

Perce Tribes. It also holds an important part of our State's history; emigrant pioneers risked their lives crossing the Snake in search of their future in Oregon. Pristine sections of this river and its stunning landscapes provide bountiful opportunities for salmon fishing, rafting, and exploration.

These Oregon rivers and others recognized by the U.S. Postal Service in these stamps contribute to the most stunning landscapes in the country and protect the very qualities that make America's and Oregon's natural treasures so incredible.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL CAROLINE M. MILLER

Ms. ERNST. Madam President, today I wish to recognize Col. Caroline M. Miller, upon her departure as chief, Air Force legislative liaison to the U.S. Senate.

In this role, Colonel Miller managed Air Force senior leader strategic engagement with Senators and their staffs in support of Air Force programs and congressional oversight travel. She served as the Air Force's senior escort for staff and congressional delegation travel to more than 20 countries supporting leadership, Member, and committee offices. Prior to her current position, she served as the 633rd Air Base Wing commander at Joint Base Langley-Eustis, VA, providing installation support to 18,000 Air Force and Army personnel, including Headquarters Air Combat Command, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, four operational wings, eight brigades, and more than 20 major associate units.

Colonel Miller received her commission in 1994 from Officer Training School, Maxwell Air Force Base, AL. During her illustrious career, she has served as a protocol officer, special actions officer, and executive officer for several senior Air Force leadership offices, as well as the Director of Manpower and Personnel for United States Strategic Command. Colonel Miller has commanded at the squadron, group, and wing levels, spending 1 year as the commander, 379th Expeditionary Mission Support Group, Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar, in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. She was also hand-selected to participate in the elite Air Force Internship program, as well as competed to attend the Naval Command and Staff College and Air Force's Air War College.

Colonel Miller is married to Colonel (Retired) Rich Miller who, along with their son Ryan, have given her unwavering support throughout her career in the Air Force during multiple moves and combat deployments.

On behalf of the U.S. Congress and a grateful Nation, I extend our deepest appreciation to Col. Caroline M. Miller for her dedicated service to the Senate and to our Nation. We wish her the best on her promotion to brigadier general and her next role as chief of Air Force manpower at the Pentagon. There is no

question that the Air Force, Department of Defense, and the United States will continue to benefit greatly from Colonel Miller's leadership.

REMEMBERING DR. JAMES BILLINGTON

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam President, Dr. James Billington was the 13th person to hold the position of Librarian of Congress since the Library was established in 1800. He was nominated by President Ronald Reagan and served under Presidents George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama.

As Librarian of Congress Dr. Billington managed the Library of Congress, which according to LOC, is the largest library in the world, containing millions of books, recordings, photographs, newspapers, maps, and manuscripts in its collections. It is the main research arm of the U.S. Congress.

Dr. Billington doubled the size of the Library's collections during his tenure from 85.5 million items in 1987 to more than 160 million items. He created the Library of Congress online, which helped bring the Library into the digital age.

In 2003, Dr. Billington testified before the Senate education committee at a hearing I chaired called "Putting the Teaching of American History and Civics Back in the Classroom."

In his testimony that day, Dr. Billington said: "During Alex Haley's 12 years researching his groundbreaking novel, *Roots*, he traveled the globe to uncover his family's story, even taking a slow Atlantic crossing to get some feel for what his ancestors went through on the Middle Passage. He also spent many hours in the reading rooms of the Library of Congress, poring over American Missionary Society files from our Manuscript Collection.

"For the first 190 years of the Library's existence, people could access our vast collections only by traveling to Washington, D.C., and by working in our beautiful reading rooms as Mr. Haley did, or by tapping into our rich holdings secondhand, through books that made use of our collections . . .

"The technology revolution of the past decade has made it possible for the Library to reach far beyond its buildings in Washington. We now deliver 8 million interesting and educational multimedia documents, maps, and images of American history and culture free of charge to stimulate curiosity and humanize the study of history.

"By exploiting the power of the internet and the incomparable resources of our collections, the Library of Congress has emerged as the leading provider of free noncommercial educational content on the Web. Millions of educators, librarians, students, and lifelong learners visit our Web sites daily for materials that once were available only through our reading rooms on Capitol Hill."

Dr. Billington's nearly three decades of distinguished service and his efforts to bring the Library of Congress into the digital age will help ensure that the Library will better preserve our Nation's history and enlighten its people for many generations to come. His legacy will be one of innovation and diligence.

After his passing in 2018, his successor at the Library of Congress, Carla Hayden, said "Dr. Billington has left an indelible legacy on the institution he led passionately for 28 years. With his vigor for philanthropy and tireless efforts to expand the reach and impact of the Library, he achieved so much to advance the Library of Congress as an enduring place for scholars and learners. He will be remembered as a visionary leader, distinguished academic and, most of all, a great American."

At a recent Senate committee hearing, I spoke with Ms. Hayden about Alex Haley and the importance of what he did: writing two bestselling books on the African-American experience, the autobiography of Malcolm X and his book, *Roots*, which tell the story of the African-American experience in America. As Dr. Billington said, Alex did a lot of his research at the Library of Congress, and he found the name and the date of the slave ship that actually brought that ancestor to Annapolis in the Library. I think Alex's example will help people understand how the Library of Congress can be so useful to people who are trying to tell the story of our country.

Ms. Hayden agreed saying, "many notable films and books have started with research at the Library of Congress. We want to emphasize the fact that Alex Haley did research here, and also have his quotes about what it felt like for him to be in that reading room."

Alex Haley used to say, we should "find the good and praise it." Dr. Billington's life's work will help countless Americans "find the good and praise it," when it comes to the history of our country.

REMEMBERING LIEUTENANT COLONEL RICHARD "DICK" COLE

Mr. INHOFE. Madam President, today I wish to honor Lieutenant Colonel Richard "Dick" Cole, of the United States Air Force, who was the last living link of the Doolittle Raiders and passed away on April 9 at the age of 103. The Doolittle Raiders were comprised of 80 heroic U.S. Army Air Forces airmen who flew 16 modified B-25 Mitchell bombers off the USS *Hornet* aircraft carrier on the first Allied retaliatory strike on the Japanese Home Islands, just a few months after Pearl Harbor.

In an age before midair refueling and GPS, the USS *Hornet* weighed less than a quarter of today's fortress-like aircraft carriers. With then-Lt. Cole as the copilot to then-Lt. Col. Jimmy