

IN THE ARMY

PN146 ARMY nomination of Jasmine T. N. Daniels, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 7, 2013.

PN147 ARMY nomination of Paul W. Roecker, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 7, 2013.

PN148 ARMY nominations (8) beginning JAMES B. BARKLEY, and ending MICHAEL E. SPRAGGINS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 7, 2013.

PN149 ARMY nomination of Lena M. Fabian, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 7, 2013.

PN150 ARMY nominations (3) beginning YIMING A. CHING, and ending JOSEPH F. GOODMAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 7, 2013.

PN151 ARMY nominations (58) beginning WILLIAM C. ALLEY, and ending D010916, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 7, 2013.

PN152 ARMY nominations (2) beginning ALISON R. HUPPMAN, and ending ALLEGRA E. LOBELL, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 7, 2013.

PN153 ARMY nominations (4) beginning THOMAS M. GREGO, and ending GEORGE J. ZECKLER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 7, 2013.

IN THE NAVY

PN154 NAVY nominations (4) beginning ANDREW W. DELEY, and ending GREGORY E. RINGLER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of February 7, 2013.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will return to legislative session.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent that we now proceed to a period of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO DAWN CLARK NETSCH

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, this morning we received news in Chicago that Dawn Clark Netsch has passed away. She died from complications from Lou Gehrig's disease at the age of 86. It was a surprise to lose her this quickly, although all of us knew she was struggling with this terrible disease.

When the history of her contribution to Illinois is written, it will undoubtedly note the obvious: She had worked in Illinois government since the 1950s, under then-Governor Stevenson. She was a law professor at Northwestern University Law School. She was elected State senator in the 1970s. She was elected our State's comptroller after that, and she had an ill-fated run for Governor.

If that is all it says, though, it will miss the most important part of her life because, you see, Dawn Clark Netsch was an iconic, historic force in our State. More than any person in Illinois history, Dawn Clark Netsch created the modern era of women in Illinois political leadership. As always, those who were charged with opening the doors of opportunity have to come to that task extraordinarily gifted, determined, and patient. Dawn Netsch was all of these and more.

Early in my life, fresh out of law school, I was a lawyer working in the Illinois State Senate, and I saw firsthand the talents of this new senator, Dawn Clark Netsch. Her political base was the Lakeshore liberal base in Chicago—the group who was always at war with the Chicago machine and proud of it. She was elected from that base but then surprised most everyone when she came to Springfield and struck up a friendship, a genuine friendship, in the constitutional convention first and then in the State Senate with a young State senator named Richard M. Daley, son of Mayor Daley. Dawn Netsch proved that a politician can be both principled and effective and civil. Her ill-fated run for Governor lacked the political polish of many winning campaigns, but her thoughtfulness, her candor, and her blunt honesty about the challenges Illinois faced will always be remembered.

The Illinois political scene will not be the same without that pool-shooting Sox fan with a cigarette holder, but generations of Illinois women can thank the indomitable force of Dawn Clark Netsch for blazing their path.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM J. RISSEL

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize a Kentuckian who has both faithfully served his community and the men and women of the U.S. Army for more than two decades. I speak of Mr. William J. Rissel, the president and chief executive officer of the Fort Knox Federal Credit Union, a stalwart member of the Fort Knox CORE Committee, and a long-time friend.

Under Bill's leadership, the Fort Knox Federal Credit Union has achieved impressive growth and has done much to help the local community. Bill has worked in the financial services industry for more than 30 years, and he has headed the Fort Knox Federal Credit Union since 1991. In that time, it has expanded from 4 branches primarily serving Hardin County to 14 branches across central Kentucky. Fort Knox Federal Credit Union was recently awarded the Department of the Army's Distinguished Service Award. It won this recognition in competition against all other on-post credit unions in the Nation.

If there is a cause that is near and dear to Bill's heart in addition to Fort Knox Federal, it is that of Fort Knox and the surrounding community. In

2011, under Bill's guidance, Fort Knox Federal sponsored a platoon deployed to Afghanistan. The staff shared messages of support and care packages with the soldiers to remind them of home and let them know that they remained in the thoughts and prayers of the local community. Bill and I have worked together for years trying to ensure that Fort Knox has what it needs to support its mission and the military personnel and their families who call the post home. Bill has been a member of the Fort Knox CORE Committee since 1993 and has served as president of the organization since January 2006.

Bill is also active in the local area, having served as a Radcliff Chamber of Commerce board member; president of the Association of the United States Army, Fort Knox chapter; the United Way Advisory Committee; the Radcliff Industrial Foundation Board; and Rotary International. He also visits Fort Knox Elementary School and reads to Mrs. Trimble's class every year.

Bill and his wife Rosie are completing their dream house in Florida where they may both enjoy the warm weather, but I know his heart will always remain in central Kentucky.

Mr. President, I ask my U.S. Senate colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. William J. Rissel for his successful career and thank him for his service to the community and to Fort Knox.

NORTH LAUREL HIGH SCHOOL
CHEERLEADER TEAM

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to recognize a group of young ladies who have found great success in their athletic endeavors on the national and international level. The North Laurel High School cheerleaders have represented their county and the Commonwealth of Kentucky well with their hard work, skill, and success. On February 10, the North Laurel High School cheerleaders won both the World School and International Cup at UCA Nationals in Orlando, FL.

The cheerleading squad from North Laurel High School not only reclaimed the title of first place in World School at the UCA, Universal Cheerleaders Association, Nationals in Orlando, but they went on to become champions of the International Cup, beating out teams from Canada, Ecuador, and China. They also went on to win first place in the medium 2A Division representing the 13th Region at the 2013 KHSAA, Kentucky High School Athletic Association, Competitive Cheer State Championship held in Bowling Green, KY on February 23. Team members Autumn Asher, Madison Asher, Machenzie Burns, Raye Lynn Campbell, Taylor Crockett, Channing Ely, Emily Evans, Katlyn Helton, Malari Hoskins, Sara Kaminsky, Peyton Lankford, Katie Mays, Tara McClure, Aubree Oakley, Katelyn Sharp, MaKayla Vaughn, Mary Kate Whitfield, and Maddie Wood as well as

coaches Kimberly B. Wood, Toni Blake Greer, and Jomo K. Thompson saw their dedication and hours of practice pay off with victory. Truly, their efforts reflect well on their community, and they represent to competitors all over the world the unbridled spirit of Kentuckians.

At this time, I would like to publicly declare Kentucky's appreciation for this team, their coaches, and their parents who have received well-deserved recognition and success for their commitments and practice. The North Laurel High School cheerleaders have represented Kentucky well, and we are both grateful and proud. I would ask my colleagues in the U.S. Senate to join me in acknowledging their achievements, and I ask unanimous consent that an article detailing their success from the Laurel County-area publication the Sentinel Echo be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

[From the Sentinel Echo, Feb. 14, 2013]
NLHS, E.B. CHEER TEAMS WIN BIG AT
NATIONALS

LAUREL COUNTY, KY.—Laurel County cheer teams received high honors at the UCA Nationals in Orlando, Fla., this weekend.

The North Laurel High School team earned first place in the medium varsity division, as well as being named the first-place winners in world school and international cup competitions.

This was the first time the team has won first place at nationals since 2009.

"We have a very young squad," said Kim Wood, coach. "Our goal going into this was to hit a solid routine. We told the girls to focus just on us, not the other teams, and doing the absolute best we could do."

Although the team won first in world school last year, this was the first year they were named as champions of the international cup against teams from Canada, China, and Ecuador.

The outcome was a wonderful surprise, she said.

"It was our best performance at national level. It was pretty perfect in our eyes," Wood continued. "The awards were the icing on the cake."

It was ninth-grader Taylor Crockett's first high-school nationals. Crockett has competed in cheerleading since the sixth grade.

"It took a lot of hard work. At the beginning of the year, we really didn't know each other," she said. "We just started bonding as a team. That bond helped us."

Senior MaKayla Vaughn said this year was both "amazing" and "bittersweet" because it will be her last.

During competition, Vaughn said the team helped to keep each other calm, encouraging and supporting one another.

"We were the first team to go on," she said. "We told each other to set the bar high."

The East Bernstadt Tumble Cats also took home a big win this weekend at UCA Nationals.

The Tumble Cats won first place in the youth rec, or elementary, division against seven other teams.

In January, the Tumble Cats were named the elementary state champions for the second year in a row at the Kentucky Middle School State competition in Richmond.

The elementary team was formed just three years ago.

"They've gotten progressively better over time," said Coach Cristin Adams. "They worked really hard this year. These kids and their parents are very dedicated."

This was the first year Adams and Coach Darrin Spencer took the team, comprised of first- to fourth-graders, to UCA Nationals.

"We (she and Spencer) saw the potential of this team. Our goal was to make the top 3 (at nationals). We exceeded that and got first place."

Prior to competition, even making the top 3 looked to be a big feat.

"One week before we left (for nationals), we had two girls break their fingers," Adams said. "We had to rework our routine, and that's not easy, especially at this age, but we hit the routine solid."

The team trains at Damar Gymnastics in Lily, who choreographed their routine.

"Gymnastics is where the foundation starts," Adams said. "Technique is very important."

The majority of the 20-member team are third-graders, and most, Adams said, have been on the team for three years.

"Starting young helps feed into the older teams," she said. "And we want to be a good feeder program for North Laurel Middle and North Laurel High schools."

The North Laurel Middle School cheerleading team took second place in their division at UCA nationals.

NLMS team coaches include Katie Sizemore, Paula Crawford, and Susan Tolliver.

NLHS team coaches include Wood, Toni Blake Greer, and Jomo Thompson, who is also the University of Kentucky head cheerleading coach.

PANDEMIC AND ALL-HAZARDS PREPAREDNESS REAUTHORIZATION ACT

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I am pleased to come to the floor in support of the Pandemic and All Hazards Preparedness Reauthorization Act of 2013, PAHPRA. Last week, the Senate passed this bill by unanimous consent and last night the House passed the bill with overwhelming bipartisan support. I am so pleased PAHPRA is getting sent to the President to be signed into law. Enacting this bill is critical for Marylander's safety, jobs, biotech companies, State and local health departments, and our State's economy. It is also critical that we understand and be responsive to the unique health care needs of children in disasters.

Recent disasters at home and abroad have underscored the importance of preparing our Nation to respond to a range of medical and public health emergencies, whether naturally occurring or the result of a chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear attack. Over the past decade, multiple Congresses and administrations have worked together to put in place critical medical and public health preparedness and response programs and policies. As a result of the passage of the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act, PAHPA of 2006, the Federal Government, in partnership with State and local governments, took significant steps to strengthen our Nation's medical and public health preparedness and response capabilities. This bipartisan

reauthorization builds on these efforts by enhancing existing programs and authorities using lessons learned over the past 5 years to maximize our Nation's resilience to threats, whether naturally occurring or deliberate.

I thank Senators HARKIN, ENZI, BURR, ALEXANDER, and CASEY for their dedication and commitment to reauthorizing the programs in this bill and protecting our country from threats. By coming together, passing this bill, and sending it to the President to get signed into law, we will strengthen our Nation's ability to prepare for and respond to all hazards emergencies, and we will ensure that we have looked out for our children. The congenial and bipartisan process we followed should be a model for how we do all of our work here in Congress.

PAHPRA includes important provisions that I fought for as Chairwoman of the HELP Subcommittee on Children and Families. I led the effort to create a National Advisory Committee on Children and Disasters to continue the good work started by the National Commission on Children and Disasters. The advisory committee, established by my amendment, will bring together children's advocates and federal agencies to ensure we are well equipped to care for our most vulnerable population when preparing for, responding to and recovering from a disaster. I am committed to getting this advisory committee up and running this year. Doing all that we can to protect our most vulnerable is of the utmost importance.

I would also like to thank the American Academy of Pediatrics for their commitment to children's health and for building a coalition of support for my amendment to establish the Advisory Committee. Save the Children and the Children's Health Fund were also steadfast advocates for this committee and other important pediatric provisions contained in this bill.

This advisory committee will include a variety of pediatric experts, from those who work in Federal agencies, to non-federal health care professionals, to employees of relevant State and local agencies. I made sure that at least four members of this committee would not be federal bureaucrats to ensure that all views and perspectives are considered. Community-based pediatricians, nurses, and State and local public health and emergency management professionals are on the front lines responding to emergencies every day. These folks know what the situation is like on the ground.

The advisory committee will serve an important role in making sure that the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Homeland Security swiftly implement the medical and public health recommendations put forth by the National Commission on Children and Disasters. Committee members will also advise federal agencies on the medical and public health policies and