

that John Wesley admonished them to live when he said:

Do all the good you can. By all the means you can. In all the ways you can. In all the places you can. At all the times you can. To all the people you can. As long as ever you can.

#### ALAN GROSS

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, Monday, December 3, will mark the third anniversary of the imprisonment of Alan Gross by Cuba as a political prisoner.

In 2009, Mr. Gross went to Cuba on a USAID contract to assist the Jewish community in improving access to the internet by installing wireless equipment. He was arrested by the Cuban government and held for 14 months before being charged as a spy. After a sham trial, Mr. Gross was sentenced to 15 years in prison.

Alan Gross a Maryland native, is a former social worker who spent a quarter of a decade working in international development—helping people around the world. A graduate of the University of Maryland, Mr. Gross has lived in Potomac, MD for many years. I've met his wife on numerous occasions and her continued strength and focus inspires me. While her husband has been held in a Cuban prison, she has held down the fort and held the pressure on the Cuban government for its poor treatment of her husband.

Despite facing severe health problems and complications caused by his imprisonment, Alan Gross has remained strong. He has developed a daily routine to maintain his strength. Yet he has lost more than 100 pounds, has difficulty walking, and has a large mass behind his shoulder that has gone untreated. The information shared by the Cuban government about Mr. Gross's medical condition is incomplete and raises new concerns for his family.

Mr. Gross's family has also encountered substantial health problems of their own over the past 3 years and they are facing significant financial hardship. His mother has inoperable lung cancer and the family is concerned they will not have a chance to be together to say goodbye. The family's contact with Mr. Gross remains extremely limited.

I have been hopeful that America and Cuba could move closer together—in trade, in community connections, and for the individual families that have been separated. Yet, concern over the detention of Alan Gross has put a hold on efforts to improve relations and the case shows that Cuba is not serious about moving forward and has stalled any effort in the Senate to move towards normalizing our relationship.

President Obama has stated that until Cuba's current government improves human rights and freedoms, the embargo against Cuba remains in our Nation's national interests. What had become a yearly effort to modify the

embargo was halted in the Senate this year because of the continued detention of Alan Gross. The Cuban government needs to heed what it has heard from Senators and now hears from me: if you unjustly imprison our citizens, we cannot and will not improve the relationship between our countries.

In a recent letter to the Cuban government, I and several of my Senate colleagues called for the release of Mr. Gross on humanitarian grounds. The government's response has called our request illegitimate. This is not the way to move forward. That is why I will join with Senators CARDIN and MORAN to submit a resolution that will apply additional pressure on Cuba to let Alan come home. I want to close by sending my continued thoughts and prayers to Mr. Gross, his wife Judy, and their family. I think of the challenges you are facing daily and I remain hopeful that you will all be reunited soon. Your strength and determination inspire me as you face difficult challenges.

I urge the government of Cuba to release Alan Gross immediately. I promise I will continue standing up for Alan and calling for his return home to Maryland.

#### SALUTE TO ADAM MERCHANT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, so much of the news we hear today is riddled in tragedy, but every so often a story of joy and hope transcends the negativity and warms our hearts. I would like to share such a story and salute a constituent of mine, fifteen-year-old Adam Merchant of Barre, VT.

Adam is in remission after battling Burkitt lymphoma, a cancer that attacks the lymphatic system. Through the kindness of the Make-A-Wish Foundation, Adam received his wish: to see his favorite team play, the defending Super Bowl champions New York Giants. Not only did he see his Giants defeat the Green Bay Packers on Sunday night, but Adam also delivered an impromptu, pregame motivating speech to the Giants, which many of the team's players cited as an inspiration to their 38-to-10 victory over the mighty Packers. Adam described the night as a "dream," but it is the rest of us who should be moved by Adam's bravery and persistence battling lymphoma. The Make-A-Wish Foundation brightens so many young lives, and I thank them and the New York Giants for helping make Adam's dream come true.

I ask unanimous consent that Christian Red's article in the November 27, 2012, edition of the New York Daily News, "Young Adam Merchant, teenager fight cancer, gives NY Giants inspired pep talk before rout of Green Bay Packers," be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the New York Daily News, Nov. 27, 2012]

YOUNG ADAM MERCHANT, TEENAGER FIGHTING CANCER, GIVES NY GIANTS INSPIRED PEP TALK BEFORE ROUT OF GREEN BAY PACKERS  
(By Christian Red)

Adam Merchant says he was "a little bit" fatigued Monday afternoon, which was understandable given the dizzying schedule the 15-year-old native of tiny Barre, Vt., has kept since Thursday, the best four-day stretch of his young life.

"I'm feeling pretty good," Merchant told the Daily News on Monday.

Merchant flew down to the New York area on Thursday, gave an unrehearsed rallying speech to Giants players Friday and then watched Big Blue's romp over Green Bay Sunday night. He also had the luxury of roaming the home team's sideline after the first quarter, and then got a choice seat next to Justin Tuck after the game. Not a bad way to spend a few days in the Big Apple.

"That's the happiest I've seen him in a long time, Heather Merchant said of her son. "Actually, that is the happiest I've ever seen him."

The unique experience came together through the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Adam Merchant was diagnosed with Stage 3 Burkitt lymphoma, a cancer that attacks the lymphatic system, in March. Although Adam's cancer is in remission after chemotherapy, he had to have his gall bladder removed during the course of his treatment.

While he was hospitalized, his mother began researching Make-A-Wish, calling the Vermont chapter, which in turn worked with the New York/New Jersey chapters to put together Adam's dream scenario.

Soon a "wish granter" visited the Merchants with a special announcement. Originally, the Merchants were supposed to come to the Nov. 4 game against the Steelers, but their travel plans were postponed in the wake of Hurricane Sandy.

Instead of watching a deflating loss to Pittsburgh, the Merchants got to take in a pummeling of the powerhouse Packers. "They're definitely no slouch team," Adam said of Aaron Rodgers and Green Bay.

Heather Merchant, a supervisor at Stowe ski resort, says her son has always been a Giants fan, despite living in Patriot country. Adam and his father, Adam Sr., a licensed nurse's aide, have stood their ground in enemy territory, surrounded by Tom Brady fans. Those two Super Bowl victories over Brady and Co. don't hurt.

"He's a walking encyclopedia, especially about football," Heather Merchant, who has two other children, says of Adam.

Despite his penchant for stats and football history, nothing could have prepared Adam for his big moment Friday, when he was called into the Giants' huddle after practice and had to make an impromptu speech.

He spoke barely above a whisper.

"I thought about it a little bit before I spoke," Adam said. "It came to me that the only thing that needed to be said was what I said—I told them, 'Go out and play, show them why we're world champs.'"

"He was getting really emotional," said Heather Merchant, who added that her son is back in school and "getting back on track" after his treatment.

Every player, from Eli Manning to Tuck to Adam's favorite, Jason Pierre-Paul, spoke about how the speech inspired them to get the victory. Adam, for one, thinks the team has turned the corner and has another Super Bowl run in the making.

"Oh, definitely. We've come through so much adversity in the past that I think we can do anything," said Adam Merchant, who might as well have been speaking for himself as well as the Giants.

When the 38–10 win was in the books, Adam sat next to Tuck for the celebration, even though he was sporting a No. 90 Pierre-Paul jersey. Tuck didn't mind, Adam said, and even gave him a No. 91 jersey to add to his wardrobe.

"I have a newfound love for Justin Tuck," Adam said. "The locker room was awesome. Make-A-Wish didn't just create a wish—it was a dream."

#### REMEMBERING JIM SPELLMAN

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to one of Connecticut's most dedicated and admired public officials, former Stonington first selectman, James Spellman, Sr., who passed away at the age of 92.

Mr. Spellman's legacy of public service is remarkable. Elected 12 times over a span of 24 years, he made history as Stonington's longest serving first selectman. And he retired as Connecticut's longest serving municipal executive. At age 80, he received a rare, lifetime public service award from the town of Stonington. His lasting impact will be measured by the local landmarks erected under his leadership that will endure for generations.

As first selectman, Mr. Spellman was an expert manager during a time of tremendous growth, and he guided historic development in infrastructure. Most especially, he oversaw construction of the portion of Interstate 95 connecting Stonington with the rest of the State and east coast, and the development of several schools and shared recreational spaces. Mr. Spellman always stayed true to the core values of his hometown. Born and raised in the area, he considered the town his family.

Mr. Spellman's loved ones are quick to point out he never asked for—or expected—a local namesake. In fact, town officials quickly chose to dedicate Spellman Drive at a time when Mr. Spellman was physically unable to decline the honor while hospitalized.

His work was his life and his job was his personal pride. In this way, one of his shining accomplishments—the preservation of the Stonington Town Dock and commercial fishing for Stonington—is both personal and public. He was a courageous and highly decorated veteran of the U.S. Navy during World War II, and he led deliberately, kindly, and with stellar intuition.

In addition to his leadership of town hall, Mr. Spellman chaired the Water Pollution Control Authority and guided the creation of an intermunicipal sewage system. He also donated his time serving on the school board, and volunteering with the Pawcatuck Fire Department, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, and the Connecticut Judicial Selection Commission. In 1955, he was one of the first Connecticut residents to be given a real-estate brokerage license, and from 1956 to 1961 was appointed by then-Governor Abraham Ribicoff as judge of the Stonington Town Court—the only appointee without a law degree.

Even in retirement, Mr. Spellman demonstrated his truly heartfelt care and concern for Stonington. He was generous with sage advice for local leaders throughout Connecticut, checking in frequently at town hall, and writing to the local newspaper.

Mr. Spellman was deservedly proud of all his family, including his son Steve, a friend and former colleague in the State senate. He will be missed for his caring courage, sense of humor, and good heart. A true statesman, he will never be forgotten.

#### REMEMBERING JUDGE MARK KRAVITZ

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to one of our Nation's most preeminent legal minds and dedicated public servants, who recently passed away. U.S. District Judge Mark Kravitz was known throughout Connecticut and our Nation's highest courts as a respected judicial authority, experienced appellate litigator, legal scholar, and community leader.

Judge Kravitz was deeply regarded and admired for his extraordinary analytical mind and trial expertise. He devoted his vast experience—27 years at New Haven firm Wiggin and Dana as a trial and appellate lawyer—to public service. Just out of law school, he emerged as a leader, clerking for Chief Justice William Rehnquist, who, in 2003, swore him in as a U.S. district judge. In 2001, and then again in 2007, he was appointed by Chief Justice Roberts to serve on the Committee on the Rules of Practice and Procedure and to chair the Advisory Committee on Civil Rules. Over the years, he engaged in vital national discussions, writing for the National Law Journal and serving as an American Law Institute Fellow and a board member of the American Academy of Appellate Lawyers. In addition, he taught at the University of Connecticut School of Law, Yale Law, and the University of Melbourne Graduate School of Law.

I knew Judge Kravitz personally and professionally, on and off the bench. As attorney general, I appeared before him, arguing positions and causes that did not always prevail. Win or lose, I felt that the result was fair and well-reasoned. And that view of him was common to almost all litigants in his courtroom. Judge Kravitz presided and ruled on important national issues, including the constitutionality of No Child Left Behind, free speech and property cases, and recently first amendment rights cases raised by the movement to "occupy Wall Street" on the New Haven Green. Even when diagnosed with ALS, he continued relentlessly and tirelessly to work full time, demonstrating his passion for the law and dedication to his country.

As a footnote, I spent many hours with Judge Kravitz, even before he became a judge. He headed a moot court team that prepared me for Supreme Court arguments.

More importantly, I consistently witnessed Judge Kravitz's commitment to the philosophy of equality under the law, while remaining carefully attuned to the facets of each legal question before him. He was trustworthy, and loyal in his relationship with others, especially his beloved family—and my dear colleague and friend.

Outside of the law, he gave back to Connecticut as founding director of both the Yale Children's Hospital and Connecticut Food Bank. In addition, he volunteered his time on the boards of several nonprofit organizations, including the Connecticut Foundation for Open Government, Guilford Library Association, and Board of Ethics for the Town of Guilford. Judge Kravitz cared deeply about morality and integrity—and lived according to the highest principles.

I was inspired and moved by a recent unveiling of his portrait, commissioned by the Connecticut Bar Foundation, which will be hung in New Haven's Federal courthouse. I invite my Senate colleagues to join me in paying respect to Judge Mark Kravitz and sending condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues, who mourn his loss, and remember a man who made his life's work contributing to the world around him.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

##### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 2:32 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 915. An act to establish a Border Enforcement Security Task Force program to enhance border security by fostering coordinated efforts among Federal, State, and local border and law enforcement officials to protect United States border cities and communities from trans-national crime, including violence associated with drug trafficking, arms smuggling, illegal alien trafficking and smuggling, violence, and kidnapping along and across the international borders of the United States, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE).

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mrs. BOXER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 810. A bill to prohibit the conducting of invasive research on great apes, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 112-242).

By Mrs. BOXER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, without amendment:

S. 1735. A bill to approve the transfer of Yellow Creek Port properties in Iuka, Mississippi (Rept. No. 112-243).