

Willoughby; Delp—Mentor; Felger—Middlefield; Gorta—Olmsted Falls; Halbrook—Willowick; Hernandez—Cleveland; Johnson, D—Cleveland Heights; Justiniano—Cleveland; Leach—Mentor; McFaul—Chardon; Moore—Nardonia; Munroe—Cleveland Heights; Novak—Brookpark; Nubert—Mentor; Ramsey—Avon; Semrau—Mentor; Seuffer—Chagrin Falls; Silc—Painesville; Skorupski—Mentor; Snyder, A—Lorain; Wagner—Amherst; Williams, J—Cleveland.

Army National Guard—50:
Amin—Strongsville; Beavers—Cuyahoga Falls; Brabson, S—Macedonia; Casper—Mentor; Clark, K—Akron; Cripple—Akron; Cross—Cleveland Heights; Crowder—Clinton; Davey—Akron; Dragon—Brunswick; Ely—Brooklyn; Faulds—Copley; Foster—Lagrange; Ganzer—Medina; Garcia—Lorain; Gigliotti—Lagrange; Graf, B—North Royalton; Gray—Cleveland; Griffin—Cuyahoga Falls; Grimes—Clinton; Harrison—Cleveland; Hasrouni—Brunswick; Heil—Strongsville; Hendrix—Elyria; Hunt—Lorain; Ibarra—Cleveland; Johnson, A—Cleveland; Kelly—Copley; Knafel—Akron; Marksby—Amherst; Mireles—Parma; Morrow—Akron; Ningard—North Royalton; Noble—Clinton; Patsue—Olmsted Falls; Riley, A—Amherst; Rotlie—Rootstown; Singleton—Cleveland; Slezak—North Royalton; Strouse—Cleveland; Suttle—Akron; Swanson—Cleveland; Toddy—Westlake; Turner—Vermilion; Urbanija—Fairview Park; Walker—Medina; Williams, R—Garfield Heights; Winkleman—Fairview Park; Wite—Akron; Young—Cleveland.

TRIBUTE TO RONALD E. WEINBERG

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, today I honor Ronald E. Weinberg, chair of the Cleveland State University board of trustees and a principal with Weinberg & Bell Group, a Cleveland-based private equity firm, as he is honored by Cleveland State University with its President's Medal, the university's highest nonacademic honor.

The President's Medal is awarded to individuals, groups or entities whose dedication to the university is beyond question. The medal is conferred only when the honoree has made continuing and extraordinary contributions, or has provided exemplary and ongoing services that have advanced the best interests and mission of Cleveland State University.

The presentation of this award will take place during a gala celebration entitled "Radiance—CSU Realizing the Promise," a highlight of Cleveland State University's commencement weekend. At that time, the President's Medal will be bestowed upon Ronald E. Weinberg for his extraordinary commitment, service and contribution to Cleveland State University and for his efforts to help students achieve their goals through higher education.

Mr. Weinberg was appointed to the Cleveland State Board of Trustees in 2001 and has served as chairman for the past 4 years. During his tenure, CSU has made great strides in becoming one of the country's top urban universities—the campus has been transformed with new buildings; highly credentialed faculty and researchers have enriched the learning experience; and enrollment has increased.

Mr. Weinberg has generously given his time and expertise to support CSU's mission and contribute to its success. Additionally, he has financially supported many CSU initiatives. He and his wife Terri served as cochairs of the Moses Cleaveland Scholarship Dinner, and he is a platinum sponsor of Radiance. Additional recognition of Mr. Weinberg's efforts will come as the Trustees' boardroom is named for him in recognition of a generous scholarship gift.

As part of Cleveland State University's Commencement Weekend celebration, Mr. Weinberg, CSU President Ronald M. Berkman and the CSU community will participate in the celebration of graduation as well as embark on a new tradition of celebrating and supporting scholarships, which are key to attracting promising students to Cleveland State University and giving them the tools to succeed.

It is during this time of commencement that we can all pause to honor our new graduates on their accomplishments and wish them well as they embark on new opportunities. We are also grateful to CSU for helping to provide our young people with the tools they need to be prepared for a competitive job market and to support their communities. It is important to thank those, such as Mr. Weinberg, who have dedicated time and resources to contribute to the success of our students, an investment that is critical to Cleveland's and our Nation's future.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS G. KELLEY

Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Thomas G. Kelley of Boston, MA, a veteran who risked his life for his nation and went on to a distinguished career serving his fellow veterans.

A son of Boston, Tom Kelley responded to our Nation's call of duty and enlisted in the U.S. Navy, where as a lieutenant in Vietnam he commanded River Assault Division 152. In his service to our Nation, Tom Kelley earned our highest military decoration, the Medal of Honor. The story of how it happened is worth recounting.

On June 15, 1969, Lieutenant Kelley was leading several boats up the Ong Muong Canal to extract an Army company when one suffered a mechanical failure. Moments later, the enemy attacked. At this point, I would like to quote from Tom Kelley's Medal of Honor citation presented by President Richard M. Nixon:

... Lt. Comdr. Kelley realizing the extreme danger to his column and its inability to clear the ambush site until the crippled unit was repaired, boldly maneuvered the monitor in which he was embarked to the exposed side of the protective cordon in direct line with the enemy's fire, and ordered the monitor to commence firing. Suddenly, an enemy rocket scored a direct hit on the coxswain's flat, the shell penetrating the thick armor plate, and the explosion spraying shrapnel in all directions. Sustaining serious head wounds from the blast, which hurled him to

the deck of the monitor, Lt. Comdr. Kelley disregarded his severe injuries and attempted to continue directing the other boats. Although unable to move from the deck or to speak clearly into the radio, he succeeded in relaying his commands through one of his men until the enemy attack was silenced and the boats were able to move to an area of safety.

The citation concludes:

Lt. Comdr. Kelley's brilliant leadership, bold initiative, and resolute determination served to inspire his men and provide the impetus needed to carry out the mission after he was medically evacuated by helicopter. His extraordinary courage under fire, and his selfless devotion to duty sustain and enhance the finest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service.

Tom retired from the Navy in 1990 with the rank of captain and continued to serve in the Defense Department as a civilian. After returning to his hometown of Boston, Tom was named commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services in 1999. In 2003, then Governor Romney named him the department's secretary, where he served until January of this year. Many of us in and out of the service were very sorry to see him go.

While at the helm of the Massachusetts Department of Veterans' Services, Tom Kelley remained a hard-charger, and through tireless effort, transformed the agency into a national model for effective and efficient care. Under Tom's leadership, a new generation of warriors went off to fight in Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Liberation. Many of these warriors came home with severe physical injuries and the invisible scars of brain trauma and post traumatic stress disorder. Tom ensured that the department devoted the same level of care for these younger men and women as it did veterans from earlier conflicts.

When I served in the State legislature, and as a member of the Veterans and Federal Affairs Committee, I worked closely with Tom on many issues and was always inspired by his energy and passion for helping his fellow veterans.

Tom served under Republican and Democrat Governors and ensured that the department remained focused on providing outstanding service to Massachusetts' veterans. I have no doubt that Tom Kelley will always be regarded as an extremely effective and dedicated secretary of veterans' affairs.

Tonight, Tom will receive a fitting farewell at a bipartisan gala, all the proceeds of which will go to the Massachusetts Soldiers Legacy Fund. And it comes as no surprise that the guest of honor insisted on purchasing his own ticket.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DORI CARLSON

• Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I wish to take a few minutes today to recognize an outstanding North Dakotan. On

June 18, 2011, Dori Carlson will become the first female president of the American Optometric Association, AOA. Dori, who has two offices in North Dakota, was honored in 1994 as the North Dakota Young Optometrist of the Year and in 2003 as the Optometrist of the Year. She was also the first female president of the North Dakota Optometric Association.

Dori's No. 1 priority is to advocate the importance of having young children undergo vision testing. She tells parents all over the country about "vision" problems faced by young children, and that it is easier to address these problems if discovered early. She regularly highlights President Obama's statement regarding the need to review vision of young children:

No child should be falling behind at school because he or she can't . . . see the blackboard.

This is President Obama, February 4, 2009.

As a result of Dori's emphasis on the importance of children's vision, there continues to be an increase in vision testing. This means that fewer children are having vision problems. For all parents, we thank Dori for her dedication and congratulate her on becoming the new AOA president.●

UH-72 LAKOTA LIGHT UTILITY HELICOPTER

● Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, I wish to speak today to honor the inception of the UH-72 Lakota Light Utility Helicopter into the active fleet of the South Dakota National Guard D Company 1/112th Security and Support Battalion. On May 15, a ceremony will be held at the Crazy Horse Monument in the Black Hills of South Dakota—the traditional homeland of the proud Lakota Sioux for whom this aircraft has been named. After nearly a decade of development, the Light Utility Helicopter program offers the UH-72 Lakota as a state-of-the-art aircraft which will provide medical support to members of our military.

The UH-72 Lakota stands as a defining symbol of the continued partnership between the U.S. military and the Sioux people. Native Americans from all reaches of this Nation have proven, time and again, their willingness to serve in the U.S. military to protect our freedoms. In fact, members of Native American tribes like the Lakota have historically served, and continue to serve, at a higher per-capita rate than any other ethnic group in America. In its medical evacuation, homeland security, and drug enforcement aircraft capacities, I know the UH-72 Lakota will do this legacy proud, wherever it serves.

Per Department of Defense regulations, military helicopters are named after Native American tribes, and the UH-72 joins the ranks of other distinguished service helicopters like the H-60 Black Hawk, the H-64 Apache, the

H-66 Comanche, and many others. Naming the UH-72 after a tribe with such a distinct and honorable history of bravery and service is a tribute to Native American heritage as potent as the service the aircraft itself will provide.

I commend the developers of this new aircraft for their hard work in the design and testing phases, as well as the pilots and crews whose input so critically enhanced the UH-72 as a finished product. I was pleased to have the opportunity to view the Lakota up close at a Rosebud Pow Wow a few years ago. I wish the pilots and crews of each of the D Company 1/112th Security and Support Battalion, as well as those serving in other regions, the best of luck with this new aircraft. ●

RECOGNIZING MAINE COMMERCIAL TIRE, INC.

● Ms SNOWE. Mr. President, next week marks the 48th annual celebration of National Small Business Week, a tradition started in 1963 under President Kennedy to highlight the critical role small businesses play in our society. This year, despite a difficult economy struggling to rebound, we can be proud of our Nation's nearly 30 million small firms that are working to move our Nation forward.

In light of this, today I commend and recognize Maine Commercial Tire, MCT, a commercial tire servicer and supplier in my home State of Maine. Recently, MCT's owners James McCurdy and James Lynch were named Maine's 2011 Small Business Persons of the year by the U.S. Small Business Administration. This is a highly deserved honor as both individuals' leadership has allowed MCT to prosper in a struggling and tumultuous economy.

Maine Commercial Tire began in 1990 in the town of Hermon, roughly 15 minutes from Bangor. Their goal was to supply new tires and retreaded tires while providing outstanding service to the many trucking businesses in Maine and portions of New Hampshire. Since that time MCT has grown substantially from 18 employees to 59 employees, and expanded by opening three additional locations across the State, in Augusta, Scarborough, and Lewiston. The company now retreads roughly 35,000 tires each year.

MCT is recognized both locally and globally for its commitment to excellence. The International Organization for Standardization, ISO, develops and sets high global standards that a variety of international companies strive to achieve in order to become certified in their field. In 2000, MCT became the first—and thus far, only—ISO 9002 certified tire dealer and independently owned retread shop in the United States. In addition to demonstrating MCT's commitment to excellence, this certification shows that American small businesses can truly compete in a global marketplace with hard work and perseverance.

As a result of their accomplishments at MCT, Mr. McCurdy and Mr. Lynch are receiving the prestigious Small Business Person of the Year award. This award takes into account a variety of criteria including: staying power as an established business, growth in number of employees, increase in sales and/or unit volume, current and past financial performance, innovativeness of product or service offered, response to adversity, and contributions to community-oriented projects. This is truly a deserved honor for Mr. Lynch and Mr. McCurdy. Their hard work and dedication has resulted in MCT being regarded as a nationwide leader in both the supply and servicing of truck tires and retreaded truck tires. Msrs. McCurdy and Lynch were honored at a luncheon in Maine on May 5, and will also be recognized next week during National Small Business Week here in Washington.

It will take small businesses to lead us out of our economic morass. That is why I am thankful for companies such as Maine Commercial Tire, which have persevered and made great strides over the past 21 years. I thank Mr. McCurdy and Mr. Lynch for their leadership and everyone at MCT for their dedication to excellence, and offer my best wishes for success in their future endeavors.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. PHILLIP O. BARRY

● Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. President, I, with my colleague Senator BINGAMAN, wish to recognize Dr. Phillip O. Barry on the occasion of his retirement from a distinguished career serving higher education institutions in our home state of New Mexico and elsewhere.

A former Fulbright scholar, Dr. Barry has spent the past 36 years working in community colleges to improve learning opportunities for New Mexicans, Iowans, and New Jerseyans. Access to quality higher education makes all the difference for our children and our economy. In order to secure the future of the Nation, we must provide the best education possible. Innovative administrators like Dr. Barry play a vital role in achieving this important goal. As a community college president, Dr. Barry devoted 24 years to leading these institutions into the 21st century and helping them expand to meet the needs of more students and an evolving economy.

In his 15 years at Mesalands Community College in Tucumcari, NM, Dr. Barry transformed Mesalands from a technical school into a community college, including leading the college through a rigorous accreditation process. He established the college's foundation in order to ensure the financial security of the school for the future. Through Dr. Barry's leadership and foresight, Mesalands Community College created such innovations as its Dinosaur Museum, the North American Wind Research and Training Center, and an intercollegiate rodeo program.