

universities as part of their curriculums. Blair passed away in 2000 of lung cancer, but left behind a legacy of service and dedication to the State of Arkansas.

Louise McPhetridge Thaden was born in Bentonville on a small family farm and became interested in aviation at an early age. She attended the University of Arkansas, but never graduated. Instead, she continued to pursue her love of flying, taking her skills to Kansas and eventually California and working various jobs until she eventually earned her pilot's license. She became the only female pilot to simultaneously hold the women's record for speed, altitude, and solo endurance, beating out Amelia Earhart and other pilots at the National Women's Air Derby in 1929. Together Earhart and Thaden formed the Ninety-Nines, an advocacy group for women pilots. Additionally, Louise opened a flight school for women at the Penn School of Aviation and raised the scholarship money for its first 12 students. In 1932, she set a refueling endurance record of 196 hours in the air over Long Island. In 1936, Louise became the first woman to win the Bendix Transcontinental Air Race from New York to Los Angeles. She was the 1937 recipient of the Harmon Trophy, which is the highest honor given to a female pilot. Her achievements have been honored in numerous ways, including by the community of Bentonville, where its airport now bears her name, as well as by former Governor David Pryor's declaration of August 22 as "Louise M. Thaden Day." She was posthumously inducted into the International Aerospace Hall of Fame in 1999. Louise's pioneering and competitive spirit will continue to inspire future generations of pilots and women for many years to come.

The final inductee, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority's Beta Pi Omega Chapter, was chartered in Little Rock in 1937. It is the oldest graduate chapter in the State of Arkansas. The chapter's 265 members regularly complete service projects and host health fairs, workshops, education programs, voter drive, and fundraisers. The group's members use their education, skill, and expertise to make an impact in the community. Beta Pi Omega has sponsored the chartering of two new Alpha Kappa Alpha chapters in the State, Gamma Alpha Chapter at Philander Smith College and Epsilon Phi Chapter at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Through the years, over 500 High School seniors and college students have received scholarships or other assistance from Beta Pi Omega. The chapter has been recognized for its programs and partnerships with the Little Rock School District, American Heart Association, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, and Lions Club International. Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority's Beta Pi Omega chapter has demonstrated a true commitment to improving Arkansas for future genera-

tions of citizens in all corners of the State.

Congratulations to the 2019 Arkansas Women's Hall of Fame inductees. We are grateful for their contributions to our State and the work they have done to inspire all Arkansans to achieve great things and help their neighbors and fellow citizens through their efforts to uplift and improve their communities.●

TRIBUTE TO FATHER THOMAS TOBIN

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the honor of recognizing Father Thomas Tobin, of Carter County, for his leadership in the church and devotion to serving the faithful of Montana.

Father Tobin was ordained in a small church in Tipperary, Ireland, in June of 1959, shortly after, he made the trek to Montana in September of 1959. During his 38 years of service, he ministered across Big Sky Country, including in Billings, Hilger, Livingston, Big Sandy, Baker, and Ekalaka.

As a member of the Knights of Columbus, Father Tobin has been active in promoting Christian values from his local parish to the broader community.

Father Tobin has been a strong defender of the pro-life movement—regularly defending the rights of the unborn from the pulpit. He has participated in a handful of right-to-life marches and has routinely promoted pro-life activities.

During the days leading up to the 9/11 attacks, Father Tobin was in New York City visiting parishes. When the attacks unfolded, Father Tobin delayed his return home to Montana to pray and minister to the people of New York City.

In addition to his devout faith and commitment to others, Father Tobin has a profound love for our great outdoors. Those who know him best say he can often be found at a local dam or lake with a fishing pole. He also enjoys long drives in the country and taking long walks and hikes.

I am proud to honor Father Tobin as this week's Montanan of the Week. His devotion to his Catholic faith and his community is exemplary of the Montana spirit.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2156. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Sustainment), transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual Selected Acquisition Reports (SARs) for the Army Major Defense Acquisition Programs (MDAPs) (OSS-2019-0850); to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2157. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the continuation of the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 13441 with respect to Lebanon; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2158. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-92, "Fiscal Year 2020 Budget Support Act of 2019"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2159. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-93, "Firearms Safety Omnibus Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2019"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2160. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-94, "Closing of a Portion of South Dakota Avenue, N.E., Adjacent to Squares 3760 and 3766, S.O. 18-40261, Act of 2019"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2161. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-95, "Warehousing and Storage Eminent Domain Authority Act of 2019"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2162. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-96, "Power Line Undergrounding Program Certified Business Enterprise Utilization Act of 2019"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2163. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-97, "Children's Hospital Research and Innovation Campus Phase 1 Temporary Amendment Act of 2019"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2164. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-98, "St. Elizabeths East Redevelopment Support Temporary Amendment Act of 2019"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2165. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-99, "Department of Health Functions Clarification Temporary Amendment Act of 2019"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2166. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 23-107, "Myphehuh Films DBA Sankofa Video and Books Real Property Tax Exemption Act of 2019"; to the Committee on