

into central Vermont all night and his on-air voice became increasingly ominous.

"I felt stupid, but I got to the point where I was just saying, Oh, my God!"

Meanwhile, Bouchard had finished his forecasting shift at the Fairbanks Museum in St. Johnsbury, and had taken to the road, storm chasing, and didn't have the need to let anyone know where he was going. "I went to Barnet, because that's where it looked like the action was going to be," he said. Bouchard stopped in several locations, setting up his tripod just outside his car to get pictures of clouds that might produce tornadoes, and lots of lightning. Bouchard said at one point, he grabbed his tripod and camera and jumped in his car just as lightning bolts crashed to the ground uncomfortably close. Bouchard never saw a tornado, and none were confirmed from that storm outbreak, but he got some striking lightning photos, some of those will part of a show of 32 of his best lightning images at the Fairbanks Museum at the end of the month.

Hill, his cell battery dead, his netbook battery now dead, and his own batteries running low, headed home from WDEV at about 2 a.m. after receiving, along with Kittell, countless calls from listeners praising the duo for staying on the air with information. Of course, on his way home, Hill couldn't update his wife on his progress through the continuing storms, so, when he finally made it home, he faced a storm of another kind.

Happily, Hill and his wife, Michelle on Sunday were beginning a belated celebration of their 25th wedding anniversary, taking a few days off, including a little travel. Hill has planned a small detour in their travels to see, first-hand, the level of destruction in Springfield, Mass., where, last week, two tornadoes struck in another example of powerful, training echo thunderstorms.●

#### TRIBUTE TO NICHOLAS MAXIM

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, Mahatma Gandhi once said, "Strength does not come from physical capacity, it comes from an indomitable will." Today, I recognize and pay tribute to Nicholas Maxim, an extraordinary young man from Readfield, ME, and the living embodiment of Gandhi's words. Nicholas, a fifth grade student at Readfield Elementary School, was recently presented with a national award for his outstanding penmanship. He earned the award when, unbeknownst to him, his principal submitted a sample of his handwriting to Zaner-Bloser, an Ohio-based company that holds an annual handwriting contest.

While this national honor would, in and of itself, merit the high praise and recognition of this esteemed institution, this accomplishment is even more compelling and impressive when one considers that Nicholas was born without lower arms or hands. His writing sample, which stood out among the estimated 200,000 entries, was executed by balancing the writing utensil between his two upper arms—the manner in which he routinely writes, given that he rarely uses his prosthetic devices for such purposes.

Nicholas' sample was so outstanding, and his story so compelling and inspirational, that Zaner-Bloser created a new award category in his honor—the "Nicholas Maxim Special Award for Excellent Penmanship." Fittingly,

Nicholas was the first recipient of this special award earlier this year. His story caught the attention of many of the national media outlets but, despite all the attention and accolades, Nicholas retained his humility and unassuming style. Preferring to stay out of the limelight and seemingly content to allow others to talk about his myriad accomplishments, Nicholas represents Maine and our Nation with unwavering modesty that speaks volumes about his character and personality.

During my congressional career, I have often spoken about the primacy of maintaining one's values and integrity, setting high expectations and goals, and believing in one's self. I further contend that there are certain constants that are timeless, and one of them is that the greatest limits that will be placed on our lives are the ones which we place upon ourselves. A courageous and persistent young man, Nicholas is truly an inspiration to us all, as he has never allowed his circumstances to limit what he can achieve. As a testament to this fact, one of Nicholas' favorite pastimes is writing and drawing comic strips. Delightful and humble, Nicholas innately possesses an unconquerable resolve that is hidden beneath an unpretentious exterior. His sister captured the essence of these character traits when, to the *Kennebec Journal*, she said about him, "He is who he is and does what he does not to get attention . . . It's for me to see him being who he is that's an inspiration."

Undeniably, Nicholas Maxim stands as a shining testament to the power of the human spirit. I offer my heartfelt congratulations to him for demonstrating to children and adults alike, across the State of Maine and, indeed, our Nation, that by placing no restrictions on your horizons, you broaden the range of possibilities that exist for you and the trajectory you envision for yourself.●

#### COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF NORTH LOUISIANA

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the Community Foundation of North Louisiana on the occasion of its 50th anniversary on June 26, 2011.

The Community Foundation of North Louisiana has had a widespread impact in our State, and I applaud its exceptional efforts to enrich Louisiana communities.

Since 1961, the Community Foundation has been committed to providing emergency aid during disasters, strengthening communities and non-profit organizations through programs like the Endowment Challenge Program, and establishing partnerships such as the Aspen Ideas Mini-Festival that bring citizens and local leaders together.

Endeavors such as the Genius Fund, the Women's Philanthropy Network, and the Northwest Louisiana Vol-

untary Organizations Active in Disaster are further examples of how the Community Foundation's generosity has successfully improved the community and the lives of so many Louisianans.

Under the leadership of COL James Hellums Tucker, Jr., the foundation has grown from an organization with a modest \$21,000 to one that has endowed more than \$75 million. And through its goodwill and philanthropy, has awarded more than \$40 million for more than 4,000 grants and scholarships so that organizations and students can achieve their goals and realize their dreams.

Again, I am proud to honor and applaud the Community Foundation of North Louisiana, the oldest in the State, on 50 years of charitable giving and congratulate them for their many contributions to our State.●

#### REPORT OF THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13159 OF JUNE 21, 2000, WITH RESPECT TO THE RISK OF NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION CREATED BY THE ACCUMULATION OF WEAPONS-USABLE FISSILE MATERIAL IN THE TERRITORY OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AS RECEIVED DURING RECESS OF THE SENATE ON JUNE 17, 2011—PM 11

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the emergency declared in Executive Order 13159 of June 21, 2000, with respect to the risk of nuclear proliferation created by the accumulation of a large volume of weapons-usable fissile material in the territory of the Russian Federation is to continue beyond June 21, 2011.

It remains a major national security goal of the United States to ensure that fissile material removed from Russian nuclear weapons pursuant to various arms control and disarmament agreements is dedicated to peaceful uses, subject to transparency measures, and protected from diversion to activities of proliferation concern. The accumulation of a large volume of weapons-usable fissile material in the territory of the Russian Federation