

Our thoughts are with the Spriggs' family and with all those who knew and loved Bill.

TRIBUTE TO REAR ADMIRAL PETER STAMATOPOULOS

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate an exceptional officer of the U.S. Navy, Rear Admiral Peter Stamatopoulos, Commander, Naval Supply Systems Command and 49th Chief of Supply Corps, on his retirement after 35 years of honorable service to our country.

Rear Admiral Peter Stamatopoulos provided outstanding leadership and sound professional judgment in service to the U.S. Navy, Congress, and this Nation. A native of California and a University of San Diego graduate, Rear Admiral Stamatopoulos was first commissioned to serve as a supply corps officer in the U.S. Navy in 1988. Following his precept, "Do Good, Do Right, Do What Is Honorable," he provided vital Navy supply support throughout his career, serving in the Cold War, Operation Desert Storm, Operation Southern Watch, Operation Determined Response, and Operation Enduring Freedom. Under his leadership, his team won the 2006 Adm. Stan Arthur Logistics Team of the Year award for the noncombatant evacuation of about 15,000 U.S. citizens from Lebanon.

As commander, Naval Supply Systems Command and 49th Chief of Supply Corps for the past 36 months, Rear Admiral Stamatopoulos led the execution of a dynamic, worldwide Supply Systems Command consisting of 11 field commands, a 22,500-personnel global workforce, \$8 billion annual budget, and \$42 billion Navy Working Capital Fund-Supply Management inventory. Through the Naval Sustainment System-Supply and Performance to Plan-Logistics initiatives, he improved the Navy's end-to-end supply chains and enhanced the global supply support network to swiftly respond to the dynamic threat environment.

On behalf of all Californians, we thank Rear Admiral Stamatopoulos, his wife Alainie, and their entire family for their continued commitment, sacrifice, and contributions to our Nation.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO JOE FOX

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Joe Fox for his years of service and dedication to the State of Arkansas. For the past 11 years, Mr. Fox has served as the Arkansas State Forester, directing the good work of the forestry division within the Arkansas Department of Agriculture to promote and steward the State's forestry community.

His leadership, dedication, and passion for forestry is worthy of celebra-

tion as his service as State forester comes to a well-deserved retirement. Joe boasts a long and rich history advocating for our natural resources. Prior to this role, he worked as the director of conservation forestry for the Arkansas branch of the Nature Conservancy. He is also the former president of the Arkansas Forestry Association and served on the Arkansas Forestry Commission from 1987 to 1997, serving as chairman in 1995 and 1996.

A native Arkansan, Joe is a third-generation lumber industry professional and the first in his family to receive a forestry degree from a university. His vast experience in conservation forestry has been instrumental in promoting forest health, stewardship, and conservation. Joe has been the guiding voice for the division of forestry and I, as well as the State of Arkansas, have been blessed to benefit from his advice and knowledge throughout his tenure. His testimony and expertise have been essential in informing forestry-related policy through our work on the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee. I am pleased to consider Joe a friend and am grateful for his service to our State.

I commend Joe for a job well done and wish him the best in this next chapter of his life. •

TRIBUTE TO BRAD AND JOY RYAN

• Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and celebrating the accomplishments of two Ohioans from Duncan Falls, Brad Ryan and his grandmother, Joy Ryan. Together, they visited every National Park—all 63 of them—and they set a world record along the way. Joy is the oldest woman to visit every National Park. It took them 8 years and brought them new adventures all over the country.

In 2015, Brad invited Joy to camp and hike with him in the Smokey Mountains. Joy was 85 at the time and accepted the challenge. She had never been to a mountain before, and when they reached the top, she remembers a group of college kids cheering for them. This was just the beginning. Over the past 8 years, they have ziplined at the New River Gorge in West Virginia, where Joyce broke the record for the oldest person to complete the course. They whitewater rafted at Wrangell-St. Elias National Park in Alaska. At the Great Sand Dunes National Park in Colorado, Joy even rolled down a sand dune. Their final trip, to National Park of American Samoa, took them 6,700 miles from their home in Duncan Falls, OH.

Brad didn't set out to take his grandmother to every National Park; he knew she hadn't seen mountains or deserts or oceans, and he wanted to make sure she had the chance to experience all the natural wonder our country has to offer. Along the way, they accomplished something remarkable. Congratulations. •

RECOGNIZING THE CENTER OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY

• Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and congratulating the Center for Science and Industry—COSI—on their National Medal for Museum and Library Science. It is an outstanding achievement and a testament to the work COSI educators, curators, and support staff do. It wouldn't have been possible without their dedication and service. COSI staff engages Ohio's next generation of thinkers, leaders, and problem solvers. They spark students' interest in the sciences and in technology with hands-on learning and interesting exhibits and inspire them to become the leaders who will continue our State's proud tradition of leadership in innovation for decades to come.

I am grateful for all COSI does for the Columbus community, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these Ohioans on this achievement. •

RECOGNIZING THE TOLEDO LUCAS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

• Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and congratulating the Toledo Lucas County Public Library on their National Medal for Museum and Library Science.

It is an outstanding achievement and a testament to the work the librarians and support staff do. It wouldn't have been possible without their dedication and service.

The Toledo Lucas County Public Library educates and engages Ohioans of all ages by creating spaces where everyone can broaden their horizons with books, technology, and innovative classes. Their commitment to helping kids learn to read is building Ohio's next generation of thinkers, leaders, and problem solvers. One day these students will be the leaders writing our State's next chapter.

I am grateful for all they do for the Toledo community, and I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these Ohioans on this achievement. •

RECOGNIZING THE WESTPORT LIBRARY

• Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize the Westport Library as it celebrates the release of its first vinyl record.

Public libraries serve vital roles in our communities, providing no-fee access to collections of books, films, and other media, as well as to computers and the internet. They are hubs of community interaction, and now, in Westport, CT, a creative outlet for local musicians.

Founded in 1886, the Westport Library has been enriching the community for almost a century and a half. In addition to its full collection of books for readers of all ages, the library is