

HONORING THE NEVADA KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FOR NINETY YEARS OF SERVICE

• Mr. BRYAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the Knights of Columbus of Nevada, which will be celebrating their 90th anniversary on May 10, 2000.

The history of the Knights of Columbus stretches back 118 years, when Father Michael J. McGivney founded the fraternal order in New Haven, Connecticut on March 29, 1882. Since the order's founding, the Knights of Columbus have promoted the Catholic faith and have practiced the principles of charity, unity and fraternity.

When Father McGivney passed away in 1890, there were 5,000 Knights of Columbus located in 57 councils in New England. Today, the Knights of Columbus are the largest Catholic lay fraternal organization in the world and has 1.6 million members in the United States and twelve other nations around the world. Members of the organization and their families donate over \$100 million to charities in addition to the 50 million hours of their own time that they volunteer each year.

Since May 10, 1910 in the State of Nevada, the Knights of Columbus have been committed to the highest ideals and principles of humanitarianism, and it gives me great pleasure to congratulate them on nine decades of volunteer service that has certainly enhanced and improved the quality of life for all Nevadans.

Mr. President, the members of the Knights of Columbus of Nevada, are truly deserving of recognition for their nearly century-long dedication to promoting the teachings of the Catholic Church, and for living those teachings by serving those in need in their community. I hope my colleagues will join me in offering congratulations to the Brother Knights and their families on the occasion of their 90th anniversary, and in wishing them continued success.●

HONORING VETERANS ADMINISTRATION NURSES

• Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, as we prepare to celebrate National Nurses Week during the week of May 6 through May 12, 2000, I would like to give special recognition to the dedicated nurses who serve the largest healthcare system in the world, the Veterans Health Administration. I rise today to recognize our Veterans Administration nurses for the critical care which they have provided throughout our nation's history and continue to provide today.

The first VA nurses served the needs of veterans of the Spanish-American War and World War I. In the 1930's, the VA Nursing Service was created, and employed 2,500 registered nurses. Throughout World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf War, VA nurses continued the tradition of out-

standing service to our nation's veterans. The number of VA nurses has grown substantially, and today the Veterans Health Administration employs 34,000 registered nurses and 26,000 licensed practical nurses and nursing assistants, serving an average of 25 million outpatients and 1 million inpatients annually. The VA Nursing Service maintains its tradition of excellence by encouraging nurses to pursue higher education, and was a forerunner in introducing advanced employment and educational policies. These trained professionals work in a nationwide system of VA health facilities located throughout the continental United States and its territories.

I have been privileged to personally witness the hard work and dedication of Veterans Administration nurses. From 1946 until 1985, my mother served as a VA nurse at several hospitals including Aspinwall Veterans Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and Butler Veterans Hospital in Butler, PA. As Chief of Nursing for 32 years, my mother can attest to the commitment which is typical of VA nurses everywhere. During times of low funding and limited staffing, VA nurses worked harder than ever to care for the needs of their patients. While my experience on the Senate Armed Services Committee has served as affirmation of the dedication of Veterans Administration nurses, it pales in comparison to the hard work and sacrifice that I personally witnessed as the son of a VA nurse.

As we celebrate National Nurses Week, it is imperative that we remember those who have faithfully served and continue to care for our Nation's veterans.●

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND JAMES A. SCOTT

• Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to Rev. James A. Scott on the occasion of his retirement as Pastor of the Bethany Baptist Church in Newark, NJ.

For more than three decades, Rev. James A. Scott has devoted his life to building a new legacy for the Bethany Baptist Church congregation and the Newark community. Since its founding in 1871, Bethany Baptist has evolved into an international network. The church's more than 2,000 members represent 22 different countries, including many in the Caribbean and Africa. Under Reverend Scott's leadership, Bethany Baptist helped establish a daughter church in Johannesburg, South Africa, and renovated a church in Cuba. The church also provides scholarship funds for students to attend the Moscow Baptist Seminary, and it educates primary students in Kenya.

Reverend Scott is not just building bridges to the international community, he is also playing a major role in the rebirth of Newark and surrounding areas. In the Roseville Avenue neighborhood, for example, Reverend Scott's

church helped build 100 affordable homes. His church also helped build a community outreach building in Newark as well as the Newark-Bethany Christian Academy Day School.

These facilities have created a sense of stability and rootedness in their respective neighborhoods. Low-income families now have new housing options and new reasons to feel proud of where they live.

Reverend Scott's commitment to Newark is unsurpassed. I hope that Bethany Baptist Church will be inspired by his example to achieve even higher goals. I salute Reverend Scott on his retirement and wish him well.●

TRIBUTE TO GRACE WALSH

• Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the memory of Grace Walsh of Eau Claire, WI, who passed away on Monday, April 24. I will remember Grace as a wonderful person and brilliant teacher, someone who taught me lessons in debate and in life that I have relied on so often throughout my career in public service.

Grace coached her debate team to six national championships at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, where she co-founded the Speech Department and served as both a professor and director of forensics. During the summer of 1970 when I was still in high school, I was lucky enough to study debate with Grace at the Eau Claire Debate Institute. Grace was a consummate teacher who brought out the best in her students, and a fierce competitor who built a debating dynasty in Eau Claire. With warmth, wit, and a mastery of forensics, Grace quickly won her students' respect. While small in size, Grace was commanding in stature, thanks to her keen understanding of how to coach winning debaters. "Always slip them the blade nicely," she told us.

Many years after I attended that summer debating program at Eau Claire, I saw Grace again. I gave a talk in Eau Claire after I won an upset victory in the Democratic primary in 1992, and who was in the front row but Grace Walsh, urging me again to "slip them the blade nicely, Russell." She was still coaching me, and displaying a love of debate that made her a coaching legend in Wisconsin and around the country.

Grace passed away last week at the age of 89, but her spirit lives on through all those who knew her and had the opportunity to learn from her. As her student, I am grateful for her guidance, and as a Wisconsinite, I am proud of her many achievements. Her work did honor to our state, and I think it only fitting that we pause to honor and remember her here today.●

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGE REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate a message from the President of the United States submitting a nomination which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

(The nomination received today is printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

A 6-MONTH PERIODIC REPORT ON THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY WITH RESPECT TO SIGNIFICANT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKERS CENTERED IN COLOMBIA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—PM 102

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:

As required by section 401(c) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1641(c), and section 204(c) of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), 50 U.S.C. 1703(c), I transmit herewith a 6-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to significant narcotics traffickers centered in Colombia that was declared in Executive Order 12978 of October 21, 1995.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON,
THE WHITE HOUSE, May 2, 2000

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:55 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, 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. 3439. An act to require the Federal Communications Commission to revise its regulations authorizing the operation of new, low-power FM radio stations.

H.R. 3615. An act to amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to ensure improved access to the signals of local television stations by multichannel video providers to all households which desire such service in unserved and underserved rural areas by December 31, 2006.

H.R. 4199. An act to terminate the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

MEASURE REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent and referred as indicated:

H.R. 4199. An act to terminate the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; to the Committee on Finance.

MEASURE PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 3615. An act to amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to ensure improved ac-

cess to the signals of local television stations by multichannel video providers to all households which desire such service in unserved and underserved rural areas by December 31, 2006.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, which were referred as indicated:

EC-8711. A communication from the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "BLS-LIFO Department Store Indexes—March 2000" (Rev. Rul. 2000-25), received April 28, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-8712. A communication from the Office of the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Federal Health Care Programs; Fraud and Abuse; Statutory Exception to the Anti-Kickback Statute for Shared Risk Arrangements" (RIN0991-AA91), received April 19, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-8713. A communication from the Office of the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clarification of the Safe Harbor Provisions and Establishment of Additional Safe Harbor Provisions Under the Anti-Kickback Statute" (RIN0991-AA46), received April 19, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-8714. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Analysis of the Impact on Welfare Recidivism of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 Child Support Arrears Distribution Policy Changes"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-8715. A communication from the Health Care Financing Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Medicare Program; Prospective Payment System for Hospital Outpatient Services" (RIN0938-AI56), received April 28, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-8716. A communication from the Employment Standards Administration, Office of Labor-Management Standards, Department of Labor transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Labor Organization Annual Financial Reports; Correction" (RIN1215-AB29), received April 28, 2000; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-8717. A communication from the National Committee on Vital and Health Statistics transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Third Annual Report to Congress on the Implementation of the Administrative Simplification Provisions of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-8718. A communication from the President of the United States of America, transmitting, pursuant to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Act of 1978, a report on efforts to prevent nuclear proliferation for the period of January 1, 1998 and December 31, 1998; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-8719. A communication from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Department of Commerce transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Draft Operations Plan and Environmental Assessment for the Stabilization, Selective Recov-

ery and Archaeological Investigation of the USS Monitor"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8720. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to the extent to which Coast Guard regulations concerning oils, including animal fats and vegetable oils, carry out the intent of the Edible Oil Regulatory Reform Act; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-8721. A communication from the Administrative Office of the United States Courts transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report for calendar year 1999; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-8722. A communication from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Flood Elevation Determinations; 64 FR 1523; 01/11/99", received April 28, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8723. A communication from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Changes in Flood Elevation Determinations; 64 FR 53936; 10/05/99" (FEMA Docket No. 7297), received April 28, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8724. A communication from the Division of Corporate Finance, Securities and Exchange Commission transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Use of Electronic Media" (RIN3235-AG84), received April 28, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8725. A communication from the Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Iranian Transactions Regulations: Licensing of Imports of, and Dealings in, Certain Iranian-Origin Foodstuffs and Carpets" (31 CFR Part 560), received April 28, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8726. A communication from the Division of Investment Management, Securities and Exchange Commission transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Custody of Investment Company Assets Outside of the United States" (RIN3235-AH55), received April 28, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8727. A communication from the Emergency Oil and Gas Guaranteed Loan Board transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Emergency Oil and Gas Guaranteed Loan Program; Conforming Changes" (RIN3003-ZA00), received April 27, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8728. A communication from the Emergency Steel Guaranteed Loan Board transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Emergency Steel Guaranteed Loan Board; Conforming Changes" (RIN3003-ZA00), received April 27, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8729. A communication from the Federal Emergency Management Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "List of Communities Eligible for the Sale of Flood Insurance; 64 FR 20090; 04/14/2000" (FEMA Docket No. 7730), received April 27, 2000; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-8730. A communication from the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Accrual Method Exception for Qualifying Small Taxpayers" (Rev. Proc. 2000-22), received April 26, 2000; to the Committee on Finance.