

good humor, and tireless defense of the Tenth Amendment on behalf of the States.●

TRIBUTE TO JIM GRANT

● Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the significant contributions that Peterborough native Jim Grant has made to New Hampshire throughout his life. I am proud to recognize Jim's service in the Granite State and dedication to his fellow New Hampshire residents.

Jim has lived his entire life in Peterborough and is proud of his roots, which are represented on his vanity license plate with the phrase "LUVPBRO." In addition to being well-known and beloved by his neighbors, Jim epitomizes the spirit of generosity in New Hampshire. Spanning decades, Jim's dedication to volunteerism is outstanding, and he has served as a volunteer firefighter for 53 years. His record of service also includes volunteering for the Salvation Army, founding the Monadnock Workspace—an organization that employs and empowers those with developmental challenges—and co-founding the Peterborough Sunshine Fund, which assists individuals with emergency and travel needs.

It is only fitting that Jim's own profession would be as a teacher who educated and inspired generations of students. His passion for teaching compelled him to found the organization where he works today, Staff Development for Educators. By ensuring and enriching the professional development needs of educators, Jim is helping to spread education across the globe.

Jim has contributed greatly to the Greater Monadnock region, injecting positivity into the lives of people he may never know. It is an honor to highlight Jim's life of service and commitment to a cause greater than himself. His selflessness and generosity is a testament to all that is great in New Hampshire.

I extend my sincerest thanks to Jim for all that he has done and continues to do for the people of New Hampshire. I am extraordinarily proud to join his friends and neighbors in commending Jim for a life well lived and his lifetime of giving.●

TRIBUTE TO DELANEY BIEL

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize a Hinsdale High School senior, Delaney Biel. Delaney is described by her EMT instructor, Dorothy Jensen, as "a determined team player, who is committed to her community. She consistently exceeds expectations . . . I'd trust her with my life." Delaney is already a nationally certified emergency medical technician and will soon be receiving her State certification any moment now.

The loss of three classmates in recent years inspired Delaney to enroll in an EMT course offered at her own high

school. Initially, an aspiring businesswoman, she has said, "the class absolutely changed what I wanted to do as a career. As a kid I was afraid of hospitals, but with the ambulance I get to make decisions in a fast-paced environment and I can get down to business without getting flustered." So far she has responded to women in labor and individuals with cardiac and diabetic emergencies. Last year, Delaney gave up basketball, volleyball, and most of her free time in the service of her community.

As a fifth generation Montana rancher, making the switch from farming equipment to an ambulance was simple. Both working her family's ranch and participating in Hinsdale athletics prepared her for the collaboration essential to high quality urgent care. Delaney has said, "This is a team sport; it's not about you, it's about everyone using their strengths to make the team work."

Delaney likes to keep a full schedule. Since April of last year, she has completed 500 hours of community service, administering bimonthly blood pressure screenings at the local senior center. She is also a member of FFA, president of student council, a member of the music department, and a member of the National Honor Society.

This fall, at Montana State University-Northern, Delaney will continue on her path to becoming a medical professional by pursuing a bachelor's degree in nursing. After college, she intends to gain hands-on experience in the emergency rooms of Billings and Great Falls before applying to medical school. Her long term goal is to raise a family in Hinsdale and spend a few days each week where she got started, with the volunteer ambulance.

This young woman's dedication is inspiring. It is our small-town family values that makes Montana so special. Her example encourages each of us to reach beyond expectations we have set for ourselves and do our part to strengthen our communities.

Delaney, I wish you the best in college, and thank you for your service to our great State. Keep making us proud.●

CONGRATULATING JOHN TIERNEY

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate John Tierney on being named Nevada's 2016 Michael Landsberry Teacher of the Year. This accolade is truly prestigious, attained by only the most influential of Nevada's educators. Without a doubt, Mr. Tierney's work at Adobe High School in the Elko County School District warrants recognition with this incredible award.

Mr. Tierney started his career in teaching three decades ago at the Fremont Unified School District. In 1989, he moved to Nevada and began teaching English and social studies at Adobe Middle School and has remained a valued member of the Red-Tailed Hawks'

faculty department ever since. In addition to time spent in the classroom, Mr. Tierney leads the social studies department and serves on the School Improvement Team at Adobe High School. He is also a national facilitator for PBS TeacherLine, which provides online professional development courses for Pre-K through 12th grade teachers. Mr. Tierney's unwavering dedication to his students at Adobe High School over the last 25 years goes without question. He is truly a role model, providing an innovative and interactive teaching style for those in his classroom, and he encourages students with open discourse and debate. His commitment to his students is invaluable to the Elko community.

As the father of four children and as the husband of a teacher, I understand the important role educators play in enriching the lives of Nevadans. Ensuring students throughout the Silver State are prepared to compete in the 21st century is critical for the future of our country. The State of Nevada is fortunate to be home to educators like Mr. Tierney.

I ask my colleagues and all Nevadans to join me in thanking Mr. Tierney for his dedication to enriching the lives of Nevada's students and congratulating him on receiving this award. I wish him well in all of his future endeavors and in creating success for all students who enter his classroom.●

TRIBUTE TO CAROLE VILARDO

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate Carole Vilardo on her retirement after three decades of service to the Great State of Nevada. Ms. Vilardo has gone above and beyond in her role with the Nevada Taxpayers Association, NTA, embodying Nevada's values of strength and steadfast dedication to improving the Silver State's tax laws.

Ms. Vilardo began her career with the NTA in 1986 when she was assigned to work on issues including taxes, spending, and business regulation. Prior to this, she owned a retail shop and teamed up with former Nevada State Senator Ann O'Connell in spearheading work to create tougher shoplifting laws in Nevada. These laws were later adopted and became a model to other States. From 1972 to 1986, the two worked as a team to better the State of Nevada by advocating for greater accountability for the Clark County Commission in its actions and decisions.

After joining the NTA, Ms. Vilardo worked for 30 years to maintain unbiased and fair tax laws for the Silver State. Throughout her tenure, Ms. Vilardo was recognized as a tax expert with an unparalleled ability to explain complex issues to those around her. Even with the slightest change in legislation, Ms. Vilardo could explain the direct effects these decisions would have on Nevada's economy. She was one-of-a-kind, earning the trust of anyone she made contact with. In addition,

she served as a true watchdog of Nevada's spending. Her public service will be sorely missed by our Great State.

After three decades of providing insightful testimony on tax policy and instrumental counsel to those helping shape Nevada's laws, Ms. Vilardo recently retired. Her legacy throughout the Silver State and at the NTA will continue on for years to come. Ms. Vilardo will continue to be respected for her in-depth knowledge, years of unwavering dedication to our State, and for her ability to create long-lasting and positive relationships throughout Nevada. Her vigilance and determination in creating effective tax policy for our State will not be forgotten.

Ms. Vilardo has demonstrated true commitment to Nevada, exemplifying what it means to fight for the greater good of our Great State. We are lucky to have had someone of such dedication working on behalf of the Silver State. I ask my colleagues and all Nevadans to join me in thanking Ms. Vilardo for her years of service, and I wish her well in all of her future endeavors.●

TRIBUTE TO GENERAL JOHN F. CAMPBELL

● Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor a strategic leader and exceptional warrior of tremendous talent. After a lifetime of distinguished service to our Nation, GEN John F. Campbell is retiring from the U.S. Army. On this occasion, I believe it is fitting to recognize General Campbell's decades of dedicated service to our Nation.

General Campbell graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in 1979 and commissioned in the U.S. Army infantry. During his more than 37 years of service, he has commanded units at every echelon from platoon leader, to four-star command, and in places such as Haiti, Afghanistan, and Iraq.

Upon promotion to brigadier general in 2005, he was assigned as the deputy commanding general for Maneuver, 1st Cavalry Division, deployed to Baghdad, and is widely credited with holding together the force during a very violent period leading up to the surge. His following assignment was the deputy director for regional operations at the Joint Staff. After being promoted to major general, he was named commander of the Screaming Eagles, 101st Airborne Division, and deployed to Afghanistan as commander, Regional Command East, International Security Assistance Force, ISAF, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, NATO, and commander, Combined Joint Task Force-101. He commanded over 30,000 coalition servicemembers and 65,000 Afghan National Defense and Security Forces. The scope of his responsibility included the protection of 13 million people and the security of a 450-mile border with Pakistan.

At Fort Campbell, KY, General Campbell cultivated lasting relationships within the community to support soldiers, civilians, and families. He in-

stalled programs to facilitate a comprehensive fitness program, develop soldier and family resiliency, and significantly decrease the suicide rate. As lieutenant general, he became the Army Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations, Plans and Training. He was promoted to general and, in 2014, confirmed as the 34th U.S. Army Vice Chief of Staff, where he promoted the physical, moral, and mental fitness required for improved readiness and resiliency. He was an advocate for stopping sexual harassment and assault and supported Wounded Warrior programs. He was vital in updating Congress on the Army's path ahead for these and other key issues. In addition, he coordinated a restructure of posts and stations that helped decrease 17,500 personnel by fiscal year 2017 to meet mandated end strength goals.

In 2014, General Campbell deployed to Afghanistan and took command of the NATO ISAF mission and United States Forces—Afghanistan. During his first 6 months, Afghanistan held an extended electoral process and installed a new President and Chief Executive as part of the National Unity Government. After this, General Campbell managed an over 90 percent drawdown of U.S. forces and installations; he transitioned the force from regional commands to train, advise, and assist commands. He helped transition ISAF to a functionally based security force assistance mission designated Resolute Support and became commander of both Resolute Support and United States Forces—Afghanistan for the next 14 months. He served as adviser to the President of Afghanistan, the Ministers of Defense and Interior, and the National Director of Security. His influence during the era of the National Unity Government will have long lasting strategic impacts in Afghanistan and the region.

General Campbell is well known for his strategic brilliance and calm fortitude. He is the embodiment of all the values we expect in our most revered leaders: the rare tenacity to accomplish impossible missions; the selfless commitment to country, soldier, and family; and the composition of character that demonstrates only the highest moral and ethical values. He is known for telling his soldiers, "Leadership makes a difference," yet it is his exemplary leadership that had made a difference to countless thousands both abroad and at home.

I thank his wife, Ann; his daughter, Jennifer; and his son, John, Jr., who is also serving in the Army, for their years of dedication and support. As the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee and on behalf of those who serve beside me, let me express the deepest respect and gratitude to General Campbell for his remarkable service to our Nation. I wish you and your family all the best in beginning your new chapter of life together.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF BETH ISRAEL CONGREGATION

● Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 100th anniversary of Beth Israel Congregation in Ann Arbor, MI. I appreciate the opportunity to speak about this truly significant milestone in the history of this congregation, as well as the city of Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County. I offer Beth Israel my warmest regards and congratulations on its centennial. I am also pleased to express my pride in the many contributions of the congregation's members, who dedicate their talents to benefit Beth Israel and the greater good in Ann Arbor.

Established in 1916, Beth Israel was Ann Arbor's only Jewish congregation for many years. Initially, families met informally in the home of Osias Zwerdling to celebrate the Jewish High Holidays and community milestones. Mr. Zwerdling, a furrier by trade, would serve as the diverse congregation's president for the next 40 years. His leadership was particularly valuable given the fact that the congregation, as in many small American towns in the early twentieth century, operated without a rabbi. Instead, members of the congregation volunteered in a variety of roles, including teaching in Hebrew school, leading the congregation in prayer as cantor, or serving as its *schochet* to ensure the kosher slaughter of animals.

Early on, Beth Israel hired Reverend Pincus Gropstein, who was paid \$18 a week to serve the congregation's 30 families. In 1932, Rabbi Joshua Sperka became the congregation's first ordained rabbi and served in the role until 1934. After his departure, the congregation continued to rely on the devoted efforts of its members, who provided a steady backdrop to the contributions of Rabbi Julius Weinberg, who served from 1952 to 1961; Rabbi Allan Kensky, who served from 1971 to 1988; and Rabbi Robert Dobrusin, who has guided Beth Israel since 1988 with wisdom, humor, and warmth.

Beth Israel Congregation was the first conservative congregation in southeast Michigan to become egalitarian, encouraging men and women to participate equally in the ritual and spiritual life of the congregation, and was the first conservative congregation in the United States to choose a female president. The community's welcoming spirit is exemplified in its longstanding support of the LGBT community, where it is an active leader in promoting inclusion in the conservative Jewish movement, which is highlighted by its advocacy for the ordination of LGBT rabbis. Moreover, Beth Israel has taken steps to ensure people with disabilities have full access to the synagogue and its services.

In addition to nurturing an inclusive environment at Beth Israel, the congregation is committed to supporting the Jewish community at home and abroad. Members take steps to ensure that everyone has a place to celebrate