

"I think back on all the things I learned in the schools here," began Cody, saying as he came of age and entered West Point, the United States was in troubled times, with riots playing out in Detroit and elsewhere and an unpopular war in Vietnam being waged. He said he enrolled at West Point with a desire to learn to fly helicopters, thinking he'd be back home in Montpelier in five or six years working at his family's car dealership washing cars and changing oil. Instead, he rose through the ranks and ended up in the halls of the Pentagon.

"I had no idea that I would spend four decades in uniform and travel all over this world," he told students, coming down off the stage with a microphone in hand to answer questions after he spoke for some time.

Cody credited his upbringing and family, and his teachers and coaches here with helping him to succeed, saying many of the people who supported him through the years in the city's schools "saw potential in me," and encouraged him, as he encouraged the students before him in the assembly to "choose the harder right over the easier wrong." He told the group that really everything they need to know in life they learned as little kids, from saying please and thank you to not cutting line, to holding hands with a friend going out to recess, to sharing toys, and cleaning up your toys when you're done. He urged the high schoolers to be kinder to one another, to support one another, to honor and respect the people in their company now—and always.

"My hope is you will reach the highest potential you have, no matter what it is," said Cody. "Do what's right when everybody else wants you to do something different," he urged. He told the students to "seek the whole truth versus the half truth" in life.

Having traveled the world, including war zones in Afghanistan, Iraq and elsewhere, Cody said "People want what you have," from clean water to plentiful food, sewers that work, books, schooling—including for females—and peace and safety. "This is a great country. We need to make it better."

"What type of American citizen do you want to be?" Cody asked. He urged them to be the type that "goes into this world to make a difference." He told them to be the people who can look themselves in the mirror "and say, I did good."

Shelby Copans, 18, a junior, asked the general about the lessons he learned, and he responded, "As a leader, you have to believe every day that everyone in your unit will do well. Everybody has great potential. . . . It's your job to help them reach that potential." He also said he learned to not play favorites, "because that really erodes team work."

"Respect for each other," was another critical component, he said.

Students asked him about the Middle East, about the recent shooting at Fort Hood by a military man, and conflicts around the world.

Of Afghanistan, he said, "It's not any better today than it was on 9/11, and I could make the case it's worse." Some of the hopes to really change conflicts in other parts of the world are so deep culturally they are things that will take a century to try to change, but the U.S. over and over works to reduce violence, to "stop things from boiling over," he said.

A major problem worldwide, he said, is the lack of job opportunity for young people, leading to unrest and recruitment by terrorists.

Samantha Flanagan, 15, a freshman, asked Cody about the recent shooting at Fort Hood, where Cody was twice stationed. That shooting left four dead, including the shooter, all members of the military.

Cody said the man was likely suffering from post traumatic stress, saying, "When

you mix guns and you have medical issues and mental health issues, it's tragic. We need to figure out why can't we get medical and mental help they need to them faster?"

In closing, Cody told students, "You don't have to join the military to serve this country. You can serve this country in many ways, but if you go into the military, you'll grow faster."

"Treat each other well, take care of each other," he said, thanking those in the auditorium as they rose to their feet, applauding their hometown hero.

As the event closed, it was announced that Cody is donating a new custom-made, illuminated scoring table to his alma mater.

After the auditorium event, Cody was given a tour of the high school, and there was a reception for him in the library. Later Friday afternoon, Cody was celebrated during a meet and greet at VFW Post 792, an event sponsored by the Montpelier High School Boosters and the American Legion Post 3.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### LOSS OF THE USS "THRESHER"

• Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, 51 years ago the USS *Thresher*, a nuclear-powered attack submarine built and maintained at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, left safe harbor on what was to be her final voyage. She was manned by a crew of 16 officers, 96 sailors, and 17 civilians. Just 1 day later, on the morning of April 10, 1963, the USS *Thresher* was declared lost with all hands, the largest loss of life in a submarine accident to-date.

I rise today to commemorate the loss of the *Thresher* and her crew, but also to highlight an important legacy that was borne of this tragedy. In the aftermath of the *Thresher* sinking, the United States Navy redoubled its submarine safety certification efforts, resulting in the establishment of the Submarine Safety and Quality Assurance Program, known as SUBSAFE. Today, SUBSAFE is regarded as one of the most comprehensive military safety programs in the world and safeguards the vessels that carry our U.S. Navy personnel to the far depths of the oceans in defense of our freedom. In the time since the SUBSAFE program was implemented, no SUBSAFE certified submarine has been lost at sea.

The legacy of the *Thresher* and ensuing efforts to improve submarine safety is a testament to the devotion of all submariners past and present and to the commitment of those who support them from land. In order to preserve this example of duty for future generations, I have joined with members of the New Hampshire and Maine Congressional delegations, both past and present, to support the authorization of a memorial to the USS *Thresher* on the grounds of the Arlington National Cemetery. A memorial consistent with the Cemetery's vision of serving as "A national shrine—A living history of freedom—Where dignity and honor rest in solemn repose" is a fitting tribute to those lives lost.

I ask my colleagues and all Americans to join me today in remembering

the USS *Thresher*. As we remember with profound sorrow the loss of her gallant crew, we must also recall the countless lives that have been saved as a result of this sad event. •

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

(The message received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 96. Concurrent resolution establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2015 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2016 through 2024.

The message also announced that pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 2004(b), and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Speaker appoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the Board of Trustees of the Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation: Mr. DENT of Pennsylvania.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 743(b)(3) of Public Law 113-76, and the order of the House of January 3, 2013, the Speaker appoints the following individuals on the part of the House of Representatives to the National Commission on Hunger: Mr. Jeremy Everett of Waco, Texas, Dr. Susan Finn of Columbus, Ohio, and Mr. Robert Doar of Brooklyn, New York.

#### MEASURES DISCHARGED

The following concurrent resolution was discharged from the Committee on the Budget pursuant to section 300 of the Congressional Budget Act, and placed on the calendar:

H. Con. Res. 96. Concurrent resolution establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2015 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2016 through 2024.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following concurrent resolution was read, and placed on the calendar: