

Lancaster is a gateway to the Great North Woods, Weeks State Park and the White Mountain National Forest.

As Coos County's county seat, Lancaster is home to over 3,500 residents. The town welcomes hundreds of visitors from across the region who come each year to enjoy its scenic beauty and vibrant recreational opportunities, including snowmobiling, hiking, and fishing. Shops line the town's bustling Main Street, and every year the annual Lancaster Fair, which is the premier agricultural fair in the region, attracts citizens from across the Granite State and beyond.

New Hampshire's covered bridges are a unique part of our State's beauty, history and charm, and the town of Lancaster is home to two of these classic bridges. The historic Mt. Orne and Mechanic Street bridges span the Connecticut and Israel rivers, respectively.

Throughout its history, Lancaster has also been home to several notable public servants. John Weeks represented New Hampshire in the U.S. Senate, where he sponsored legislation that established the White Mountain National Forest. He also served in President Calvin Coolidge's cabinet as the 48th Secretary of War. Jared W. Williams served in the U.S. House and Senate, and was New Hampshire's 21st governor. Chester Bradley Jordan was elected the 48th Governor of New Hampshire, Irving W. Drew served in the U.S. Senate, and Jacob Benton and Ossain Ray both served in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Lancaster's citizens have contributed much to the life and spirit of the State of New Hampshire. I am delighted to congratulate all Lancaster residents—past and present—as they celebrate this historic occasion.●

MENTORING

● Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I would like to express appreciation to those who volunteer their time to serve as mentors.

A recent New York Times column by Thomas L. Friedman titled, "It Takes a Mentor," discussed the importance of mentors to students and those starting careers. This article highlighted research conducted by the Gallup organization that underscored the significant role mentors can play in helping individuals achieve post-secondary education and career success.

The Gallup research focused on the benefits of mentorships for young adults, but those advantages can also be applied to the academic and athletic mentor programs available to children in grades K–12.

While policymakers and educational experts address concerns about whether American children will learn the skills needed to succeed in an increasingly competitive global economy, we should not overlook the role that mentors play on an individual basis to inspire K–12 students to set higher goals and achieve more.

Volunteer mentors serve as positive role models who can help build self-esteem and confidence in youth, particularly in at-risk children. The best mentors endeavor to challenge students, enhance their self-confidence, and make them excited about learning.

I appreciate the efforts of organizations such as the Community Foundation of Northwest Mississippi, Tougaloo College and others throughout Mississippi that sponsor a variety of mentorship programs with missions to improve the education and wellness of children in my State. The individuals, college students and professionals who give of their time to be part of mentor programs also have my respect.

Mr. President, as a new school year gets underway in earnest across the Nation, I think it is worthwhile to consider and encourage the benefits and rewards that come with volunteering to serve as a mentor.

I ask unanimous consent that a copy of Mr. Friedman's column be printed in the RECORD.

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

[From the New York Times, Sept. 9, 2014]

IT TAKES A MENTOR

(By Thomas L. Friedman)

With millions of students returning to school—both K–12 and college—this is a good time to review the intriguing results of some research that Gallup did over the past year, exploring the linkages between education and long-term success in the workplace. That is: What are the things that happen at a college or technical school that, more than anything else, produce "engaged" employees on a fulfilling career track? According to Brandon Busted, the executive director of Gallup's education division, two things stand out. Successful students had one or more teachers who were mentors and took a real interest in their aspirations, and they had an internship related to what they were learning in school.

"We think it's a big deal" where we go to college, Busted explained to me. "But we found no difference in terms of type of institution you went to—public, private, selective or not in long-term outcomes. How you got your college education mattered most."

Graduates who told Gallup that they had a professor or professors "who cared about them as a person—or had a mentor who encouraged their goals and dreams and/or had an internship where they applied what they were learning—were twice as likely to be engaged with their work and thriving in their overall well-being," Busted said.

Alas, though, only 22 percent of college grads surveyed said they had such a mentor and 29 percent had an internship where they applied what they were learning. So less than a third were exposed to the things that mattered most.

Gallup's data were compiled from polls of parents of 5th through 12th graders, business leaders and interviews with teachers, superintendents, college presidents, principals, college graduates, Americans ages 18 to 34, and students in grades 5 through 12. All told, "we collected the voices of close to one million Americans in the past year alone," said Busted, who added that he found the results "alarming"—not only because too few students are getting exposed to the most important drivers of workplace engagement, but because there is also a huge disconnect in perceptions of the problem.

Busted said that 96 percent of the college provosts Gallup surveyed believed their schools were successfully preparing young people for the workplace. "When you ask recent college grads in the work force whether they felt prepared, only 14 percent say 'yes,'" he added. And then when you ask business leaders whether they're getting enough college grads with the skills they need, "only 11 percent strongly agree." Concluded Busted: "This is not just a skills gap. It is an understanding gap."

This comes at a time when our country faces creative destruction on steroids thanks to the dynamism of technology and growing evidence that climbing the ladder of job success requires constant learning and relearning. Therefore, the need for schools to have a good grasp of what employers are looking for and for employers to be communicating with schools about those skills is greater than ever.

Some help may be on the way from Washington. Last year, President Obama quietly asked Vice President Joe Biden to oversee an overhaul of the government's education-to-work programs after hearing from one too many employers across the country that, as one White House official put it, "they were having trouble hiring workers for some of their fastest-growing jobs," such as operating sophisticated machine tools or software testing and debugging.

As they dove into the problem, said Byron Auguste, a White House deputy national economic adviser, they found that the success stories shared a lot of the same attributes that Gallup found to be differentiating. In successful programs, said Auguste, "students got as much applied, hands-on experience as possible, whether in a classroom or on a job site. Schools, colleges and training centers had close partnerships with regional employers, industry groups and skilled trade unions to stay up to date on job-relevant skills. And students or working learners got a lot of coaching and guidance to understand how to trace a direct path between their training today and careers tomorrow."

The key now is to scale those insights. The Labor Department has awarded \$1.5 billion in the last three years to more than 700 community colleges to develop employer-validated training programs for new careers like natural gas field work and cybersecurity. Later this month, another \$500 million is set to be awarded as part of a kind of race-to-the-top for whoever can build the best community college-industry group partnership anywhere in the country where new industries are finding gaps in the kind of workers they need.

Employers used to take generalists and train them into specialists for their industry. But fewer employers want to do that today or can afford to in a globally competitive economy, especially when they fear they'll train someone who will then leave for a competitor. So everyone wants employees out of college or technical schools who are as ready to plug and play as possible. That's why government has a role in fostering more and more employer-educator partnerships—this is the new, new thing—which businesses, small and large, can benefit from, as well as all would-be employees.●

IDAHO HOMETOWN HERO MEDAL

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the 2014 recipients of the Idaho Hometown Hero medal in the fourth year of the presentation of this recognition.

Drs. Fahim and Naeem Rahim established the Idaho Hometown Hero Award to recognize individuals who embody the spirit of philanthropy while showing remarkable commitment in both their personal and professional lives. This award helps encourage those working for the betterment of our communities. I congratulate the 2014 award recipients and commend the Rahim brothers, the award's committee members, the cosponsors, volunteers, and other organizations supporting this honor for partnering to cast light on good works.

Nine extraordinary individuals are 2014 Hometown Hero Award recipients. Medical pioneer Dr. Lloyd Call helped establish the Washington Wyoming Alaska Montana Idaho Medical Education Program and the Idaho State University Family Practice Residency in Pocatello. Dedicated 11-year-old Alec Carlson assists his blind mother with their daily routines. Volunteer Lin Carlson helps seniors maintain healthy lifestyles. Sarah Anita Hibbert serves her community delivering toys and goodies to children in the hospital, and she collected over 4,500 pounds of shoes for orphanages through the national Shoes for Love drive.

Sergeant Mathew J. Krumwiede served in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and does not let his injuries impede his achievements. Fifteen-year-old Adalaide "Addy" Mayer not only helps care for her father, who was injured serving our Nation in Iraq, but also serves as a volunteer athlete with the Special Olympics. George G. Nickel, who served our Nation in Operations Southern Watch in Iraq and Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, founded the Idaho Veterans Network to assist fellow veterans. Ann Toomey Walsh created Camp Magical Moments Cancer Camp for Kids to help improve the lives of children with cancer and their families. Helen Wayman Ward, who served as the music specialist for Malad Elementary School for more than 30 years, prevails over significant mental and physical health challenges in her family to give considerably of her time and talent to her community.

These Hometown Hero medal recipients join other veterans, businessmen, authors, physicians, advocates, athletes, teachers, coaches, writers, innovators, public servants, and others who have been recognized through this award. I am honored to be among the 2011 recipients of this medal and to have the opportunity to assist in recognizing the good work of the Rahims and this year's award recipients.

You are making a great difference in our communities, and your actions are inspiring others. You have demonstrated a commitment to hard work, self-improvement, and community service worthy of this esteemed award. I wish you all the best on many more years of positive actions to celebrate.●

NATIONAL MODEL AVIATION DAY

● Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize National Model Aviation Day, celebrated across the country on August 16, 2014. This annual celebration encourages aeromodeling enthusiasts and model aviation clubs around the Nation to promote the hobby and to raise money for charitable causes.

Model aviation has long been respected as a safe and educational tool, dating back to Leonardo de Vinci's first design of "flying machines" in the late 1400s. This yearly celebration is intended to encourage the more than 2,300 model aviation clubs across the Nation to celebrate the wonder of flight and gather model aircraft enthusiasts together in lending a hand to our veterans.

The Federal Aviation Administration has acknowledged the Academy of Model Aeronautics—the Academy—for fostering model aircraft safety and helping the public to understand model aircraft safety. The Academy is a congressionally recognized community-based organization representing more than 164,000 members. The Academy will continue to promote National Model Aviation Day to people of all ages to learn and experience the thrill and fantasy of flight and I commend the Academy for its work.

This annual celebration is an event for all members of the community to enjoy, including the 11,000 annual visitors to the International Aeromodeling Center in Muncie, IN. On behalf of all Hoosiers, I sincerely wish everyone around the Nation a safe and happy National Model Aviation Day.●

REMEMBERING NICKOLAUS SCHULTZ

● Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, today I rise to recognize and honor the extraordinary service and ultimate sacrifice of Merrillville, IN police officer Nickolaus (Nick) Schultz. Dedicated, loyal, and above all compassionate to those in need, Officer Schultz was sworn into the Merrillville Police Department in 2013.

On Friday, September 5, 2014, Officer Schultz responded to an unwanted party call at Tempe Lake Condominiums in Merrillville. Upon arriving at the condominium where the suspect was believed to be hiding, Officer Schultz led a group of four Merrillville police officers into the unit. Moments after entering, the officers were ambushed. Two shots were fired at Officer Schultz, with one striking him in the head. Despite the best efforts of his fellow officers, EMTs, and medical personnel, Officer Schultz, 24, succumbed to his wounds on September 7, 2014.

"He led by example . . . It was no surprise to everyone that he was the first officer to approach the door on that night," said Reverend Peter Muha.

An Indiana native, Officer Schultz grew up in Lowell, where he attended

Lowell High School. Known for his outgoing, gregarious personality, athleticism, and concern for others, Nick was a varsity member of the championship Lowell football team. Nick went on to play football at Franklin College, where he became co-captain of the team. In 2013, he graduated with a bachelor's degree in sociology and criminal justice.

"He always wanted the best for people, and he always watched out for people," said Kristen Mikesell, a friend since childhood. According to many of his peers and Merrillville family members, Officer Schultz always wanted to help other people. "He was a teddy bear, but a strong man who wanted to make a difference," said Merrillville Police Chief Joseph Petruch. It was with this in mind that Officer Schultz's family allowed him to be of service one last time by choosing to donate his organs.

Officer Schultz is survived and deeply missed by his parents Dale and Coleen Schultz; sister Heather Schultz; paternal grandmother Charlotte Herring; maternal grandparents Rich and Pat Shields; girlfriend Emilee McInnis; numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins; the Merrillville Police Department family; and Hoosiers throughout the State.

Officer Schultz loved his work, and he gave his life to serve and protect the citizens of Merrillville. Although he would have never considered himself a hero, Officer Schultz demonstrated his character daily by conducting himself with courage, bravery, compassion, honor, and integrity. Thus, he was a true American hero—in his everyday life as a police officer, son, brother, and friend—and in his final call to duty. Let us always remember and emulate the shining example this stalwart, brave man set for us and honor him for his selfless commitment to serving his fellow citizens. May God welcome him home and give comfort to his family and friends.●

REMEMBERING REVEREND LEONARD F. CHROBOT

● Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and honor the extraordinary service of the Reverend Leonard F. Chrobot. Humble, generous, and above all compassionate to those in need, Father Chrobot served in the priesthood for 50 years.

A native of South Bend, IN, Leonard Chrobot stayed in his hometown to attend St. Mary's College. He went on to attend Saints Cyril and Methodius Seminary in Orchard Lake, MI, and was ordained to the priesthood in 1964. In subsequent years, Father Chrobot earned a Master's Degree in American Literature from Purdue University and a Doctorate from Wayne State University.

Father Chrobot served in various academic and pastoral positions during his life, including Academic Dean and President of St. Mary's College and Adjunct Professor and Coordinator of the