

this milestone and reflect on his selfless commitment to enriching the lives of others.

Over the decades, he has worked in a variety of diocesan assignments and always in a position to teach students or his congregation. As an educator at Holy Rosary School and the Scranton Preparatory School, he spent 25 years teaching religion to eighth graders and high school seniors. He has served as pastor of several parishes, including St. Catherine's Moscow, Holy Rosary, St. Ann's, and Nativity of Our Lord. In addition, Monsignor Kelly served as the Episcopal vicar of Hispanic ministry for the Diocese of Scranton. He has also led Catholic Social Services, St. Michael's School for Boys, and Camp St. Andrew, where he cofounded Project Hope. At one time, Project Hope sent as many as 700 low-income and at-risk youth to Camp St. Andrew, providing summer camp experiences for young people who otherwise would not be able to afford the program.

Service and serving others is not only a deed, it has been a way of life for Monsignor Kelly. Although Monsignor Kelly retired from leading Catholic Social Services at the end of 2015, he currently is the executive director of the St. Francis of Assisi Kitchen in Scranton, PA. He is committed to responding to the needs of those living in poverty in America. I commend his lifelong efforts to foster compassion and promote human dignity for all people, at all stages of life. Monsignor Kelly's reputation for integrity is reflected in his work with the poorest, most vulnerable, and most marginalized members of our communities.

Over the past 50 years, his life has been one of compassion, selfless service, and a steadfast commitment to justice. On behalf of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I commend Monsignor Joseph P. Kelly for this milestone and wish him only the best in the days and years ahead.●

TRIBUTE TO MACKENZIE WOOTEN, BROOK HIGBEE, AND HAYDN BRADSTREET

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate three Nevada students, Mackenzie Wooten, Brook Higbee, and Haydn Bradstreet, who were named U.S. Presidential Scholars. This is an incredible accolade, recognizing the very best students across the Nation who have gone above and beyond in their academic pursuits, and I extend my sincerest congratulations to these three Nevadans.

The U.S. Presidential Scholars Program was established in 1964 by President Lyndon B. Johnson to recognize some of the most academically ambitious students across the Nation. Each year, up to 161 students are named as U.S. Presidential Scholars, which is one of the most prestigious accomplishments that high school students can achieve. All three of these students

have excelled in their studies and are certainly deserving of this award.

Mackenzie is a senior at Northwest Career and Technical Academy in the Clark County School District and was recognized for demonstrating excellence in career and technical education. This category was added to the scholars list this year to recognize students pursuing science, technology, engineering, and math fields. Brook is a senior at Pahrnagat Valley High School in the Lincoln County School District and serves as student body president. Haydn attends Davidson Academy of Nevada in Reno and has excelled in his scientific pursuits. Both Brook and Haydn were selected for excellence in their academic studies.

These students are shining examples of what hard work and determination can accomplish, and they should be proud of their accomplishments. Today I ask my colleagues to join me and all Nevadans in congratulating Mackenzie, Brook, and Haydn in this achievement and in wishing them well in their future endeavors.●

RECOGNIZING KIMMIE CANDY

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate Joe Dutra and all of those contributing at Kimmie Candy for receiving the President's "E" Award for Exports. This award is truly prestigious and given to only the most ambitious companies making a significant contribution to the expansion of U.S. exports.

As founder, CEO, and president of Kimmie Candy, Joe first established the company on a farm in his hometown of Sacramento, CA. By 2003, the company had made great strides and won "product of the year" at the annual Candy Grammys held in Long Beach, CA. In 2005, Joe relocated to Reno, NV, with the goal of creating more American jobs. Just 2 years later, Joe purchased the building that is now Kimmie Candy's production facility, and by 2008, the candy company was fully operational. Within the next year, Joe took the company international and increased sales in the United States, Canada, Mexico, the Philippines, South America, and the Middle East. Since its opening, the company has grown to 36 employees and continues to expand. I have toured the facility on multiple occasions and am always impressed by this successful business. Joe's work in creating job opportunities in Nevada has not gone unnoticed, and I am thankful to have Kimmie Candy operating in our great State.

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy signed an executive order to revive the World War II "E" symbol of excellence. The President's "E" Award aims to honor companies across the country that have contributed to America's exports by demonstrating export growth for over 4 years. Kimmie Candy is one of only 123 companies that was honored with this award. Without a doubt, Joe's

work at Kimmie Candy warrants this significant accolade.

Today, I ask my colleagues and all Nevadans to join me in congratulating my friend Joe and the entire Kimmie Candy family for receiving this national award. I am thankful for everything Joe has contributed to the city of Reno and our State, and I wish him well as he continues his endeavors at Kimmie Candy.●

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BON SECOURS ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL

● Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital, the first hospital in the Bon Secours Richmond Health System. This not-for-profit Catholic health system, which is comprised of four hospitals in the greater Richmond metropolitan area, serves some of the neediest populations throughout central Virginia.

St. Mary's founding was rooted in a strong history of providing care. In 1824, in Paris, 12 women formed the congregation of the Sisters of Bon Secours, French for "Good Help." The Sisters' purpose was to nurse the sick and dying in their homes. The Sisters of Bon Secours came to the United States in 1881, where they continued their work of aiding the poor, the sick, and the dying in their homes. In 1966, Bon Secours expanded its mission with the opening of St. Mary's Hospital. Through its history, Bon Secours Richmond has stayed true to its founding principles through its community outreach and commitment to serving the neediest among us.

For the past 50 years, St. Mary's Hospital has provided critical health services including cardiac, orthopedic, women's pediatric, surgery, oncology, imaging, neurology, and emergency services. St. Mary's Hospital ranks in the top 10 percent of America's hospitals for emergency care. Today St. Mary's employs over 3,000 employees, including more than 1,000 physicians.

Bon Secours' mission is to bring compassion to health care and to be good help to those in need. I commend St. Mary's Hospital on behalf of my constituents for its commitment to health care excellence and service to the patients and families in the greater Richmond area.●

RECOGNIZING THE GAS TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE

● Mr. KIRK. Mr. President, I would like to honor the Gas Technology Institute, GTI, and its dedicated employees as they celebrate their 75th anniversary. Headquartered in Des Plaines, IL, GTI is a leading nonprofit research development organization in my home State, working diligently to address key global energy and environmental challenges.

A proven leader over the past three-quarters of a century, GTI continues to develop high-impact technologies,

unlocking the economic potential of domestic energy resources, while reducing the environmental footprint of fossil fuels. Founded as the Institute of Gas Technology in 1941, the institute worked closely with the Illinois Institute of Technology to train graduate engineers to lead the development of the gas industry. As national focus shifted to gas research and development in the 1970s, the Gas Research Institute took shape to focus on natural gas supply, transportation, distribution, and utilization. In 2000, these two renowned programs united under the GTI umbrella where they continue to build off of past successes as a premier research, development, and training organization serving the global natural gas and energy markets.

GTI's most profound successes are known across the globe. From catalyzing the U.S. shale gas revolution through innovative research and development in the 1980s and 1990s, to helping to put the first hydrogen fuel cell bus on the road in 2006, to its 65 patents on high-efficiency, low-NO_x burners and systems, GTI has a strong industry reputation for innovation and conducting the work necessary to ensure our domestic supplies are utilized to their full potential while national and global priorities continue to shift. Our Nation continues to benefit from GTI's expertise in developing gas distribution technologies and reducing energy delivery costs, as well as innovations in the detection, quantification, and mitigation of methane emissions from the natural gas sector. Its current efforts with the hydraulic fracturing test site will continue this tradition, improving air and water quality by increasing environmentally sustainable extraction methods.

I congratulate and commend GTI for their continued commitment to providing technology-based solutions that expand U.S. energy production and foster economic growth, while also minimizing impacts to the environment. GTI's efforts in the past, present, and future are key to boosting American competitiveness, and I look forward to celebrating future milestones.●

RECOGNIZING THE HARTFORD STEAM BOILER INSPECTION AND INSURANCE COMPANY

● Mr. MURPHY. Mr. President, 150 years ago, as the United States and the world advanced out of the industrial revolution, several young businessmen formed the Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Company, HSB, in Hartford, CT. I am proud to represent this company and want to congratulate HSB on its 150th anniversary for its vital contribution to the economy of Connecticut, as well as the rest of the Nation.

During the industrial revolution in the mid-to-late 19th century, steam boilers were used to drive industrial machinery, locomotives, and steamboats. Steam-powered engines allowed

for the rapid growth and expansion of industry in the United States; these engines enabled the effective transportation of goods across the country. Steam power also permitted factories in Connecticut to produce and market goods more efficiently than ever before.

The tremendous benefits provided by steam engines and boilers, however, came with considerable risks. During the 1850s, boiler explosions occurred at an estimated rate of once every 4 days. Believing that better materials, better design, and regular inspections could reduce the number of dangerous boiler explosions, in 1857, several Hartford entrepreneurs started "the Polytechnic Club," as a means to discuss practical changes to boilers that could mitigate the chances of worker injury and death. These discussions helped lead to the formation of HSB.

The Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Company was officially founded in 1866 on the premise that quality boiler inspections would enhance industrial safety, and that insurance provides a valuable financial incentive to ensure businesses conduct these inspections. From its founding, HSB's primary goals have been to improve safety and prevent losses for industrial businesses.

Today HSB continues to set the standard for equipment breakdown insurance, as well as a variety of other insurance products. I am proud to honor this company's long and distinguished role in America's industrial economy. Congratulations to the Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Company, and best of luck in the years to come.●

RECOGNIZING THE COLUMBUS ASIAN FESTIVAL

● Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to acknowledge the 22st annual Columbus Asian Festival as we celebrate the month of May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. The first Asian Festival was held in 1995 with a mission to promote the importance of cultural diversity in building a vibrant, prosperous, and healthy community. Since then, the Asian Festival continues to fulfill its mission and attracts over 100,000 visitors annually to the central Ohio region.

The Asian Festival offers a variety of activities for the community highlighting the culture of Asia and the Pacific Islands. The values of the Asian Festival include the following: showcasing cultural heritage, advocating the importance of lifelong learning and education, providing a fun and entertaining experience, nurturing community collaboration and strong relationships, fostering a healthy lifestyle and quality of life, and serving with integrity.

Visitors to the Asian Festival will experience hands-on art demonstrations, interactive dance performances, Asian music, Tai chi, martial arts

workshops, Asian games, Asian cuisine, and much more.

I am honored to be participating this year in the Asian Festival during its opening ceremony to see firsthand how this important event celebrates the rich tradition of Asian Pacific heritage and promotes cultural diversity in Ohio.

Congratulations to all who were involved in making it a success.●

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 9:50 a.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 bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4909. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 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.

H.R. 5233. An act to repeal the Local Budget Autonomy Amendment Act of 2012, to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to clarify the respective roles of the District government and Congress in the local budget process of the District government, and for other purposes.

At 3:40 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 bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4974. An act making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5243. An act making appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, to strengthen public health activities in response to the Zika virus, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bill, with amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

S. 2012. An act to provide for the modernization of the energy policy of the United States, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House insists upon its amendment to the bill (S. 2012) to provide for the modernization of the energy policy of the