAP. Today I thank the association and all its members for their work and congratulate them on their 50th anniversary.●

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL RICHARD C. NASH

• Mr. FRANKEN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and celebrate the career of Minnesota Adjutant General Richard C. Nash. Major General Nash retired on October 31st, after leading the Minnesota National Guard for the past 7 years. His leadership has ensured the excellence of the Minnesota National Guard.

Major General Nash enlisted in the infantry in 1972 and quickly rose through the ranks, earning a commission as a second lieutenant following completion of officer candidate school. Since then, he has commanded at all levels, starting as a company level commander and rising to lead the U.S. Divisions-South supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2010.

In November of 2010, Major General Nash was appointed by Governor Tim Pawlenty to be the adjutant general of the Minnesota National Guard. In this role, he has skillfully commanded Minnesota's Army and Air National Guard units not only in missions in Minnesota, but also as they have served across the globe, in places such as Iraq, the Sinai Peninsula, and the Baltics. Under Major General Nash's stewardship, the Minnesota National Guard has performed every mission reliably and with distinction.

I have had the honor of working closely with Major General Nash during my time in office. He has been a tireless advocate for the Guard on issues ranging from installations, to the Guard's renewable energy use, to the important task of ensuring the Guard's annual priorities are met. One area I worked particularly closely with Major General Nash on has been our efforts to expand medical, education, and retirement benefits that had been previously denied to National Guard soldiers deployed under the 12304b authority. Major General Nash has been a strong voice on this issue, and his work was critical to my efforts to enact bipartisan legislation to ensure Minnesota Guardsmen and Reservists have access to these services. Our veterans have earned these benefits through their service and sacrifice to our country, and they should not be denied those benefits.

In addition to his exemplary leadership of the Minnesota Guard's service in missions foreign and domestic, Major General Nash deserves special recognition for his work preparing the force for future energy and sustainability challenges. In particular, his work developing the Minnesota Guard's sustainable infrastructure has made the Minnesota Guard a pioneer in the

use of solar and geothermal energy initiatives. In 2011, Minnesota National Guard facilities set a goal to reduce energy consumption by 3 percent. Forty-one Minnesota National Guard armories participated in this program and energy consumption was reduced by an average of 5.4 percent year over year through the use of geothermal and solar thermal heating, water reuse, solid waste recycling, as well as natural and LED lighting. Furthermore, all new construction projects under Major General Nash's leadership have been designed to LEED standards. These developments are so important because they reduce the Guard's reliance on fossil fuels and foreign oil, support jobs in the local economy, and reduce energy costs for the Guard, allowing them to invest more in our civilian soldier's readiness, training, and education. The work Major General Nash has done to prepare for future energy and sustainability challenges has ensured that the Minnesota National Guard will continue to lead the country on the battlefield and at home.

Finally, I want to note with my gratitude Major General Nash's many years of service as a judge in my annual poetry contest that allows Minnesota students to write about a military veteran who has made a difference in their lives. Each year, he spends hours reading these heartfelt poems and helping me decide which ones will hang in my Senate office.

I would like to extend my best wishes to Major General Nash upon his retirement and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors. Thank you, General Nash. Your service to our Nation and our State has been indispensable and invaluable. Above all, it has made a difference to the men and women who served under you.

Thank you.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Cuccia, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As 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.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:01 a.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 bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 425. An act to authorize the revocation or denial of passports to individuals affiliated with foreign terrorist organizations, and for other purposes.