

TRIBUTE TO HARRIS WOFFORD

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, today I wish to extend my best wishes to former Pennsylvania Senator Harris Wofford as he celebrates his 90th birthday this April 9. Harris is a close friend and trusted adviser, and I would like to take this time to not only wish him the best on this milestone, but to reflect upon his remarkable life. His story is interwoven into the fabric of our Nation; from a young boy campaigning for Franklin D. Roosevelt during the Great Depression, to a pilot defending freedom in World War II; from a trusted adviser to the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and President John F. Kennedy during the civil rights movement; to a participant in the 1965 march from Selma to Montgomery; from a peace activist arrested in protest of police brutality during the 1968 Democratic National Convention; to a Senator championing universal healthcare in the 1990s. The story of Harris Wofford is the story of the steady march of equality and progress. He answered President Kennedy's call on a cold inaugural day in 1961 to "Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country."

Harris's potential for leadership was evident early in high school amidst the chaos of World War II when he founded the Student Federalists, an organization which advocated for a united world government in order to bring about lasting peace. By the time he turned 18, the organization had grown to over 1,000 members in 30 chapters and led Newsweek to predict that the intrepid young man would one day rise to be President. He went on to graduate from the University of Chicago in 1948 and then enrolled in Howard University Law School, finishing his education with a degree from Yale Law School in 1954, just as the civil rights movement was truly picking up momentum.

In 1957, Harris joined the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights as a legal assistant to Reverend Theodore M. Hesburgh, the president of Notre Dame University. When Senator John Kennedy ran for President in 1960, he was asked to join the campaign as a civil rights coordinator. It was during that close election that Harris made one of his most lasting contributions to American history. In October 1960, Dr. King was arrested in Georgia while battling segregation, and in those tense hours after his arrest, Harris Wofford suggested to Sargent Shriver that Kennedy call Dr. King's wife, Coretta Scott King, and offer his support. Kennedy made the call despite the political risk. The news of the Democratic candidate for President—the nominee of a party that still held deep roots in the Jim Crow South—calling the wife of Dr. King was powerful and helped sway many African-American voters to Kennedy, which some feel decided the election.

After the election, Harris Wofford joined the Kennedy Administration as

special assistant to the President for civil rights and the chairman of the Subcabinet group on civil rights. He helped Shriver in the founding of the Peace Corps in 1961, and, as was common for him, he not only advocated for the idea, but also served as the director of operations in Ethiopia and the organization's special representative to Africa. In 1964, he was named associate director of the Peace Corps.

He reentered the world of academia in 1966 as president of the State University of New York at Old Westbury. His career brought him to Pennsylvania as president of Bryn Mawr College in 1970. Later he practiced law in Philadelphia. After 16 years in Pennsylvania, he was asked to reenter the political world in June 1986 as chairman of the Pennsylvania Democratic Party. When my father was elected Governor of Pennsylvania that year, he asked Harris Wofford to serve as the Secretary of the Department of Labor and Industry for the Commonwealth. In May 1991, after the tragic death of Senator John Heinz in a plane crash, my father appointed Harris Wofford to fill the vacancy until a special election could be held. After winning a surprise victory in the special election under the banner of universal healthcare, Senator Wofford used his time in the Senate to foster the development of national service and to push for health insurance. He was a key sponsor in the establishment of the Corporation for National and Community Service and worked closely with Representative JOHN LEWIS to establish Martin Luther King, Jr., Day as a National Day of Service.

Although Senator Wofford was defeated in his reelection attempt in 1994, President Bill Clinton appointed him as the chief executive officer of the Corporation for National and Community Service, CNCS. His lifelong advocacy for national and community service made him an ideal choice to lead the CNCS into an influential organization, and, under his leadership, the organization's volunteer branches grew to over 50,000 members. After leaving the CNCS in 2001, he continued his dedication to public service and civil rights through his work on the boards of the America's Promise Alliance, Malaria No More, Youth Service America, the Points of Light Foundation, and as a trustee of the Martin Luther King, Jr., Center for Non-Violent Social Change.

Throughout his life, Harris Wofford has left an indelible mark on our Nation's history and the lives of those who have had the privilege to work with him. When I took the oath of office for the U.S. Senate in 2007 to fill the seat he once held, I was honored and humbled to have him with me at the ceremony. For over 90 years, he has stood for courage, idealism, and a steadfast defense of equal rights for all Americans. As we look back on the growth of community service and the march of civil rights in our Nation's

history, we see the steady, guiding hand of Harris Wofford. I am grateful for his experienced counsel and support on the many issues facing our Nation today, and I am pleased that he shows no signs of slowing down. On behalf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and a grateful Nation, I am pleased to once again wish Harris Wofford a happy birthday and many more years of health and happiness.

HONORING CARL ALLEN KOONTZ

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, today, on the eve of what would have been his 27th birthday, I rise to recognize and honor the extraordinary service and ultimate sacrifice of Howard County, IN, deputy Carl Koontz. Dedicated, loyal, and, above all, compassionate to those in need, Deputy Koontz served with the Howard County Sheriff's Department for nearly 3 years.

A native of Kokomo, IN, and a graduate of Western High School and Indiana University Kokomo, Carl served his community with dedication as a corrections officer prior to attending the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy and achieving his dream of becoming a sheriff's deputy. Those who served alongside Deputy Koontz describe him as selfless, dedicated, and determined. A respected friend, leader, and mentor, he touched the lives of all who had the privilege to know him, including the students and staff of the Northwestern School Corporation, where he served as a school resource officer.

On March 20, 2016, while serving a search warrant, Deputy Koontz and Sergeant Jordan Buckley were shot in the line of duty. We mourn the loss of Deputy Koontz, who succumbed to his injuries, and we wish Sergeant Buckley a quick recovery. Every day, our law enforcement professionals and first responders get up, go to work, and put their lives on the line to keep our communities safe. That is exactly what Deputy Koontz, Sergeant Buckley, and their fellow officers were doing in the early hours of that Sunday morning—their job. They put their lives on the line so that we have the chance to live in safety, and we are eternally grateful.

Deputy Koontz is survived and deeply missed by his wife, Kassie; son, Noah; parents, Allen and Jackie; sister, Alice; grandparents, Ann and Allen Koontz and Alice and Carl Durham, as well as the entire Koontz and Floyd family and the Howard County Sheriff's Department. No words or sentiment can adequately express our sadness and grief. As a community, we can only offer our prayers, our support, and our continued commitment to honor his service.

Deputy Koontz loved his work, and he gave his life to serve and protect the citizens of Howard County. Although he would not have considered himself a hero, Deputy Koontz demonstrated his character daily by conducting himself with compassion, honor, courage, and

integrity. Let us always remember and emulate the shining example this brave man set for us and honor him for his selfless commitment to serving his fellow citizens. May God welcome Carl home and give comfort to his family and friends.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO ZEESY BRUK

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I am happy to acknowledge a very special little girl from Montana who was named Montana's 2016 Children's Miracle Network Hospitals Champion Child.

Five-year-old Zeesy Bruk is a very courageous little girl who battles GLUT-1 deficiency, which I have learned is a rare genetic metabolic disorder.

Zeesy is a fellow Bozemanite and lives there with her parents—Rabbi Chaim and Chavie Bruk, who are co-directors of Chabad-Lubavitch of Montana and leaders in Montana's Jewish community, and her brother and sister.

Zeesy has been bravely battling this disease all her life, but it took some time—and a lot of determination from her family—to find the right diagnosis. Now, thanks to a dedicated team at Shodair Children's Hospital in Helena, MT, I hear that Zeesy is doing wonderful and facing her diagnosis head on.

During her time as a Champion Child, Zeesy and her parents will travel across the country—serving as an ambassador for the Treasure State and bringing awareness to the various medical challenges facing many young people across our country today.

Thank you to Zeesy and the Bruk family for what you will do as ambassadors for this great State and for what you do every day for Montana's Jewish community. Zeesy, I look forward to following your year as a Champion Child—safe travels and God bless.●

TRIBUTE TO PAUL KANNING

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Paul Kanning of Daniels County, a fourth-generation Montana farmer. This week, Paul testified before the Senate Committee on Appropriations about the importance of assisting veterans find employment opportunities in agriculture.

Paul is the current owner and operator of 103-year-old TomTilda farm, where he produces small grains, pulses, and oilseed crops through no-till, continuous cropping practices. He began his farm career in 2013 following his retirement as an Air Force lieutenant colonel after 20 years of Active-Duty service.

During the hearing, I heard Paul speak about his experiences as a veteran starting a career in the agriculture industry and how programs like those offered through the U.S. Department of Agriculture helped provide

the training and education he needed on the farm. Throughout his career, he has displayed incredible leadership both in our agriculture community and in our Armed Forces.

He is a living success story of a man who has combined his leadership, dedication, and discipline for both defending our country and providing food security for Montanans and our Nation. It was truly an honor to hear Paul testify this week, and I am proud to honor his terrific testimony and hard work for Montana.●

CONGRATULATING ADAM GARCIA

• Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate University of Nevada, Reno, UNR, chief of police services Adam Garcia on being named Police Director of the Year by the National Association of Campus Safety Administrators. It gives me great pleasure to see him receive this prestigious award after years of hard work within the university system and local community.

Police Chief Garcia assumed the role of director at UNR police services in 2001. Since then, he has worked to expand both the size and diversity of police services and create a safe campus environment where students are engaged with the department. Police Chief Garcia spearheaded the development of services for public notification in the event of an active shooter or emergency situation, a service critical to ensuring the safety of UNR students. Due to the great success of police services, Police Chief Garcia has successfully integrated the department into a regional partnership, serving an even greater community. His dedication to keeping students across the UNR campus safe is invaluable to our great State. I am grateful to have someone like Police Chief Garcia leading this incredibly important department.

The Police Director of the Year award is given each year to an individual who goes above and beyond to ensure safety on campus, as well as maintaining a professional and healthy relationship between the department and the university it serves. Without a doubt, Police Chief Garcia's actions warrant only the greatest recognition, including this significant accolade. I am pleased to see Police Chief Garcia recognized on a national level, representing our great State as role model to other departments.

It is the brave men and women who serve in local police departments that keep our communities safe. These heroes selflessly put their lives on the line every day. I extend my deepest gratitude to Police Chief Garcia for his courageous contributions to students across the UNR campus and to the people of Reno. His sacrifice and courage earn him a place among the outstanding men and women who have valiantly put their lives on the line to benefit others.

Throughout his tenure with UNR police services, Police Chief Garcia has

demonstrated professionalism, commitment to excellence, and dedication to the highest standards of UNR police services. I am honored by his service and am proud to call him a fellow Nevadan. Today I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Police Chief Garcia on receiving this award, and I give my deepest appreciation for all that he has done to ensure safety on the UNR campus. I offer him my best wishes as he continues in his role as police chief.●

RECOGNIZING COMMUNITY HEALTH ALLIANCE'S CENTER FOR COMPLEX CARE

• Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the Community Health Alliance's Center for Complex Care, which offers innovative and complex health care services to those in need. The advanced health care this facility provides is invaluable to northern Nevada, bringing an improved quality of life and well-being to those with chronic health conditions.

The Center for Complex Care is the only facility out of several Community Health Alliance centers located throughout the Truckee Meadows that offers a team-based approach to health care for patients with chronic care conditions. A health care team, consisting of a primary care provider, social worker, care coordinator, psychiatric nurse specialist, medical assistant, clinical pharmacist, and support staff, address both the primary health care and behavioral health care of each patient. This team serves as a singular, collaborative unit in order to make a comprehensive patient assessment. Effective communication within the facility connects the physical, social, and emotional health of patients, creating a better understanding of the patient's needs. Those leading the way at this center stand as role models to our local community, demonstrating a genuine concern for improving the health of Nevadans. The Silver State is fortunate to have a facility like this available to our local community.

In addition to the Center for Complex Care, the Community Health Alliance offers a variety of care options, including pediatric care, women's health care, dental care, behavioral health care, a school-based health center, a supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and children, and health care for the homeless. I would like to congratulate this alliance on recently reaching an important milestone, its 20th anniversary. This achievement is well deserved, and I am grateful to have this significant health care resource available to residents across northern Nevada.

Those serving at this center have gone above and beyond to provide high-quality care to Nevadans. Today I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Community Health Alliance's Center for Complex Care for all it does for the Silver State.●