

those kinds of services, to the villages throughout the North Slope Borough, again, on the top of the world.

According to Bill Tracey, Sr., from Point Lay, which is one of the villages there, who was a coworker at the time, “Dan’s excellent work ethic and skills earned him the respect of the North Slope leaders. . . . His accomplishments were remarkable.”

With his beautiful and spirited wife Elaine always by his side, Dan then moved his family to Anchorage to head up the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation. For 18 years, he managed HFC’s nearly \$5 billion in assets. It is not an overstatement to say that he revolutionized that agency, doing remarkable things, including and most importantly helping thousands of Alaskans—thousands of our constituents, our fellow Alaskans—pursue their dream of buying an affordable home. There is nothing more important than that.

The Alaska Legislature just passed a bill to name the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation the Daniel R. Fauske Building, and the dedication ceremony will take place in Anchorage on Saturday.

As his bio indicates, there is no doubt that for decades Dan Fauske served Alaska with his hands, his heart, and with his head. But a bio on paper can only tell you so much about a person; to really appreciate him, you would have to have been with him and watched the energy and can-do spirit radiate from Dan Fauske. You had to watch him talk to people with respect and humor and understanding and a very keen intelligence. He had a big laugh—a very big laugh—and he told great stories. He also had that rare ability to genuinely connect with everybody he met, it didn’t matter who. He was able to speak the language of a businessman, a builder, a veteran, a public servant. He spoke the language of a father, a husband, a friend, and a true Alaskan. In doing so, he gained the respect of everybody, and I mean everybody, in my State—politicians, State workers, military members, people from all across Alaska, people from all across the political spectrum. If you wanted something done and if you wanted it done right in Alaska, you asked Dan Fauske to help you do it. People trusted him. I trusted him.

Most importantly, Dan was a great father to three great boys, D.J., Scott, and Brad, and two daughters, Marcy and Kathy, and he was a great husband to his incredible, vivacious, and very strong wife Elaine.

Mr. President, Dan Fauske passed away this afternoon with his family and friends by his side. Our prayers and the prayers of so many Alaskans go out to all of them during this very difficult time. For anyone watching, I humbly ask that you say a prayer too.

For all he has done for all of us, all his memory will continue to do for all of us, Dan Fauske is our Alaskan of the Week. He was also my very good friend.

My wife Julie and I will miss him greatly.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SCOTT). The Senator from Colorado.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to proceed to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

CONGRESS WEEK

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I wish to recognize that, 228 years ago this week, Congress achieved its first quorum. The House of Representatives attained its quorum on April 1, 1789, and the Senate reached that goal on April 6, 1789. The Association of Centers for the Study of Congress celebrates this anniversary by observing Congress Week, an annual weeklong event that highlights the resources available for the study of Congress and features commemorative events at member institutions across the country.

The Association of Centers for the Study of Congress is composed of more than 40 universities and historical societies, including the McConnell Center at the University of Louisville, that work to preserve the historical collections of Members of Congress and encourage their use for educational purposes. The organization’s goal is to promote public understanding of the legislative process by focusing on the history of the Senate and the House representatives and Congress’s role in our constitutional system of government.

Congress Week is designed to spark a closer examination of the first branch of government, to encourage schools to develop programs to highlight the work of Congress, and to stimulate more scholarly research into Congress and its history.

Emphasizing the historical importance of Members’ records, H. Con. Res. 307 was passed unanimously in 2008. This resolution recommends that Members’ records be properly maintained, that each Member take all necessary measures to manage and preserve them, that they arrange for the deposit or donation of their records with a research institution that is properly equipped to care for them, and that they make them available for educational purposes at an appropriate time. Members of Congress are responsible for preserving their own records of public service.

Members’ collections are essential for public understanding of the vital role that Congress plays in our democracy. As primary source materials, they contain the most authentic record of cause and effect of what happened

and why. Their study leads to greater understanding of the issues we have faced and how they were resolved.

As Senate majority leader, I encourage my colleagues to follow the advice of H. Con. Res. 307, to preserve the records of your service, both paper and digital, so that the full history of the Senate may be appreciated and understood. Last year, when we observed Congress Week 2016, our President pro tempore, Senator HATCH, stated “Serving as a member of the world’s greatest deliberative body is no small honor; it is a tremendous privilege that none of us should take for granted. The American people have placed their confidence in our ability to effect meaningful change for the good of the country. May we honor this sacred trust by keeping detailed archives of the work we do here.”

I join my esteemed colleague in that sentiment and also ask my colleagues to preserve their archival legacy.

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS’ RIGHTS WEEK

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, millions of Americans and thousands of Iowans annually fall victim to senseless acts of crime. In their honor and in honor of the thousands of advocates, first responders, crisis hotline volunteers, and others who work tirelessly on their behalf, I introduced a resolution to commemorate National Crime Victims’ Rights Week.

I thank Senators LEAHY, CRAPO, and FEINSTEIN for joining me as cosponsors of this important resolution. In 2017, National Crime Victims’ Rights Week takes place from April 2 through April 8. We have commemorated the week every April since 1981.

Here in Washington, DC, and across the Nation, activities are being organized to highlight and promote this year’s theme: “Strength. Resilience. Justice.” The theme for 2017 recognizes the strength of individual victims. It highlights the resilience of survivors as well as the victim assistance organizations who support survivors in their efforts to heal. And it reflects the importance of securing justice for crime victims.

During this week, we also highlight the contributions of the crisis hotline volunteers and staff, victims’ rights attorneys, advocates, sexual assault nurse examiners, police officers, and other emergency responders who provide critical assistance to survivors of crime in communities across the United States. On Friday, several of these individuals will receive awards during a ceremony hosted by the Office for Victims of Crime at the U.S. Department of Justice. I extend my gratitude to those award recipients for their work to assist victims of crime.

Many of us in this Chamber have championed landmark legislation to enhance the rights of crime victims. For example, I was an original cosponsor of the 1984 Victims of Crime Act,