

A single continuum of care has achieved efficiencies in administrating the responsibilities delegated by the Federal Government to meet the challenge of ending homelessness in Maine. As a unit, they identify the homeless service priorities and distribute resources accordingly. The organizations and agencies that participate in continuum of care include: Maine's network of 37 emergency shelters serving the entire State; MaineHousing and the Department of Health and Human Services; homeless youth providers; veterans groups; mental health and substance abuse service providers; supportive housing developers; local governments and public housing authorities; and homeless advocacy organizations. In addition to providing housing and services, the members of the Maine Continuum of Care play a major role in several other statewide initiatives, including participating in the data collection and entry for the annual homeless assessment report AHAR, and new system performance measure reports.

This significant merger was a collaborative endeavor involving Maine's homeless provider organizations, social service providers, and State and Federal agencies. I especially want to thank the leadership and guidance provided by MaineHousing, the State's housing authority, and the chairs of Maine's continuums throughout the merger process. I am honored to recognize all who were involved and to thank them for placing the individuals and families who are struggling to meet this basic human need for a warm, safe, and stable home at the center of our collective efforts to end homelessness in the State of Maine.

RECOGNIZING BARR-REEVE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Barr-Reeve Elementary School of Montgomery, IN, for being named a 2017 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education.

Established in 1982, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes schools that have demonstrated a vision of educational excellence for all students, regardless of their social or economic background. Since its inception, this program has allowed schools in every State to gain recognition for educational accomplishments, particularly in closing the achievement gaps among students.

Barr-Reeve Elementary School's history traces back to 1910 when it was known as Montgomery School and had 20 students. Today Barr-Reeve Elementary teaches students grades second to fifth and has approximately 290 students.

The school supports students academically through small class sizes. When students face academic challenges, teachers help tutor them before and afterschool as well as during recess.

Barr-Reeve Elementary utilizes innovative technology to learn about the geography and culture of the world on a digital level. Students each benefit from having a Chromebook, enhancing their learning and helping to prepare them for the technology based workplaces they will encounter in the future. Many teachers also utilize the nearby Naval Surface Warfare Center located in Crane, IN, for professional development and to take advantage of its lending library that enhances various STEM skills they can teach to students.

Barr-Reeve Elementary School's staff, students, and families work together to teach and foster values that develop strong character. Each month, a different social skill is modeled and taught throughout the school. Students reinforce these positive behaviors through cards handed out by the student council to recognize students' positive character and leadership skills. The student council also instituted a tutoring program during the lunch recess to allow students to help their peers.

Barr-Reeve Elementary School is an example of how dedication, motivation, collaboration, and strong family engagement in education benefits both students and the local community. At Barr-Reeve, parents are not only involved through an active parent teacher organization, but also as coaches, guest speakers, and volunteers in the classroom.

I am proud to recognize Barr-Reeve Elementary School principal Dena Langacher, the entire staff, the student body, and their families. The effort, dedication, and value you put into education has led not only to this prestigious recognition, but will benefit you and the Montgomery community well into the future.

On behalf of the citizens of Indiana, I congratulate Barr-Reeve Elementary School, and I wish the students and staff continued success in the future.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING KREHBIEL'S SALES & SERVICE

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, today I wish to take the opportunity to highlight the innovation and the creative spirit that small businesses in my home State of Idaho are known for. The small business that I am honoring today goes above and beyond when it comes to embodying that spirit. As chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, it is my pleasure to recognize Krehbiel's Sales & Service as the Senate Small Business of the Month for November 2017. Known for their passion, friendliness, and dedication to providing unparalleled service, Krehbiel's is the definition of what it means to be a family-owned small business in America.

Clint Krehbiel and his son Terry Krehbiel opened the doors to their vehicle dealership in Aberdeen, ID, in 1972 while Terry was still in high school. They have been proudly serving south-east Idaho for the past 45 years. The Krehbiel family specializes in off-road recreational and utility vehicles, along with various brands of lawn care equipment. In addition to these products, they have expanded into several other businesses, ranging from swimming pools to satellite sales and installation.

Terry and his wife, Valerie, bought Clint's share of the business when he retired in 1996 and have made it their life's work to carry out the principles of honest and ethical business that Clint passed down over the years. For the past four-and-a-half decades, the family's commitment to their mission has been unwavering, and their loyalty to their customers is second to none. Perhaps the most incredible display of their dedication can be seen in the expansion of their business to serve customers hundreds of miles away while still maintaining a high level of customer service and a close-knit team of employees. At any time, you can walk in and see Karalee Krehbiel-Bonzon, Terry and Valerie's daughter, providing the exceptional customer service that she has been known for ever since she started working at her family's business in 2007. You will also see Valerie doing the bookkeeping by hand, as she has done every day since 1980. Another long-time employee is mechanic Charlie Wiebe. Charlie was hired in 1987 and is still with the business to this day. He has been an integral part of building and maintaining good relationships with customers and in training other mechanics like the team's newest member, Tyler Jones.

Customer service is not the only thing that Krehbiel's is known for. With over 60 years of combined experience, their factory-trained technicians have built a reputation for high-quality, dependable repairs for all manner of recreational and utility vehicles. The company's reputation in this area brings in customers from miles around who have never bought a vehicle from the Krehbiels but who have built a bond of trust with their well-qualified mechanics.

Aberdeen is considered to be "off the beaten path" by most people. Many say you need to have a reason to go there. Terry and Valerie, along with their employees, have given many people a reason to do just that. A continuous entrepreneurial spirit, quality customer service, and strong relationships with long-time employees are all principles possessed by the Krehbiels. I would like to extend my sincerest congratulations to Terry and Valerie Krehbiel and all of the employees of Krehbiel's Sales & Service for being selected as the November 2017 Small Business of the Month. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to watching your continued growth and success.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Cuccia, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal 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 11:48 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. 3071. An act to require executive agencies to consider equipment rental in any cost-effectiveness analysis for equipment acquisition, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3739. An act to amend the Act of August 25, 1958, commonly known as the "Former Presidents Act of 1958", with respect to the monetary allowance payable to a former President, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3973. An act to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require certain entities to develop internal risk control mechanisms to safeguard and govern the storage of market data.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 5:21 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1679. An act to ensure that the Federal Emergency Management Agency's current efforts to modernize its grant management system includes applicant accessibility and transparency, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3071. An act to require executive agencies to consider equipment rental in any cost-effectiveness analysis for equipment acquisition, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3739. An act to amend the Act of August 25, 1958, commonly known as the "Former Presidents Act of 1958", with respect to the monetary allowance payable to a former President, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 3973. An act to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to require certain entities to develop internal risk control mechanisms to safeguard and govern the storage of market data; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communication was laid before the Senate, together with

accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and was referred as indicated:

EC-3444. A communication from the Secretary of the Senate, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the receipts and expenditures of the Senate for the period from April 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2017; ordered to lie on the table.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. CORKER for the Committee on Foreign Relations.

*Rebecca Eliza Gonzales, of Texas, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Minister-Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Kingdom of Lesotho.

Nominee: Rebecca Eliza Gonzales.

Post: LESOTHO.

(The following is a list of all members of my immediate family and their spouses. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, donee:

1. Self: None.

2. James Mahlangu: Spouse: None.

3. Imagine Gonzales: Minor child—son: None.

4. Parents: Estella Gonzales: None; Jose Rene Gonzales (deceased): None.

5. Rebecca Balli Ybarra—None; Henry Ybarra—None; Juan Gonzalez—None; Guadalupe Gonzalez—None. My grandparents are deceased.

6. Jerome Rene Gonzales: Brother: None; Amanda Lucia Gonzales: Sister-in-Law: None.

*Lisa A. Johnson, of Washington, a Career Member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Counselor, to be Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the United States of America to the Republic of Namibia.

Nominee: Lisa A. Johnson.

Post: U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Namibia.

(The following is a list of all members of my immediate family and their spouses. I have asked each of these persons to inform me of the pertinent contributions made by them. To the best of my knowledge, the information contained in this report is complete and accurate.)

Contributions, amount, date, and donee:

1. Self: None.

2. Spouse: N/A.

3. Children and Spouses: N/A.

4. Parents: Melville Richard Johnson, none; Stephanie JoAnne Johnson, none.

5. Grandparents: Herbert Richard Johnson—Deceased; Cora Alice Johnson—deceased; Ralph Williams—deceased; Delores Violet Williams—deceased.

6. Brothers and Spouses: Michael Richard Johnson (brother), none; Christina Oliva Johnson (his spouse), none.

7. Sisters and Spouses: N/A.

*Irwin Steven Goldstein, of New York, to be Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy.

*Sean P. Lawler, of Maryland, to be Chief of Protocol, and to have the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service.

Mr. CORKER. Mr. President, for the Committee on Foreign Relations I re-

port favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

*Foreign Service nominations beginning with Lisa-Felicia Afi Akorli and ending with Stephanie P. Wilson, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 1, 2017.

*Foreign Service nominations beginning with John R. Bass II and ending with Sung Y. Kim, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 1, 2017.

By Mr. MCCAIN for the Committee on Armed Services.

R. D. James, of Missouri, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army.

*Robert H. McMahon, of Georgia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*Bruce D. Jette, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army.

*Shon J. Manasco, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force.

By Mr. JOHNSON for the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

*Kirstjen Nielsen, of Virginia, to be Secretary of Homeland Security.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 2120. A bill to prevent international violence against women, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. HELLER (for himself, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. GARDNER):

S. 2121. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require reporting of certain data by providers and suppliers of air ambulance services for purposes of reforming reimbursements for such services under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 2122. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 regarding reasonable break time for nursing mothers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LANKFORD:

S. 2123. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow above-the-line deductions for charitable contributions for individuals not itemizing deductions; to the Committee on Finance.