

the effects that courts can have on children. Through her work in juvenile justice, she earned the respect of members of the national and local judicial communities. Judith S. Kaye, a retired Chief Justice of New York, said of the Chief Justice, "She was outstanding in many ways, but for me most of all on the vexing issues concerning juvenile justice. The Chief Justice's ideas and initiatives drew my attention even before she became Chief Justice." Sue Bell Cobb, the Chief Justice of Alabama, also praised Chief Justice's work on juvenile justice. "Children," she said, "do not vote and do not have a voice in arenas in which public policy is made. In Louisiana, Chief Justice Kimball has been their voice."

In Louisiana, former Louisiana Chief Justice Pascal Calogero said, "Justice Kimball's contributions to the juvenile justice system, as well as the Judicial Leadership Institute, and other progressive judicial matters, were immeasurable. When she became Chief Justice, I knew that she would become one of the most active and respected chief justices in the history of the court." I could not agree more. Chief Justice Kimball has made her mark in history for many reasons, but especially for her work in juvenile justice.

The Chief Justice's accomplishments are of equally important significance for women pursuing legal careers in Louisiana. My sister Madeleine became a State court judge in 2001. When I asked Madeleine what Chief Justice Kimball's career has meant to her, she said, "When Chief Justice Kimball took her seat among her six white male justices, it had a huge impact on me as a woman lawyer. The grace and dignity and excellence with which Chief Justice has held herself has shown us there are no limits to where we can go. It made such lofty goals not as scary to us anymore." Chief Justice Kimball always strives to reach her full potential and encourages others to do the same.

Among Chief Justice's endless list of accomplishments is her creation of the Judicial Leadership Institute in Louisiana. She recognized the important leadership role of a judge as both an employer and as a member of a community. She saw the value of judges of every level being in a room together and learning together. So she took the initiative to organize a training course which meets 7 days a year. This exemplifies so many of Chief Justice Kimball's great qualities—her devotion to the justice system and to the future of our state, her humility and her ability to be a strong leader while simultaneously being part of a team.

As the Chief Justice prepares to retire, I commend her for her years of service to our State and for her unwavering commitment to the Louisiana Constitution. Although she will step down at the end of January, the impact she made on the nearly 4.6 million citizens in our State will live on beyond her retirement, just as the people in that courtroom in New Roads, LA will

never forget the day they saw Chief Justice Kimball make history.

RECOGNIZING BERNETTE JOHNSON

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a trailblazer and role model: Louisiana Supreme Court Justice Bernette J. Johnson. On February 1, 2013, Justice Johnson will become Louisiana's first African-American Chief Justice and only the second female jurist in Louisiana history to hold that office. It is fitting that the first woman elected to the Civil District Court of New Orleans—a woman who has devoted so much of her life to working as an advocate for social justice, civil rights and community organizing—would achieve this historic milestone.

Justice Johnson's commitment to civil rights began in the 1960s, when she began working as a community organizer with the NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund. She worked with community groups in Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Louisiana, disseminating information about recent school desegregation decisions and encouraging parents to take advantage of newly desegregated schools. Justice Johnson brings a unique perspective to the bench that is informed by principles of justice and equity.

An alumna of Spelman College in Atlanta, Justice Johnson received her Juris Doctor Degree at the Law School at Louisiana State University, where her portrait now hangs in the Law Center's Hall of Fame. While in law school, she worked at the U.S. Department of Justice examining cases filed by the Department to implement the 1964 Civil Rights Act. These cases primarily concerned discrimination in public accommodations. Following law school, Justice Johnson became the managing attorney with the New Orleans Legal Assistance Corporation, where she provided legal services to over 3,000 clients in socio-economically deprived neighborhoods.

Justice Johnson worked in the Federal and State District Courts advancing the rights of the poor, the elderly, and the disenfranchised, and in the Juvenile Court advancing the rights of children. In 1981, she joined the City Attorney's staff, and later became a Deputy City Attorney for the City of New Orleans. There, she attained extensive trial experience in the Civil District Court and U.S. District Court defending police brutality claims and general tort claims filed against the City of New Orleans. Her experience fighting to protect the rights of the under privileged undoubtedly prepared her for service on the bench.

Justice Johnson began her judicial career in 1984 as the first woman elected to serve on the Civil District Court of New Orleans. There, she took the initiative to establish a system to refer custody, alimony, and child support

issues to mediation conducted by certified social workers of the Children's Bureau and Family Services, prior to court appearances. She was elected to the Supreme Court in 1994 and re-elected in 2000. She serves on the Louisiana Supreme Court's Judicial Council, and has served on the Court's Legal Services Task Force, as well as the National Campaign on Best Practices in the area of Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts.

This is a truly a moment to be remembered, not just for the people of Louisiana, but for Americans all across the country. From advocating with the NAACP, to helping implement the 1964 Civil Rights Act, to becoming Louisiana's first African-American Supreme Court Justice, as she has now, Bernette Johnson's life and career is a testament to the spirit of the civil rights movement and the countless Americans who fought tirelessly to open the doors of equality. I congratulate Justice Bernette J. Johnson on a stellar legal and judicial career and thank her for her fighting spirit, commitment to equality, and deep respect for the dignity of all citizens. I have no doubt that she will continue to serve the people of Louisiana well.

RECOGNIZING LEAH CHASE

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 90th birthday of the "Queen of Creole Cuisine," Mrs. Leah Chase of New Orleans, LA.

Mrs. Chase was born in Madisonville, LA on January 6, 1923, and moved to New Orleans as a teenager to attend high school. It was in New Orleans that she developed her love for food and feeding others. Mrs. Chase married her husband, Edgar "Dooky" Chase Jr., in 1946, and they took over the family business—one of the best-known and most culturally significant restaurants in New Orleans, Dooky Chase's.

Mrs. Chase has cooked for jazz royalty, like Duke Ellington; for heads of state—among them Presidents George W. Bush and Barack Obama; and for the civil rights movement's greatest champions, like Justice Thurgood Marshall and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. And though she is well-known for having catered to America's history makers, perhaps her greatest achievement is having quietly created a community where people are taken care of, no matter their situation in life. Mrs. Chase always takes care of those in need. She makes it a point to know not only the names of her patrons, but also their stories. And that feeling of a closely knit community where people look out for each other is why New Orleanians have been dining with Mrs. Chase for three generations. They are family to her, just like her four children, sixteen grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Chase has received too many awards to mention. Among them are the 1997 New Orleans Times-Picayune

Loving Cup Award, which annually recognizes citizens who have worked unselfishly for the community without expectation of public acclaim or material reward; the National Conference of Christians and Jews Weiss Award, which is presented annually to four outstanding community leaders who have been influential in promoting the advancement of social understanding and care; and the National Council of Negro Women Outstanding Woman Award. In addition to earning numerous awards, Mrs. Chase serves on the boards of many non-profit organizations, including the Arts Council of New Orleans, the New Orleans Museum of Art, and the Urban League.

Mrs. Chase has been and continues to be an inspiration to all who know her. It is with a heartfelt sincerity that I ask my colleagues to join me along with Mrs. Chase's family in recognizing the life and many accomplishments of this extraordinary woman.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Pennsylvania.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

PENNSYLVANIA'S FALLEN HEROES

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, as we confront a whole range of difficult issues at the end of this year and at the end of this Congress, we should also be reminded we have fighting men and women serving for us all over the world.

We think especially tonight of those serving in Afghanistan and those who served prior to that time in Iraq. At various times we have come to the floor and recited the names of those who were killed in action, and tonight I am joined by my colleague Senator TOOMEY to read the names of Pennsylvanians who gave, as Lincoln said, the last full measure of devotion to their country—those who have been killed in action in Afghanistan over the course of parts of 2011 and 2012.

I yield the floor for my colleague, Senator TOOMEY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The junior Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. President, I thank my colleague, the senior Senator from Pennsylvania, for organizing this brief tribute that is so much deserved by the men and women we are acknowledging today.

I wish to begin by extending my deepest condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of these Pennsylvania heroes whom we are going to acknowledge this evening. In the lives our servicemembers led and the cause for which they died, these folks represent all that is great about America.

Many enlisted right after graduating from high school, and during those very tough and grueling days and weeks in basic training they had probably never heard of places such as Anbar Province in Iraq, the Tangi Valley of Afghanistan or the other areas in those nations where they fought and ended up dying for our country.

But these Pennsylvanians join a long line of soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, and Coast Guard members who have given the supreme sacrifice to their country, a line that extends well back in the latter part of the 20th century and includes World War II, the Korean war, the Vietnam war, and of course the global war on terrorism.

It is no accident that Pennsylvania has suffered very heavily in this conflict, as it has in other conflicts throughout our Nation's history. I think it is because in towns across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, towns and cities such as Dallastown, Easton, Philadelphia, and Erie, there are certain values that are deeply rooted in these communities: importance of family, importance of faith, importance of community, and the importance of public service, including very much the service to this Nation.

The conviction that freedom is worth defending is one of those convictions and the belief that a cause worth fighting for is not just someone else's responsibility. These are the values that have shaped these men and women, their families, their churches and houses of worship, and their communities.

These values were exemplified in the lives of our fallen men and women in service, and they will forever be honored by Pennsylvanians as the native sons and daughters of our great Commonwealth for their service to the country.

I will read the names of the men and women who have made the supreme sacrifice for courage in this conflict, and Senator CASEY will complete the list: PFC David Anthony Jefferson, U.S. Army, Philadelphia; SGT Louis Robert Fastuca, U.S. Army, West Chester; SPC Jesse David Reed, U.S. Army, Orefield; LCpl Abram Larue Howard, U.S. Marine Corps, Williamsport; SPC Dale Justin Kridlo, U.S. Army, Hughestown; SPC Anthony Vargas, U.S. Army, Reading; SSG Sean Michael Flannery, U.S. Army, Wyomissing; GySgt Justin Edward Schmalstieg, U.S. Marine Corps, Pittsburgh; MSG Benjamin Franklin Bitner, U.S. Army, Greencastle; 1LT Demetrius Montaz Frison, U.S. Army, Lancaster; SSG Edward David Mills Jr., U.S. Army, Newcastle; Sgt Joseph Michael Garrison, U.S. Marine Corps, New Bethlehem; Ssgt Patrick Ryan Dolphin, U.S. Marine Corps, Moscow; Sgt Christopher Matthew Wrinkle, U.S. Marine Corps, Dallastown; PO1 Michael Joseph Strange, U.S. Navy, Philadelphia; TSgt Daniel Lee Zerbe, U.S. Air Force, York; SSG Eric Scott Holman, U.S. Army, Evans City; Lt. Col. Christopher Keith Raible, U.S. Marine Corps, North Huntingdon; CPO Nicolas David Checque, U.S. Navy, Monroeville; CDR Job W. Price, U.S. Navy, Pottstown; and finally, MAJ Wesley James Hinkley, U.S. Army, Cumberland City.

I yield the floor to the senior Senator.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The senior Senator from Pennsylvania.

Mr. CASEY. I thank the Senator for reading the first half of our names, and I will continue with 20 more names: Sgt Derek Lee Shanfield, U.S. Marine Corps, Hastings, PA; SFC Robert James Pike, U.S. Army, Conneautville; SFC Bryan Alan Hoover, U.S. Army, West Elizabeth; Sgt Joseph Davis Caskey, U.S. Marine Corps, Pittsburgh; LCpl Joshua Thomas Twigg, U.S. Marine Corps, Indiana; CPL Joshua Alexander Harton, U.S. Army, Bethlehem; LCpl Ralph John Fabbri, U.S. Marine Corps, Gallitzin; SSG David Jee Weigle, U.S. Army, Philadelphia; Cpl Eric Michael Torbet, Jr., U.S. Marine Corps, Lancaster; CPL Jarrid Lee King, U.S. Army, Erie; SGT Robert Curtis Sisson, Jr., U.S. Army, Aliquippa; PFC John Francis Kihm, U.S. Army, Philadelphia; 1SG Kenneth Brian Elwell, U.S. Army, Erie; SGT Edward William Koehler III, U.S. Army, Lebanon; SSG Brian Keith Mowery, U.S. Army, Halifax; SSG Kenneth Rowland Vangiesen, U.S. Army, Erie; SrA Bryan Richard Bell, U.S. Air Force, Erie; CPT Michael Cean Braden, U.S. Army, Lock Haven; PFC Cameron James Stambaugh, U.S. Army, Spring Grove; and finally, SSG Brandon Robert Pepper, U.S. Army, York, PA.

As I conclude the list of Pennsylvanians who were killed in action over approximately a 2-year time period in Afghanistan—and one of the names that was read was killed in Iraq—we remember and think of them, and obviously we are paying tribute to them on a night like tonight. At the same time, we are also thinking of their families as we pay tribute to them.

I am reminded of the great recording artist Bruce Springsteen. One of his songs was entitled "You're Missing," and the refrain over and over again is "you're missing." He was able to sing, but I won't. The song goes something like this: You're missing when I shut out the lights; you're missing when I close my eyes; you're missing when I see the sunrise.

For all those families out there who lost someone in Afghanistan, Iraq, or in other conflicts, we are thinking of them tonight because they are missing someone in the midst of this end-of-the-year and holiday season. We are remembering them tonight and paying tribute to those they loved and lost and also remembering them in our prayers.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

THE FISCAL CLIFF

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, it is indeed unique that on New Year's Eve we are in session. We still have some very important business we need to take care of for our Nation. We should not have put our country in this position. We should have acted well before December 31. We all understand that, but it is important that we get this work done in the remaining hours of this term of Congress.