

"It's a blessing to us that the whole family now can know what happened and put it to rest," Carneal said. "He gave his life for his country."

Except for a dog tag that will be given to the Veterans Museum in Wickliffe, the belongings will remain in the hands of Carneal's descendants. Carneal is also survived by nephew Carlton M. Carneal, niece Mary Carneal Christian, great-nephew Jimmy Fields, and great-nieces Carol Ann Fields Lindley and Beverly Fields Swift.

The process of finding and returning Carneal's possessions and remains was hardly straightforward. Japanese non-profit Keuntai, which searches for the bodies of Japanese soldiers killed in World War II, discovered Carneal's remains a year ago and turned them over to the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command. The class ring gave the family hope that their ancestor had at last been found, but DNA testing was required to confirm Carneal's identity. The results arrived in December.

After Tuesday's presentation, the family gathered to make plans for Carneal's interment, scheduled for April 25, his birthday. Although Carneal could have been buried at Arlington National Cemetery, the family agreed that he should be laid to rest next to sister Ruth Anderson at Palestine United Methodist Church in West Paducah. Following a brief ceremony at 1 p.m. at Milner & Orr, Carneal will receive full military honors at the cemetery, including a 21-gun salute and flag ceremony. The military personnel of Fort Campbell will preside over the funeral. Local World War II veteran Edward "Earl" Gidcumb has offered to play taps.

"So many families exist that don't have any idea where their loved ones are," said Gidcumb, who also served in the Pacific theater, "and it's an honor to be involved in this whole thing."

EL PASO DIOCESE CENTENNIAL

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the centennial anniversary of the Roman Catholic Diocese of El Paso, which took place on March 3, 2014.

For nearly 400 years, the Catholic Church has served the needs of people in the El Paso area, beginning with the arrival of Franciscan missionaries in the late 1600s. By the time Pope Pius X founded the Diocese of El Paso on March 3, 1914, the Church had established a network of parochial schools and private sanatoriums to treat tuberculosis patients. The ministries, parishes, and schools were founded with a desire to share Catholic life and give witness to Christ. Today, under the leadership of its 6th bishop, Mark J. Seitz, the Diocese includes 64 parishes and missions, 11 schools, and a seminary that serve more than 600,000 Catholics.

I invite my colleagues to join me in celebrating the Diocese's legacy of service and faith in El Paso. I ask God's continued blessing on the leaders and members of the Diocese as they carry on their good work in providing health care, education, and spiritual care to the people of West Texas.

2014 OLYMPIANS

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate athletes with

strong Idaho ties who competed in the Sochi 2014 Winter Olympics and contributed to three of the U.S. Olympic team's 28 total medals. Their dedication is inspiring.

Idaho-connected Olympians earned two gold medals and one silver medal in the Olympic Games in Sochi. Kaitlyn Farrington, who was raised on a ranch in Bellevue, Idaho, earned a gold medal competing for the first time as an Olympic snowboarder in the halfpipe competition. Hilary Knight of Sun Valley competed once again in women's hockey in the 2014 Winter Olympics where the team earned a silver medal. Additionally, Sage Kotsenburg, a Coeur d'Alene native, took home the first-ever gold medal in the new men's slope style event and the first U.S. gold medal in the 2014 Winter Olympics.

Six other remarkable athletes also represented our state and nation well on the U.S. Olympic team. Nick Cunningham, a graduate of Boise State University and Sergeant in the New York National Guard, earned 12th place in both the two-man bobsled and four-man bobsled competitions. Erik Fisher, an alpine skier from Middleton, Idaho, went to Sochi as part of the U.S. Olympic team. Simi Hamilton, a Sun Valley skier, competed in cross country skiing, and he placed 6th in the men's team sprint classic and 11th in the men's 4x10k relay. Nate Holland, who grew up in Sandpoint, Idaho, placed 25th in men's snowboardcross in Sochi. Jessika Jenson of Rigby competed in the first Olympic snowboard slopestyle competition in Sochi where she finished 13th. Sara Studebaker from Boise competed in her second Olympics in biathlon competitions at Sochi where she helped earn a 7th place finish in the Women's 4x6k Relay Biathlon.

These athletes, like their fellow Olympic athletes from communities across the country and around the world, inspire us to push beyond the limits of what we may think is possible. They commit themselves to significant training and turn that preparation into achievements. Congratulations to Idaho and American Olympians for their extraordinary efforts leading up to and during these Olympics.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

COOK INLET HOUSING AUTHORITY

• Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, in 2014, Cook Inlet Housing Authority celebrates its 40th anniversary of building housing opportunities for the people of the Cook Inlet region of Southcentral Alaska.

In 1974, the Alaska State Legislature facilitated the creation of Cook Inlet Housing to ensure elders, individuals, and families in the Cook Inlet region would have access to quality, affordable housing. Since that time, Cook Inlet Housing has developed more than

1,500 energy-efficient and affordable homes for seniors and families and has catalyzed the revitalization of the Mountain View neighborhood in Anchorage.

The passage of Native American Housing Assistance and Self Determination Act by the U.S. Congress in 1996, and the flexibility allowed within it, has empowered Cook Inlet Housing to leverage funding from private and public sources and more than doubled the amount of quality, affordable housing available to families in Southcentral Alaska.

This year, Cook Inlet Housing is being recognized nationally with the prestigious HUD and American Planning Association's 2014 HUD Secretary's Opportunity and Empowerment Award. This award honors excellence in community planning resulting in measurable benefits in terms of increased economic development, employment, education, or housing choice and mobility for low- and moderate-income residents. I know the work that Cook Inlet Housing is doing for our community matters and helps transform lives.

I would like to congratulate Cook Inlet Housing Authority for their commitment to innovation and thoughtful, dynamic development that promotes their critical mission: To create housing opportunities that empower people and build communities.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOHN KERNER

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 95th birthday of Dr. John Kerner, an American hero, healthcare pioneer, and cherished doctor to so many families, including my own.

John Kerner was born in Portland, OR, and raised in Boston and San Francisco. He graduated from the University of California, Berkeley and UCSF Medical School, serving in the ROTC while in school. In 1943, he was called to active duty and commissioned as a first lieutenant.

As a battalion surgeon and combat medic in World War II, Dr. Kerner served with great distinction on the battlefields of Omaha Beach, Saint-Lô, and Bastogne. Shortly after landing in Normandy, he delivered a breech baby at a combat aid station, saving the mother and her child. On another occasion, when a group of U.S. soldiers was nearly surrounded by German SS troops, Dr. Kerner and one of his medics drove straight through the lines to deliver medical supplies and care to the wounded.

For his valiant service in World War II, Dr. Kerner was awarded the Combat Medic Badge, two Bronze Stars, five Battle Stars, and a Presidential Unit Citation. In 2007, he was awarded the Legion of Honor by French President Nicolas Sarkozy. He later recounted his experiences in a stirring memoir, "A Combat Medic Comes Home."

After the war, Dr. Kerner returned home to California, where he served