

extended tracks—coupled with the stage routes—were vital to the county's establishment.

Today, the county is home to those looking to tame their own bit of the Wild West. Thanks to its temperate climate, agriculture is Goshen's primary industry. A highly developed irrigation system borrows waters from the North Platte River, the Hawk Springs reservoir and the Pathfinder Dam, which allows profitable crops of sugar beets, beans and wheat to prosper in the North Platte Valley. Small-acreage farms and sustainable growing practices bring the farming tradition into the 21st century. The county is consistently the leading beef producer in the state as over 200,000 head of cattle are raised each year. In addition, Goshen County is working to answer America's growing energy demands. Its proximity to the Niobrara Shale Formation provides the county with opportunities for future oil and natural gas production.

In honor of the 100th anniversary of Goshen County, I urge my colleagues to see this "Valley of Abundance" in person. I congratulate the citizens who have worked so hard to preserve the county's heritage. They should be proud to celebrate this landmark achievement.

CUBA

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I condemn in the strongest possible terms the Cuban regime's unjust incarceration of Alan Gross. As the editorial highlights and as the Castro regime well knows, Mr. Gross is simply a humanitarian who was seeking to help the Jewish community in Cuba access the Internet. Only the most oppressive, totalitarian regime would seek to jail someone for trying to expand access to uncensored information.

As this editorial notes, "The regime in Havana is so brittle and creaky that it blanches at the idea of its subjects communicating too freely with the outside world, lest they undermine a communist system whose attempts at economic development have delivered scanty results."

I also take this opportunity to once again call on the Obama administration to halt its new Cuba policies that liberalize travel and expand allowable remittances to Cuba. This unilateral gift to the Castro brothers by the Obama administration is totally unwarranted, especially in light of Mr. Gross' case as well as the ongoing repression of the Cuban people.

I ask unanimous consent that a July 29, 2011, editorial by the Washington Post entitled "Cuba Should Free Alan Gross" be printed in the RECORD.

[From the Washington Post, July 29, 2011]

CUBA SHOULD FREE ALAN GROSS

Alan P. Gross, the U.S. Agency for International Development subcontractor who committed what Cuba considers the unconscionable offense of making the Internet available to members of its minuscule Jewish community, has almost exhausted pos-

sible judicial appeals of his 15-year prison sentence.

Mr. Gross, 62, a resident of Potomac, was arrested in December 2009 as he prepared to fly home from Havana. Convicted on trumped-up charges in March this year, he appeared a few days ago before Cuba's highest tribunal to appeal his conviction and plead for release. The outcome of his appeal, expected in the coming days, is certain to be dictated one way or another by Cuban leader Raul Castro—and will be a sign of whether Cuba is remotely interested in better relations with Washington.

Cuba, besides its repressive ally Venezuela, is virtually the only place in the Western Hemisphere where distributing laptop computers and satellite phone equipment intended to connect people to the Internet—Mr. Gross's supposed "crime"—could be construed as subversive. The regime in Havana is so brittle and creaky that it blanches at the idea of its subjects communicating too freely with the outside world, lest they undermine a communist system whose attempts at economic development have delivered scanty results.

There are plenty of humanitarian reasons to release Mr. Gross, who has been confined for 19 months. Somewhat overweight when he was arrested, Mr. Gross has lost 100 pounds, according to his wife and other American visitors who have been allowed to meet with him; he also suffers from gout, ulcers and arthritis. His daughter is struggling with cancer, and his mother is reported to be in poor health.

Cuban authorities have portrayed Mr. Gross as a spy involved in an enterprise aimed at undermining the regime. That seems unlikely in the extreme. In fact, Mr. Gross, a veteran development worker who had minimal command of Spanish, was part of a democratization project of the sort the U.S. government runs in countries all over the world.

At the time of his arrest, Mr. Gross was working for Development Alternatives Inc., a Bethesda firm that had won a \$6 million government contract to promote democracy in Cuba. His work consisted mainly of providing computers and satellite phones to Cuban Jews, a community thought to number about 1,500, so they could access the Internet, whose use is restricted in Cuba, and contact Jewish communities beyond Cuba's shores. Not exactly a cloak-and-dagger project likely to bring the Castro brothers to their knees.

The Obama administration has made it clear that any improvement in relations with Cuba is on hold pending Mr. Gross's release. That's a fitting response to the communist regime's knee-jerk behavior in persecuting an American whose "crime," if any, may have been an excess of naiveté.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING DR. MELVIN SABSHIN

• Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to Dr. Melvin Sabshin, a tireless advocate for mental health issues, who passed away on June 4, 2011. I am proud that Dr. Sabshin's family lives in Connecticut and honored to remember a man who spoke out against harmful discrimination, breaking down the stigma of mental health ahead of his time.

As the former director of the American Psychiatric Association, Dr.

Sabshin worked diligently to advance the field of psychiatry by strengthening research efforts and advocating for increased mental health funding.

Dr. Sabshin was born on October 28, 1925, in New York City. Graduating high school at age 14 and college at 17, he was a scholar from childhood. After graduating from the University of Florida, he served briefly in the U.S. Army and then enrolled in medical school and completed his residency at Tulane University in Louisiana. Upon graduation from medical school, he practiced medicine at the Michael Reese Hospital in Chicago and eventually became the head of the University of Illinois' Department of Psychiatry.

At the University of Illinois, he became an active member of the American Psychiatric Association. In 1974 he was appointed medical director of the American Psychiatric Association and served as director until 1997. During his time, he oversaw the publication of new editions of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, which sets standard criteria for classifying mental health conditions.

In fighting discrimination, he worked tirelessly to eliminate homosexuality from the list of psychiatric disorders in the manual, and his work helped to change attitudes toward homosexuality. During his tenure as director, Dr. Sabshin was also a leading voice against the ideological manipulation of psychiatry by communist authorities in the Soviet Union.

Upon his retirement from the American Psychiatric Association, Dr. Sabshin was hired as a clinical professor at the University of Maryland's medical school. He also was an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. He is survived by his wife Marion Bennathan of London, his son Dr. James Sabshin of Woodbridge, CT, and four granddaughters.

Dr. Sabshin has been called "central to the evolution of modern American psychiatry." This characterization could not be more accurate. Dr. Sabshin's death is a great loss to the professional community and especially to all those who have benefited from his many years of great public service. I know my colleagues will join me in honoring the great life of Dr. Melvin Sabshin.●

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI DELTA RESEARCH CENTER

• Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 50th anniversary of the University of Missouri's Delta Research Center. The Portageville, MO, facility was officially dedicated on August 8, 1961, and has since become a beacon for the agriculture industry. I am so proud of the Delta Center's many accomplishments.

Over the course of five decades, the success of the Delta Center was made possible by a special team of experts from the University of Missouri, College of Agriculture, Food and Natural

Resources, a dedicated field staff, talented scientists, and the wisdom of top-notch agricultural leaders serving on the Delta Research Center's Advisory Board. The University of Missouri's Delta Research Center has advised farmers about boosting harvests and battling pests, while overseeing research with global implications. This includes the development of numerous strands of cotton and most notably 16 new soybean varieties, some with cyst nematode resistance, which has impact far beyond the rich cropland of the Bootheel of Missouri.

On September 2, 2011, the Delta Research Center will host the 50th Annual Field Day which showcases the world class studies they conduct, bringing together all sectors of the agriculture industry from those who plant the seed to those who market the product. It is always a day of learning and gives Missourians the tools needed to stay competitive in a global market. I look forward to joining hundreds of farmers, agri-businesses and others to learn the results of the special research that will be on display.

For our Nation to remain a leader in the production of food and fiber for our citizens and the world, we must continue important agriculture research like that conducted at the University of Missouri's Delta Research Center. Jake Fisher, superintendent and a dedicated employee for 50 years, summed it up best when he said, "Our team effort is not only about the results we bring about today; we must be focused on ten to fifteen years down the road, so we remain on the cutting-edge of agriculture production and technology."

Jake Fisher and his talented team at the University of Missouri's Delta Research Center demonstrate every day that hard work, vision, and public-private partnerships can be successful in advancing our Nation's rich agricultural resources.

I am very proud of the many accomplishments of the University of Missouri's Delta Research Center and ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the center on 50 years of service and monumental accomplishments in agriculture research.●

REMEMBERING DON DICKEY

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, Don Dickey, a longtime resident of Juneau, AK, passed away on June 25, 2011, at the age of 89. A native of Stockton, CA, Don moved to Alaska in 1952 to manage the Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce. He returned to California in 1955 to work for the California State Chamber but in 1960 decided Alaska would be his home. It was then that he relocated, once again to Alaska, to organize the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce. He served as president for the Alaska State Chamber for 22 years.

In 1981, Don was named director of the Alaska Division of Tourism, working for Governor Hammond and then

Governor Sheffield. He was a key player in the growth of Alaska's tourism industry.

Terry Miller, who served as Don's deputy when he directed the Alaska Division of Tourism remembers Don's effort to persuade all of those in the Alaska tourism business to join together in a cooperative marketing effort to sell Alaska as a destination, rather than their individual businesses. "He got the little mom and pop operations, the cruise companies, the airlines, everybody with a stake in it to pool their marketing dollars." Alaska's former Lieutenant Governor John Coghill described Don as, "the one who probably laid the blueprint for what happened later." What happened later was the emergence of Alaska as the premier visitor destination it is today.

Those who knew Don best describe him in these terms: classy, gentle, dynamic, charming, a great promoter of Alaska, and a very funny guy. His admirers refer to him as one "who could totally captivate a room and be very persuasive," and as one "who could inspire and motivate others."

I have known Don since I was a young girl growing up in southeast Alaska. He always had a joke, a story, or funny quip to share. My family and I have fond memories of good times spent together.

On behalf of the U.S. Senate and the people of Alaska, grateful for his leadership, as well as his wit, I extend condolences to Don's wife Gen, his children Dru and Dane, and all of those who mourn the loss of this exemplary Alaskan.●

TRIBUTE TO ERIN DUFFY

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Erin Duffy, an intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past couple months.

Erin is a graduate of St. Thomas More High School in Rapid City, SD. Currently, she is attending Stanford University, where she is majoring in international relations and economics. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Erin for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO LAUREN HAAHR

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Lauren Haahr, an intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past couple months.

Lauren is a graduate of Lincoln High School in Sioux Falls, SD. Currently, she is attending the University of Iowa, where she is majoring in economics and ethics & public policy. She is a hard

worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Lauren for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO PHILIP HENZLIK

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Philip Henzlik, an intern in my Rapid City, SD office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past couple months.

Philip is a graduate of Stevens High School in Rapid City and recently of Wyoming State University in Laramie, WY. He will be attending Oregon Health & Science University in Portland, OR, majoring in dentistry. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Philip for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO ERIK KEVIN NYBERG

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Erik Kevin Nyberg, an intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work he has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past couple months.

Erik is a graduate of Lincoln High School in Sioux Falls, SD. Currently, he is attending Augustana College, where he is majoring in economics, business administration, and political science. He is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Erik for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO LAUREN WERTH

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Lauren Werth, an intern in my Washington, DC office, for all of the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota over the past couple months.

Lauren is a graduate of Aberdeen Central High School in Aberdeen, SD. Currently, she is attending Concordia College, where she is majoring in political science and French. She is a hard worker who has been dedicated to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Lauren for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:50 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by