

health and addiction services. We must continue our investment in these critical mental health programs for those most in need.

I recognize that mental illness affects many South Dakotans. It is my hope that awareness efforts throughout the month of May will help recognize the need for improved access to services, promote overall health and well-being, reduce the stigma associated with mental disorders, and encourage Americans to seek help when they need it.

#### TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR OLEH SHAMSHUR

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, as chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, I wish today to mention the outstanding work of an ambassador who is leaving Washington after 4 years of distinguished achievement—Ambassador Oleh Shamshur of Ukraine.

There is little doubt that he has made a major contribution to strengthening bilateral relations between our countries. Ambassador Shamshur was one of the senior negotiators of the United States-Ukraine Charter on Strategic Partnership signed on December 19, 2008, which elevated relations between the United States and Ukraine to a new level. The charter is a living document and continues to guide cooperation between the two countries. On April 12, 2010, President Obama and President Yanukovych reaffirmed their commitment to the charter and expressed their intention to realize its full potential.

Ambassador Shamshur also played an important role in the establishment of the United States-Ukrainian Strategic Partnership Commission and participated in its first inaugural session in December 2009. The commission has reinvigorated relations between the United States and Ukraine with an ongoing dialog and program of cooperation on issues of democracy, economic freedom and prosperity, security and territorial integrity, energy security, defense-related cooperation, the rule of law, and people-to-people contacts.

During Ambassador Shamshur's tenure in Washington, Ukraine once more demonstrated its important leadership on the question of nonproliferation and arms control issues. Cooperation on these issues between Washington and Kyiv has been significantly enhanced. These efforts were conspicuous in the positive outcome of the Nuclear Security Summit in Washington.

While in Washington, Ambassador Shamshur's accomplishments were not limited to issues of international security or geopolitics. Early on in his service here, the United States reinstated tariff preferences for Ukraine under the Generalized System of Preferences and granted Ukraine market economy status. The Ambassador was instrumental in the efforts that led to Ukraine's graduation from the Jack-

son-Vanick Amendment on 23 March 2006. The United States and Ukraine were also able to sign a bilateral agreement on market access issues, which became a key step in Ukraine's eventual joining the World Trade Organization. The establishment of the United States-Ukraine Council on Trade and Investment in March 2008 was also a result of Ambassador Shamshur's tireless efforts. This year, Ambassador Shamshur can also claim credit for the resolution of difficulties surrounding the operation of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation in Ukraine and its return to the Ukrainian market.

Many of us on Capitol Hill and in the administration share an appreciation for Ambassador Oleh Shamshur's achievements. He leaves relations between Ukraine and the United States immeasurably stronger for having served here these 4 years. We wish him and the Ukrainian people well on the occasion of his departure.

#### AMERICA COMPETES ACT

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, about a year ago, the United Arab Emirates decided to secure its energy future. The Emirates is a small Persian Gulf state that is awash in oil and annually rakes in about \$80 billion in oil revenues. For its own domestic energy needs, however, it opted to go with another technology—nuclear power. Its reasoning was that the oil in the ground will eventually run out and that it would be best to conserve and prepare for that day.

The Emirates specified they wanted to build four nuclear reactors and estimated the costs at around \$40 billion. Sure enough, the bids soon started coming in from the world's leading nuclear vendors. There was Areva, the company born out of France's nuclear effort—they now get 80 percent of their electricity from nuclear and are building one of their new Evolutionary Power Reactors in Finland. There was Westinghouse, which is building its new AP1000 reactors in Japan and China. You may recognize the name. They were once, along with General Electric, America's leading electrical manufacturer. Now they are a Japanese company, bought by Toshiba in 2006.

While these two giants dueled, a third competitor entered the field. South Korea only started building its own nuclear reactors in 1996. Before that they bought from the U.S. and the Japanese. But then they took an old design from Combustion Engineering, another American company, and fashioned the APR-1400. After building a few for themselves they entered the world market. Meanwhile, in the Persian Gulf oil business, the Koreans had established a reputation for getting things done on budget and on time.

Still, it was a complete shock last October when the United Arab Emirates passed over bids from the world's two leading companies, Areva and Wes-

tinghouse, and awarded the contract to South Korea for \$20 billion—half the original estimated price. The French and the Japanese have gone back to the drawing boards to figure out what went wrong so they will be better able to compete next time.

How did the Koreans come so far so fast? People will talk about “cheap labor,” “government enterprise” and “copycat technology.” But I have another hypothesis. Year after year, Korean students are at the top of world performance in math and science while the United States doesn't even rank in the top 10. In the Program for International Student Assessment's math test for 15-year-old students, for instance, South Korea ranks third, behind Finland and Taiwan, while the United States ranks 21st. They are 75 points ahead of us on a scale of 1,000.

We have been hearing about these statistics for decades—maybe we have even grown used to them—but now we are starting to see the consequences. We are a country that is falling behind the rest of the world in science literacy. In terms of energy, the rest of the world is currently going through a nuclear renaissance while we are barely able to construct new reactors in our own country. Part of our population still thinks a nuclear reactor is an atomic bomb that can go up in a mushroom cloud any minute. A larger number believes that if we cover the Great Smoky Mountains with windmills we could generate all the electricity we need without having to build either nuclear reactors or coal plants. I call this “Going to War in Sailboats.” That is the title of a book I have just written. If we were to go to war tomorrow, would we put our fleet of nuclear submarines and aircraft carriers in mothballs and commission a fleet of sailing vessels?

Four years ago Senator JEFF BINGAMAN and I asked the National Academies:

What are the top 10 actions, in priority order, that federal policymakers could take to enhance the science and technology enterprise so that the United States can successfully compete, prosper, and be secure in the global community of the 21st century? What strategy, with several concrete steps, could be used to implement each of those actions?

The Academies responded quickly to that request by assembling a distinguished panel, headed by Norman R. Augustine that quickly produced a list of 20 recommendations along with strategies in the report, “Rising Above the Gathering Storm.” That report was issued 3 years ago. I think its message is even more immediate today.

In response to the Gathering Storm report, Congress enacted and the President signed the America COMPETES Act in 2007, incorporating many of the Academies' recommendations and establishing a blueprint for maintaining America's competitive position. In the COMPETES Act we authorized funding to improve education in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

We increased funding for scientific and technological research. And we established ARPA-E—modeled on the Defense Department's Advanced Research Project Agency, the one that started the Internet—but aimed this time specifically at advanced research projects on energy.

Just 2 months ago I attended ARPA-E's Inaugural Energy Innovation Summit, at which more than 50 innovators from around the country presented the prototypes of what we hope will be the next generation of energy innovation.

Some of these ideas are truly exciting. We saw designs for a "Metal-Air" battery that could have a 1000-mile range that would be 10 times what our best car batteries can get today. We saw plans for converting waste gas from refineries to gasoline that could save us 46 million barrels of oil each year. We saw projects for using sunlight and electricity to convert carbon dioxide back to gasoline and a "self-digesting" biofuels plant that uses enzymes to convert cellulose plant material to a gasoline substitute.

But there are still other areas where we must forge ahead. What about these new small modular reactors? Companies like Toshiba, Babcock & Wilcox, and Hyperion all have plans for reactors that are so small they can serve as "nuclear batteries." They are assembled at the factory and shipped to the site, where they are fitted together like Lego blocks. They have a lower cost of entry which is important for smaller utilities. We already have reactors like this aboard our submarines and aircraft carriers. We have done this for more than 50 years. Why not put a 125-megawatt reactor back in Oak Ridge, TN, where it would power the entire site and meet one-half of the Department of Energy's carbon footprint reduction goal? The people of East Tennessee are not afraid of nuclear power.

With Senator JAMES WEBB of Virginia I have introduced a clean energy bill that calls for building 100 new nuclear reactors in the next 20 years to secure our energy future while cutting our carbon emissions and keeping energy prices low. With Senators JEFF MERKLEY of Oregon and BYRON DORGAN of North Dakota I have introduced a bill that would set up 10 model communities around the country to develop the infrastructure needed to support electric cars. Forty Republican Senators support the proposition of electrifying half our cars and trucks as a way to reduce our carbon footprint even further and reduce our dependence on foreign oil. The recent tragedy of the oilspill in the gulf has only highlighted the need to begin this effort.

Still, we have a formidable task ahead of us. In 2008, 1 year after passage of the America COMPETES Act, Norman Augustine wrote an article in Science Magazine. Since The Gathering Storm had been published, he noted, many new developments had occurred in science and education. A new research university was established in Saudi Arabia, with an opening endowment equal to what the Massachusetts

Institute of Technology had amassed after 142 years. 200,000 Chinese students were studying abroad, mostly pursuing science or engineering degrees, often under government scholarships. Government investment in R&D increased by 25 percent—in the United Kingdom. An initiative was under way to create a global nanotechnology hub—in India. An additional \$10 billion was being devoted to K-12 education, with emphasis on math and science—in Brazil. Another \$3 billion was added to the nation's research budget—in Russia.

So it is still a competitive world out there. A study done far back in the 1950s determined that 85 percent of the per capita income growth in American history has occurred, not because of increasing capital stock or other measurable inputs, but because of technological innovation.

As educators and scientists, I know you are aware of how important your work is to America's economic future. And I am sure you are ready to join us in this effort.

#### TRIBUTE TO KATY LESSER

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Katy Lesser of Underhill, VT, for being named Vermont's 2010 Small Business Person of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Lesser is the owner of Healthy Living, a natural and organic food store in South Burlington, VT. In its 23 years of business, Healthy Living has grown from humble beginnings into a new 33,000-square-foot market with a staff of 130 employees. Healthy Living also is a leader in Vermont's sustainability movement by promoting a diverse and vibrant selection of locally grown foods and locally made products.

I had the pleasure of meeting Katy and her adult children, Eli and Nina, when they were in Washington this week for the national awards ceremony. Working at the store is a family affair, and they all put in long hours to make it go. I wish them well when they take a much needed vacation to Ireland.

Once again, I commend Katy Lesser on this well-deserved honor. I ask unanimous consent that a March 29 article from The Burlington Free Press on Katy's accomplishments be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

[From the Burlington Free Press, Mar. 29, 2010]

HEALTHY LIVING OWNER KATY LESSER NAMED VERMONT'S SBA PERSON OF YEAR  
(By Myra Mathis Flynn)

It's your neighborhood grocery store that packs a healthy punch. Located at 222 Dorset St., Healthy Living is the natural and organic food store with a well-known community outreach program, cooking classes and fully stocked bulk section.

Starting at 1,200 square feet with only one employee and average earnings of \$300 a day, Healthy Living has grown over a period of 23 years into a 33,000-square-foot market with a staff of 130 employees, and average daily sales of \$50,000. Leading the market to suc-

cess has been owner Katy Lesser. Now, she is being recognized for it.

Lesser has been named the U.S. Small Business Administration's 2010 Vermont Small Business Person of the Year. Nominated by David Blow Jr., vice president of Granite State Development Corp. in Burlington, Lesser was selected for outstanding leadership related to her company's staying power, employee growth, increase in sales, innovative ingenuity and contributions to the community, the SBA said. Recession aside, Lesser's sales for 2009 were more than \$17 million.

Lesser was quick to share the credit.

"I attribute my passion for food and people, tenacity, patience, being part of a terrific industry, willingness to learn, being a risk-taker, and a fabulous, amazing staff to my success," Lesser said. "Bottom line, you have to want to get up and do it all over again every day."

Healthy Living was also at the forefront of the locavore movement as Lesser's long-term relationships with local farmers has stocked the market with local fruits, vegetables, meats, poultry, dairy products and more. The market also acts as an incubator for small, local culinary producers and carries products from more than 1,000 Vermont producers.

In 2008, Healthy Living uprooted and moved to its current location. The move and expansion was a risk, but one that Lesser was not shy to take.

"I believe it's just as risky to be too small as it is to be too big. So when I decided to expand, I did a lot of research all over the country to see what other natural foods markets were up to," Lesser said. "I traveled all over the country and got a good sense of what was working and what was not. I wanted space for more product, of course, but I also wanted space for customers to meet, eat, hang out, learn and have a sense of community meeting place. I think I did that."

Lesser is gradually turning the business over to her two children, both of whom returned to Vermont following college and jobs elsewhere. Lesser's 32-year-old son, Eli, a graduate of Brandeis University, is Healthy Living's chief operating officer. Her 26-year-old daughter, Nina, a graduate of George Washington University and the French Culinary Institute in New York, is the store's education coordinator and director of the market's newest venture, the Healthy Living Learning Center.

As Vermont's Small Business Person of the Year, Lesser will compete for the national title at National Small Business Week ceremonies May 23-25 in Washington, D.C. The U.S. Small Business Administration will honor her locally June 17 at a ceremony sponsored by the SBA and Vermont Business Magazine at the Shelburne Farms Coach Barn.

"More than ever, I believe a good leader serves—serves her customers, her staff, her vendors and her truck drivers. Love of true service makes every day a joy because there is a never-ending list of people to help in many, many ways," Lesser said. "It's an honor to serve a community like ours. I've experienced more loyalty and energy from our community than I ever dreamed possible."

#### BAYVIEW CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Bayview, Idaho, a beautiful