

sons and six grandchildren. I extend my sincere congratulations and thanks to Frank McDonough for making his State of New Jersey a better place to live and work.●

REMEMBERING RONALD EUGENE RAIKES

● Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to a good friend who touched the lives of many Nebraskans. Ronald Eugene Raikes of Lincoln passed away tragically at the age of 66 after a farming accident on September 5, 2009, at his farm in Saunders County, NE.

As Nebraska's Governor, I had the honor of appointing Ron to my home State's unique one-house legislature in 1997 to finish the term of the late Senator Jerome Warner. I chose Ron for this legislative seat because he was a brilliant and dedicated individual, and because he shared many other of the wonderful qualities of Senator Warner who was a storied lawmaker in his own right. The choice turned out to be inspired, as Ron quickly won the respect of his fellow state senators.

Ron served in the Nebraska Unicameral as the representative from District 25 in southeast Lincoln. He was elected to two 4-year terms before retiring in 2008 due to term limits. As chair of the Legislature's Education Committee, he was a tireless advocate for children and helped develop a number of major initiatives aimed at addressing the needs of minority and underprivileged youth.

The life of Ronald Eugene Raikes, both in public and private, was one filled with quiet dignity and integrity. He always said that our aim, whether as elected officials or individuals, should be to make a contribution. Ron succeeded in that endeavor and, as such, is sorely missed by his fellow Nebraskans. Our hearts go out to his wife Helen; his children Heather, Abbie and Justin; his brother Jeff; and his sisters Ann, Susan and Mary Jo, as well as all those who knew and worked with him. The life of Senator Ron Raikes leaves behind a legacy in Nebraska for many generations to come.●

TRIBUTE TO THE HEATWOLE FAMILY

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I am a proud member of the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute, and each year I participate in the Angel of Adoption program to recognize a family, caseworker, or judge who works in my State to promote adoptions and permanency for vulnerable children.

Throughout my career in the U.S. Senate, I have worked hard on Federal legislation to promote adoptions and permanency, and to invest in the child welfare system to improve our care and services. I am truly motivated by the families and dedicated professionals I meet thanks to the Angels in Adoption event.

This year, I was proud to accept the nomination of the West Virginia Children's Home Society of the family of Dawn and Dave Heatwole as the 2009 West Virginia Angel in Adoption.

This award is used to recognize those who reach out to vulnerable children and provide them with a safe and loving home. David and Dawn have an amazing story that has touched the lives of so many needy children, and I would like to share their story with you now.

Dawn and David had been married several years when they were told that it was unlikely they would be able to have children. Rather than becoming discouraged, the couple decided that they would like to adopt a young boy from Russia who they had found out about through their church. While waiting for the lengthy international adoption process to go through, Dawn and David decided to become foster parents.

In April 2005 the Heatwoles undertook the challenge of caring for a 7-month-old boy with serious medical problems. Less than a year later the child was placed on a donor list because he required a liver transplant. As his condition continued to worsen, Dawn's sister volunteered to be tested and proved to be an appropriate donor match. The surgery was successful and their adopted son, Adam, is now a healthy 4 year old.

Shortly after bringing Adam into their home, David and Dawn took in another infant foster child, Ethan. Nine months later they welcomed Ethan's brother Asa into their growing family. In January of 2007, the Heatwoles were able to adopt Pasha from Russia, and they did not stop there. In May of 2008, they also accepted Adam's sister as another precious child in their home.

Over the past 5 years, the Heatwoles have provided a safe and loving environment for nine children. They have opened their home to children in need, and have fought to ensure that children are the top priority in the foster care system. Dawn and David have endured the challenges that accompany ailing and drug dependent infants, as well as the challenge of helping a non-English speaking child adapt to a new culture.

Mr. President, I have been delighted to share the Heatwole family's touching story with you. It is my firm belief that the people of West Virginia possess a great compassion to help those in need. The Heatwoles are an inspiration to us all.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:53 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, 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. 860. An act to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1080. An act to strengthen enforcement mechanisms to stop illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2265. An act to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Magna Water District water reuse and groundwater recharge project, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2522. An act to raise the ceiling on the Federal share of the cost of the Calleguas Municipal Water District Recycling Project, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2741. An act to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the City of Hermiston, Oregon, water recycling and reuse project, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2802. An act to provide for an extension of the legislative authority of the Adams Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in honor of former President John Adams and his legacy, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2971. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 630 Northeast Killingsworth Avenue in Portland, Oregon, as the "Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Post Office".

H.R. 3113. An act to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of the Elk River in the State of West Virginia for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes.

At 1:15 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 1677. An act to reauthorize the Defense Production Act of 1950, and for other purposes.

At 4:18 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, 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. 3607. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3614. An act to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 860. An act to reauthorize the Coral Reef Conservation Act of 2000, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 1080. An act to strengthen enforcement mechanisms to stop illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 2265. An act to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Magna Water District water reuse and groundwater