

Organic agriculture and conventional agriculture can coexist. Both will be driven by demand, and both provide important choices for the U.S. consumer. Some consumers will shop for locally grown foods, others will shop for the cost effectiveness due to their tight household budgets.

It is time—it is time—for Time magazine and Mr. Walsh to start being honest with their readers. The next time the magazine wants to run a story that clearly reflects the author's personal views, it should identify that article as such. I expect the next article Time publishes on agriculture to be better researched and to present a more balanced view.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID C. PARRISH, JR.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President. I would like to recognize a courageous Kentuckian, David C. Parrish, Jr., for his induction into the Kentucky Aviation Hall of Fame on October 17, 2009. Sixty-five years ago this past August, Mr. Parrish undertook brave actions during his service as a fighter pilot during World War II. A native of Paris, KY, Mr. Parrish represented the very best in courage, gallantry, and self-sacrifice in defense of this Nation in the skies west of Paris, France. Like many of America's "greatest generation," Mr. Parrish was willing to disregard his own safety for the safety of his fellow airmen and the protection of his country.

Valor and sacrifice are words that describe the nature of Mr. Parrish, and patience would also describe his character. Although he was recommended for the Silver Star in August 1944, lost records and bureaucratic delays meant it would take 60 years for Mr. Parrish's heroism to be officially recognized. It was my deep privilege to work with Mr. Parrish in this effort and to personally present him with his Silver Star in his hometown in 2004. I believe Mr. Parrish's story is a timely reminder of the sacrifices that so many American men and women have made in the name of freedom.

Mr. President, I would like to share with you a retelling of Mr. Parrish's actions in defense of this Nation that earned him the Silver Star and his induction into the Kentucky Aviation Hall of Fame. On August 8, 1944, 1LT David C. Parrish, Jr., was flying in the area of Mortain, France. His flight was part of an eight-plane squadron that became separated from the lead flight while on patrol. Lieutenant Parrish and three others were on their way home when the controller reported 100 enemy fighters flying above him and toward American bombers. His wingman had to fly home because he was low on fuel. Lieutenant Parrish and the remaining two fighters climbed toward the enemy planes.

Lieutenant Parrish was also low on gas and would have normally returned

to base, being so outnumbered by enemy fighters. However, recognizing the danger to the friendly bombers, Lieutenant Parrish dove his three fighters into the heart of the enemy formation. The enemy fighters dispersed and Lieutenant Parrish and his fellow airmen gave chase. Lieutenant Parrish pursued one enemy fighter at 4,000 feet and destroyed it. He then turned toward another enemy fighter flying at tree top level and eventually was able to force the enemy pilot to bail out. These pursuits were extremely hazardous, and even more so because Lieutenant Parrish was perilously low on fuel.

It is my great pleasure to recognize Mr. Parrish for the sacrifices and risks he has made for this country, and I would like to congratulate him on his well-deserved induction in the Kentucky Aviation Hall of Fame. He has made Kentucky very proud.

REMEMBERING SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I am saddened by the death of my colleague from Massachusetts, Senator Edward Kennedy.

Born and raised in Massachusetts, Senator Kennedy dedicated his life to serving his country and the Commonwealth. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1951, beginning his long career of public service. Elected in 1962, Senator Kennedy is the third longest serving Senator in the history of the Senate. He served the people of Massachusetts well for 46 years, and I know his family and the people of Massachusetts are proud to call him one of their own.

Senator Kennedy had a long list of accomplishments to show for the people of Massachusetts and the Nation. He was a political icon who served with great distinction and passion for nearly a half century in the U.S. Senate, and whether I agreed with him or not, I always admired the way he fought for the issues he believed in. His leadership in the Senate will be missed and it has truly been an honor serving with him.

Mr. President, Senator Kennedy will be greatly missed. Mary and I give our heartfelt condolences to his wife, Vicki, and the entire Kennedy family.

COMMENDING SENATOR MELQUIADES RAFAEL "MEL" MARTINEZ

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to my distinguished colleague from Florida, Mel Martinez, who retired from the Senate earlier this month.

I have worked with Senator Martinez since he was elected to serve the people of Florida in 2004. He has served his country proudly in several different roles. Senator Martinez also had the distinct honor to serve as the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in President George W. Bush's Cabinet and as the chairman of the Republican National Committee. In both

roles, it was not personal ambition that drove Mel. Rather, it was his passion to make his country a better place to live for his family and for all Americans.

I have also had the privilege of serving on the Senate Banking Committee with Senator Martinez. As a member of this committee, Mel brought a greater understanding and perspective on housing issues facing the Nation than many Senators that have served on this committee. Floridians and all Americans have benefited from his vast experience in this area as well as his dedication to serve for the greater good. A person of this caliber will truly be missed in the United States.

I am honored to know him and to have worked with him. I would like to thank Senator Martinez for his contributions to the Senate and to the country we both love. I wish him and his family the best in all of their future endeavors.

DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, Senator CARPER successfully offered an amendment to this act that would authorize the EPA to conduct a study on black carbon emissions to "improve global and domestic public health" and "to mitigate the climate impacts of black carbon."

A similar bill, S. 849, was also introduced by Senator CARPER and approved recently by the Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works.

While I did not object to the purpose of the bill, I did object to the bill because the cost of the study—\$2 million according to the Congressional Budget Office—was not offset.

As I wrote in a letter to Minority Leader McCONNELL and Senator CARPER outlining my objections to this bill, "At a time when our national debt is greater than \$11.6 trillion, we cannot afford to add to this debt that will be inherited by our children and grandchildren. Even our best intentions need to be paid for with offsets from lower priorities or wasteful spending."

I also requested the opportunity to modify this legislation if no offsets were made.

I intended to offer a second-degree amendment to offset the expected cost increase in spending as a result of the Carper amendment by capping the amount of funds EPA can spend on conference travel. According to EPA, \$17.296 million was spent on conference travel in 2006—the last year for which we have records. This amendment would have capped conference travel spending at \$15 million, thus assuring that the full cost of the study will be offset.

In the past couple of years, as Americans were tightening their belts and travelling less, EPA was growing its conference budget and travelling more. This is reflected in its annual costs for