

Alarm/Custom Communications; First Alliance Credit Union; Intercultural Mutual Assistance Association; market; McGladrey; Rochester Area Family Y; Southeast Service Cooperative; Stanley Jones & Associates; University of Minnesota Rochester; and Winona State University Rochester.

In Salt Lake City, UT, the winners are 1-800 CONTACTS, Inc.; Café Rio Mexican Grill; Christopherson Business Travel; CRSA; Deloitte LLP; Employer Solutions Group; Futura Industries; Intermountain Financial Group, LLC; Intermountain Healthcare; McKinnon-Mulherin, Inc.; Nelson Labs, Inc.; Software Technology Group; and Utah Food Services.

In San Francisco, CA the winners are BDO USA, LLP and KPMG LLP.

In Seattle, WA, the winners are Bader Martin, P.S.; BECU; Blue Gecko; Cascadia Consulting Group, Inc.; Deloitte LLP; EdLab Group; National CASA Association; nrg::seattle; People For Puget Sound; Peterson Sullivan LLP; Prolumina; Senior Services; SH Worldwide, LLC; Snohomish County Human Resources; Talaris Institute; Technology Services Company, Inc.; Washington State Hospital Association; and WithinReach.

In Spokane, WA, the winners are Associated Industries of the Inland Northwest; CHRM Hill—Spokane; and Humanix Staffing and Recruiting.

In the Twin Cities the winners are Carlson; Deloitte LLP; Dorsey & Whitney LLP; Ernst & Young; Health Dimensions Group; KPMG LLP; Mahoney, Ulbrich, Christiansen Russ PA; McGladrey; MRM Minneapolis; Spanlink Communications; and Western National Mutual Insurance Company.

In Winona, MN, the winners are Catholic Charities of the Diocese on Winona; Mediascope, Inc.; Merchants Bank; Sport & Spine Physical Therapy of Winona Inc.; Thern Inc; and Winona Workforce Center.

The At-large winners are BioPharm Systems, San Mateo, CA; Bon Secours Hampton Roads, Norfolk, VA; Center for Seabees & Facilities Engineering, Port Hueneme, CA; Cisco Systems Inc., San Jose, CA; cSubs, Ramsey, NJ; Executive Transport Detachment, Sigonella, Sigonella, Italy; FeatureTel LLC, Apex, NC; George Mason University—Fairfax campus, Fairfax, VA; J.A. Counter & Associates, Inc., New Richmond, WI; Machen, McChesney & Chastain, LLP, Auburn, AL; Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, San Diego, CA; Merrick & Company, Albuquerque, NM; Merrick & Company, Oakridge, TN; Naval Aviation Forecast Detachment Sembach, Sembach, Germany; Naval Education and Training Command, Pensacola, FL; Naval Submarine Support Command Pearl Harbor, Pearl Harbor, HI; Pride Inc., Bismarck, ND; SiteCrafting, Inc., Tacoma, WA; State Farm Insurance, Austin, TX; Technomics, Inc., Arlington, VA; and USN Explosive Ordnance Disposal Training and Evaluation Unit TWO, Virginia Beach, VA.

Companies with at-large winners in multiple cities are BDO USA, LLP; KPMG LLP; McGladrey; and Ryan, Inc.

Again, I congratulate the 2010 winners of the Sloan awards and look forward to the ongoing recognition of this worthwhile initiative.●

#### BOB LEVINSON'S DISAPPEARANCE

● Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, 4 years ago yesterday, a man who had spent more than 28 years serving the United States of America disappeared from Kish Island in the Persian Gulf. His name is Bob Levinson, and he is a dedicated husband and father, a retired FBI agent, and one of my constituents.

Today Bob Levinson remains missing, and we must bring him home.

On March 8, 2007, Bob traveled to Kish, an Iranian free trade zone, on a business trip. From what we know, he checked into his hotel, checked out on March 9, got into a taxi, and then disappeared.

In the 4 years since then, I have worked closely with the State Department and the Swiss government to lodge a number of requests for information with the Iranian government. Bob's wife Christine has traveled to Iran and visited Kish on a fact-finding mission. She and her children have remained steadfast and determined in their mission to bring Bob home.

Just last week, Secretary Clinton offered a glimmer of hope: we now have recent indications that Bob is alive and being held somewhere in Southwest Asia. Secretary Clinton also asked the Government of Iran to undertake humanitarian efforts to return him home safely.

Today, on the fourth anniversary of Bob's disappearance, I join Secretary Clinton's call for the Government of Iran to do all it can to reunite Bob Levinson with his family. The Iranians have long offered their assistance, and now it's time for them to make good on that commitment.

Christine Levinson and her children have waited 4 long years for Bob to come home. It is time to grant their wish.●

#### RECOGNIZING PORTAGE WOODS PRODUCTS, LLC.

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, since settlers first occupied the vast forest areas found in my home State of Maine, the logging industry has been a vital part of the state's economy. Last year, approximately 2,600 were employed by the forestry and logging industry, and over 4,000 were employed in wood product manufacturing. Maine loggers have constantly been at the forefront of advances in their industry, including inventing the Peavey hook and the Lombard log hauler. Despite these great advancements, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, OSHA, considers logging to be one of the most dangerous industries in the

United States. Today I commend and recognize Portage Woods Products LLC, a logging company in my home State of Maine, for receiving the Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program, SHARP, award, OSHA's highest honor for small businesses that show an exemplary commitment to workplace safety and health.

Portage Woods Products LLC, a division of Maine Woods Company LLC, located in the northern Maine town of Portage, knows what it takes to be a successful small business without compromising safety and integrity. The Pingree family has been invested in logging since 1841. Currently their small business employs 63 individuals and distributes \$2.6 million in payroll. In 2006, the Pingrees acquired and integrated Portage Woods Products, or PWP, into Maine Woods Company. The Portage Woods site is the only fully integrated hardwood manufacturing complex in the Northeast.

Throughout its history, PWP has strived to uphold its mission, "to manufacture quality hardwood lumber at the lowest cost while providing for a safe work environment." To do so, the firm incorporates accident prevention into its training of employees, and asks workers to remember that, "no job is more important than your safety!"

Clearly, Portage Woods Products makes safety a priority, and in December 2010 OSHA recognized this aspect of the business by honoring the company with the SHARP award. This is truly distinctive, as less than 1,600 small worksites currently possess this honor. I commend the company's high achievement and its laudable commitment to safety. I know firsthand that small businesses face unparalleled burdens in complying with all types of regulations, which only makes this accomplishment all the more impressive.

Portage Woods Products has demonstrated that when a company sets goals and prides itself on safety, it is possible to attain excellence. I thank everyone at PWP and Maine Woods Company for their dedication and commitment to a safe and productive work environment, and offer my best wishes for another 150 years of success.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CHARLES "CHUCK" WIELGUS

● Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Charles "Chuck" Wielgus of Colorado Springs, a recipient of the 2010 Great Comebacks Award for the Western Region. This award honors 12 individuals throughout the United States who have struggled with a chronic intestinal condition and have exhibited extraordinary strength and courage in fighting to ensure that this condition does not affect their ability to live life on their terms.

Chuck was serving as executive director of USA Swimming in 2006 when he was diagnosed with stage III colorectal cancer. His diagnosis required radiation and chemotherapy therapy, as

well as ostomy surgery. With the constant support of his swimming family, as well as the inspiration given him by his wife Nancy, Chuck was quickly able to regain his fighting spirit.

Four years removed from his ordeal, Chuck is as active as ever. In 2008, Chuck traveled to China with the U.S. Swim Team for the Beijing Olympic Games. Aside from his role with USA Swimming, Chuck is the chief executive officer of the USA Swimming Foundation, and is looking forward to taking on the responsibility of helping others through sharing his personal story of triumph.

There are thousands of brave Coloradans who share Chuck's story, and it is an honor for me to be able to tell that story here, for the record. I congratulate Chuck and the other Great Comebacks Award recipients for 2010, and I urge my colleagues to take the time to learn more about the struggles brave citizens such as Chuck face in your own respective States. Their stories, like Chuck's, are inspirational; with help from all of my colleagues here today, we can together begin to heighten awareness about some of the huge strides being made by people living with intestinal diseases or recovering from ostomy surgery.●

#### 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF BLAND COUNTY, VIRGINIA

● Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, today I recognize Bland County, VA, which celebrates its sesquicentennial this month.

Bland County possesses the strong sense of community that makes Virginia an outstanding place to live and work. The county has a rich history, and is the only county in the Commonwealth that came into being during the Civil War.

Called "the land between the tunnels" because of its unique location, Bland County has more miles of the Appalachian Trail than any other county and contains more than 76,970 acres of the Jefferson National Forest. It is a place where people are willing and eager to work, and where the spirit of independence runs freely and fiercely along its ridges and through its valleys.

Bland County will commemorate the 150th anniversary of its founding with celebrations held on March 30, the date the county received its charter from the Commonwealth of Virginia. I would like to offer my congratulations to the citizens of Bland on this milestone anniversary and wish them continued prosperity in the years to come.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, 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 which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 525. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance and increase the number of veterinarians trained in veterinary public health; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 570. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance the roles of dentists and allied dental personnel in the Nation's disaster response framework, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:30 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. 525. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance and increase the number of veterinarians trained in veterinary public health.

H.R. 570. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance the roles of dentists of allied dental personnel in the Nation's disaster response framework, and for other purposes.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

From the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, with amendments:

S. 493. A bill to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, 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-849. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to Cooperative Threat Reduction Programs; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-850. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Montana Regulatory Program" (Docket No. MT-031-FOR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 8, 2011; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-851. A communication from the Director, Office of Surface Mining, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Louisiana Regulatory Program/Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation Plan" (Docket No. LA-023-FOR) received in the Office of the President of the

Senate on March 8, 2011; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-852. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Application of ASTM Standard Practice C1671-07 When Performing Technical Reviews of Spent Fuel Storage and Transportation Packaging Licensing Actions" (Interim Staff Guidance Document No. 23) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 8, 2011; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-853. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "403(b) Plan Terminations" (Revenue Ruling 2011-7) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 8, 2011; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-854. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report prepared by the Department of State on progress toward a negotiated solution of the Cyprus question covering the periods October 1, 2010 through November 30, 2010; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-855. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report prepared by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Department of Health and Human Services, pursuant to the MINER Act of 2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### 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 Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. VITTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WICKER, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. SESSIONS):

S. 516. A bill to extend outer Continental Shelf leases to accommodate permitting delays and to provide operators time to meet new drilling and safety requirements; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. KYL, and Mr. BENNET):

S. 517. A bill to authorize the Attorney General to award grants for States to implement minimum and enhanced DNA collection processes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. ROBERTS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BARRASSO, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. RISCH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 518. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an exclusion for assistance provided to participants in certain veterinary student loan repayment or forgiveness programs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. ENSIGN, Mrs. BOXER, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 519. A bill to further allocate and expand the availability of hydroelectric power generated at Hoover Dam, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. COBURN (for himself and Mr. CARDIN):