

I am honored to recognize MaKenzie as the May Granite Stater of the Month. MaKenzie represents the strength of character that defines the Granite State, and her actions are an excellent reminder that, no matter our age, it is critical that we are equipped with the knowledge of what to do in case of an emergency.●

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE KING

● Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Madam President, I am pleased to commend George King of Washington County, MS, for his service and contributions to the State of Mississippi while serving as the 82nd president of the Delta Council.

Founded in 1935, Delta Council is a widely-respected economic development organization representing business, professional, and agricultural leaders in the Delta region of Mississippi. I commend Delta Council for its continuous role in improving the quality of life in this unique part of our country.

George King's tenure as council president began in May 2017. The Delta Council under Mr. King's leadership has benefited from this extensive experience as a strong voice for the region on farm policy. He is an important private-sector leader in water resource developments, which are vitally important to this highly productive agricultural region of Mississippi.

Mr. King graduated from Leland High School and earned an agronomy degree from Mississippi State University. He is a partner in Nelson-King Farms, a diversified row-crop farming operation. In addition to his leadership in Delta Council and farm production activities, Mr. King has served as Director of the National Cotton Council, and Cotton, Incorporated. He is also past president of the Southern Cotton Ginners Association, and a former Chairman of the USDA-Farm Service Agency County Committee.

I am pleased to offer congratulations to George King and to share this appreciation with his wife, Lisa, and their four children, Walt, Caroline, Caitlin, and Nelson, as the 83rd annual meeting of the membership of Delta Council convenes on June 1 at Delta State University.●

TRIBUTE TO UTAH'S SERVICE ACADEMY NOMINEES

● Mr. LEE. Madam President, I come before you today to recognize seven exemplary young men and women from the great State of Utah who have answered the call of service to our country. It is a great privilege to represent these exceptional Utahns in the U.S. Senate, who will attend the U.S. Air Force Academy, the U.S. Military Academy, and the U.S. Naval Academy.

Each year Members of Congress, under title 10 of the U.S. Code, are authorized to nominate a number of young men and women from their district or State to attend the country's

service academies. I am proud to honor these Utahns as they undertake this calling.

Each of these students is of sound mind and body, which will serve them well in Colorado Springs, West Point, and Annapolis, but to succeed, they will need more than this.

In addition to mental and physical aptitude, the journey upon which these young men and women will soon embark demands strong moral character: leadership, courage, honesty, prudence, and self-discipline. It calls for a commitment to service and love of country.

These students have already displayed these qualities of character and standards of excellence upon which America's service academies are built. Today, I would like to recognize and congratulate these dedicated and generous young men and women.

Delia Margene Cheney will be attending the Air Force Academy after graduating from the Utah Military Academy, where she served as commander of the largest Air Force JROTC program in the western United States. She was captain of both her school's academic team and volleyball team and served as a member of their State champion drill team. Delia was also a delegate to Girls State and served as an intern for two sessions of the Utah State Senate. She stayed active in her community through service with the National Honor Society, as well as her choir and church youth group.

Daniel Scott Dwyer, from Bingham High School, accepted an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. Daniel serves in the Boy Scouts as a senior patrol leader and earned the rank of Eagle Scout with a project that entailed sending care packages to marines serving in the Middle East. He ran with both the Bingham Miners' track and cross-country teams and was a member of the JROTC. He also served his peers as a volunteer with special needs youth, all while taking rigorous classes and maintaining a high GPA.

Talmage Cragun Gaisford will be attending the U.S. Military Academy. As a graduate of Orem High School, Talmage was a member of the National Honor Society and received high honor roll awards. He earned the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts and served as a volunteer in Accra, Ghana, where he worked to build an orphanage. In addition to serving as a leader in his church's youth organization, he served on the Orem City Youth Council and is an avid mountain biker and hiker.

Gage Geoffrey Maki attended the New Mexico Military Institute after graduating from Park City High School. He worked hard and earned an appointment to the U.S. Air Force Academy. Gage, whose parents are both graduates of the U.S. Air Force Academy, was a leader in both the Air Force JROTC and the Civil Air Patrol. He attended Boys State and earned the rank of Eagle Scout, where his ambi-

tious project led to the replanting of hundreds of trees in an area devastated by a forest fire. Gage has trained as a skeleton athlete with the Junior Development USA Bobsled/Skeleton Team.

Malachi Kay Ruf will be joining his brother at the Air Force Academy. Malachi graduated from North Summit High School and has been attending Utah Valley University. He served as drumline bass captain and the congress debate captain, as well as vice president of the debate team and the Leos. He was honored to attend Boys State and was a member of his school's State champion swim team. Malachi sought opportunities to serve others as a volunteer for Primary Children's Festival of Trees, collecting prescription glasses with the Lions Club, volunteering for local triathlons and races, and playing cello at church and community events.

Tasia Stevens accepted an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. She graduated from Murray High School where she was captain of both the soccer team and basketball team, where she was named MVP. A model student-athlete, Tasia maintained a 4.0 GPA while excelling in sports and volunteering hundreds of hours at the Loveland Living Planet Aquarium. She provided additional community service with the National Honor Society and was a member of high school German club.

Sariah Kim Watchalotone will be attending the Air Force Academy. A graduate of West High School, Sariah was president of both the DECA and horticultural clubs and vice president of Panther Pals. She captained both her high school volleyball team and the High Country Volleyball National Team. Sariah volunteered with the Rescue Mission of Salt Lake City, Community Animal Welfare Society, and with University of Utah Health Care. Her grandfather, who served in the South Korean Army, has instilled in her a love of country, and inspired her to enter the military and live a life of service.

It has been my distinct honor to speak to and nominate each of these admirable young men and women. These Utahns give me great hope for the future of our great Nation and the future of our Armed Services.

To these seven students and to all their future classmates from around the country, I commend your achievements. I urge you to remember the foundation of your success thus far: hard work and sacrifice.

Strive to continue on the path of strong moral character and to keep love of country as a guiding principle. If you stay this course, your future will hold great things in store. I wish you all the best as you embark on this journey.

Thank you.●