

role as Secretary for the Majority. This is quite an honor and an accomplishment, as Secretaries for the Majority and the Minority are elected officers nominated by the party's leader. During her time in the Senate, Laura provided much-needed parliamentary guidance and counsel to Senators. She was no stranger to this type of advice, as her father served as the Senate Parliamentarian for many years.

Laura has succeeded in every aspect of her service to the U.S. Senate, and I can personally say she will be greatly missed throughout the Upper Chamber. I wish her all the best as she transitions to the next exciting chapter in her life.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE PUGH

• Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Professor George Pugh for his distinguished legal career and outstanding tenure as an educator at the Paul M. Hebert Law Center at Louisiana State University LSU. His dedication to the law, along with his many accomplishments and military career, is exceptionally impressive and displays his commitment to his community and fellow American.

Pugh was born on Bayou Lafourche in 1925 and in 1942 began his studies at LSU. In the midst of World War II, he volunteered for military service and was deployed to France. After the war, he returned to LSU after three semesters, he enrolled in LSU Law School. He earned his juris doctor in 1950 and went on to Yale Law School to earn his doctorate of juridical science in 1952. Later that year, he joined the LSU Law School faculty as an assistant professor.

Pugh served 2 years on the Judicial Council as the State's first judicial administrator for the Louisiana Supreme Court. He is known as the "intellectual father" of the Louisiana Code of Evidence, as he and his fellow co-reporters confected the Code of Evidence for the Louisiana State Law Institute, using the Federal Rules of Evidence as its model. It would be enacted into state law in 1998 and serve as an invaluable resource for judges, district attorneys, and other legal professionals. In all, he has provided 43 years of instruction to almost three generations of students.

Pugh also served as a member of the Baton Rouge, LA, and American Bar Associations, chairing several committees. He was a member of the American Law Institute and received several invitations to teach at law schools in America and around the globe. At LSU, he received the "Hub" Cotton Faculty Excellence Award and an honorary doctorate of law from the University of Aix-Marseille III in France, was named a Sterling Fellow at Yale Law School, and was listed in "Who's Who in America." Upon retiring in 1994, the Louisiana Law Review dedicated its Janu-

ary publication to Professor Pugh, as he had been its longtime editor and associate editor.

I cannot congratulate Professor George Pugh without mentioning his late wife of 60 years, Jean Hemphill. Together, they founded the George W. and Jean H. Pugh Institute for Justice in 1998, working to promote justice for individuals in the administration of criminal and civil justice systems in Louisiana and around the world.

Professor Pugh's compilation of the Louisiana Code of Evidence, distinguished teaching career, and contributions to the legal system of Louisiana show the extent to which he has used his God-given talents to make the world a better place. His incredible legal career and many awards speak volumes to who he is as a Louisianan and an American.

Professor Pugh, you have made our State and our Nation proud.●

TRIBUTE TO FRED AND TRESSIE FIKE

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the honor of recognizing Fred and Tressie Fike of Mineral County for their commitment to helping others in the community.

Fred and Tressie lead the Superior Community Church Shoebox Ministry, which is part of the Samaritan's Purse's national initiative, Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Ministry.

Fred and Tressie partner with their church and folks in the community to provide shoeboxes filled with toys, hygiene items, clothes, sewing kits, and school supplies around the world to children impacted by devastating circumstances like war, natural disasters, poverty and disease.

When Superior Community Church first participated in this ministry 15 years ago, they were able to deliver 25 boxes. In 2019, thanks to the leadership of Fred and Tressie, they delivered 900.

It is my honor to recognize Fred and Tressie for their generous and selfless efforts within their church ministry helping children across the world. The world is a better place as a result of their dedication.●

REMEMBERING CHARLES PITMAN

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today pay tribute to the memory of retired U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Charles Pitman, a leader who served in our Nation's Armed Forces for nearly 40 years, earning the Silver Star, four Distinguished Flying Crosses, and a Purple Heart.

Chuck Pitman was born in Chicago in 1935 and enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserve in 1952 and the U.S. Marine Corps in 1953. A pilot by the age of 14, Chuck logged more than 12,000 flight hours during his career, flying jets and attack and reconnaissance helicopters. He flew three combat tours in Vietnam, where his aircraft were shot down seven times by enemy fire.

On January 7, 1973, Chuck was commanding officer of the Marine Air Re-

serve Training Detachment in New Orleans when he saw a sniper firing at civilians from a hotel on the news. Without approval from his supervisors and at the risk of his career with the Marines, he and his crew flew a Marine helicopter loaded with police officers to the hotel and helped to end the carnage. Many of the police officers and survivors credited his actions with saving countless lives.

Chuck served as special assistant to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff during the Iranian hostage crisis. By 1990, Chuck was a three-star general and retired from the Marine Corps. His commands included the Marine Aviation Training Support Group in Pensacola, a role as assistant wing commander for the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing in California, and the command of the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing in Japan.

Chuck spent much of the rest of his life in Florida's Pensacola Beach. He volunteered his time with organizations including the Marine Corps League of Pensacola and participated in numerous veteran's events throughout the city, becoming a fixture in the community.

I express my sincere condolences to his wife, two sons, and two daughters on the loss of an American hero and patriot. May God bless his family during this time of sorrow.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Roberts, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:24 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 473. An act to authorize the Every Word We Utter Monument to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 560. An act to amend section 6 of the Joint Resolution entitled "A Joint Resolution to approve the Covenant To Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America, and for other purposes".

H.R. 561. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the oversight of contracts awarded by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to small business concerns owned and