

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

SAMSUNG SOLVE FOR TOMORROW
STEM EDUCATION COMPETITION

• Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate a group of eighth-grade students at Horizon Middle School in Aurora, CO. Recently I met with Simon-Peter Frimpong and Grayson Fast who participated in the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow STEM Education Competition. Grayson, Simon-Peter, and their classmates were among just five grand prize winners out of more than 4,000 contestants nationwide. This competition brings together schools from across the country to encourage the use of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, STEM, to solve complicated problems. As a national winner of this competition, Horizon Middle School will receive funds to purchase cutting-edge technology for their school.

To win this competition, the students at Horizon Middle School created a more comfortable and versatile prosthetic limb for a local veteran. Along with providing more comfortable everyday use, the students designed multiple attachments, including an attachment for a longboard, to allow him to participate in various activities. This project required enormous amounts of time and dedication, as well as an in-depth study of STEM disciplines. Along this journey, the students had the unending support of their teacher Melinda Possehl and the school's principal, Nichole Bell.

Congratulations again to the students of Horizon Middle School on your outstanding accomplishment. I look forward to what the future has in store for these tremendously bright students.●

ALWAYS FREE HONOR FLIGHT

• Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, with immense pride, I wish to recognize the 25 heroic veterans who have traveled to Washington from West Virginia on this year's Always Free Honor Flight this week. This truly moving event serves as a unique opportunity for us to honor and share our deepest gratitude for these individuals who have sacrificed so much in the service of our great Nation.

With one of our country's highest per capita rates of military servicemembers and veterans, West Virginia is undoubtedly one of our Nation's most patriotic States. Throughout the history of the Mountain State, our citizens have demonstrated the bravery and selflessness time and again in making tremendous sacrifices to keep our homeland safe and free. According to the Department of Defense, West Virginia had the highest casualty rate in the Nation during the Vietnam war, and I am so proud that the honor flight will allow these West Virginia veterans to pay homage to their brethren at the Vietnam wall. As these vet-

erans tour the monuments that have been constructed in their honor, I offer my sincerest thanks to them on behalf of our Nation for their service.

The veterans joining us in Washington hail from across West Virginia, from Scott Depot and Princeton to Rainelle and Lewisburg. They have served in World War II, the Korean war, the Vietnam war, during the Cold War prior to the Berlin Wall's collapse, and the wars in the Middle East. They have participated in decisive overseas battles and won myriad accolades for their accomplishments in uniform.

First and foremost, I wish to remember PO3 Earnest McKenzie, an Athens, WV, native, who joined the U.S. Navy in 1955 and served on the USS *Brownson* in the Vietnam war. He was supposed to attend this week's honor flight to visit the memorials made in his honor, but he sadly passed away on Friday at the age of 75. My thoughts and prayers are with his family during this sad time, and I sincerely thank him for his service and sacrifice.

I especially wish to recognize our World War II veterans who will be on this honor flight. Ninety-four year old former SN William "Ray" Calvin Sexton from Tazewell, joined the Navy in Bramwell, WV, in 1943 and was a gunner stationed in Panama and the Galapagos Islands. We will also be joined by Machinist Mate Third Class Marion Grey Noel, who joined the Navy in the 1940s and bravely fought at the battle of Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

These men truly represent the sacrifices made by our Nation's "greatest generation" and embody American patriotism and valor. They fearlessly fought in such a pivotal war in an era that threatened our existence as a nation. We are losing so many of our World War II veterans every day, and the time to show our utmost gratitude to them is here and now.

I also wish to highlight the tremendous achievements of two Vietnam war veterans who will be on this honor flight. Mabscott, WV, native, former SPC Raymond C. Palmer joined the Army in 1967 and fought in the 1968 Tet Offensive when the Vietcong and North Vietnamese forces launched a series of attacks on scores of towns and cities through South Vietnam. Another Vietnam veteran participating in this week's honor flight is SSG Michael A. Hudnall of Rainelle, WV, who joined the Army in 1969. Staff Sergeant Hudnall served in the 1st Air Cavalry stationed in Bien Hoa and earned two Purple Hearts, two Bronze Stars, and two Air Medals. Their dedication to our Nation knows no bounds, and I thank them for their service.

I also wish to recognize Army SFC Paul W. Dorsey of Bluefield, WV, who joined the Army in 1978. Sergeant First Class Dorsey served the United States for 10 years in Germany, more than 3 of which he was stationed in Berlin prior to the Wall's collapse. Following his return home, Sergeant First Class Dorsey went on to serve an additional dec-

ade stateside and continues to give back to his community. He is a JROTC instructor at Montcalm High School in Mercer City and serves as vice president of the Always Free Honor Flight network. Thank you, Sergeant First Class Dorsey, for your lifelong commitment to the U.S. military and our veterans.

The veterans participating in this week's honor flight range in age from 54 to 94 and have fought for our freedom in many historic events. This week, as we celebrate these incredible veterans and their answering our Nation's call of duty, we must remember that the men and women who have given so much to ensure America's safety deserve the utmost care and support upon their return home.

We must continue to fight for a Department of Veterans Affairs that provides our veterans with the services they very much need and deserve.

This week's honor flight and the continued support of our veterans would not be possible without the dedication of so many volunteers and caregivers. I wish to thank the JROTC cadets from Princeton, Montcalm, Bluefield, and Pikeview high schools, as well as the military spouses serving as the guardians on this year's honor flight. The care and love you provide for our veterans is invaluable and deeply appreciated.

I also commend those in the Always Free Honor Flight network for their dedication to providing our veterans with such a unique and meaningful experience. My gratitude especially goes out to Dreama Denver, president of Always Free Honor Flight network and owner Little Buddy Radio of Princeton, WV, as well as Pam Coulbourne, the coordinator of these flights. Dreama and Pam launched the Always Free Honor Flight in 2012 and have been making the dreams of West Virginia's veterans a reality every year since. They, along with Sergeant First Class Dorsey and board member and official photographer Steve Coleman, have done a tremendous job of ensuring that our veterans receive the recognition they deserve. Dreama, Pam, and Steve have also dedicated themselves to the Denver Foundation, serving as incredible examples of how individuals can give back to their communities.

Our Nation would not enjoy the freedom and liberty we do today without the commitment and sacrifice of the veterans who have served throughout our history. Their bravery and sacrifice know no bounds, and for this, we are forever grateful. With this week's Always Free Honor Flight, we celebrate and give thanks for these veterans and all they have done for our country.

God bless our many servicemembers and veterans, the great State of West Virginia, and the United States of America.●

TRIBUTE TO TAD FELTS

• Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, in a rural State like my own, where many

Kansans live more than half an hour from the nearest neighboring town, communities are stitched together by what they hear on the radio.

For more than 40 years, Tad Felts has been broadcasting high school athletics and reporting north central Kansas news for KKAN-KQMA radio in Phillipsburg, but after several decades chronicling hundreds—or more likely thousands—of sporting events, Tad decided a couple years back it was time to watch a few more games from the bleachers rather than the press box. Now, this month, he will retire from radio altogether.

Tad first started his radio career in Garden City at KIUL as a high school sophomore in 1948, working after school and at night for free. During his time at KIUL, his main duties were cleaning the floors and playing records. While he was a student at Fort Hays State University in 1951, Tad worked at KAYS radio station in Hays and upon graduation at KLOE in Goodland. Tad found his eventual home with the team at KKAN-KQMA in Phillipsburg in 1972.

Given his decades of experience in broadcasting, Tad knows the business well and takes great joy in teaching others. Gerard Wellbrock, the sports director of KAYS radio in Hays and the voice of the Fort Hays State University Tigers said this about Tad: “He was a good mentor, I learned so much from him. The work ethic, how to deal with people, the relations you build with athletic directors and coaches. It’s hard not to like Tad. And you learned a lot about work, and life, just by being around him.”

In gyms across north central Kansas, the KKAN-KQMA banner can be seen at high school basketball games, wrestling tournaments, and State championships. In fact, it is because of Tad’s dedication that the radio station is so often present. Families who can’t make the game in person, often because they are working long hours on the farm, especially appreciate local radio hosts being there because they can still catch the details of the game.

In rural America, entire communities revolve around how the high school sports team is doing. It is a common topic of conversation while standing in the checkout line at the grocery store or while dining at a neighborhood restaurant.

By no means is Tad a one-trick pony, though. Cherished equal to his sports reporting are his updates from the field during wheat harvest season, in which Tad will drive straight up to a farmer in his combine and record an interview from the cab. This is in addition to the full slate of city council and school board meetings, county fairs, and annual parades.

For years, Tad’s knowledge and sunny disposition has greeted folks tuning in to local radio. One former peer of Tad’s said this about the significant impact he has made: “KKAN-KQMA Radio has played an integral

role in the lives of people in the Phillipsburg area, and Tad has always been a driving force behind that station’s programming and its scope of community service.”

His professionalism was recognized by his peers when Tad was inducted into the Kansas Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame in 2010. Inductees to the hall of fame are selected based upon their contributions to the broadcasting profession, their broadcast career, and their recognition and awards received, and Tad is an extremely deserving recipient.

Today I want to express my gratitude to Tad Felts for helping to strengthen the close bonds of rural communities through his years of faithful service. I want to congratulate him on a job well done for the past nearly six decades. Tad’s been a tremendous friend to me over the years, and his work has served as a bedrock for many of the communities I grew up in and care deeply about.

Tad, I wish you all the best and thank you for everything you have done to improve the lives of so many in our great State.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13047 OF MAY 20, 1997, WITH RESPECT TO BURMA—PM 48

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 Burma that was declared on May 20, 1997, is to continue in effect beyond May 20, 2016.

The Government of Burma has made significant progress across a number of important areas since 2011, including the release of over 1,300 political pris-

oners, a peaceful and competitive election, the signing of a Nationwide Ceasefire Agreement with eight ethnic armed groups, the discharge of hundreds of child soldiers from the military, steps to improve labor standards, and expanding political space for civil society to have a greater voice in shaping issues critical to Burma’s future. In addition, Burma has become a signatory of the International Atomic Energy Agency’s Additional Protocol and ratified the Biological Weapons Convention, significant steps towards supporting global non-proliferation. Despite these strides, the situation in the country continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States.

Concerns persist regarding continued obstacles to full civilian control of the government, the ongoing conflict and human rights abuses in the country, particularly in ethnic minority areas, and military trade with North Korea. In addition, Burma’s security forces, operating with little oversight from the civilian government, often act with impunity. We are further concerned that prisoners remain detained and that police continue to arrest critics of the government for peacefully expressing their views. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency with respect to Burma.

Despite this action, the United States remains committed to working with both the new government and the people of Burma to ensure that the democratic transition is irreversible.

BARACK OBAMA,
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 17, 2016.

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:54 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, without amendment:

S. 1492. An act to direct the Administrator of General Services, on behalf of the Archivist of the United States, to convey certain Federal property located in the State of Alaska to the Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska.

S. 2143. An act to provide for the authority for the successors and assigns of the Starr-Camargo Bridge Company to maintain and operate a toll bridge across the Rio Grande near Rio Grande City, Texas, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1150. An act to amend the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to improve the ability of the United States to advance religious freedom globally through enhanced diplomacy, training, counterterrorism, and foreign assistance efforts, and through stronger and more flexible political responses to religious freedom violations and violent extremism worldwide, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1887. An act to authorize the Comptroller General of the United States to assess