

ready when we need them most, they risk their lives to ensure our safety. To do this, they spend long hours away from their families on grueling shifts and make countless other sacrifices. For the last century, the Hamtramck Fire Department has been a part of this distinguished tradition.

The Hamtramck Fire Department was established in its current form in 1914, but the department's roots run deeper. The Hamtramck Spouters, the first organized firefighting unit in the area, was founded in February 1857. From its inception, the department was sought to improve with each passing year, which has led to many advances, including updated technology, lowered response times, and fewer fires through prevention efforts. The department has served Hamtramck citizens with distinction, even as tough economic times have made the job harder. Their mission to protect the residents of Hamtramck is as vital today as it was 100 years ago.

Today, the fire department tackles a heavy load, making more than 3,100 runs each year. In the process, they have saved countless lives and property, often at great personal risk. Their courageous service is remarkable, and their reputation within the community is impeccable.

The Hamtramck Fire Department also has sought to make an impact in the community outside of the fire hall. From organizing park cleanups, to buying uniforms for Hamtramck High School's women's basketball team, the fire department has provided valuable services to the community.

Just this year, the fire department won a fireworks display for the city in the national Red, White & You contest. They were chosen from a group of more than 2,500 entries. Because of their efforts, the city hosted its first Fourth of July fireworks display in more than three decades. Announcing the fireworks display, Fire Chief Paul Wilk noted, "We are a very diverse city that's fallen on hard times—we need a boost like this."

The pride in their city and sense of service the department displayed in their application to the Red, White & You contest bears repeating. Firefighter John Dropchuck, who has been with the department for 15 years, wrote, "Cultural diversity and a strong blue collar work ethic make up the backbone of our town. There is no better representation of the pursuit of the 'American Dream' than Hamtramck. . . The Hamtramck Fire Department is entering this contest on behalf of our residents, who we feel deserve this celebration." The commitment of Hamtramck's firefighters to going above and beyond for their city and its citizens is an example for all of us.

On May 3, 2014, the Hamtramck Fire Department celebrated its 100th anniversary with the annual St. Florian March and Mass. It was a fitting way to mark this historic milestone, giving

the community an opportunity to offer their thanks. On July 5, the celebrations continued with an impressive fireworks display, another opportunity to come together in fellowship and thanksgiving.

We owe our Nation's firefighters and first responders a huge debt of gratitude. Their bravery and willingness to serve provides families across Michigan with a measure of security. I know my colleagues join me in congratulating the Hamtramck Fire Department on a century of service and a job well done. They are a wonderful example of public service, and I wish them much success as they continue their mission to protect the public.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

SPECIALIST FRANCISCO J. BRISENO-ALVAREZ

Mr. INHOFE. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to a true American hero, Army SPC Francisco Briseno-Alvarez who died on September 25, 2011 serving our Nation in Laghman Province, Afghanistan. Specialist Briseno-Alvarez was assigned to Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 279th Infantry Regiment, 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Oklahoma Army National Guard.

SPC Briseno-Alvarez died of injuries sustained when the vehicle in which he was riding was attacked with an improvised explosive device in Laghman Province while conducting combat operations. He was 27 years old.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to those in his family he left behind: his father Javier Briseno, mother Lurdes Alvarez, and siblings Adrian and Diana Briseno.

Francisco graduated from U.S. Grant High School in Oklahoma City in 2003. He enlisted in the Oklahoma National Guard on September 11, 2010 and served as a motor transport operator in the 700th Brigade Support Battalion and then with the 1-279th Infantry Regiment.

As evident from reading through quotes from friends and family, Francisco touched people's lives in remarkable ways:

Brenda Fetzko, a neighbor said, "I know he loved his mother very much so" and was a good man and had a strong connection to his family. "He was a very good person and was just getting his life going."

Ruben Gonzalez, a friend said, "Paco was a very nice man, and I am proud to say that he was my friend from high school and after. . . I'm very proud of you Francisco."

Juan Cerano, a cousin said, "He died doing the right thing. He died serving and protecting his country. He was like the brother I never had. There's always going to be a part of him in our hearts."

MG Myles Deering, the Oklahoma Adjutant General said, "My thoughts and prayers are with the Briseno-Alvarez family and those of our wounded heroes. SPC Briseno-Alvarez answered

the call to serve this great Nation and help defend it. His loyalty and ultimate sacrifice for the sake of our Country will never be forgotten."

A true warrior, Francisco died while participating in tough and demanding combat operations. This fight took Francisco from us prematurely, but make no mistake; it is a fight we will win. We must continue our unwavering support for the men and women protecting our Nation and allies.

I extend our deepest gratitude and condolences to Francisco's family and friends. Francisco lived a life of love for his family and country. He will be remembered for his commitment to and belief in the greatness of our Nation. I am honored to pay tribute to this true American hero who volunteered to go into the fight and made the ultimate sacrifice for our protection and freedom.

ARMY SPECIALIST CHRISTOPHER D. GAILEY

Mr. President, it is my honor to also remember Army SPC Christopher D. Gailey. Chris and PFC Sarina N. Butcher, 19, of Checotah, OK, lost their lives November 1, 2011, in Laja Ahmad Khel, Paktia province of Afghanistan, when an improvised explosive device detonated near their military vehicle during a supply mission.

Born September 15, 1985, in Bartlesville, OK, Chris attended Wentworth Military Academy in Lexington, MO, before returning and graduating with the class of 2005 from Caney Valley High School in Ramona, OK.

Those who knew Chris said he was a man who "loved his country, loved America and loved his family."

Eager to join the National Guard, he enlisted in June 2004 before graduating high school and was assigned to the 700th Brigade Support Battalion, 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Oklahoma National Guard, Tulsa, OK. Previously deployed to Iraq in 2007 to 2008 as a motor vehicle operator, he departed for Afghanistan in June 2011.

The Oklahoma National Guard family is deeply saddened by the loss of these two outstanding citizen-soldiers." MG Myles L. Deering, the Adjutant General for Oklahoma, said in a news release. "Their commitment and willingness to serve our nation during a time of war is indicative of their tremendous character and courage. Our thoughts and prayers are with their families, friends and those that continue to serve our country in Afghanistan."

Survivors include his parents Shan and Tammy Gailey of Ochelata, OK, his daughter Allison Marie Gailey of Bartlesville, one brother Beau Dugan of Merriam, KS, two sisters Angelina Janelle Niko of Bartlesville and Kristina Jeanette Gailey of Stillwater, OK, his paternal grandmother Lela Belle Gailey of Marshfield, MO, his maternal grandparents Carl Eugene Maples and his wife Carol of Joplin, MO, one uncle Jesse Robert Gailey, four aunts: Barbara Jane Foster, Shawn Dee Adams, Manya Alice Maples, and Sonya Jolene Hamblin,

and several nieces, nephews and cousins.

“Keep good memories of him,” his father Shan Gailey said. “Keep him in your heart.”

Funeral services were held on November 12, 2011 in the Bartlesville Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Full military rites were conducted by the Oklahoma National Guard and interment was in the Ochelata Cemetery in Ocheleta, OK.

Today we remember Army SPC Christopher D. Gailey, a young man who loved his family and country and gave his life as a sacrifice for freedom.

ARMY STAFF SERGEANT ALLEN R. MCKENNA, JR.

Mr. President, I also wish to remember a remarkable young man, Army SSG Allen R. McKenna, Jr. Robby died February 21, 2012 in Kandahar province, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Robby was born July 17, 1983 in Oklahoma City, OK and graduated from Noble High School, where he met his wife Lindsey. He enlisted in the Army in September 2004 and was assigned to the 1st Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, CO.

The military was a natural choice for him, and he took college courses to advance his military career, his mother said. “He had his clothes ironed by 5 a.m. That boy loved it,” she said. “He just always had a love for the military, the discipline and the way they hold their head high.”

His second tour of duty to Afghanistan began on September 6, 2011. While deployed he was able to come home in December 2011 to witness the birth of his youngest child Waylon.

“He was the greatest father my boys could ask for. He was a great husband who loved us all very much. It makes me sad to know we won’t grow old together, but he lived a beautiful life and (he) gave me three of the most beautiful things I could ask for,” his wife Lindsey said.

His mother said she looked forward to getting calls from her son while he was in Afghanistan. “I learned very quick when a phone call came in at 3 a.m. to jump up and answer it,” Mitchell said. “He would call and play his guitar and sing me a song he had written.”

On March 6, 2012, Robby was laid to rest in Hillside Cemetery in Purcell, OK. Oklahoma Governor, Mary Fallin ordered flags on State property to fly at half-staff on March 6, 2012 in honor of Robby.

Robby is survived by his wife Lindsey McKenna of Purcell, three sons: Allen Robert McKenna III, Michael “Mickey” McKenna, and Waylon Roan McKenna, and the only girl in the family, his pet cat “Scat;” father and step-mother, Allen and Pam McKenna of Purcell, grandparents Bill and Charlotte McKenna of Alex, Alvie and Cleta Mitchell and Grace Cummins of Noble, OK; three brothers and their families, Billy and Jamie Bingenheimer of Little

Axe, OK, Bobby and Charlene Bingenheimer of Purcell, OK, and Scotty and Lenette McKenna of Anchorage, AK, one sister Jessi McKenna of Purcell, OK, stepfather Lamar Bingenheimer, step-grandparents Frankie and Mary Rinehart of Purcell, OK, father-in-law, Donnie Jones of Noble, OK, mother-in-law Donya Jones of Norman, OK, numerous cousins, nieces, nephews and a host of other relatives and friends.

Today we remember Army SSG Allen R. McKenna, Jr., a young man who loved his family and country, and gave his life as a sacrifice for freedom.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING WALTER PARKER

• Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I would like to take the time to recognize the loss of Walter Parker. Walter Parker passed away on June 25, 2014, in Anchorage, AK. Walt Parker was dedicated to our State and he made his mark in many ways.

Walter Parker came up to Alaska in 1946 after serving in World War II and held vital roles in the development of the State of Alaska. From overseeing the construction of the Dalton Highway to being appointed to the Alaska State Pipeline office, Walter Parker helped shape Alaska into what it is today. He was a constant advocate for stronger communities, higher education, parks and trails, safer transportation and better communities. He was a musher, trapper, bush pilot, planner and borough assemblyman who never lost his commitment or faith to help make Alaska a great place to live.

Throughout his life, Walter Parker approached all parts of his life with excitement, passion, idealism and energy—he was a force to be reckoned with. He passed on his knowledge by teaching at the University of Alaska and helped our State after the devastation of the Exxon Valdez oil spill. He served as chairman of the Alaska Oil Spill Commission. Later in his life, he held various government positions and was involved in public interest organizations that helped make Alaska better.

The loss of Walter Parker is sad and all who knew him mourns his loss. The work Walter Parker did for Alaska will never be forgotten, and we are all thankful for his commitment and dedication to the people of Alaska.●

REMEMBERING FRED BROWN

• Mr. BEGICH. Mr. President, I wish to honor and remember long time Alaskan, Mr. Fred Brown. Mr. Brown died in Fairbanks at the Denali Center on Friday, June 27, 2014 at the age of 70.

Fred Brown was a former 4-term Fairbanks legislator who was elected in 1974 served in the Alaska House of Representatives in the 1970s and early 1980s. He was not only an active mem-

ber of the community, but a man with a passion for contributing to the development of the State of Alaska. With a remarkable passion for music and radio, he enriched the territory and State for decades. He was an avid ham radio operator known by the call sign KL7CUS.

Outside the legislature, Fred Brown played the flute, piccolo and contra bassoon for 50 years with the Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra. He was also an active member at St. Matthew’s Episcopal Church where his memory will be honored.

Fred Brown cared deeply about his community and was committed to public service. As a legislator, he carried himself and the State forward with self-determination and dignity. His wife Helen said her husband had three main passions: “Politics, music and religion were what mattered to him, which is a strange combination, but that really was the triumvirate of his life.” He was a master of parliamentary procedure and scrupulously ran meetings according to Mason’s Rules in the interest of fairness to all.

While we mourn the loss of his presence, the legacy of this remarkable man lives on. He leaves behind many friends who are grateful to have known his exceptional character. The people of Alaska will always owe a debt of gratitude to former Alaska legislator Fred Brown.

On behalf of his family and his many friends, I ask that we honor Fred Brown’s memory.●

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO THE FORMER LIBERIAN REGIME OF CHARLES TAYLOR THAT WAS ESTABLISHED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13348 ON JULY 22, 2004—PM 50

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, within 90 days 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 national emergency with respect to the former Liberian regime of Charles Taylor declared in Executive Order 13348 of July 22, 2004, is to continue in effect beyond July 22, 2014.

Although Liberia has made significant advances to promote democracy,