

about the quality of life there hasn't yet gotten out. Being a well-kept secret is just fine for some residents.

"I'm a big proponent of Pittsburgh," says Hermann. "But I don't want to spread the message too much."

TRIBUTE TO KATHLEEN MCGHEE

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, today I rise to pay tribute to one of the most widely respected professional staff members in the Senate—Kathleen McGhee. She recently marked her 30th anniversary with the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence and has been serving here longer than I have been serving as a U.S. Senator.

Kathleen joined the committee staff on April 7, 1980, in order to assist the committee's arms control expert. She subsequently provided administrative support to the committee's budget director, minority counsel, and minority staff director. In 1987, Chairman David L. Boren appointed Kathleen as the chief clerk of the Intelligence Committee, a position she has held ever since. She has served 11 chairmen, 12 vice chairmen, and 278 staff members since joining the staff.

Kathleen is the longest serving staff member and the longest serving chief clerk in the committee's history, but you would not know it by looking at her. I have it on good authority that she is just as bright and energetic today as she was more than 20 years ago. If only we all were so fortunate.

In a world where politics often seems to define who we are and with whom we associate, Kathleen transcends those barriers. She has earned the deep respect of Members and colleagues on both sides of the aisle. Her work ethic—as evidenced by long hours and ready availability—and her attention to detail are admired by all.

During my tenure on the Intelligence Committee, and in particular, since becoming the vice chairman, I have benefited from Kathleen's behind-the-scenes orchestration of committee activities. She supervises the administrative support staff of the committee, manages all of the day-to-day operations, and is responsible for the preparation and implementation of the committee's operating budget. Simply put—the committee would cease to function without Kathleen at the helm; she has kept the place running like a Swiss watch. We all know that the demands of working in Congress often take the greatest toll on those who support us and sustain us in life—our families. For selflessly giving Kathleen to us for so many years, her husband Mike, son Luke, and daughter Molly deserve our gratitude. We thank them for their sacrifices.

Ensuring our great Nation's security is a high calling and one of tremendous responsibility. Through her service to the Intelligence Committee, the U.S. Senate, and the United States of America, Kathleen McGhee has answered this call with outstanding profes-

sionalism, integrity, and perseverance. Although I will be retiring at the end of this Congress, it is my hope that Kathleen will continue to honor the Senate with her service for many years to come. May God bless Kathleen and her family.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

NEW MEXICO'S NATIONAL SCIENCE BOWL WINNER

• Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, today I congratulate a group of middle school students from Albuquerque Academy in Albuquerque, NM, for winning the top prize at this year's National Science Bowl. This is an outstanding and well-deserved achievement after all their hard work throughout this competition, both in Albuquerque and here in Washington, DC.

Every year since 1991 the U.S. Department of Energy has sponsored the National Science Bowl to encourage high school students to excel in mathematics and science. In 2002 a contest was introduced for middle school students, which now involves more than 5,000 students nationwide. This year there was an academic question and answer competition as well as a model hydrogen fuel cell car challenge. By encouraging math and science education, competitions like these are helping to create a technically trained and diverse workforce for this generation and the next.

Teammates Andy Chen, Jason Frank Hou, Ben Zolyomi, Eric Li, Raya Koreh, and their coach Barbara Gilbert came to Washington, DC, to compete against 37 middle school regional Science Bowl champions in the National Finals. On Monday, May 3, they answered many challenging questions pertaining to biology, geology, and other areas of science. They even answered a few bonus questions from First Lady Michelle Obama, who later awarded them their trophy, along with Secretary of Energy Stephen Chu. I realize how much studying it takes to prepare for a competition as rigorous as this, and I commend them on their hard-earned reward. It has certainly paid off. Their success should be applauded as this truly is a remarkable feat.

When they return home to New Mexico, I hope their fellow students and teachers are as encouraged as I am by their accomplishment. It is vitally important that talent like this doesn't go unnoticed as these young students will likely be among those helping to find solutions to some of the future's most challenging problems. I believe this team's success demonstrates how the United States, and New Mexico in particular, has potential to produce some of tomorrow's scientific leaders and innovators. That is why I hope these students will continue to pursue their intellectual interests and one day join a critical sector within our workforce.

I have always believed that investing in science and technology in our schools is essential in ensuring that the United States maintains a competitive edge to provide for our nation's economic strength and security. Our students' success depends on the quality of their educational opportunities today, and the talent demonstrated by these students makes me very optimistic about the future.

Again, I commend them on this outstanding achievement and wish them the best of luck in the future.●

RECOGNIZING EL CAMINO REAL HIGH SCHOOL

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the great work and remarkable accomplishments of El Camino Real High School's Academic Decathlon team for winning the 2010 Academic Decathlon and its sixth National Championship. Members of the National Championship team include: Vivian Cheng, Daniel de Haas, Evan Edmisten, Andrew Fann, Audrey Goldbaum, Jessica Lin, Daniel Moreh, Adriana Ureche, Michael Walker, and team coaches John Dalsass, and Stephanie Franklin.

With this win, El Camino Real High School has earned the distinction of becoming six-time Academic Decathlon National Champions and nine-time State Champions. This milestone gives El Camino Real High School the distinction of being the Nation's all-time leader in national academic decathlon championships.

Competing in an Academic Decathlon is a daunting task. The Academic Decathlon's intense two-day national final competitions include multiple-choice testing in seven different events, speeches, essay writing, and interviewing exercises. Students spend many hours studying, practicing, and competing, often away from their family and friends. I invite all of my colleagues to join me, the Woodland Hills community and the State of California in congratulating California's El Camino Real High School Academic Decathlon team for becoming 2010 National Academic Decathlon Champions.●

NATIVE HAWAIIAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER NURSING GRADUATES

• Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, today I wish to commemorate the graduation of the first 100 Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander nurses from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. As a proud supporter of the nursing profession, I am pleased to recognize IKE AO PONO, the Workforce Diversity Program for Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander nursing students at the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene.

On May 7, 2010, IKE AO PONO will commemorate a historic achievement in celebrating the graduation of the first 100 Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander nurses from its program in

only 6 years, contributing more Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander nurses to workforce diversity in Hawaii than in the previous 80 years. As an academic support and cultural enrichment program, IKE AO PONO's mission is to increase the number of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander nurses in Hawaii to improve health and health care, with special attention to at-risk, underrepresented, and underserved peoples and communities.

IKE AO PONO envisions a lasting improvement, advancement, and promotion of health for Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander peoples and communities by increasing the number of culturally informed and sensitive health professionals in nursing. This increase in Native nurses will help to address the dire health disparities of both Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islanders who have higher rates of diseases such as cancer, diabetes and obesity, heart disease and an overall mortality rate that is significantly higher than other cultural groups in Hawaii.

While the 2000 census showed Native Hawaiians as 23 percent of Hawaii's population, they represented only 7 percent of the University of Hawaii's students, only 2 percent of the UH faculty and administration, and only 4 percent of the nursing workforce. Therefore, in 2001, IKE AO PONO began as a 3-year pilot program with six Native Hawaiian students. By year 3, the numbers of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander nursing students had grown to 66 per semester. Between 2004 and 2010, the number of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander nursing students increased again to 80 students per semester in both undergraduate and graduate programs. During this time, IKE AO PONO helped graduate the first Native Hawaiian and the first Samoan Ph.D.s in nursing in the 80-year history of the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene.

Through the IKE AO PONO Program, there are currently 14 times the number of Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander nurses at the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene than in 2000, and many are focused on higher degrees in advanced public health, community, health, family health and nurse practitioner fields, as well as, a full range of other nursing specialties.

With the full support of the School of Nursing and Dental Hygiene, the UH Administration and Board of Regents, the Native Hawaiian Councils of Kualii and Pukoa and community partners such as Papa Ola Lokahi, Kamehameha Schools, Queen's Medical Center and the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, IKE AO PONO is also preparing Native nurses to return to their home communities to support the health, well-being and recovery of underserved Native islanders in rural areas throughout Hawaii.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. EARL S. RICHARDSON

● Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I am proud today to recognize one of Mary-

land's native sons, Dr. Earl S. Richardson, who will retire later this month after a quarter century at the helm of one of Maryland's finest institutions of higher education: Morgan State University.

Situated in the northern part of Baltimore City, Morgan State University has been designated as Maryland's Urban Public University. It is also one of four exemplary public historically Black universities, HCBUs, in the State of Maryland, each of which has been offering students a chance and a choice when it comes to higher ed for more than 100 years.

Institutions like these across the country have been accruing an incredible benefit to African Americans and the communities they serve. Historically Black colleges and universities produce nearly a quarter of our Nation's African-American public school teachers. They also produce almost 40 percent of African-American graduates in physics, math, biology, and environmental sciences.

Morgan State has been no exception. During Dr. Richardson's tenure, the university has seen enrollment increase by 35 percent—margins that exceed any other public college or university in the State. But the quality of applicants has not suffered; Morgan State was able to swell its student ranks while attracting top-notch students. Morgan State now offers 14 doctoral programs and is known nationally and internationally for its doctoral programs in engineering and the sciences. Morgan consistently graduates a majority of all African Americans in Maryland with Ph.D.s in engineering. These graduates are among the most sought after by American industry. In addition, Morgan's patriotic tradition through its strong Army ROTC program is exemplified by the fact that it has produced more four-star African-American generals in the U.S. Army than any institution in the Nation except West Point.

Over the last 10 years, Morgan State has graduated 10 percent of the Nation's African-American undergraduates pursuing a degree in physics. Also, under Dr. Richardson's leadership, Morgan State currently leads all other public institutions in the State in bachelor's degrees earned by African Americans. The university also leads the State in graduating math, science and engineering undergrads—a critical achievement given our country's need to cultivate graduates ready to enter a 21st century workforce, where mastery of math and science is the name of the game. Morgan is also one of the leading producers of Fulbright Scholars in the Mid-Atlantic region.

Dr. Richardson's vision and leadership didn't end there. He also found time to sit on President Clinton's advisory board on HCBUs, serving as its chair in 1998; was chairman of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education, NAFEO; and participate as a member of the

American Council on Education, ACE. I have no doubt that his contributions will benefit current and future students from across the Nation for years to come.

But more than all of these accolades, Dr. Richardson's tenure as president of Morgan has been about fighting for opportunity for young people from often economically challenging backgrounds and neighborhoods, many the first in their family to attend college. His steadfast commitment to provide them with an urban university that provides them with the means to a better way of life and a career in the sciences or business or engineering, is a testament to his belief that a college degree is often the helping hand young people need to achieve success and realize their full potential.

I have been a member of the Senate nearly as long as Dr. Richardson has been president at Morgan State, and over the past two decades I have had the pleasure of enjoying this great man's support and friendship.

On behalf of myself, and speaking for the thousands of students who have matriculated at Morgan over the past 25 years, I would like to recognize and thank my friend, Dr. Earl Richardson, for a lifetime of extraordinarily distinguished service in the field of education. Well done!●

RECOGNIZING WILDER'S JEWELRY

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, this weekend, Americans celebrate Mothers Day, a time to pay tribute to the women in our lives and the incredible work that they do every day. As is frequently noted, women often juggle the dual roles of being a mother and maintaining a professional career. This situation is made even more difficult for the roughly 10.4 million women who are small business owners. Indeed, women-owned small businesses are one of the fastest growing segments of our Nation's economy. To highlight the work of one mother in my home State who is simultaneously running an historic small business in northern Maine, today I recognize the accomplishments of Cathy Beaulieu, the owner of Wilder's Jewelry in Presque Isle, for her steadfast dedication to small business, to her community, and, of course, to her family.

Cathy grew up in the St. John Valley, a stunning beautiful and scenic region at Maine's crest, where she was instilled with the famous work ethic of Maine's strong people. After exploring other places, she returned to Aroostook County—known to locals as simply "the County." She went to work at Wilder's Jewelry store, a fixture in downtown Presque Isle which was originally opened by Ike Wilder nearly 80 years ago. His son, Harry, continued the family business until 1996, when Cathy purchased the business from him, along with the historic building where it is located.