

from King George. Steve's service to his community goes without question, and I believe he is worthy of recognition.

Sheriff Dempsey's extensive training included both the Metropolitan Police Academy in Washington, D.C. where he was K-9 certified and the FBI Academy where he was able to learn countless hours of information on how to handle increasingly difficult situations ranging from terrorism to financial crime.

Sheriff Dempsey, along with his wife Charlene and their family, comes from a long line of public servants—as is evident in Sheriff Dempsey's commitment to his community. Steve was in the Virginia National Guard and served until 1978. He has been with the King George County Sheriff's Department for 39 years, serving as both an officer and a mentor. He was the first K-9 officer in the county and served as a patrol deputy for 7 years. And, on top of all this, he has taught for almost 20 years at the regional academy; passing on vital experience and lessons to members of law enforcement who benefit from his teachings.

Not stopping there, he served as the Special Olympics Chair for the Commonwealth from 2017 to 2018 and is currently serving as President of the Virginia Sheriff's Association. I am filled with pride to know all the good that this man has done for his community and our district.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the accomplishments, hard work, and dedication of Sheriff Dempsey. Words alone cannot express our pride, and I am proud to represent him. May God bless him and his family.

IN RECOGNITION OF RUTH HYMAN

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Ruth Hyman as she celebrates her 100th birthday this year. It is my honor to join with her family and friends in marking this incredible milestone and wishing her many more years of health and happiness.

A lifelong resident of Long Branch, New Jersey, Ms. Hyman was the youngest of eight children. Her parents, Ida and David Hyman, were founding members of Congregation Brothers of Israel and instilled in their children the importance of hard work and community service. Throughout her life, Ms. Hyman has striven to be an active and charitable member of her community, supporting Congregation Brothers of Israel, the Visiting Nurse Association Health Group, and Jewish and Family Children's Services, among many others. In addition, Ms. Hyman established and operated a long-running women's apparel business and worked as an editor of technical manuals for the federal government. Her involvement with numerous local charities and organizations reflect her passion to help others and improve our communities and her success and accomplishments serve as an example of what hard work can attain.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in honoring Ms. Ruth Hyman as she celebrates her 100th birthday. Her generous spirit and impact on the commu-

nity continue to be felt throughout Monmouth County and New Jersey.

RECOGNIZING JAMES WATKINS FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CON- GRESSIONAL VETERAN COM- MENDATION

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize James Watkins of Dillon for the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and his community.

Mr. Watkins served in both the United States Air Force and Montana Army National Guard, serving a combined 22 years. Mr. Watkins received multiple commendations during his service, including the Army Commendation Medal.

Mr. Watkins has been a member of the American Legion Post 20 since 1968 and served in various capacities. Every year, he coordinated the placement of American Flags on the graves of veterans on Memorial Day. Part of this project was his work locating and arranging the headstones for all veterans in Dillon Mountain View Cemetery. In addition, Mr. Watkins makes, maintains, and places the white crosses for the Montana American Legion White Cross Highway Fatality Marker Program in Beaverhead County.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending James Watkins of Dillon for his dedication and service to his country and community.

NEW HOME, NEW BYLAWS, SAME MISSION: WPAOG HISTORY PART IV (1996-2019) SECTION B

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD Section B of the fourth and final installment of an article by Keith J. Hamel honoring the 150th Anniversary of the West Point Association of Graduates:

2009-15: THE FOR US ALL CAMPAIGN BREAKS RECORDS

"In the summer of 2008, the Association and the Academy began to consider a new comprehensive campaign for West Point. The campaign, called For Us All: The Campaign for West Point, officially launched in January 2009. By the time the campaign ended on December 31, 2015, more than \$420 million had been either pledged or received, well exceeding the original \$350 million campaign goal.

During the For Us All Campaign, WPAOG continued to achieve new levels of support for the Academy and the Long Gray Line. The average of total annual donations to West Point/WPAOG rose to \$40.7 million per year, more than 40 percent higher than the average annual donations during the Bicentennial Campaign. More impressively, 58 percent of living alumni made one or more donations. Approximately 50,000 graduates, families, and friends of West Point partici-

pated in the For Us All Campaign. The priorities for the For Us All Campaign were divided into five areas. With a goal of \$200 million, the largest category was designated as "For the Cadets" and sought gifts to fund scholarships (from research through Academic Individual Advanced Development or AIAD opportunities), endowments (in support of academic departments, cadet clubs and teams), and Academy Centers (e.g., the Combating Terrorism Center and the Center for Oral History).

Individuals and classes also committed gifts to numerous brick and mortar projects, including the Frederic V. Malek West Point Visitors Center, the Foley Enners Nathe Lacrosse Center, the West Point Cemetery Columbarium, and more. But, as George Gilmore '71, one of the members of the For Us All Campaign Cabinet said in 2013, "We will see the effects of this campaign not in new buildings or new playing fields but rather in how well prepared our junior officers arrive in the Army." Indeed, in a world of increasing threats to the nation's security, economic stability, and fundamental values, producing leaders of character became more important than ever, and the For Us All Campaign, above all, was focused on ensuring that the Academy had the resources available to fully prepare the next generation of leaders for the Army and the nation.

Since the For Us All Campaign concluded in 2015, WPAOG has continued to build on gains achieved, increasing donations to an average of \$49 million annually and raising graduate participation to all-time highs, driven by innovative initiatives such as the All-Academy Challenge. During this period, WPAOG has also won the highest awards of recognition for management practices and transparency from Charity Navigator (four stars) and GuideStar (Platinum Seal of Transparency), and the Development team has earned "Overall Performance" and "Sustained Excellence" (a five-year award won by only 16 colleges) in fundraising awards from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), a 3,700-member global professional association focused on advancing education.

FURTHER EXPANDING WPAOG SERVICES

WPAOG continued to expand its Alumni Support activities and services into the new millennium as well. Today, WPAOG provides services to 82 classes, 141 West Point societies worldwide, and to more than 53,000 individual graduates. Since launching in 2011, WPAOG's comprehensive reunion services have also proved popular with graduates: in 2019, WPAOG hosted 29 class reunions for more than 14,700 returning graduates and their guests. The WPAOG Gift Shop has steadily expanded its unique product line and services to reunion classes, graduates, cadets and their families, exceeding \$1 million in annual sales for the first time in 2005, and recently achieving \$2 million in sales. Profits from the Gift Shop support our alumni services.

In September 2006, AOG premiered a new award initiative to engage cadets with the presentation of the inaugural Nininger Award for Valor at Arms to Major Ryan L. Worthan '97. Conceived by E. Doug Kenna '45 and funded in perpetuity by Kenna and his wife Jean, the award is named after First Lieutenant Alexander "Sandy" Nininger '41, who was killed in action in the Philippines during World War II and posthumously received the Medal of Honor (the first American army soldier to be so honored in the war). It is given to a recent graduate who has displayed heroic action in battle. Like AOG's Distinguished Graduate Award, the Nininger is an award for which the recipient is meant to be representative of a larger body; in this

case, of “all West Point-commissioned officers who have heroically led Soldiers in combat.” However, unlike the DGA, which has been historically presented to senior members of the Long Gray Line, the recipient of the Nininger Award must be “a decorated and relatively recent graduate on Active Duty,” according to the award’s criteria. “Age is what makes the Nininger Award special,” said Captain Anthony Fusccellaro ’05, the 2013 recipient. “Cadets have an easier time connecting with the Nininger Award winners because they could be in their boots soon and see a lot of the same things they have seen.”

There have been four board chairmen, Ted Stroup ’62, Jodie Glore ’69, Larry Jordan ’68 and the current chair, Joe DeFrancisco ’65, since the new governance model was adopted in 2006. These dedicated alumni servants, along with the WPAOG Board, have provided WPAOG with strong leadership and oversight that has allowed for a consistent upward trajectory in its service to both West Point and the Long Gray Line. Other major initiatives introduced by WPAOG in the last decade include the Dettre Memorial Assistance Program, started in 2008 upon a donation from Mrs. Betty Dettre in honor of her late husband, Major General Rexford H. Dettre ’43JAN, which supports graduate burials at West Point cemetery; comprehensive reunion support services as previously mentioned, which debuted in 2011; and the Rockbound Highland Home Program, which launched in 2017 and offers personal benefits through its “Grad Pass,” “Grad Perks,” and “Grad Insider Tour” options so that each graduate who returns to West Point feels warmly welcomed back. A year later, the Rockbound Highland Home Program won two CASE “Gold” Awards in the categories of “Alumni Relations” and “Alumni Relations Events and Affinity Programs.”

Just recently, WPAOG has unveiled a new, enhanced Career Services Program, which is designed to equip all West Point graduates with the confidence to successfully navigate each phase of their post-military career transition; Grad Link, a mobile app which expands upon the popular “Find a Grad” feature on WPAOG’s website to offer the easiest and most powerful way to network with fellow grads; and Sallyport, a secure online portal that provides West Point Societies with three primary services; membership management, communications, and event management.

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Over the course of its 150-year existence, the Association of Graduates of the United States Military Academy has evolved into a truly one of a kind organization, one that is simultaneously an independent alumni association serving graduates with services and programs, and also a foundation that solicits and manages funds on behalf of the institution it supports. At many universities, alumni support is a subset of a that school’s development operation and staffed by employees of the school. A few are independent organizations with their own board of directors, but they neither solicit nor manage money for their alma mater.

The delicate balance between the foundation side of AOG and its alumni support operations had been an issue of great concern for Robert Lamb ’46, Secretary-Treasurer for AOG (1970-72) and then its first Executive Vice President (1972-90) in his 1990 essay “Two Decades of Change,” but after reviewing the last two-plus decades of AOG history it is clear that the fundraising-fraternal fellowship duality of WPAOG’s evolved nature has proved symbiotic: the more that bonds between members of the Long Gray Line are strengthened by WPAOG, the more grad-

uates support their alma mater; and the more generously graduates give of their time, talent, and treasure, the more services WPAOG is able to offer to help make the Long Gray Line the most highly connected alumni body in the world.

With its new expansion of Alumni Support and communications to keep graduates connected and engaged, today’s WPAOG stands poised to lead support for both graduates and West Point well into the 21st century. Or, going back to Anderson’s original principles when he proposed the idea of an Association of Graduates in 1869 in his letter to Thayer: “to perfect and perpetuate this truly national institution” and “for the promotion of social and fraternal intercourse,” later resolved in the Association’s preliminary meeting in which he participated.”

RECOGNIZING GEORGE WRIGHT FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CON- GRESSIONAL VETERAN COM- MENDATION

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize George Wright of Laurel for the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to our country and dedication to his community.

Mr. Wright served in the U.S. Army during World War II, operating construction equipment in order to create infrastructure for fellow troops. Mr. Wright received multiple commendations for his service, including the Bronze Star and Good Conduct Medal.

Following his service, Mr. Wright came home to serve his community. Mr. Wright owned equipment that made it possible for him to help fix what was needed, from cars to roads and much more. He was a fixture on ranches when roads washed out or cattle needed rescuing during floods.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending George Wright for his dedication and service.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, November 19, 2019 may be found in the Daily Digest of today’s RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

NOVEMBER 20

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Defense audit.

SR-222

9:35 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Sean O'Donnell, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-406

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 2877, to reauthorize the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002; to be immediately followed by hearings to examine the nominations of Mitchell A. Silk, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Brian D. Montgomery, of Texas, to be Deputy Secretary, and David Carey Woll, Jr., of Connecticut, and John Bobbitt, of Texas, both to be an Assistant Secretary, all of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Peter J. Coniglio, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Export-Import.

SD-538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine highly automated vehicles, focusing on Federal perspectives on the deployment of safety technology.

SH-216

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Stephen Hahn, of Texas, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services.

SD-430

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine Russian influence in Belarus.

RHOB-2200

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Stephen E. Biegun, of Michigan, to be Deputy Secretary of State.

SD-419

2 p.m.

Committee on Finance

Subcommittee on Health Care

To hold hearings to examine Alzheimer's awareness, focusing on barriers to diagnosis, treatment, and care coordination.

SD-215

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Roxanne Cabral, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Carmen G. Cantor, of Puerto Rico, to be Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia, Kelley Eckels Currie, of Georgia, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Women's Issues, Kelly C. Degnan, of California, to be Ambassador to Georgia, Michael George DeSombre, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand, David T. Fischer, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Morocco, Robert S. Gilchrist, of