

children. Three years ago, the couple created Camp Grace, a summer camp for other children with special needs. Held monthly at the Whelchel farm, the camp is designed to help children work toward specific therapy goals. They also donate countless hours of their time coordinating with volunteers, therapists, and other families to ensure the camp's success.

It is an honor to nominate Dave and Laura as 'Angels in Adoption'. The award, which honors those who have enriched the lives of foster and adopted children in the U.S., is a small token of appreciation for the love and compassion they have shown their children over the years. I could not think of a more deserving family for this award. My hope is that more families will follow the wonderful example set by the Whelchels by providing loving homes to deserving children.●

#### TRIBUTE TO RYAN AND AMBER JOHNSON

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Ryan and Amber Johnson of Sioux Falls, SD, as my nominees for the 2012 Angels in Adoption Award. Since 1999, the Angels in Adoption program through the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institution has honored more than 1,800 individuals, couples, and organizations nationwide for their work in providing children with loving, stable homes.

After being married for only a short time, Ryan and Amber Johnson began to consider expanding their family. After overcoming initial personal setbacks, the Johnson family decided to open their home to children in need by becoming foster parents. The couple quickly accepted the opportunity to become long-term foster parents of three siblings between the ages of 7 months and 6 years, and later, the Johnsons provided a temporary, loving home for a 4-year-old foster child. The Johnsons were soon blessed again with two Native American half-brothers as foster children. It quickly became evident to Ryan and Amber how wonderful the addition of these two boys was to their family. Shortly after, Ryan and Amber adopted Lukias, age 3, and are in the process of finalizing the adoption of his younger brother. During the adoption process, the Johnson family learned that they were pregnant, and on May 1, 2011, welcomed their newest family member, Sophia. The young family now consists of 3 siblings, ages 1, 2, and 3.

Foster homes regularly see children come and go, staying for varying lengths of time. The changing environment often places an emotional toll on the caregivers who develop deep, personal relationships with their foster children. Despite the challenges that foster parents face, the Johnsons have used their life lessons to create a warm, loving home for children in need of a nurturing environment to grow and develop. Ryan and Amber plan to

continue taking in foster children and possibly even expand their family by giving other children a place to call home.

National Adoption Day is around the corner, and it is important to recognize the compassionate families who bring joy to the lives of children as foster and adoptive parents. It brings me great pride to be able to honor South Dakotans Ryan and Amber Johnson, my nominees for the 2012 Angels in Adoption Award.●

#### TRIBUTE TO ALAN HAMEL

● Mr. UDALL of COLORADO. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to a true leader of Colorado's water community, Mr. Alan Hamel. Alan retired from his position on the Board of Water Works of Pueblo, CO, at the end of August after more than 50 years of service for the board.

Alan began his career as a student helper in 1960 working summers for the board. He returned after graduating from Colorado State University in Pueblo to become a full-time pump station operator. Over the next 20 years, Alan worked his way up the ladder through various management positions until he was appointed executive director in 1982.

Under Alan's direction, Pueblo has built one of the most modern water infrastructure systems in the Nation. Because of his leadership, the Pueblo area's future water supplies are sufficient and secure, which is truly impressive given all of the water challenges facing Colorado. The board has also benefited from extraordinary continuity during Alan's 29-year tenure at the helm, which I am confident will continue under new executive director Terry Book's guidance.

Alan has also been a water leader statewide. He is a member of the Colorado Water Conservation Board, CWC, Colorado Water Congress, CWC, and Statewide Water Supply Initiative. He has also held leadership positions on the Southeastern Colorado Water Conservancy District and Arkansas Basin Roundtable among many others. He also received CWC's top award in 2010, the prestigious Wayne Aspinall Water Leader of the Year Award, for his lifetime of achievement.

On a more personal level, Alan has earned the respect and admiration of the Colorado water community because he is a true public servant in the best sense of the word. He is unflappable, a fountain of knowledge about water, and always seeks common ground with opposing views while fighting fiercely and fairly for the needs of his community. He cares deeply about Pueblo and Colorado and has served both remarkably.

And above all, Alan is a family man who knows none of this could be possible without the support of his wife Mary Kay and children. While he lives and breathes water, his family comes first and foremost.

As with most water warriors, Alan's retirement will only be partial. He will continue his work on CWC and the Arkansas Basin Roundtable, and I am sure many of us will still call upon his wisdom and experience often. I suppose after more than 50 years of service he has earned the right to switch to part-time work.

I wish him well in his next endeavors and congratulate him on an impressive career.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, 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 messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 5, 2011, the Secretary of the Senate, on August 3, 2012, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives that the Clerk is directed to inform the Senate that the House of Representatives failed to agree to the resolution of the Senate (S. Con. Res. 56) providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and an adjournment of the House of Representatives.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 5, 2011, the Secretary of the Senate, on August 3, 2012, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 3510. An act to prevent harm to the national security or endangering the military officers and civilian employees to whom internet publication of certain information applies, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 2103(b), and the order of the House of January 5, 2011, the Speaker appoints the following individual from private life to the Board of Trustees of the American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress on the part of the House of Representatives for a term of 6 years: Mr. C. Kurt Dewhurst of Michigan.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 5, 2011, the Secretary of the Senate, on August 7, 2012, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the

House has agreed the following concurrent resolutions, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 58. Concurrent resolution directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 4240.

S. Con. Res. 59. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate and an adjournment of the House of Representatives.

#### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 5, 2011, the Secretary of the Senate, on August 7, 2012, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY) had signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 3510. An act to prevent harm to the national security or endangering the military officers and civilian employees to whom internet publication of certain information applies, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1402. An act to authorize the Architect of the Capitol to establish battery recharging stations for privately owned vehicles in parking areas under the jurisdiction of the House of Representatives at no net cost to the Federal Government.

H.R. 3670. An act to require the Transportation Security Administration to comply with the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act.

H.R. 4240. An act to reauthorize the North Korean Human Rights Act of 2004, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 5, 2011, the enrolled bills were subsequently signed on August 7, 2012 by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. WEBB).

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:03 p.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. 8. An act to extend certain tax relief provisions enacted in 2001 and 2003, and to provide for expedited consideration of a bill providing for comprehensive tax reform, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6233. An act to make supplemental agricultural disaster assistance available for fiscal year 2012 with the costs of such assistance offset by changes to certain conservation programs, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 127. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding actions to preserve and advance the multi-stakeholder governance model under which the Internet has thrived.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 6233. An act to make supplemental agricultural disaster assistance available for fiscal year 2012 with the costs of such assist-

ance offset by changes to certain conservation programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 127. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding actions to preserve and advance the multi-stakeholder governance model under which the Internet has thrived; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 3519. A bill to require sponsoring Senators to pay the printing costs of ceremonial and commemorative Senate resolutions.

#### MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 8. An act to extend certain tax relief provisions enacted in 2001 and 2003, and to provide for expedited consideration of a bill providing for comprehensive tax reform, and for other purposes.

S. 3522. A bill to provide for the expansion of affordable refinancing of mortgages held by the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation.

S. 3525. A bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

#### ENROLLED BILLS PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on August 3, 2012, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills:

S. 270. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain Federal land to Deschutes County, Oregon.

S. 271. An act to require the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into a property conveyance with the city of Wallowa, Oregon, and for other purposes.

S. 739. An act to authorize the Architect of the Capitol to establish battery recharging stations for privately owned vehicles in parking areas under the jurisdiction of the Senate at no net cost to the Federal Government.

S. 3363. An act to provide for the use of National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center Commemorative Coin surcharges, and for other purposes.

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on August 7, 2012, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 3510. An act to prevent harm to the national security or endangering the military officers and civilian employees to whom Internet publication of certain information applies, 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-7135. A communication from the Administrator, Rural Utilities Service, Depart-

ment of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Water and Waste Disposal Loans and Grants" (RIN0572-AC26) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 15, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7136. A communication from the Secretary of the Commission, Division of Clearing and Risk, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Swap Transaction Compliance and Implementation Schedule: Clearing Requirement Under Section 2(h) of the CEA" (RIN3038-AD60) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 14, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7137. A communication from the Secretary of the Commission, Division of Clearing and Risk, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "End-User Exception to the Clearing Requirement for Swaps" (RIN3038-AD10) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 14, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7138. A communication from the Secretary of the Commission, Office of General Counsel, Commodity Futures Trading Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Further Definition of 'Swap,' 'Security-Based Swap,' and 'Security-Based Swap Agreement'; Mixed Swaps; Security-Based Swap Agreement Record-keeping" (RIN3038-AD46) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 14, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7139. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Paraquat Dichloride; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9357-1) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7140. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Bacillus thuringiensis eCry3.1Ab Protein in Corn; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9357-4) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7141. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Residues of Didecyl dimethyl ammonium chloride; Exemption from the Requirement of a Tolerance" (FRL No. 9356-6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7142. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Flutriafol; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 9348-8) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on August 7, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-7143. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division,