

served as the president of the Wisconsin League of Municipalities, advocating for issues important to cities and villages.

I am grateful for Larry Arft's contributions to the people of Beloit and to the people of Wisconsin, and I thank him for his service. I know his presence and personal commitment will be missed. I wish him and his wife Karen all the best in the years ahead.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

NATIONAL SEERSUCKER DAY

● Mr. CASSIDY. Mr. President, today I rise in appreciation of seersucker manufacturers and enthusiasts across the country. I extend a Happy Seersucker Day. This uniquely American fashion has a storied history dating back to 1909. Louisiana is proud to have played an important part in introducing the country to seersucker apparel. The first seersucker suit was designed by Joseph Haspel at his Broad Street facility in New Orleans, LA.

This lightweight cotton fabric, known for its signature pucker has been enjoyed by Americans from all walks of life during our hot summer months. Mr. Haspel said it best, "hot is hot, no matter what you do for a living." In the 1990s, Seersucker Day was established by members of this chamber to honor this unique American fashion. I proudly resumed this tradition last year in the U.S. House of Representatives by designating Wednesday, June 11 as National Seersucker Day. I wish to continue this tradition in U.S. Senate by designating Thursday, June 11 as National Seersucker Day once again. I encourage everyone to wear seersucker on this day to commemorate this iconic American clothing.●

RECOGNIZING THE OPENING OF THE UCI-FRED HUTCH CANCER CENTRE

● Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, today I want to congratulate the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center and the Uganda Cancer Institute for officially opening the UCI-Fred Hutch Cancer Centre in Kampala, the first comprehensive cancer center jointly constructed by U.S. and African cancer institutions in Sub-Saharan Africa.

The 25,000-square-foot regional cancer center is a state-of-the-art-facility that can treat up to 20,000 patients a year and includes an adult and pediatric outpatient clinic, a specimen repository, training center, conference rooms, and a pharmacy.

Uganda has a substantial cancer burden, and 6 out of 10 of the most common cancers there are caused by infectious diseases. To address this unique health need, Uganda has invested in cancer research, training, and clinical care. The UCI-Fred Hutch Cancer Centre will significantly increase patient

access to cancer diagnosis and treatment while furthering study of cancers in Uganda, particularly those that are infection related.

This alliance brings together two international leaders in the field of oncology care, training, and research and is ideally positioned to provide American and Ugandan physician scientists with in-depth training in the treatment of infection-related malignancies in both the United States and Sub-Saharan Africa.

The relationship between Fred Hutch and the UCI dates back to 2004, and the UCI/Hutchinson Center Cancer Alliance was formally established in 2008. The program was formed to support the development of a strong biomedical infrastructure in Uganda that would contribute to the prevention, early detection, diagnosis, and treatment of cancer and related health concerns.

In 2008, Uganda had just one oncologist who treated more than 10,000 patients a year. In response, Fred Hutch spearheaded an extensive medical training program that has trained more than 300 Ugandans and Americans to date in the treatment of infection-related cancers, including physicians, nurses, laboratory technicians, pharmacists, data specialists, and experts in regulatory affairs and fiscal management. Today, the number of practicing oncologists in Uganda has increased twelvefold.

The UCI-Fred Hutch Cancer Centre is funded in part by two grants for which I was proud to advocate totaling \$1.4 million from the U.S. Agency for International Development (through the American Schools and Hospitals Abroad Program), as well as an \$8.6 million investment from Fred Hutch. The Ugandan Government has supported the collaboration through donations of land, provision of funding for personnel and equipment, and technical support.

I am proud to work with Fred Hutch in their effort to bring cutting-edge cancer care to patients and families all around the globe. This joint venture with UCI has the potential to drastically improve the lives of many people, both in Uganda and worldwide. I am proud that my State of Washington is home to Fred Hutch, and I applaud them and the Uganda Cancer Institute for their cross-national effort to effect this critical change.●

LEONARD SCHOOL OF MUSIC 70TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. SCOTT. Mr. President, I would like to congratulate and honor the Leonard School of Music in North Charleston, SC, for their 70th anniversary. In 1945, the Leonard School of Music was founded by Mr. Patrick Leonard, who became a Charlestonian early in his life. He was a trombonist for the prestigious Armco Band and the Circus Corporation of America. After traveling to Charleston with the circus, he fell in love with the city and ul-

timately started the Leonard School of Music. Mr. Patrick Leonard eventually retired from his leadership role at the school and passed it on to his son, Dan Leonard.

Mr. Dan Leonard is a recognized expert in the field of music education. His work has received State, national, and international acclaim. He has taught and directed bands of all levels: elementary, junior high, high school, and college. Many of Mr. Leonard's students are accomplished musicians and teachers. His specialized rhythm approach has inspired Leonard School instructors' teaching strategies.

The Leonard School of Music became a nonprofit organization in 2010. The school's mission is to provide solid music education for all Lowcountry youth regardless of race, creed, or financial standing. On May 23, 2015, the Leonard School of Music will celebrate 70 years of music excellence. I applaud Patrick and Dan Leonard for their expertise in music education, and therefore recognize the Leonard School of Music's accomplishment.●

REMEMBERING SID McDONALD

● Mr. SHELBY. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life of Sid McDonald of Arab, AL, who passed away on May 15, 2015. He will be remembered as a skilled businessman who was committed to bettering his community and State through public service.

Sid was born in Springfield, AL. He earned a degree from the School of Commerce and Business at the University of Alabama in 1961. However, his time at the University of Alabama goes well beyond his days as a student. He was a member of the University of Alabama board of trustees from 1992 to 2008, and served as the pro tempore of the board from 1999 to 2002.

Sid began his career in public service when he was named to the Alabama Commission on Higher Education in 1970, the year that it was created. He had a passion for education and was instrumental in establishing the Arab City School system where he became the first board chairman. Sid served the people of Marshall County in the Alabama House of Representatives for two terms and also served in the Alabama Senate from 1975 to 1979. He later served as Alabama's finance director under Governor Fob James from 1980 to 1982.

After graduating from the University of Alabama, Sid began his successful business career. He became president of Brindlee Mountain Telephone Company, which he managed until it was sold in 2000. In 1983, he founded DeltaCom, a statewide long-distance telephone company, serving as its chairman until it was sold in 1996. He was one of the first outside members of the board of directors of Intergraph Corporation from 1997 until 2006. Most recently, he led the start-up of CBX Holding, LLC (Cold Box), an Arab producer and marketer of temperature

controlled cargo containers. In addition to his many business adventures, he was very active in commercial and residential real estate development.

Sid's accomplishments and contributions to the State of Alabama have not gone unnoticed. He was elected in 2001 to the Alabama Academy of Honor's One Hundred Living Alabamians and was elected to the Alabama Business Hall of Fame in 2010. The University of Alabama also dedicated a facility on campus in his honor, Sid McDonald Hall.

I offer my deepest condolences to Sid's wife Jane Plunkett McDonald, and to all of their loved ones as they celebrate his many life accomplishments and mourn this great loss.●

RECOGNIZING DOWNS ENTERPRISE, LLC

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, in order to pursue the American dream in today's regulatory climate, small businesses owners and entrepreneurs require a variety of administrative and support services. Often, they are able to offer a helping hand to each other, building important relationships and creating economic opportunity across the board. Small Business of the Week, Downs Enterprise of Bastrop, LA, is providing these crucial services to fellow small businesses, entrepreneurs, and veterans throughout northeast Louisiana.

Troy Downs, founder of Downs Enterprise, LLC, has been assisting small business owners in northeast Louisiana for nearly 14 years. In 2001 Downs opened his namesake consulting business, focusing on managing, consulting, and developing local small businesses through financial, real estate, and logistical services. After nearly 10 years of success, Downs visited the Louisiana Small Business Development Center, LSBDC, at the University of Louisiana-Monroe, located in Monroe, LA, with a financial management and business development and expansion plan. Downs took advantage of all the LSBDC had to offer, attending every seminar and networking event available to him, even if not directly related to his business. Downs believed that just his being there would put him in a position to learn, and it worked—a sentiment that he now passes along to the businesses he consults. Through Downs Enterprise, LLC, Troy and his team have assisted in starting and managing over 25 successful businesses, created 50 jobs, and counseled over 100 individuals in the process of starting and maintaining a healthy business.

After years of successfully guiding individuals through the hoops of starting and maintaining a business, Downs, a 25-year serviceman of the U.S. Army, saw the need for such a consulting service geared towards our Nation's brave servicemen and women. After experiencing the difficulties servicemen and women have in adjusting back to a civilian lifestyle, the Downs Founda-

tion was born. Today, the Downs Foundation continues their original goal of assisting veterans in small business development, while also providing services in credit restoration, preparation for jobs, and counseling services. Down's work in northeast Louisiana has earned him the distinguished honor of being recognized as the 2015 Veteran Small Business Champion by Louisiana Economic Development and the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Congratulations again to Downs Enterprise for being selected as Small Business of the Week. Thank you for your continued commitment not only to your community, but also to your fellow brothers and sisters of the military.●

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

At 10:15 a.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. 880. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to simplify and make permanent the research credit.

H.R. 1806. An act to provide for technological innovation through the prioritization of Federal investment in basic research, fundamental scientific discovery, and development to improve the competitiveness of the United States, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 202(a) of the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014 (Public Law 113-146), and the order of the House of January 6, 2015, the Speaker appoints the following individuals on the part of the House of Representatives to the Commission on Care: Mr. David P. Blom of Columbus, Ohio, Mr. Darin Selnick of Oceanside, California, and Dr. Toby Cosgrove of Cleveland, Ohio.

The message further announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 276h, and the order of the House of January 6, 2015, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group: Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. POLIS of Colorado, Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas, and Mrs. TORRES of California.

The message also announced that pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 4412, and the order of the House of January 6, 2015, the Speaker reappoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Trustees of the Institute of American Indian and Alaska Native Culture and Arts Development: Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 1:05 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

S. 178. An act to provide justice for the victims of trafficking.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

At 2:36 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 bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2496. An act to extend the authorization for the replacement of the existing Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Denver, Colorado, to make certain improvements in the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014, and for other purposes.

At 6:28 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1735. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1806. An act to provide for technological innovation through the prioritization of Federal investment in basic research, fundamental scientific discovery, and development to improve the competitiveness of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

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

H.R. 2353. An act to provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 1735. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for