

well-trained and professional staff, which attends to the needs of its residents.

The board of directors and all those involved with the center have made it a wonderful success for the past 25 years. The center's association with the Princeton Community Hospital has served its residents well, and I look forward to decades more of success for this facility.

Mr. President, I hope the Senate will join me in congratulating the staff and management of the Princeton Health Care Center for 25 successful years.●

#### TRIBUTE TO SHIGEJI IKENAGA

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, today I also wish to honor a leader in the automotive industry and a friend of West Virginia, Shigeji Ikenaga, as well as the team members of Diamond Electric located in Eleanor, WV. Together they have contributed to the company's global growth and economic prosperity, as well as developing West Virginia's automotive industry.

President Shigeji Ikenaga has worked for Diamond Electric since 1954, dedicating an impressive 52 years of service to the automotive industry. During his extensive career, Mr. Ikenaga was instrumental in bringing Diamond Electric to the United States and tapping our workforce to help produce automotive parts. In 1987, Diamond Electric established a plant in the Detroit, MI area. Then, in 1992, Diamond Electric started manufacturing ignition coils at its headquarters in Dundee, MI. Soon thereafter, West Virginia began to benefit from operational expansions by Diamond Electric. In April, 1996, just as Toyota was beginning its work in West Virginia, ground was broken for an ignition coil plant in Eleanor, WV.

Building upon Diamond Electric's success in North America, Mr. Ikenaga expanded to other continents, establishing a manufacturing plant in Esztergom, Hungary, and incorporating the company in Suzhou, China. These expansions solidified Diamond Electric's stance in the global market.

As is evidenced by the various awards of excellence he and the company have received, Mr. Ikenaga's work and the work of his employees is exceptional. In 1994, Diamond Electric received the Deming Award, which recognizes medium and small companies for their outstanding total quality control program. In addition, Mr. Ikenaga was awarded the Medal with Blue Ribbon in 1997 and again honored in 2002 when he was awarded the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon. These awards are testament to the high quality and hard work of Diamond Electric and its employees.

The Diamond Electric employees of West Virginia have also made an enormous contribution to the company's success. The plant has been awarded the Toyota Delivery and Quality Awards each year since beginning pro-

duction in 1998. This allowed Diamond Electric one of their greatest achievements to date—becoming the first U.S. supplier to build an ignition coil for the Lexus SUV engine.

Moreover, because of the well-earned success in West Virginia, the facility has expanded 3 times since production started in 1997, growing from a 50,000-square-foot facility and 3.4 million in capacity to a 110,000-square-foot facility and 13 million in capacity. Currently, the company employs nearly 150 West Virginians.

As the company has proven numerous times throughout the years, they are a leader in the automotive industry thanks to the extraordinary efforts of Mr. Ikenaga and the workforce at the Eleanor, WV facility. Diamond Electric and its employees are pioneers, expanding to other continents and manufacturing new and innovative automotive products.

Additionally, Mr. Ikenaga's actions have not only illustrated his desire for professional growth but also a desire to educate young individuals through Diamond Electric's participation in The Dictionary Project. I was very proud to learn that Diamond Electric presented every third grader in Putnam County this past year a dictionary to help them with their studies.

I take this opportunity to thank Mr. Ikenaga for his confidence in West Virginia and our remarkable workforce. I also congratulate Diamond Electric's remarkable team members for playing such an important role in Putnam County's growing economy. I appreciate your hard work and commitment to the automotive industry.●

#### RECOGNIZING DUSTIN ADAMS

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to thank Dustin Adams, an intern in my Sioux Falls, SD, office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past year and a half.

Dustin is a graduate of Belle Fourche High School in Belle Fourche, SD, and the University of South Dakota. In the fall, he plans to attend George Washington University Law School. He is a hard worker and has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I give my thanks to Dustin and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CHARLES WHITEPIPE, SR.

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Charles Whitepipe, Sr. Charles was 1 of 11 Sioux codetalkers who served in World War II. He defended our country as an army radio operator using the Dakota, Lakota, and Nakota languages.

Charles played an integral and unique role in furthering our Nation's ability to defeat our enemies in times of war. His willingness to put himself

in harm's way for the American people is truly inspiring, and I commend him for his bravery. The pride and dignity with which the Sioux codetalkers served our Nation makes them true American heroes.

Today I rise with Charles Whitepipe, Sr.'s friends and family in remembering his selfless dedication and service to our country as a Sioux codetalker. I, along with the citizens of South Dakota and the entire United States, owe Charles and the other codetalkers a debt of gratitude that we will never be able to repay.●

#### RECOGNIZING THE LOUISIANA TECH CHAMBER SINGERS

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, today I wish to acknowledge the Louisiana Tech Chamber Singers for their participation in the 2006 Mozart Choral Festival in Vienna, Austria. As 1 of only 12 choral groups selected to perform in this festival, the Louisiana Tech Chamber Singers will stand among the most elite vocalists in the world.

The Louisiana Tech choral program embodies the high standard of musical and artistic excellence in Louisiana's higher education system and represents the finest musicians the university and the Nation have to offer. Former members of the Louisiana Tech choral program have established national and international reputations as performing and recording artists in many musical genres.

The 2006 Mozart Choral Festival is a celebration of the 250th anniversary of the birth of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. The participating choral groups are traveling from across the world to celebrate one of the greatest musicians of all time by performing pieces of Mozart's most brilliant work.

I applaud the Louisiana Tech Chamber Singers for their success and wish their program continued prosperity.●

#### RECOGNIZING THE NATCHITOCHES NATIONAL FISH HATCHERY

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, today I also wish to acknowledge the Natchitoches National Fish Hatchery. This year, they will celebrate their 75th anniversary, and I wish to take a few moments to highlight their contributions to Louisiana.

As the only Federal fish hatchery in Louisiana, the Natchitoches station has steadily served the needs of the region. Founded in 1931, the Natchitoches National Fish Hatchery was originally established to provide recreation and food for the public during the depression and war eras.

Today the hatchery dedicates itself to the restoration of depleted species, recovery of threatened or endangered fish, and management of interjurisdictional fisheries. Over the years, the Natchitoches National Fish Hatchery has been involved with raising 16 species of fish and has stocked more than

164 million fish. The station has been an invaluable resource to Louisiana's wildlife and fisheries.

Federal fish hatcheries have been an important part of our Nation's resource management efforts for more than a century. Resource managers nationwide acknowledge hatcheries as a valuable tool for the preservation of our Nation's fisheries resources. Because of the importance of fisheries to Louisiana, the significance of the Natchitoches National Fish Hatchery can not be overstated.

Today, I applaud the Natchitoches National Fish Hatchery on their 75th anniversary and wish them continued prosperity.●

#### 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 treaty which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4761. An act to provide for exploration, development, and production activities for mineral resources on the outer Continental Shelf, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

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

EC-7422. A communication from the Equal Employment Opportunity Director, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2005; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7423. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "2005 Section 32 Hurricane Disaster Programs" (RIN0560-AH45) received on July, 2006; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7424. A communication from the Director, Regulatory Review Group, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Appeal Procedures" (RIN0560-AG88) received on July 6, 2006; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7425. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant

to law, the report of seven identical violations of the Antideficiency Act; to the Committee on Appropriations.

EC-7426. A communication from the Deputy Chief of Legislative Affairs, Department of the Navy, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the preliminary planning for OMB Circular A-76 commercial activity study; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7427. A communication from the Acting Principal Deputy (Personnel and Readiness), Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the closure of the Defense commissary store at Naval Air Station (NAS) Keflavik, Iceland, by August 31, 2006; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7428. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, the report of (4) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the next higher grade in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7429. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Michael M. Dunn, United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7430. A communication from the Assistant Director, Executive and Political Personnel, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, (3) reports relative to vacancy announcements within the Department, received on July 6, 2006; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7431. A communication from the Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Uniformed Services (CHAMPUS)/TRICARE; Coverage of Phase II and Phase III Clinical Trials Sponsored by the National Institutes of Health National Cancer Institute" (RIN0720-AA57) received on July 6, 2006; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7432. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month report prepared by the Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security on the national emergency declared by Executive Order 13222 of August 17, 2001; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7433. A communication from the Chairman, National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's 2005 Annual Report; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7434. A communication from the Executive Vice President, Financial Information Group, Chicago Federal Home Loan Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bank's 2005 management report and statements on system of internal controls; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7435. A communication from the President and Chief Executive Officer, Federal Home Loan Bank of Des Moines, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Bank's 2005 report of Independent Auditors on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance Based on an Audit of Financial Statements; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7436. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Government National Mortgage Association, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Government National Mortgage Association; Excess Yield Securities" ((RIN2503-AA18)(FR-4958-

F-02)) received on July 6, 2006; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7437. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Prohibition of Property Flipping in HUD's Single Family Mortgage Insurance Programs; Additional Exceptions to Time Restriction on Sales" ((RIN2502-A118)(FR-4911-F-02)) received on July 6, 2006; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-7438. A communication from the Human Resources Specialist, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a vacancy and the designation of an acting officer for the position of Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, received on July 6, 2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7439. A communication from the Director, Regulations Policy and Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Listing of Color Additives Exempt From Certification; Mica-Based Pearlescent Pigments" (Doc. No. 1998C-0790) received on July 6, 2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7440. A communication from the Special Assistant to the Secretary, White House Liaison, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of Assistant Secretary for Policy and Planning, received on July 6, 2006; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-7441. A communication from the Chairman, Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's June 2006 Report to the Congress entitled "Increasing the Value of Medicare"; to the Committee on Finance.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. INHOFE, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 2735. A bill to amend the National Dam Safety Program Act to reauthorize the national dam safety program, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 109-276).

By Mr. MCCONNELL, from the Committee on Appropriations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

H.R. 5522. A bill making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 109-277).

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 3630. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize a program relating to the Lake Pontchartrain Basin, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.