

cancer is considered the deadliest cancer, of which 75 percent of patients diagnosed with this disease die within the first year and most within the first 3 to 6 months. Early detection tools, such as those that currently are available for ovarian, colon, breast and prostate cancer, would make a significant impact on pancreatic cancer, but those tools require a new investment in basic scientific research at the National Cancer Institute, NCI.

I support biomedical research and the great promise it holds in the development of new treatments and possible cures for the many types of cancer, including pancreatic cancer. Past investments at the NCI have helped drive new discoveries that led to the decline in overall cancer deaths in the U.S. for the second consecutive year. Now is the time to expand our efforts in the fight against pancreatic cancer, but that will be impossible unless we find a way to secure more funding for the NCI.

The Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Network is a national organization that is working to comprehensively address the problem of pancreatic cancer by providing patient support, advancing research, and creating hope. I support their efforts to raise awareness of this disease and believe that it is important that we recognize November as National Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month.

I ask my colleagues support this resolution, which will help increase research, education and awareness for pancreatic cancer.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

UNITED STATES NORTHERN COMMAND

• Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, today I commemorate the fifth anniversary of U.S. Northern Command, located in Colorado Springs, CO. I take enormous pride in seeing the Colorado flag fly alongside the flags of the United States and Canada.

Officially, USNORTHCOM was established on October 1, 2002. However, it was the terrible events of September 11, 2001, that made the country realize its need for increased homeland defense. Within 13 months of 9/11, USNORTHCOM stood up as the combatant command charged with defending the homeland and providing military assistance to civil authorities.

Five years later, USNORTHCOM is proudly executing its missions of Homeland Defense and civil support operations to defend, protect, and secure the United States and its interests.

Since 9/11, our Nation has been engaged in a fight against terrorism on multiple fronts, including our homeland. As USNORTHCOM enters its fifth year, they are fully mission capable, prepared and ready to respond to the broad spectrum of homeland defense challenges that exist in today's dy-

namic security environment. USNORTHCOM is actively deterring threats from crossing our borders by closely working with other combatant commands, intelligence agencies and interagency partners to detect and defeat threats before they arrive in our homeland.

When it comes to rendering assistance to civil authorities, U.S. Northern Command is prepared to help. By anticipating threats, ranging from natural disasters to man-made, the command provides Department of Defense capabilities in a timely and coordinated fashion. Facilitated by Defense coordinating officers attached to every FEMA region, USNORTHCOM works side by side with its interagency partners to support the States and their emergency response teams when requested.

In its 5 short years of existence, USNORTHCOM has effectively responded to several catastrophes. They have been absolutely essential to saving lives while mitigating the suffering and losses experienced.

USNORTHCOM understands the multi-agency approach to defending our homeland and providing support to civil authorities. Therefore, it places a high priority on building and strengthening relationships with the States, territories, other government and non-government agencies, as well as partnering with our border nations, Canada and Mexico.

USNORTHCOM is also actively engaged with the National Guard, and serves as the combatant command advocate to provide the Guard with the tools and resources necessary to accomplish their mission. A committed, lasting partnership between U.S. Northern Command and the National Guard will strengthen our national defense and defy those attempting to sabotage our way of life.

Let me also recognize the unsung heroes of this command, the men and women of U.S. Northern Command. They are synonymous with homeland defense; they are a total force team of soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines and Coast Guardsmen from the active and Reserve Components of our military. The men and women of USNORTHCOM clearly understand the importance of their mission and carry out their responsibilities with a sense of urgency. Their pride in contributing to the defense of our great Nation is evident in every aspect of their operations.

To the men and women of U.S. Northern Command, I stand today to say: Thank you for your dedication and service to the United States of America. On the occasion of your fifth anniversary, I congratulate you for a job well done.●

RECOGNIZING DR. DAVID L. CHICOINE

• Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize the momentous occasion of the inauguration of Dr. David L.

Chicoine as the 19th president of South Dakota State University.

South Dakota State University has a rich history of strong leadership dating back to the commitment of President George Lilley, who advanced \$500 of his own salary to finish three rooms in the first building on campus. President Chicoine joins Dr. Berg and Dr. Wagner to become only the third Jackrabbit to serve in this role.

The stage where Dr. Chicoine's inauguration will take place is evidence of SDSU's strong national presence, as 80 years ago this week Sylvan Theatre and the Lincoln Memorial Library were dedicated by President Calvin Coolidge. The pioneering research completed at SDSU is impacting lives around the world whether it be through improved agricultural practices, the ethanol in our gas tanks, the microwaves that make our dinner, or the scoreboard at our favorite athletic event.

It is said that students come from the Sioux and Missouri, the Cheyenne and the Jim, and the Black Hills to study at SDSU. Students still come to Brookings from those places, but they also come from points around the globe and with knowledge and diploma in hand they impact communities in Brookings, in South Dakota, in neighboring states, and truly around the world. It is said that "You Can Go Anywhere from Here," and we celebrate that, in this case, one student has made the trip full circle.

Congratulations and best wishes to President Chicoine on a long and successful tenure at SDSU, and Go Jacks!●

HONORING PAUL TAVARES

• Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to a great Rhode Islander: my good friend, Paul Tavares.

This weekend, Paul will be honored by the Portuguese American Citizens Committee as its Person of the Year, and the PACC simply could not have made a better choice. This organization has contributed so much to the Portuguese community, and to our Ocean State, through its civic, charitable and political work. It is fitting that this weekend, the PACC will honor someone who has done the same. Paul's character, integrity, and honesty have set an example, not only in his work in public service, but throughout his life.

I have known Paul, and have been honored to call him my friend, since we both ran for statewide office in 1998: he for general treasurer, and I for attorney general. His motto during that election was simple one: "No tricks, no gimmicks, just a Treasurer who'll do what's right." We both fought hard battles and we both emerged victorious. And immediately after being sworn in, we began a close and very productive relationship that helped each of our offices work more efficiently. It has been a lasting and a valued friendship.

Paul's record of accomplishment in the Treasurer's office is outstanding. One of his most notable achievements was his commitment to helping Rhode Island families save for their children's college education. As a result of his work, the CollegeBoundfund, Rhode Island's section 529 college savings program, was recognized by MSN Money in 2005 as one of the Nation's five best college savings plans in the country. Columnist Liz Pulliam Weston wrote: "It's a pity more of us don't live in Rhode Island if you live there, it's a mystery why you'd invest anywhere else." With the help of the Attorney General's office, he put a broken crime victims' compensation program back on its feet. He led with integrity. Paul certainly carried out what he proposed to do, that is, to leave the Treasurer's office in a better State than what he inherited.

But Paul's story doesn't begin in the Treasurer's office. During his successful career in the banking industry, Paul dedicated himself to a life of public service, beginning his career on the East Providence School Committee, and then the East Providence City Council. In 1992, Paul was elected to Rhode Island's State senate, where he served until taking office as general treasurer. I worked closely with Paul when I served on Governor Bruce Sundlun's senior staff, and I saw up close what a good senator he was.

Paul's years in the Senate were full of significant accomplishments, especially his efforts to create The CollegeBoundfund and his work on adoption; and his service as first deputy majority leader and as vice-chair of the Corporations Committee. Paul is remembered in the senate not only for his committed service but also for his legendary ability to pull practical jokes on his fellow senators. One he particularly enjoyed was to "borrow" a piece of letterhead paper from one of his fellow senators and write a note to another senator. He would then ask a page in the senate to deliver the letter and sit back to enjoy the ensuing uproar. That story says so much about Paul: he never takes himself too seriously; the jokes were always warm-hearted and they helped break tensions in that body. Paul was good for the senate.

Paul has also never forgotten where he comes from. A son of Portuguese immigrants who migrated to the United States from the Azores, he has truly lived the American dream. I am sure Paul's parents, the late Anibal and Laurentina Tavares, are looking down on us proud to see how far Paul's determination and talent have carried him in life. And I am sure he would agree that he would not have enjoyed nearly as much success without the love and support of his lovely wife Lee, his daughters Tessa, Kristen and Felicia, and his sons Nicholas and Andrew. Their unwavering commitment to Paul, and his unwavering commitment to them, have been extraordinary.

Rhode Islanders who know Paul also know well his selfless service to his community. Paul founded the Portuguese American Scholarship Foundation, is a cofounder of the East Providence Children's Portuguese School, and served on the Catholic Diocese of Providence Finance Council. His work in these organizations has not only enriched the Ocean State's Portuguese community, but has changed lives all over Rhode Island. And he does not just help people through organizations. Many Rhode Islanders know stories of people showing up on Paul's doorstep, asking for his help. Each time, he listened and did what he could. Paul has spent his life helping others without asking anything in return.

I am pleased to come to the floor of the Senate to join the Portuguese American Citizens Committee in recognizing the tremendous accomplishments of our friend Paul Tavares. I extend congratulations, heartfelt thanks for a job well done, and best wishes to Paul and his family in all their future endeavors.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:40 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, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2467. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 69 Montgomery Street in Jersey City, New Jersey, as the "Frank J. Guarini Post Office Building".

H.R. 2587. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 555 South 3rd Street Lobby in Memphis, Tennessee, as the "Kenneth T. Whalum, Sr. Post Office Building".

H.R. 2654. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 202 South Dumont Avenue in Woonsocket, South Dakota, as the "Eleanor McGovern Post Office Building".

H.R. 2778. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3 Quaker Ridge Road in New Rochelle, New York, as the "Robert Merrill Postal Station".

H.R. 2825. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 326 South Main Street in Princeton, Illinois, as the "Owen Lovejoy Princeton Post Office Building".

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 2467. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 69 Montgomery Street in Jersey City, New Jersey, as the "Frank J. Guarini Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2587. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 555 South 3rd Street Lobby in Memphis, Tennessee, as the "Kenneth T. Whalum, Sr. Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2654. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 202 South Dumont Avenue in Woonsocket, South Dakota, as the "Eleanor McGovern Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2778. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3 Quaker Ridge Road in New Rochelle, New York, as the "Robert Merrill Postal Station"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 2825. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 326 South Main Street in Princeton, Illinois, as the "Owen Lovejoy Princeton Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

H.R. 1908. An act to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform.

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-3162. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, proposed legislation intended to alter the funding structure for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-3163. A communication from the Principal Deputy, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the education of dependents of military personnel; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3164. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Counter-narcotics, Counterproliferation and Global Threats), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Russia's tactical nuclear weapons arsenal; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-3165. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, a draft bill entitled the "Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement Financing Reform Act"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3166. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; MORAVAN a.s. Model Z242L Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64)(Docket No. FAA-2007-28114)) received on September 7, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3167. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Pacific Aerospace Limited Model 750XL Airplanes" ((RIN2120-AA64)(Docket No. 2007-CE-033)) received on September 7, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3168. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule