

month, founded the Idaho flagship of the international Books for Israel project.

Between 2004 and 2006, Mr. Lynch gathered over 10,000 books from Idaho schools to send to Israel for the school-children there. His goal is to have books donated from all the counties in Idaho. Mr. Lynch has enlisted supporters from the community including school officials, bookstore owners, a restaurant franchise, Office Depot, Boise State University, and even members of the criminal justice community in Boise.

I commend Mr. Lynch on his outstanding efforts and thank him also for his esteemed service in the U.S. Navy before and during World War II. Clearly, David Joseph Lynch embodies a life of service and a commitment to improving humanity. He is an inspiration to all—a man whose singular efforts are felt across the globe by our friends in Israel.●

SVIHOVEC FAMILY TRIBUTE

● Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, this year marks the 100th anniversary of the last great wave of homesteading upon the prairies of America. Mr. President 1907 was the high water mark of the western boom, the last real chance for entrepreneurs and pioneers to capture 160 acres of free land.

Homesteading was one of those singular inventions that proved a triumphant success—one that gave families of modest means a genuine opportunity to share in the American dream.

Among the tens of thousands who surged west to take part in this great enterprise was a family of Bohemian emigrants—the Svihovecs. They are particularly intriguing because seven brothers homesteaded side by side. While it was not unusual for family groups to homestead near each other, the uniqueness of seven brothers doing so was unprecedented in homesteading history.

Although only two decades removed from their near feudal farm existence in the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the Svihovecs were shrewd enough to strategically locate their homesteads to nearly surround a section of railroad-owned land, thereby protecting it for their own use and future purchase.

These brothers and their equally hearty Czech spouses were Frank and Rose Svihovec, Charles and Anna Svihovec, Vincent and Anna Svihovec, Joseph and Annie Svihovec, Emil and Barbara Svihovec, and two single brothers, James, and Louis. Their homesteads were in southwestern North Dakota, along the Hettinger and Adams County line. Two more brothers, Rudolph—and his wife Nellie—and Edward—and his wife Terezia—opted to become businessmen, one in Minneapolis and other in the New York City area.

The homesteaders' beginning was inauspicious. There was a train wreck on the way west. Upon their arrival, they

were met by the blackened desolation of one of the great western prairie fires which had burned the expected winter feed for their livestock. Snowbound the first winter, they ran out of food.

There were other setbacks and tragedies, but a life was created for themselves and almost 40 offspring, so many children that the school became known as the Svihovec School.

A hundred years later, descendants of these Svihovec pioneers are scattered from London to Los Angeles. A number still remain near the homesteads, in the communities of Mott and Hettinger, and one couple, John and Arlyce Frieze, still actively farm and ranch part of the original homestead lands. Most of the original homesteads, in fact, remain in the ownership of one of the Svihovec families.

It is a remarkable saga, a tale of grit and courage, one that illustrates the kind of strength of character and hardy determination that has served America so well for so many years. The Svihovec tribe has a proud, vital, and continuing legacy that I am honored to acknowledge and salute today in the Senate.●

TRIBUTE TO SUPHADA ROM

● Mr. LEAHY. I want to speak briefly about a remarkable event that happened last Friday, June 15, 2007, in the small town of Windsor in my home State of Vermont. But first a bit of history.

In January 1989, a member of my staff, Tim Rieser, traveled to the Thai-Cambodia border to locate a young Cambodian woman whose mother and two brothers, all of them survivors of the Khmer Rouge holocaust, had resettled in Vermont. The woman, Rhumdoul Rom, had been kidnapped and smuggled back into Cambodia, but she had escaped and was in a Thai refugee camp.

When Rhumdoul was located she was holding her 5-day-old baby daughter, whose name was Suphada. A few days and several long airplane rides later, the two of them arrived in Vermont where they were reunited with the rest of their family. Sadly, Suphada's grandfather and other family members were among the 2 million Cambodians who were murdered or starved to death by the Khmer Rouge. One of Rhumdoul's sisters survived, and is living in Cambodia today.

Adjusting to Vermont was not easy. Imagine traveling for the first time on an airplane and arriving from the tropics in a foreign land in the middle of winter, ice and snow everywhere, and not speaking a word of English.

But the family persevered, supported by the generosity of the Windsor community. As the years passed, Rhumdoul learned English, graduated from high school and then community college, and became a skilled medical technician, at the same time that she was raising her daughter as a single mother.

Suphada, coming to America so young, learned English easily and over time became an outstanding student and athlete. She won a prize for her writing, learned to play the flute, served meals at a local nursing home, and this year she was the captain of the Windsor girls' basketball team. She is also a very outgoing and friendly person.

Recently, tragedy struck the family again, when Rhumdoul's mother and Suphada's grandmother, Prak Soy, died suddenly of meningitis. My wife Marcelle and I had the privilege of meeting Prak Soy, for whom living in the United States was not easy. I will always remember her as a selfless person who cared deeply for her children and grandchildren. They meant the world to her.

This is a family that has experienced great loss, but they are also an example for those of us who have never known what it is to live through something as horrifying as genocide.

On June 15, Suphada graduated from Windsor High School, and I understand that she has been accepted to several colleges, including, I am proud to say, my own alma mater, St. Michael's College in Colchester, VT. It is also the alma mater of another accomplished Cambodian refugee, Loung Ung, who years ago resettled in Vermont and has since become a world renowned author for her book "First They Killed My Father," and a tireless campaigner against the scourge of landmines.

I, Marcelle, and my staff would have liked to attend Suphada's graduation, but it was not possible due to the Senate's schedule and other commitments. But I want to congratulate her and her mother for her outstanding scholastic and athletic achievements, and wish her the best in the coming year at whichever college she chooses.●

HONORING JOSEPH SIMUNOVICH

● Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. President, today I honor Joseph Simunovich for his leadership, dedication, and accomplishments at Hackensack University Medical Center and the New Jersey Turnpike Authority. Joe retired as chairman of the board of these great New Jersey institutions earlier this year.

Joe's life of public service spans more than three decades. In 1972, he was elected to serve as a Hudson County freeholder, a position he held for 12 years, 3 of them as director/chairman of the board. In 1986, Joe was appointed by New Jersey Governor Thomas Kean to serve on the New Jersey Economic Development Authority. Reappointed by Governors Jim Florio and Christine Whitman, for a total of six consecutive terms, Joe is the longest serving member in the organization's history.

In 2002, Joe was chosen by Governor James McGreevey to serve as the chairman of the New Jersey Turnpike Authority, where he led the organization through the consolidation with

the New Jersey Highway Authority. Additionally, Joe oversaw the remediation of New Jersey's E-Z Pass system, and the introduction of Express E-Z Pass.

Over the past 17 years of Joe's service on the Board of Governors of Hackensack University Medical Center, no one has had a greater hand in making Hackensack the respected and sought out institution it is today. As chairman of the board, Joe has worked tirelessly to raise money for the expansion of hospital programs. This money means more access to medical treatments, increased technology, and better financial assistance for low-income patients.

Additionally, Joe has dutifully served on numerous boards of directors, including New Jersey City University, the New Brunswick Development Corporation, the National Association of Water Companies, and the National Council for Public-Private Partnerships. As a result of his hard work, Joseph Simunovich has helped improve the quality of life for thousands of families living throughout New Jersey.

Dedicated to both his community and family, Joe is married and has two children and several grandchildren. He received his bachelor's degree from Colgate University and masters in business management equivalent from Fairleigh Dickinson University, and completed postgraduate coursework at the Carnegie Institute and guest lectured at Rutgers University School of Business.

There is no doubt Joseph Simunovich is an exemplary leader and a profoundly committed individual who is a true role model for the nation. Therefore, I am pleased to pay tribute to Joseph Simunovich, and know my colleagues will join in wishing him continued success.●

TRIBUTE TO WARNE NUNN

● Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, one of the privileges of representing Oregon in the U.S. Senate is having the honor of serving in the seat held for 30 years by Mark Hatfield. During his nearly half century of service to the people of Oregon as a State Representative, State Senator, Secretary of State, Governor, and U.S. Senator, Mark Hatfield earned a reputation for honesty and integrity. He also earned a reputation for having an outstanding staff—staff who often went on to outstanding careers in public service in their own right.

I rise today to pay tribute to one of the most distinguished of the "Hatfield Alumni." Warne Nunn, who passed away earlier this week in Oregon at the age of 86. Warne Nunn served as chief of staff to Mark Hatfield during his 8 years as Oregon's Governor, and when Oregonians sent Mark Hatfield to the U.S. Senate in 1966, Warne Nunn came east to help open up the Senate office.

Mr. Nunn's heart, however, was in his beloved Oregon, and he soon returned

home, where he was to make numerous positive contributions for four more decades. As a long-time executive with Pacific Power and Light, Warne Nunn was a respected leader in Oregon's business community. It was, however, through his philanthropic leadership where Warne Nunn left a legacy that should inspire us all.

As a long-time member and chairman of the Willamette University Board of Trustees, Warne Nunn was a passionate advocate for quality education. His commitment to education could also be seen in the leadership he provided as a long-time trustee of the Meyer Memorial Trust, one of the largest and most generous philanthropies in the Pacific Northwest. During its 25-year history—throughout which Warne Nunn has served as a trustee or trustee emeritus—Meyer Memorial Trust has donated nearly \$420 million to countless worthy causes.

Senator Hatfield once told me of a journey he made to the Calcutta slums with Mother Teresa. During that journey, Senator Hatfield asked Mother Teresa how she could go on day after day, knowing that for every life she touched, there were thousands of lost souls she would never reach. She responded by saying: "God does not call us to be successful. He calls us to be faithful."

There can be no doubt that Warne Nunn lived a successful life. But his family and friends will tell you that more important to Warne was the fact that he lived a faithful life. He was a faithful husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. He was a faithful friend. He was a faithful businessman, public servant, and philanthropic leader. Above all, he was a faithful servant of God. I join many fellow Oregonians in paying tribute to the life and legacy of Warne Nunn, and in extending my sincere condolences to his wife Delores and his entire family.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a treaty which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:18 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Brandon, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills:

H.R. 923. An act to provide for the investigation of certain unsolved civil rights crimes, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2284. An act to amend the Small Business Act to expand and improve the assistance provided by Small Business Development Centers to Indian tribe members, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians.

H.R. 2359. An act to reauthorize programs to assist small business concerns, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 21. Concurrent resolution calling on the United Nations Security Council to charge Iranian leader Mahmoud Ahmadinejad with violating the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and the United Nations Charter because of his call for the destruction of the State of Israel.

The message further announced that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 9355(a), amended by Public Law 108-375, and the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy: Mr. DEFazio of Oregon, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, and Mr. LAMBORN of Colorado.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 2284. An act to amend the Small Business Act to expand and improve the assistance provided by Small Business Development Centers to Indian tribe members, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 21. Calling on the United Nations Security Council to charge Iranian leader Mahmoud Ahmadinejad with violating the 1948 Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and United Nations Charter because of his calls for the destruction of the State of Israel; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

MEASURE DISCHARGED

The following measure was discharged from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, and referred as indicated:

S. 1650. A bill to establish a digital and wireless network technology program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

H.R. 2366. An act to reauthorize the veterans entrepreneurial development programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time: