

shores or rocky cliffs overlooking the ocean, California's beaches are diverse and beautiful. People from all over the world come to participate in the myriad activities California's beaches offer. With over a thousand miles of coastline, California is truly a State that thrives on its beaches.

For over 10 years, the City of Pacifica has striven to renovate Pacifica State Beach, which serves as a gateway to Northern California's spectacular coastline. The city has demonstrated a great commitment to protect, enhance and restore the 4 miles of shoreline that define the community. Through the strong leadership of Pacifica Mayor Jim Vreeland and countless other local, State, and Federal representatives, many changes have been made at Pacifica State Beach.

From the restoration of sand dunes and wetlands, to the creation of bike paths, coastal trail paths and a new skate park, to habitat enhancement and new amenities for visitors, the renovation of Pacifica State Beach has been a success. The City of Pacifica has not only understood the importance of protecting and restoring California's fragile coastal areas, its restoration efforts are a model of balancing environmental needs, public access and economic necessities.

The City of Pacifica's dedication to the community is inspiring, and its vision and commitment in protecting California's coastal resources should be commended. I congratulate the City of Pacifica for its hard work, and wish all concerned the best as they dedicate Pacifica State Beach on October 16, 2004.●

#### TRIBUTE TO MR. GEORGE F. DIXON III

● Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Mr. George F. Dixon III for his exceptional service and leadership to our Nation.

Mr. Dixon is nearing the end of his term as chair of the American Public Transportation Association, the association that represents the North American public transportation industry.

During his chairmanship, Mr. Dixon has been dedicated to supporting the reauthorization of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, the development of a 5-year strategic plan for APTA, and the oversight of APTA's Public Transportation Partnership for Tomorrow outreach and education program. Mr. Dixon also represented APTA on a trade mission to Russia.

Mr. Dixon, a Cleveland, OH native, has a distinguished history of public service in Northeast Ohio. For example, over the past 10 years, he has brought great improvements to the public transportation system in Cleveland as the President of the Board of the Greater Cleveland Regional Transportation Authority. Mr. Dixon has also served the Cleveland community

as a member of the Cleveland School Board for 5 years and as a leader in numerous local organizations including the Greater Cleveland Growth Association, Build up Greater Cleveland, Civic Vision, MidTown Cleveland, and the Convention and Visitors Bureau of Greater Cleveland.

Mr. Dixon is an accomplished leader and someone who, day in and day out, goes above and beyond the call of duty to help people in his community. On behalf of the people of Ohio, I am pleased to commend George F. Dixon, III for his extraordinary efforts to improve the quality of life in Ohio and our Nation, and I congratulate him on a successful term as Chair of the American Public Transportation Association.●

#### MERLE JOHNSON

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I am pleased and honored to salute my constituent Merle Johnson, who served America with bravery and distinction behind enemy lines during World War II.

Merle Johnson joined the National Guard in 1939, at age 16. He was mobilized the following year and was sent to Hawaii 2 weeks after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

In October 1942, he was sent to the Solomon Islands with the Army's 25th Infantry Division, which conducted mop-up operations after the Marines' bloody assaults on Guadalcanal and New Georgia Island.

After being wounded in action and recovering on New Caledonia, Merle volunteered to join a unit that would become known to the world as Merrill's Marauders. This elite group of Army Rangers was formed to conduct extremely dangerous top-secret missions behind Japanese enemy lines in Burma.

The Marauders' most famous and important mission was to capture the strategic airfield at Myitkyina, Burma. To accomplish this goal, they had to fight their way for 9 months through more than 600 miles of jungle, surrounded by Japanese troops. By the time they captured the airfield, more than 2,500 of the 3,000 Marauders had been killed, wounded, or struck by illness.

For his valiant service, Merle Johnson was awarded a Purple Heart, three Bronze Stars, three Battle Stars, and a Presidential Unit Citation.

After the war, Mr. Johnson worked on the production line at Rockwell Corporation and as a labor organizer for the steelworkers union. He now lives in Tustin, CA.

Earlier this year, Mr. Johnson represented Merrill's Marauders during the dedication ceremony for the World War II Memorial. This monument now stands as a tribute to Merle Johnson, Merrill's Marauders, and 16 million other brave men and women who served America in World War II.●

#### 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-9534. A communication from the Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "17 CFR Part 143—Collection of Claims Owed the United States Arising From Activities Under the Commission's Jurisdiction" (RIN3038-AC03) received on September 29, 2004; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-9535. A communication from the Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "17 CFR Part 143—Adjustment of Civil Monetary Penalties for Inflation" (RIN3038-AC13) received on September 29, 2004; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-9536. A communication from the Executive Director, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "17 CFR Part 30—Foreign Futures and Foreign Options Transactions" (RIN3038-AB45) received on September 29, 2004; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-9537. A communication from the Under Secretary for Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Child and Adult Care Food Program: Improving Management and Program Integrity" (RIN0584-AC24) received on September 29, 2004; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-9538. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Bacillus Thuringiensis var. aizs strain PS811 (Cry1F Insecticidal Protein); Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL#7372-6) received on September 29, 2004; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-9539. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Cyzzofamid; Pesticide Tolerance" (FRL#7367-4) received on September 29, 2004; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-9540. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Dichlorimid; Time-Limited Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL#7680-8) received on September 29, 2004; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-9541. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Forchlorfenuron; Pesticide Tolerance" (FRL#7681-5) received on September 29, 2004; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-9542. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Mesotrione; Pesticide Tolerances for Emergency Exemptions" (FRL#7678-8) received on September 29, 2004; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-9543. A communication from the Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant