

the use and the management of our water but not the confiscation of our property and the dictates of an agency rather than an elected body.

We do not need America to become a dictatorial country. We need to continue to be a country of participation and negotiation, where everybody at the table has a stake and where in the end we work for the best interests of all, not just the interests of an agency or, worse than that, a central belief within that agency.

This rule is a rule that is bad for farmers, developers, landowners, cities, counties, water authorities, wastewater authorities, sewer treatment plants, and anybody else who has water.

I want to read what the EPA's coverage is in this bill. It says:

The flawed rule of the EPA to regulate nearly all water includes manmade water management systems, water that infiltrates into the ground or moves over land, and any other water the EPA decides has a significant nexus to downstream water based on the use by animals, insects, birds, and on water storage considerations.

There is no other provision in there. It includes all water. It is the authority for EPA to regulate it.

We have a farm bureau in Georgia that came up with the right slogan. They just simply said, after talking about the rule, after talking about waters in the U.S.A., there is only one thing we need to do: We need to ditch the rule.

It is time tonight for the Senate to adopt the Ernst provision, ditch the rule, and go back to the table and pass laws that are partnership laws between landowners, land developers, the local communities, local city councils, local county commissions, the local States. Let's not be a nation that edicts from the top down, but let's have solutions from the bottom up that always protect land ownership and land distribution and never take control of the water out of the hands of the States and move it to Washington, DC, where there is no accountability.

Last but not least, do not give the power of eminent domain—by that name or any other name—to the U.S. Government and take away the right to compensate because if you do, you become no better than a third-world nation, and it would be no good for the United States of America.

I see the majority leader has come to the floor, and I am anxious to hear his remarks because I know his name was invoked a few moments ago, so I will yield back my time. I am sure the majority leader would like to speak.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

REMEMBERING JOHN DAVID GOODLETTE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to a distinguished Kentuckian who is being honored by the Commonwealth and by the many people who know and respect his life's work. The late John David Goodlette came from small town beginnings: he was born in Hazard, KY, in 1925 to Dudley and Lillian Goodlette. He would go on to become a highly respected rocket engineer who was instrumental in the Viking missions to land American spacecraft on the surface of the planet Mars.

From a young age, John had a passion for flight and aircraft. He would assemble model aircraft as a hobby, and this hobby soon grew to include piloting gliders and small aircraft. John's interest in flight led him to study engineering, and after graduating from Hazard High School in 1943, he would enroll at the University of Kentucky, where he studied mechanical engineering. His studies were interrupted by his service in the U.S. Army during World War II, when John served as a tugboat captain in the South Pacific. After resuming his studies at UK, he graduated in 1949.

The majority of John's professional career was spent at the Martin Marietta Corp., now known as Lockheed Martin, where he worked for 39 years. His research initially focused on jet propulsion, heat transfer, and thermodynamics, but he soon found himself immersed in developing rocket programs for the company.

In 1956, John was selected to lead Martin Marietta's Titan intercontinental ballistic missile project. The project led him to increase his familiarity with nuclear physics, high-speed gas dynamics, and electrical engineering.

Then came the project that would be the highlight of John's career: the Viking project. John served as chief engineer on this project for 10 years, which culminated with the successful landing of two Viking spacecraft on the surface of Mars in July and September of 1976.

"The Viking was one of those heart-in-the-mouth things," John has been quoted as saying. "We never knew for sure it was going to work. That kept us going at a fever pitch to make sure all went right."

The Viking program was the most expensive and ambitious mission to Mars to that point and resulted in the bulk of our knowledge of the Red Planet for the next several decades. They were highly successful missions for which John Goodlette rightfully deserves a large share of the credit.

John is being inducted into the Kentucky Aviation Hall of Fame for his pioneering role in aviation and space exploration. Students and aviation enthusiasts from all over the Commonwealth, but especially from Hazard, can be proud of what this son of Kentucky accomplished in a brilliant career devoted to technology and science.

John also serves as an inspiration at the Challenger Learning Center of Kentucky, which uses space exploration as a tool to excite and inspire students to learn science, technology, engineering, and mathematics. The Center is located in Hazard, John's hometown.

John would go on to serve as a vice president of Martin Marietta and retire in 1991 after 39 years with the company. He has sadly passed on now and is unable to witness this historic occasion in his honor, but members of his family will be present at the Kentucky Aviation Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

I know John's three children, Sarah, David, and Alice, must be proud of all their father accomplished in his remarkable career. John not only served his country in uniform, he also added greatly to the sum total of knowledge in the universe for the benefit of his country and all of mankind.

On behalf of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, I want to thank the Goodlette family and express my admiration and respect for John David Goodlette's life and work. We are truly grateful for his passion to exploration and his service.

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 125th anniversary of Yosemite National Park, a California treasure nestled against the stunning backdrop of the Sierra Nevada mountain range.

In 1864, President Abraham Lincoln signed the Yosemite Grant Act, a landmark bill granting 39,000 acres of Yosemite Valley and the Mariposa Big Tree Grove to the State of California. This was the first time the United States had ever set aside land to protect it for the public to enjoy. Three decades later, Yosemite became the Nation's third national park—1,500 square miles of stunning waterfalls, magnificent sequoia trees, breathtaking mountain peaks, and portions of ancestral homeland for several American Indian tribes and groups.

Over the years, Yosemite National Park has been a leader, becoming the first national park to hire a female law enforcement ranger, open a museum, and establish partnerships to help preserve Yosemite for future generations. Yosemite has also championed efforts to reduce waste and pollution by establishing recycling programs in the 1970s and operating a fleet of hybrid electric shuttle buses.

Since its earliest days, Yosemite National Park has provided sanctuary, comfort, and inspiration to millions of visitors from across the globe who come to experience its natural splendor, rich geologic history, and abundant wildlife. The timeless beauty of Yosemite National Park is a testament to the vision and commitment of countless dedicated people and institutions over the past 125 years. I want to

express my deep gratitude to the staff, volunteers, and friends of Yosemite for all they do to protect this natural wonder, and I am pleased to join in honoring this special anniversary occasion.

OBSERVING ADOPTION AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. KING. Mr. President, each November we celebrate National Adoption Awareness Month to recognize the families that choose to adopt and the organizations that support them. During this month, we honor those who welcome these children into their homes and hearts, help them to grow to their full potential, and give them a better future. Today I would like to draw attention to the importance of adoption and raise awareness about youth in foster care programs, especially in Maine.

There are over 400,000 children in the foster care system, many of them waiting and hoping that the right family will come to adopt them. While many of these children are successfully returned to their birth parents and relatives, almost half are left in the system to fend for themselves. The absence of a stable family structure can be disastrous for children who are still developing psychologically and are trying to find their way in the world.

This issue has very real impacts on the future of these children and our society as a whole. Young adults who age out of the foster care system before being placed with a family are at a significantly higher risk for homelessness, incarceration, and unemployment. Alternatively, children who are adopted from foster care are more likely to achieve academic success and emotional security than their counterparts who remain in foster care. Nearly 80 percent of Americans, myself included, believe that more should be done to encourage adoption; yet, each year, tens of thousands of available children remain in the system, without families. Every child deserves to grow up in a permanent, safe, and loving home. This month, as we thank all those who have opened their hearts and homes to these children, we must acknowledge that there is still much work ahead of us.

I am proud of the important roles Maine citizens have played in promoting adoption awareness. Adoptive & Foster Families of Maine, Inc., AFFM, has been instrumental in helping children find the security they deserve and in providing support to the families who welcome them into their homes. Fostering or adopting a child can be an emotional process, and AFFM offers many services to all Maine adoptive families, including support groups, resource mentors, material goods, and a referral database for legal matters and mental health support. The adoption process is an emotional, transformative, and sometimes even stressful time for children and for their new families; therefore, the services provided by AFFM are an integral aspect of cultivating safe, joyful adop-

tions across the State. I have witnessed their hard work in action, and I am proud of all they have done for families and children across Maine.

My wife, Mary, and I have been blessed with two adoptions. I know firsthand what an amazing process adoption can be. Our experience would not have been possible without the loving support of our family, friends and community. Mary and I have been so fortunate with the joy all of our children bring to our lives every day, and I am proud to celebrate National Adoption Awareness Month.

I would like to recognize and thank Adoptive & Foster Families of Maine, Inc., and all others who facilitate adoptions throughout the country and make it possible for children in foster care to find their forever homes. Selfless, caring individuals and programs like AFFM help bring children one step closer to their dreams. They offer the hope of love and security to future generations, and for that, they deserve our immense gratitude.

RECOGNIZING COWBOYS AGAINST CANCER

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, today I come to the floor to recognize one of Wyoming's most generous groups, Cowboys Against Cancer. Founded in 1994 by cancer survivor Margaret Parry, Cowboys Against Cancer raises funds for residents of Sweetwater County who have been diagnosed with cancer. Touched by those who aided and encouraged her during her own battle with cancer, Margaret created Cowboys Against Cancer in order to provide the same comfort to those battling this awful disease. Margaret's mission—and that of Cowboys Against Cancer—is one of compassion and support. From offering the comfort of a shoulder to lean on to awarding grants to support overburdened individuals and families, Cowboys Against Cancer has waged a tireless battle against cancer.

As a nonprofit volunteer organization, Cowboys Against Cancer is a proud group devoted exclusively to charity. The organization's volunteers work without compensation, and Cowboys Against Cancer employs no staff members. Without staff on the payroll, no office space, and very little overhead, the majority of the profits generated are donated directly to those in need. Since the organization's inception, Cowboys Against Cancer has given hundreds of grants to local cancer patients, including more than 150 grants in 2015 alone. In addition to these grants, the group has also worked to fund the development of cancer treatment infrastructure throughout Sweetwater County to better serve the regional population.

This year marks the 21st and final Cowboys Against Cancer Annual Benefit and Banquet. Over 1,000 people will gather to both celebrate the memories of those who are no longer with us and

recognize the exemplary courage and determination exhibited by cancer survivors. Including the donations raised from this capstone gala, Cowboys Against Cancer estimates that they will have awarded a total of \$5 million of grants to folks in Wyoming. This is a remarkable achievement.

Margaret has a tremendous team of volunteers who have helped her make this dream a reality. Over the years, dozens upon dozens of folks have worked for this great organization. I would like to recognize the current board of directors and the people who have volunteered for 10 years or more. The Cowboys Against Cancer board of directors are: Margaret Parry, president and founder; George Lemich, vice president and auction officer; Cindy Petersen, historian; Kristi Parry, secretary; Erika Kosher, banquet; Anita Punders, treasurer; Terry Warren, grant disbursements; Kathy Devoy, invitations and tickets; Cindy Rodriguez, advertising; and Geannie Berg, auction item data base.

The kind, generous, and energetic volunteers who have lent a hand for over 10 years are Sandra DaRif, Danella "Prune" Devries, Pat Devoy, Debbie Gunn, Mary Hardy, Beth Ice, Mary Juel, Veldon Kraft, Don Melvin, Vance Petersen, Kyle and Patsy Rossetti, Becky Sanchez, Kelly Shablo, Bess Stevenson, Liz Strannigan, Tim Warren, and Donald Wiggen. Students from Western Wyoming Community College, Rock Springs High School, and Green River High School have always been generous with their time. And, finally, a special note of thanks to Al Harris who serves as the event's master of ceremonies.

Please join me in offering my heartfelt congratulations to Margaret Parry and her Cowboys Against Cancer team for their efforts toward creating a cancer-free world. This organization has exemplified the nature of the cowboy spirit: tough, but neighborly. Sweetwater County—and Wyoming—are better, thanks to the selfless contributions of Margaret Parry and Cowboys Against Cancer.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO ASHLEY MITCHELL

• Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I wish to celebrate and congratulate the recent accomplishments of Ms. Ashley Mitchell. At only 4-foot-9-inches tall and 94 pounds, Ashley holds the title of Weight Lifting World Champion.

The daughter of Anticia S. Mitchell and a native of Alexandria, LA, Ashley is a hard-working honor roll senior with a 3.0 GPA at Alexandria Senior High School, ASH. In addition to her academic triumphs, Ashley is also a dynamic athlete. During Ashley's freshman year of high school, ASH powerlifting coach Duane Urbina introduced her to the sport. With her mother's encouragement to take a risk and