

He previously served 5 years as Treasurer and was heavily involved in the successful fundraising campaign to build a new Alumni Center at WVU.

Due to Jack's unwavering commitment to his community and the organizations in which he dedicated his time and energy toward year after year, he is also no stranger to receiving prestigious awards. To name a few, he has been the recipient of the State Journal's Who's Who award for making a difference in the business climate, the National Association of Athletic Development Directors 2009 "Volunteer of the Year" award for volunteering and fundraising for the WVU Mountaineer Athletic Club, the WVU Alumni "Most Loyal Mountaineer" award and the "Life Time Achievement" award, the highest honor given out to a West Virginia CPA by the West Virginia Society of CPAs.

Time and again, Jack has shown how greatly an individual can contribute to his community through passion, commitment and hard work.

Although Jack and his wife, Joy, temporarily left for a job opportunity in North Carolina right after college, they quickly returned to the place they call home and there has never been a doubt that Jack's roots are truly imbedded in the Mountain State. West Virginia is his home and I am forever grateful for his dedication to the state.

Jack's career and accomplishments are a testament to his hard work and commitment to the State of West Virginia. It is a privilege to know a man who has contributed so much of his life to strengthening our West Virginia communities. I am honored to call Jack my friend and I congratulate him on a long and happy retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO GABE GRIFFIN

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I wish today to honor a courageous young Alabamian Gabe Griffin. Gabe is a 9-year-old boy who lives with his family in Shelby County, AL.

Right now, Gabe lives like any other child, but that is expected to change soon. Without a cure, Gabe's doctors expect him to be in a wheelchair by the time he is 12 years old and lose his life around the age of 20. Gabe suffers from a fatal genetic mutation called Duchenne muscular dystrophy, DMD, which is caused by an absence of dystrophin, a protein that helps keep the body's muscles intact. The onset of this fatal disorder occurs during early childhood and causes generalized weakness and muscle wasting that increases over time. While medical advances have led to some very promising clinical trials, to date there is no cure and no one has survived. DMD affects approximately 1 in every 3,500 boys, which adds up to about 15,000 boys in America.

Symptoms usually appear in male children before age 6, and progressive proximal muscle weakness associated with a loss of muscle mass is observed

first. This weakness eventually spreads to the arms, neck, and other areas, and most patients are wheelchair dependent by the age of 12.

Gabe can currently walk, breathe, and feed himself like any other child. Since his diagnosis, his family has been relentlessly striving to raise awareness and increase research funding for DMD. They play an active role in the fight against this devastating disease and are tireless in their efforts to find a cure.

Recently, a cross-country bicycle ride to raise awareness of DMD was completed. Wes Bates, a student at Indiana University; Michael Staley, chief of staff for U.S. Rep. BACHUS; and their support team rode 3,300 miles from Astoria, OR, on June 28 to Mobile, AL, on August 14. They worked to educate people across America about DMD, and the funds they raised will be used to raise awareness and advance current research.

Through his struggle, Gabe has continued to bring happiness and light to those around him. He is a wonderful and courageous boy. It is my honor to recognize Gabe Griffin and his family for their incredible efforts to defeat Duchenne muscular disorder. It is my hope that with their continued efforts, Gabe may live to see the cure of DMD.●

RECOGNIZING THE CANNON LAKE ALL STARS

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the Canyon Lake Little League all-star team for qualifying for the 68th Little League World Series in South Williamsport, PA.

The Canyon Lake Little League all-star team's journey to the World Series was drama filled. After a rough first two innings in the qualifying game, Canyon Lake scored six runs in the bottom of the third, capturing the lead and continued their rally into the fourth inning, where they scored another eight runs, defeating the Nebraska Little League team, 15 to 4. This final win in Indianapolis captured for the team the Midwest Regional title with an impressive 6-to-0 record. Previously, the Canyon Lake team gave equally impressive performances at the South Dakota/North Dakota district games, including a sixth inning comeback against Fargo to win 10 to 9 in the final. Once in Pennsylvania, the team rounded out their performance at the Little League World Series on a high note, as they captured South Dakota's first win at the world level. Canyon Lake defeated the Czech Republic 5 to 3 in the consolation round, ending their run on a high note.

Canyon Lake was led by manager Rich Hegre and assistant coaches Scott Spencer and Steve Richey. The athletes of the 2014 Canyon Lake all-star little league team, in alphabetical order, are as follows: Colton Hartford, Matthew Hegre, Jake Kostenbauer, Mason Litz, Logan Miller, Bridger Nesbit, Dylan Richey, Adam Salter,

True Synhorst, Daniel Vigoren, Cooper Voorhees, and Blake Weaver.

I commend the players and coaches of the Canyon Lake all-star team for their efforts. These athletes should be incredibly proud of all their remarkable achievements. On behalf of the state of South Dakota, I am pleased to congratulate the Canyon Lake All-Stars on this impressive accomplishment.●

YELLOW RIBBON FUND FAMILY CAREGIVER PROGRAM

● Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I wish to recognize a group of incredible individuals who are part of the Yellow Ribbon Fund Family Caregiver Program. The Yellow Ribbon Fund Family Caregiver Program is an outstanding organization that supports both wounded service members and veterans, and the extraordinary people who care for them. I would like to recognize the hard work, passion, and dedication of the following caregivers: Brian Vines, Sharon Roberts, Autumn Bailey, Margaret Jones, Stacey Kelley, Heather Miller, Dawna Barber, Helen Gooding, Kellene Cole, Alicia Lee, Joey Caswell, Vicki Boswell, Elizabeth Martin, Rose Haley and Jessica Allen.

The Yellow Ribbon Fund was founded in 2005, when several Washington-area business owners came together to help a mother struggling to take care of her son, a wounded Marine being treated in a hospital far from home.

These individuals have sacrificed much in order to care for their wounded loved ones, and their hard work often goes unnoticed and under-appreciated. The Yellow Ribbon Fund Family Caregiver Program recognizes the challenges faced and sacrifices made by caregivers, and offers support programs, family-oriented activities, and retreats for caregivers and their families.

Our military men and women and their families serve and sacrifice for our country. I would like to thank the Yellow Ribbon Fund for the services they provide to our wounded veterans as well as the invaluable support they offer to caregivers.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:15 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, 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. 83. An act to require the Secretary of the Interior to assemble a team of technical, policy, and financial experts to address the energy needs of the insular areas of the United States and the Freely Associated States through the development of energy action plans aimed at promoting access to affordable, reliable energy, including increasing use of indigenous clean-energy resources, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2569. An act to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Missisquoi River and the Trout River in