

PBS affiliate in Philadelphia, PA. Two years later, on March 23, 1987, he joined WBOC-TV to serve as the first bureau chief for Dover, DE. It was there that he first began to anchor news broadcasts. It was a role, it turned out, which suited him perfectly.

Today Steve Hammond is WBOC-TV's main anchor and managing editor. He has become a household name in the region, having covered countless elections, major crisis, and natural disasters. Steve has flown with the Blue Angels and interviewed U.S. Presidents. He also has filed reports from several foreign countries to tell the stories of local troops in harm's way in Iraq and Somalia. Steve is highly respected in his field and has been widely recognized, winning innumerable awards, including a prestigious national Edward R. Murrow Award and distinctions from the Associated Press and Radio Television News Directors Association; yet Steve is characteristically modest about his accomplishments. If he were inclined to brag about anything, it probably would be about his beloved family—his sons Graham and Hunter, and his wife, Heather, who are his favorite companions for a day at the beach.

Steve Hammond is deeply invested in his community and has volunteered for many years for numerous charitable organizations, including Junior Achievement, March of Dimes, Easter Seals, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and The Salvation Army. He has helped spearhead The Salvation Army's Red Kettle Holiday Campaign on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. He also serves as a member of the board of trustees for Worcester Preparatory School in Berlin, MD, and is a member of Trinity United Methodist Church in Salisbury. Steve's coworkers, friends, and audience appreciate the dedication, service, and leadership he shown professionally and privately throughout his career. As he enters his fourth decade at WBOC-TV 16, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Steve Hammond on 30 years of exemplary work and community service and wishing him all the best in the years ahead.●

REMEMBERING JOHN BRUCE FERY

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life of John Bruce Fery, a friend and mentor.

John's obituary beautifully conveyed a sense of who he was: "John's journey took him from challenging early years as a latchkey kid with a working mom to remarkable lifetime accomplishments. He loved God, his family, his community, and his country. He loved the outdoors, sunshine, and John Wayne. He had a zest for life and a work ethic that was incomparable, while his commanding presence, charming smile, and quick-witted humor made him adored by family and friends. He was captivated by the joys of family life, the challenges of business, the warmth of friendships, the

satisfaction of philanthropic work, and the stories each brought to his life."

On February 16, 1930, John was born in Bellingham, WA, to Margaret and Carl Fery. John lost his father at a young age, and he and his mother moved to Seattle, where he graduated from Roosevelt High School and attended the University of Washington before serving in the U.S. Navy during the Korean war. He married his wife, Dee, in 1953, and obtained his masters of business administration from Stanford University before his extensive, much respected career in the pulp and paper industry. He led the Boise Cascade Company for more than two decades, taking on the position of president and chief executive officer in 1972 and chairman of the board in 1978. Throughout his 37-year career with the company, he built a legacy of sound judgement and expertise that led to his many honors, awards, and service on multiple boards.

In addition to his esteemed business career, John and Dee have given generously to many philanthropic efforts. His obituary aptly highlights some of their significant contributions to the community: "Whether attending the new Horsethief Reservoir Y Camp in Cascade, Idaho, learning about Birds of Prey at the World Center, enjoying the Idaho Shakespeare Festival and the park that he and Dee donated, attending Medical School through the WWAMI program which John helped found as a means of training physicians for Idaho, staying at St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center where John chaired the board and established its Foundation, receiving a grant from the Idaho Community Foundation, which exists today due to John's leadership in its formation and growth, or receiving a scholarship to Boise's Bishop Kelly High School, the University of Idaho, or Stanford, people will have experiences made possible by John and Dee's vision and generosity."

John was also a dear friend to me. He encouraged me and was instrumental in inspiring my public service. His guidance, advice, and insight are forever etched in my life's path, and I am deeply grateful for the time he took to help shape my service. I extend my deepest sympathies to Dee; their sons, Brent, Bruce, and Michael and their families; and their many other family members, loved ones, and friends. We are bettered for having had John in our lives. He leaves behind an enduring, loving, and joyful legacy.●

RECOGNIZING THE JEWISH COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OF SOUTHERN MAINE

● Mr. KING. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the Jewish Community Alliance in Portland, Maine, for their longstanding service and commitment to Maine's Jewish community across southern Maine.

In 1999, the Jewish Community Alliance of Southern Maine, JCA, was

founded following a merger of the Jewish Community Center and the Jewish Federation. With a strong commitment to upholding Jewish values and culture, the JCA provides diverse programs for the entire community, educating children, teens, and adults to better connect with their community and learn from one another. The organization welcomes citizens of all backgrounds, encouraging a deeper understanding of Jewish history, practice, and culture.

The JCA understands the importance of supporting and educating future generations through high-quality programming for children offered throughout the year. The JCA administers a nationally accredited preschool program, now in its 24th year, which provides children with the opportunity to grow and learn in a safe and positive environment driven by Jewish values. Additionally, each summer, the JCA welcomes children of all faiths to the Center Day Camp, along the shores of Sebago Lake in Cumberland County, ME. Heading into its 68th summer, the Center Day Camp encourages Maine's youth to explore new interests, build confidence and friendships, and develop new skills.

The JCA also offers adult education classes to engage both Jewish and non-Jewish individuals, and to provide opportunities to learn about a wide range of topics relating to Judaism and Jewish life. One such program, NextDor, offers peer-led social, cultural, and educational engagement guided by Jewish values to adults in their twenties, thirties, and early forties. The program is dedicated to engaging members in a variety of settings that are accessible, inclusive, and uniting to help encourage Jewish and non-Jewish participation.

I would like to recognize the positive impact that the JCA has had in the lives of Maine's citizens and its positive impact in strengthening the Jewish community. Their ongoing commitment to a better and more prosperous tomorrow is to be commended, and their message of inclusiveness and engagement is a model for the entire State. I look forward to the continued success of the Jewish Community Alliance of Southern Maine, and to watching their community grow and thrive.●

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL HISTORIC OREGON TRAIL INTERPRETIVE CENTER

● Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate the National Historic Oregon Trail Interpretive Center in Baker, OR, on its 25th anniversary and to recognize the cultural and historical importance of this special place. Twenty-five years ago, volunteers, philanthropists, and community leaders came together with the Bureau of Land Management to make this dream a reality, and today I want to honor them for their dedication to their community and the State of Oregon.