have a strong tradition of honoring our veterans. In fact, when I started a North Dakota Veterans History Project 5 years ago to record the stories of our veterans for future generations, the outpouring of interest resulted in 1,200 interviews.

So I did not find it surprising that when the WDAY television station based in Fargo, ND, organized an “Honor Flight” to bring veterans of World War II to Washington, D.C., it had an overabundance of donors and too few seats to accommodate all the veterans. But WDAY has chartered a flight to Washington next month and will bring 100 veterans of World War II to see the memorial on our National Mall that was built in their honor. My colleagues, Senator Conrad and Congressman Pomeroy, and I will host a reception for them in the historic Russell Caucus Room.

I can’t think of a better way to pay tribute to these heroes than this trip to our nation’s capital. Many of them will visit for the first time the World War II Memorial that is a powerful symbol of the sacrifice they made for the safety and freedom of our country and the world.

This group of Americans who were appropriately labeled “the greatest generation” by Tom Brokaw. I remember reading his book some years ago and marveling again at the dedication those young men, and some young women, expressed to this country. They dedicated their lives to defeating the fascism and Nazism that threatened the peace and prosperity of the world.

Several years ago, I was reminded just how important their sacrifice was when I was part of a congressional delegation involved in discussions with members of the European Parliament. We were discussing some differences between the United States and the Europeans for some time. It was at this point that a European delegate stopped me and said, “Mr. Senator, I want you to understand how I feel about your country.”

He said, “In 1944, I was 14 years old and standing on a street corner in Paris, France, when the U.S. Liberation Army marched in and freed my country from the Nazis.” “A young American soldier reached out his hand and gave that 14-year-old boy an apple. I will go to my grave remembering that moment. You should understand what your country means to me, to us, to my country.”

To me, this man’s story is a testament to the respect and admiration people around the world feel for our country. And this is because the “greatest generation”—those same men and women who will visit Washington next month—were willing to leave their homes so many years ago and travel around the world to fight an enemy that threatened our freedom. They did it without complaint and without question. They loved their country.

There is a verse that goes, “When the night is full of knives, and the lightning is seen, and the drums are heard, the patriots are always there, ready to fight and ready to die, if necessary, for freedom.”

The men and women who will travel to Washington next month are patriots who answered when duty called. The Honor Flight is an expression of our thanks for the sacrifice they made that is too large to ever fully repay.

ANNOUNCING THE BIRTH OF ROBERT RILEY LUGAR

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, Char and I want to share with all of our colleagues and friends the joyous news of the birth of Robert Riley Lugar on April 16, 2007, at Sibley Memorial Hospital in Washington, DC. Robert Riley was a healthy 8 pounds at birth. His parents are our son, John Hoereth Lugar, and his wife, Kelly Smith Lugar, daughter of Renee Rounton Conner and the late Robert Lee Smith. Robert Riley was born at 6:21 p.m., and within the next hour, Renee, Char, and I were able to admire a very healthy newborn baby boy and to congratulate John and Kelly as we shared these unforgettable moments together. Robert Riley joins his big brothers Preston Charles and Griffin Mack.

Kelly and John were married on November 3, 2001, in the Washington Cathedral with Dr. Lloyd Ogilvie, former Chaplain of the Senate, presiding. They and their families and guests had enjoyed a rehearsal dinner in the Mansion House. The wedding was followed by a reception in the Capitol where they were joined by many of our colleagues during her service to the American people.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I wish to honor one of the great inspirations to the young people of my hometown, Bishop Aretha E. Morton, who will be retiring this week from the Tabernacle Full Gospel Baptist Cathedral in Wilmington.

On this day, 48 years ago, she preached her trial sermon; 24 years later she was ordained, becoming the first woman to pastor a Baptist Church in Delaware. She has now served longer than any pastor in her church’s almost 90-year history. She also made history in 1993 by becoming the first African-American, to be a chaplain for the United States Senate.

Bishop Aretha E. Morton will be a chaplain for the United States Senate. She was a graduate of Langley High School in McLean, VA. She attended 9 years of business administration degree from Virginia State University, and graduated with a 3.9 GPA. She is currently a vice president with Jones Lang LaSalle, a commercial real estate services and investment management firm.

We know that you will understand our excitement and our gratitude that they and we have been given divine blessing and responsibility for a glorious new chapter in our lives.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF LENEXA, KANSAS

Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, I wish to honor the city of Lenexa, KS. On May 8, Lenexa, which is known as the City of Festivals for the numerous festivals and events it hosts each year, will mark its 100th anniversary. This grand event will be part of a weeklong community celebration of history and culture.

Lenexa was platted in 1869 by French-born civil engineer Octave Chanute, who, in addition to designing the original Hannibal Bridge over the Missouri River in Kansas City, also served as a mentor to the Wright Brothers in their quest for flight.

Lenexa was named for Na Nex Se, a highly respected, hard-working Shawnee Indian woman, the daughter-in-law of Chief Black Hoof. Thirty-eight years later, on May 8, 1907, Lenexa was incorporated as a City of the 3rd Class.

In Lenexa’s earliest days, people from various backgrounds and cultures came together to form this great city. With a population of approximately 300, the young community boasted a healthful location, graded schools, three churches, suburban train service, excellent telephone service, and an electric railway station.

Today, Lenexa has grown to a population of 46,000 residents and enjoys a healthy business base and is considered a city of choice for a variety of high-tech and bioscience companies. The city also is looked to as a leader in local government initiatives, including watershed management and public safety.

Lenexa cherishes its rich history, heritage and culture, and with this celebration marking the city’s 100th anniversary, Lenexa honors its past while looking forward to the future. I congratulate Lenexa and its residents, and I wish them an outstanding second hundred years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

IN RECOGNITION OF BISHOP ARETHA E. MORTON

• Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I wish to honor one of the great inspirations to the young people of my hometown, Bishop Aretha E. Morton, who will be retiring this week from the Tabernacle Full Gospel Baptist Cathedral in Wilmington.

On this day, 48 years ago, she preached her trial sermon; 24 years later she was ordained, becoming the first woman to pastor a Baptist Church in Delaware. She has now served longer than any pastor in her church’s almost 90-year history.

She also made history in 1993 by becoming the first African-American, to be a chaplain for the United States Senate.

Around Wilmington, where everyone knows Bishop Morton, she is affectionately called “Mother”—and for good reason. She has spent her career reaching out to my city’s youth, inspiring students to achieve and offering something that those in trouble don’t have enough of—hope.
CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON MEN’S INDOOR TRACK AND FIELD TEAM

- Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I congratulate the University of Wisconsin men’s track and field team for winning the 43rd annual National Collegiate Athletic Association, NCAA, Indoor Track and Field Championship. As a proud alumnus, I enjoy the many opportunities to tout the success of the Badgers to my colleagues.

With their win on March 10, 2007, the Wisconsin men’s track team became the first-ever NCAA Indoor Track Conference school to win the NCAA Division I Indoor Track and Field Championship. Earlier in the season, the Badgers earned their seventh consecutive Big 10 championship by defeating the University of Minnesota by 27 points on February 24, 2007.

I sincerely congratulate Coach Ed Nuttycombe and Assistant Coaches Jerry Schumacher and Mark Guthrie for their dedication and hard work throughout the season. Congratulations to senior Chris Solinsky, who re-wrote the record book in Wisconsin as a high school runner, on winning his fourth individual NCAA title, placing first in the 5,000-meter race.

The athletic prowess of the University of Wisconsin is a source of pride throughout my State and for alumni everywhere. I applaud the men’s track and field team for its impressive accomplishment and wish it best of luck for a successful future.

COMMENDING TALMADGE KING, JR., MD

- Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I offer my personal congratulations to Talmadge E. King, Jr., MD, for receiving the Edward Livingston Trudeau Medal from the American Thoracic Society. The award recognizes Dr. King for his lifelong commitment to the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of lung disease.

Throughout his career, Dr. King has made significant contributions to pulmonary medicine in patient care, research, specialty organization, and through his generous philanthropic contributions.

Dr. King began his illustrious career after graduating from Gustavus Adolphus College in 1970 and Harvard Medical School in 1974. Following his graduation from Harvard Medical School, he began his residency at Emory University Affiliated Hospitals in Atlanta, GA. After 2 years of residency at Emory, Dr. King was offered a pulmonary fellowship at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, Denver. Here he also held a professorship in medicine at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center.

Dr. King spent time at two other Denver hospitals, the Veterans Administration Medical Center and the National Jewish Center for Immunology and Respiratory Medicine. In both of these capacities his talents as a doctor and as an administrator were quickly recognized and he rapidly advanced within both organizations.

In 1997, however, he was ready to bring his considerable talents to the Golden State—and we were happy to have him. Dr. King left Denver to take on two new roles in San Francisco, concurrently serving as the vice chairman of the Department of Medicine at the University of California, San Francisco and as the chief of medical services at San Francisco General Hospital.

As chief of medical service at San Francisco General Hospital, he leads a department of over 140 full-time physicians and scientists and more than 500 support staff, with an annual budget of over $65 million.

Currently, Dr. King still serves as the chief of medical services at San Francisco General, and since 2006, he has also served as the President of the Department of Medicine at the University of California San Francisco.

Dr. King is also a founding board member of the Foundation of the American Thoracic Society, the philanthropic arm of the American Thoracic Society. In this role, Dr. King has been an exemplary contributor and tireless fundraiser to support domestic and international research to find better treatments for the myriad of lung diseases that afflict individuals around the globe.

Of course, no congratulations would be complete without mentioning the contributions of his wife Mozelle Davis King and his two children Consuelo and Malaka who have been there every step of the way and provided him with steadfast love and support.

Again, I congratulate Dr. King on this great achievement and wish him continued success in the years to come. It is truly a pleasure to honor and thank him for all that he has done for patients across the country.

BATAAN DEATH MARCH SURVIVOR

- Mr. HAGEL. Mr. President, this is an article from the April 20, 2007, Omaha World Herald, “Bataan Death March Survivor Still Beating Odds at 101” by Joseph Morton:

When Albert Brown returned home after years in Japanese camps for prisoners of war, a doctor told him to get out and enjoy life while he still could.

The native of North Platte, Neb., was unlikely to live 50, the maximum given the illnesses, extreme malnutrition and physical abuse he suffered as a POW.

Brown is 101 now—the oldest living survivor of the Bataan Death March.

He was recognized by fellow survivors at a Washington conference this week that coincided with the 65th anniversary of the march.

During the trip, Brown visited with a fellow veteran from North Platte, Sen. Chuck Hagel, R-Neb. He sat in Hagel’s Capitol Hill office spinning some of the tales he’s racked up over an eventful life.

His darkest stories come from the war.