

freezing, Criner knew time was working against him.

Criner took quick action and grabbed a hammer and broke the passenger side window. He proceeded to cover the man with as many blankets as he had and even took the beanie off his own head to keep the man warm. On that cold February day, Criner saved a man's life.

Deputy Criner's quick action and commitment to service is exemplary of the Montana spirit. I know that Sheriff Alan Ronneberg and the entire Sweetgrass community are thankful to have a faithful public servant in Deputy Cody Criner.

In recognition of Deputy Cody Criner's bravery and service, I ask unanimous consent that his name be entered into the RECORD and recognized as Montanan of the week.●

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN NICHOLAS A. MUNGAS

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today I wish to honor CAPT Nicholas A. Mungas, commodore of Training Air Wing One, at NAS Meridian, for his 25 years of service to the U.S. Navy.

CAPT Nicholas Mungas grew up in Kalispell, MT. Following his nomination, Captain Mungas attended and graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1995, with a degree in economics. Directly following, he attended flight school and, in November of 1997, was designated a naval aviator at NAS Kingsville in Texas.

Captain Mungas's operational assignments include FA-18 pilot tours with Strike Fighter Squadron, VFA 105, USS *Enterprise*, CVN 65, USS *Harry S. Truman*, CVN 75; VFA-195, USS *Kitty Hawk*, CV 63; and VFA-136, USS *Enterprise*, CVN 65; completing multiple Mediterranean and Western Pacific deployments, while supporting Operations Southern Watch, Deliberate Forge, Iraqi Freedom, and Enduring Freedom.

Captain Mungas has excelled in all areas of the Navy, but most notably as a naval pilot. Captain Mungas attended the navy fighter weapons school, better known as TOPGUN. He also served as an instructor pilot in the Strike Fighter Squadron 106, where he was selected as the Strike Fighter Wing Atlantic Fleet Instructor Pilot of the Year in 2004.

After his graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy, Captain Mungas has accumulated over 2,900 flight hours and has performed 576 carrier arrested landings. His distinguished career includes the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Strike Flight Air Medal, and the Department of State Meritorious honor award.

As well as being a highly qualified and distinguished pilot, Captain Mungas has served as the Joint Chiefs of Staff desk officer and U.S. Africa Command lead planner, as well as a military detailee to the U.S. Depart-

ment of State in the Office of the Euro-Atlantic Security Affairs in the Bureau of Arms Control, Verification, and Compliance.

His record of excellence and leadership is an inspiration to all young Montanans and aspiring naval aviators. I, along with all of Montana, are grateful for his life of service to our Nation.

In recognition of CAPT Nicholas A. Mungas and his personal accomplishments and contributions to his country, I ask unanimous consent that his name be entered into the RECORD.●

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE YMCA'S YOUTH ASSEMBLY PROGRAM

● Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. President, today, I am proud to recognize in the RECORD an organization that has meant so much to so many worldwide.

In June, the YMCA celebrated a major anniversary. Since its creation 175 years ago, the YMCA is now located in 119 countries and serves 58 million individuals, including my own family in Alpharetta, GA; the local YMCA is named for my father: the "Ed Isakson/Alpharetta Family YMCA."

Now, the YMCA is celebrating 75 years of an important civic engagement program called Youth Assembly. Youth Assembly is a high school mock State legislative program, which I participated in as a student myself, serving as a press delegate in 1962.

At Youth Assembly, students discuss current issues confronting their State with other high school students from across the State, along with educators, State administrators, and other elected officials. In Georgia, this program brings together a diverse group of students who come from very different parts of our State. Students choose from a range of areas relevant to the legislative process, including executive, judicial, legislative, lobbyist, and media roles. This program is competition-based, and those delegates who excel in each of the programs are recognized during the closing session.

In Atlanta, the program is held annually at the State capitol, where volunteers from State departments act as resources for the students while they debate the issues. These volunteers, along with State YMCA staff, help guide students through mock committee meetings and procedures. Students debate and vote on the bills that their fellow delegates have written and presented. Bills that pass in committee are then taken to the floor of the house or senate for full debate and vote. Participants also engage in campaigns and elections for officers who will serve during the following year.

Bringing these students together helps them learn not only the legislative process but also more about people from different backgrounds and from parts of their own State who may not be as familiar to their upbringing.

For our democracy to survive, it requires citizen participation. Anything

we can do to help students—and all citizens—to better understand government and recognize the importance of playing a role in its operation is important. If everyone were more involved day-to-day, we might see fewer disagreements, but we would certainly have a better understanding of how our country operate, and how opinions can differ without being disagreeable.

Becoming involved in government helps us all, and I commend the YMCA on the 75th anniversary of this meaningful program for our youth.●

TRIBUTE TO MARIAN WRIGHT EDELMAN

● Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I wish to recognize Marian Wright Edelman, founder and president emerita of the Children's Defense Fund, for her powerful advocacy for racial justice and on behalf of children, the poor, and all marginalized people.

On September 18, the Coalition on Human Needs will honor Mrs. Edelman as an extraordinary Human Needs Hero. Mrs. Edelman's storied career spans several epochal chapters of American history. Her activism and leadership led to the creation of programs such as Head Start, federally funded child care, the Children's Health Insurance Program, and tax credits for low-income families. Through the Children's Defense Fund and in her earlier work, Mrs. Edelman led in opening doors for children with disabilities, overhauling child welfare services, and expanding educational opportunities and health care for all children. From her early fight to ensure that nutrition aid reached the poorest families to her ongoing advocacy to protect children of color and all children from the ravages of poverty, Marian Wright Edelman has assisted tens of millions of children living in poverty and touched countless lives for the better.

Mrs. Edelman grew up the daughter of a Baptist minister, who raised her with a strong emphasis on the value of faith, family, and education. These values would guide her through the challenges of entering the public sphere as an African-American woman. Mrs. Edelman's advocacy began while she was a student at Spelman College, where she was an active participant of the civil rights movement. Upon graduating from Yale Law School, Mrs. Edelman became the first African-American woman admitted to the Mississippi Bar. In Mississippi, she practiced with the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund and was an integral part of the Freedom Summer of 1964. She was instrumental in exposing the plight of child poverty in the South and throughout the United States, culminating in Senator Robert Kennedy's historic trip to witness the plight of hungry children in Mississippi.

Subsequently, Mrs. Edelman served as counsel to the Rev. Martin Luther King's Poor People's Campaign. In 1973,