

Nationwide Children's in Columbus is an Ohio Healthy Weight Outcome member, one of ten teams selected to participate in the National Health Weight Collaborative. Funded through the Affordable Care Act, the Collaborative's mission is to optimize health outcomes in children by implementing a multilevel obesity prevention and treatment demonstration project in a low-income area. Nationwide and the Ohio Healthy Weight Outcomes Program are implementing the Healthy Neighborhood Healthy Family (HNHF) zone with the goal of reducing the obesity rate in Columbus fifth graders by 10 percent in 5 years.

And Cincinnati Children's Hospital is working with both children and their parents to make simple yet effective dietary changes. The hospital is also working with local school districts to increase children's consumption of fruits and vegetables and replace sugary drinks in school lunches. Additionally, through a partnership with U.S. Bank and the Boys and Girls Club, over 3,000 children participated in Cincinnati Children's kids' marathon—an incremental marathon over an 8-week period that included running as well as nutrition and health education.

September brought an end to Childhood Obesity Awareness Month, but I look forward to continuing to work with schools and hospitals, teachers and parents, and all Ohioans to combat childhood obesity and ensure a healthier future for our Nation's children.

THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts. Mr. President, today I would like to recognize the newest members of the American Academy for Arts and Sciences upon their induction on October 1, 2011, in Cambridge, MA.

The American Academy, which was founded during the American Revolution by John Adams, John Hancock and other notable scholar-patriots, includes some of the world's most notable scientists, scholars, artists, authors and leaders.

Its nonpartisan, independent research has provided us with a significant collection of knowledge in numerous fields of science, humanities, culture and education for more than 200 years.

The 231st class of members must therefore be recognized for their distinguished success in their respective fields, as well as their election to an institution of the world's most celebrated leaders.

On behalf of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the 211 new members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, particularly the 28 inductees from Massachusetts. It is an honor and pleasure to recognize their continuing service and intellectual leadership not only in Massachusetts,

but also nationally and across the world. I wish the Academy good luck and continued success in their future endeavors.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL ZION CHURCH

• Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and congratulate the Pennsylvania Avenue African Methodist Episcopal, AME, Zion Church in Baltimore as the congregation celebrates the church's 170th anniversary. Founded on May 31, 1841, Pennsylvania Avenue AME Zion Church has flourished for many decades under the guidance and spiritual leadership of its anointed pastors since it was founded on May 31, 1841.

Records from 1904 reveal that Reverend B.J. Bolding and 200 church members purchased Zion's first building at 1125 Pennsylvania Avenue for \$16,000. Reverend Bolding served for 27 years until Rev. George Marion Edwards became the pastor in May 1931. Twenty-eight years later, on October 4, 1959, Rev. Clinton Rueben Coleman was chosen as Zion's new spiritual leader and served during the tumultuous years of the civil rights movement. Reverend Coleman was responsible for the renovation of the old Zion Church building and started the course toward planning and building a new church building. On May 12, 1972, he was elected to the AME Zion Church's 12-member Board of Bishops, the denomination's 72nd bishop in succession.

In 1972, Rev. Marshall H. Strickland was selected to lead Zion, and the journey continued towards constructing a new church. Three years later, Reverend Strickland led the groundbreaking ceremony at the southwest corner of Pennsylvania Avenue and Dolphin Street. On Sunday, April 10, 1977, after 16 years of vision, perseverance, and hard work, a jubilant congregation marched into the new church building. Eleven years later, on May 15, 1988, the mortgage note for the church was burned. On July 31, 1992, Reverend Strickland was elected the 88th bishop in succession in the AME Zion Church.

In September 1992, continuing the legacy of an historic church with great spiritual leaders, the Reverend Dr. Dennis Vernon Proctor was appointed pastor of the Pennsylvania Avenue AME Zion Church. Dr. Proctor's leadership and pastoral abilities, steadfastly applied for over a decade, increased the church's membership to over 1,800 congregants. After 16 years of faithful service to Zion Church, Dr. Proctor was elected the 97th bishop in succession during the Quadrennial Convention in Atlanta, GA, on July 18, 2008.

On September 14, 2008, less than 2 months before our Nation elected its first African American President, the

Right Reverend Warren M. Brown, presiding prelate of the Mid-Atlantic II Episcopal District, announced the current pastor of the Pennsylvania Avenue AME Zion Church, Rev. Lester Agyei McCorn, to a standing-room-only congregation.

Pennsylvania Avenue AME Zion Church, located in Baltimore's Upton community, is committed to providing spiritual leadership and support to help people overcome the political, social, and educational struggles affecting them in the communities that the church serves. It is a Kingdom-focused church, whose legacy continues with a renewed vision to make new disciples, help believers to mature in their faith, and multiply outreach and service ministries.

I encourage all Senators to join me in congratulating Pennsylvania Avenue AME Zion Church on its 170th anniversary and its even brighter future.●

TRIBUTE TO DICK WILKERSON

• Mr. GRAHAM. Mr. President, I would like to recognize the achievements of one of South Carolina's most respected citizens.

Greenville, SC, is the home of Michelin's North American headquarters. One of the largest tire manufacturers in the world, Michelin has had a presence in the state for over thirty years and currently employs nearly 8,000 South Carolinians. Michelin is known for its innovation and the quality of its products. It is also one of the finest corporate citizens we have in South Carolina.

Dick Wilkerson, the current chairman and president of Michelin North America, will retire at the end of 2011 after 31 years with the company, the last 3-plus years in his current role. Upon his retirement, he will become chairman emeritus of Michelin North America, in recognition of his remarkable career and strong and effective leadership during a very difficult economic time.

Under Dick's leadership, Michelin became the largest tire maker in North America by sales and has remained the most profitable tire maker in North America for 7 consecutive years. That is quite an achievement given the tough economic circumstances.

Wilkerson also led the creation of major community programs, including Michelin Development Upstate South Carolina and Michelin Challenge Education.

Michelin Development provides low interest loans and access to our considerable business expertise to create quality sustainable jobs and promote economic growth. To date, investments in Upstate South Carolina total more than \$2 million, 33 loans have been supported, and more than 750 potential jobs have been created inspiring new economic growth.

Michelin Challenge Education focuses on the support of public elementary schools located in close proximity

to major Michelin facilities. By forming a true partnership between each facility and its adopted school, Michelin provides support to meet the specific needs of each school. Several of these include low-income schools receiving Federal title I funds. The program formalizes an opportunity for Michelin's nearly 8,000 South Carolina employees to make a personal contribution to the improvement of public education through hands-on involvement. Michelin employees serve as mentors, tutors and volunteers.

Dick currently serves as chairman of the South Carolina State Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors. He also serves on the Clemson University President's Advisory Board and the University of South Carolina National Advisory Council. Nationally, he serves on the board of the Rubber Manufacturers Association and Board of Directors of the Yellowstone Park Foundation.

He is active in the Greenville, SC community, serving as chairman-elect of the United Way of Greenville County Board of Trustees. Previously, Dick served as chair of the United Way of Greenville County fundraising campaign. He has served on the boards of the Greenville Urban League, the chamber of commerce, the University Center, and the Greenville Symphony.

Dick has been a true leader in the State's business community. Michelin has turned in strong financial results, which reflects their strong commitment to their shareholders. Beyond that, is the company's commitment to its employees and the fact that Michelin is a true partner with the communities where their employees live and operate manufacturing facilities. Michelin is a superb example of how a good corporate citizen behaves. We are proud of the fact that Michelin calls South Carolina "home."

Dick, congratulations to you on your 31 years with Michelin. Thank you for your past contributions to South Carolina, and I look forward to continuing our work together to make South Carolina a great place to live and work.●

REMEMBERING HANNAH SOLOMON

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I come before you today with a heavy heart, as another of Alaska's treasured elders has passed. Yesterday would have marked the 103rd birthday of Hannah Solomon, a revered Athabascan elder and Gwich'in matriarch. Hannah passed away peacefully at her home in Fairbanks, September 16, 2011.

Grandma Hannah, as she was lovingly referred to, was surrounded by family and loved ones as she passed from this world. She spoke her last words softly, saying to family in Gwich'in, her traditional language, that it was time.

Hannah was known for her devotion to God. She was a very familiar face at St. Matthew's Episcopal Church in

Fairbanks, and it is said that she was the last person alive to remember the sound of Episcopal Archdeacon Hudson Stuck's voice. In the days following her passing, a red rose sat atop a crocheted pink and blue pillow in the empty pew seat where Hannah sat in devotion for so many years.

She was also well known for her beautiful and intricate beadwork; many of her pieces can be seen in museum collections around the world. Hannah was not only an artist but a culture bearer. She was born in the Interior of Alaska near the Porcupine River and raised 14 children in a traditional subsistence lifestyle. With no running water or electricity, the family enjoyed all the wealth their traditional homelands offered and never considered themselves to be poor.

Hannah may be best remembered for her social activism. With the wellbeing of her Gwich'in people always in mind, she and her husband Paul Solomon, Sr., helped to form many Alaska Native organizations, including the Fairbanks Native Association and Denakkanaaga. Fluent in her Native language, Hannah also worked as one of the first early social workers in Alaska, helping to create services for those in need.

Her passing will leave a void in our hearts that is difficult to fill. With the passing of each Alaska Native elder we lose a connection to the past and our unique history. Hannah took her responsibility as a culture bearer very seriously, ensuring that future generations knew the stories and traditions of the Gwich'in culture. She was a role model, matriarch, and a leader of exceptional courage and strength, inspiring people to appreciate and love one another.

I would like to offer Hannah's Solomon's family and countless friends my heartfelt condolences. She served the Native people and our beloved State of Alaska brilliantly over the course of her entire life. It is my hope that her extraordinary life will continue to serve as an inspiration to all of us.●

REMEMBERING ERNEST HOUSE, SR.

● Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, today I honor of my friend, Ernest House, Sr. I am deeply saddened by his death and I would like to take a few minutes to speak in his honor.

Mr. House was a member of the Weeminuche Band of the Ute Mountain Ute tribe. He was born and raised in Mancos Canyon, CO, in what is now the Ute Mountain Tribal Park in the Four Corners region of our State. Mr. House is the father of Michelle House, Jaque House Lopez, and Ernest House, Jr. He is the grandson of Chief Jack House, the Ute Mountain Ute's last hereditary chair. Ernest House, Sr., held a prominent role in the tribe's leadership over the course of the last three decades, serving several times as chairman and also as a tribal council member. In ad-

dition to his service with the tribe, he was also a veteran of the Colorado Army National Guard of the Special Forces Airborne Group, and he worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the National Park Service through the U.S. Department of the Interior.

I have admired Mr. House's leadership for many years. He was renowned across Indian Country for his gentle but effective leadership. At the heart of all of his efforts was the goal of improving the lives of his people, which he accomplished on a daily basis. His tireless advocacy for tribal businesses and enterprises led to the completion of several building projects, including the creation of the National Indian Health Service's Tribal Epidemiology Center in New Mexico. His eloquent testimony before Congress on the Dolores and Animas La Plata water projects led to the creation of two water compacts that are critical to the tribe's development. During the latter part of his career, Mr. House focused much of his energy on tribal safety, helping to increase the tribal police force from two officers to more than a dozen.

Mr. House had a wide circle of friends within his tribal community, but he was well respected throughout Colorado and Native American communities across our country. I can feel the sorrow of his friends and family as we collectively grieve for the loss of a truly visionary leader, a kind human being, and a wonderful friend. His legacy of working across tribal, ethnic, and party lines is something we should all take to heart as we try to rise to the challenges before us.

We are all shocked by the sudden loss of someone so important to our collective community. My uncle, Stewart Udall, served as Secretary of the Interior under President Kennedy, and he was also a champion for the rights of Native peoples. He once said that we are not measured by the things we accomplish but by how we treat people. In both regards, Mr. House was an outstanding person, and while he will be dearly missed, his legacy of dedication to his people will live on. We will think of him as we continue to strive to improve the quality of life for native people everywhere.●

STATUE UNVEILING

● Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, today we remember John Otto and the contributions he made to one of our State's natural treasures the Colorado National Monument.

One of western Colorado's most influential historical figures, a trailblazer and ever an eccentric, he was unwavering in his commitment to opening up public lands for all people and generations to enjoy. Otto, a solitary man, took up residence in the commonly known Monument Canyon in 1906. There he began building the first trails in the area, working with tenacious skill throughout the rocky spires and