into State government. The advice I got from everyone I asked was, ''Get Spiegelman; he knows everything.'' Dick did join my team and served as my chief of staff and chief counsel for 8 years. Then, when I was elected State Treasurer, he served as my chief of staff.

Dick came to the U.S. Senate with me in 2007 as my legislative director and counsel. His intellect and encyclopedic knowledge soon led the younger members of my staff to begin referring to him as ''Spiegeltron.'' During his 8 years as LD, Dick played a significant role in the big issues of our day, including the Affordable Care Act, TARP, Wall Street reform, and the American Recovery Act, as well as my legislative initiatives like the ABLE Act and pregnant women's support programs.

People from other Senate offices, the executive branch, and the lobbying world always remarked that Dick was unfailingly courteous, but always knew the substance of the matter at hand. No one could put one over on him. He supervised and mentored dozens of legislative staff members who worked under him and later moved on to key positions in government or the private sector. He was also known in the Senate for his sartorial splendor; few others could pull off a seersucker suit and a fedora.

A year ago, Dick decided to take a well-deserved retirement. Although no one believed that he would stay retired, he has confounded all of us by doing so—at least up to now. Dick's garden has expanded; he and his wife, Kathy, have dialed up their ballroom dancing skills to ''Dancing with the Stars'' levels; he sees his children, Alex and Margaret, more often; and he continues to offer wise counsel to those who seek it.

Dick Spiegelman represents the best in our American tradition of public service. The work that he did over the course of a 40-year career will live on, often permanently, in the form of well-crafted legislation; more honest and more efficient government; and the many, many young men and women who worked with him and who will follow his example throughout their own careers.

I thank Dick Spiegelman for all he has done for me, for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and for the United States of America.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING LIEUTENANT COLONEL KENNETH R. JOHNSON

• Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, today I wish to celebrate the life and honor the service of Vietnam veteran Lt. Col. Kenneth R. Johnson. Lieutenant Colonel Johnson passed away on August 29, 2015, and was laid to rest January 14, 2016, at Arlington National Cemetery. Born and raised in Minneapolis, Lieutenant Colonel Johnson enjoyed playing music with his garage band, the Commodores, and studying airplanes. Upon graduating from Roosevelt High School in 1955, Johnson enlisted in the Minnesota Air National Guard, where he served for 2 years before entering the U.S. Air Force Academy to become an officer.

After he received his commission as a second lieutenant, Johnson went on to earn his wings and begin his career flying the F–100 Super Sabre, one of the planes that he would fly during the Vietnam war. It was in this plane that Johnson earned the Silver Star, defending the Tong Le Chan Special Forces camp, heroically making nine passes at low altitude against intense hostile fire in support of our troops. Later in the war, after being forced to eject over North Vietnam, Johnson would spend nearly 15 months as a POW in Hanoi. Despite this trying time, Johnson's resolve and the love he had for his country remained intact, and he continued to serve for many years after his release in 1973.

Our country will always need brave men like Lt. Col. Kenneth R. Johnson. He embodied our Nation's most cherished values and served as an example to us all. Today my thoughts and prayers are with his family, including his brother Phil; his two sons, Bradley and David; and his sister, Delores. May we always remember and cherish his memory.•

REMEMBERING DR. CARTER G. WOODSON

• Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Dr. Carter G. Woodson, a distinguished African-American civil rights activist, author, editor, publisher, and historian who left a remarkable legacy across the Nation and in my home State of West Virginia.

Dr. Woodson was born in New Canton, Buckingham County, VA, in 1875 to former slaves Anne Eliza and James Henry Woodson. Taking care of the family farm often took priority over his education; nevertheless, his thirst for knowledge drove him forward during the course of his life. He was a very bright student when he was able to attend school. Despite being taught theories of African-American inferiority of that time period, his well-grounded beliefs, credited to his father, kept his spirits high and only added fuel to the influence he would one day share with the world.

James and Anne Eliza first moved into the region on the Ohio River that became Huntington, WV, in 1870. There, James Woodson worked with many other former slaves to complete the Chesapeake and Ohio railroad. Dr. Woodson and his older brother Robert Henry Woodson then delayed their move and took jobs working in the West Virginia coalfields of Fayette County. Here, Dr. Woodson, who had not yet attended high school, often read to his fellow coal miners who were illiterate, as he had been doing for his illiterate father. The collection of books and newspapers he accumulated for this task broadened his horizons about the world.

Ambitious for more education, the largely self-taught Dr. Woodson enrolled in 1895 at Douglas High School and received a diploma in less than 2 years. He began his teaching career in 1897 in Fayette County and would later return to Huntington to become the principal of Douglas High School. In the years to come, he continued to travel across the United States and throughout Europe and Asia. He received degrees in history from the University of Chicago and Harvard University. He became the second African American to earn a Ph.D. at Harvard.

Countless individuals inspired this great man. Whether citing a speech from Booker T. Washington or a friendship with a fellow coal miner, it is clear that Dr. Woodson saw education as the great equalizer. He could see beyond what he considered ''miseducation'' as a way to continually improve both the education of others and of himself—and ultimately generations of students of all races. He had fierce opinions and was unafraid to challenge what was then considered as ''known'' information.

Dr. Woodson continued to travel in later years, lecturing to various African-American organizations and institutions. In 1921, he created the Associated Publishers, which was dedicated to issuing books by African-American authors. In 1926, he orchestrated Negro History Week, held in connection with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln and Frederick Douglass and later extended to African-American History Month. Libraries and schools have been named in honor of this brilliant man—a testament to his commitment of embracing our knowledge of the history that shaped this great Nation. Particularly now, as we celebrate African-American History Month, it is fitting that we should honor such a man as Dr. Woodson. He has inspired countless leaders to fearlessly challenge what they believe is unjust and to inspire others to do the same. His legacy is one of constantly striving to better oneself and truly sets the standard for all leaders who have followed and will continue to follow in his footsteps.•

TRIBUTE TO ANN MARION FURUKAWA DONDERO

• Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, just about every successful person can point to a teacher or other adult who inspired and encouraged them as a child, a person who spurred curiosity and love of learning. Today I wish to recognize the hard work and dedication of one of my constituents who played that role for countless Oregonians Ann Marion Furukawa Dondero from Forest Grove.

Ann was raised in Sunnyside, WA, and graduated from Whitman College in 1966 with a psychology degree and a