

the Tibetan people, to safeguard their identity and culture, and to advocate for the importance of dialogue to improve their relations with the Chinese Government. I urge my colleagues to join me in doing so.

#### NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, as we celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month, we join together to acknowledge and express our appreciation for Hispanic communities across America and their innumerable gifts to our diverse Nation. Hispanic individuals have been critical in making this country a more inclusive and pluralistic union. In Maryland, Hispanics are the second-largest minority group, comprising more than 12 percent of our population, according to the 2020 Census. Hispanics in every corner of our State continue to engage in and strengthen our economy, educational and cultural institutions, and government.

National Hispanic Heritage Month, first established in 1968, recognizes these achievements while encouraging the pursuit of new ones. This year, we particularly recognize the sacrifices made by Hispanic educators, essential workers, and healthcare professionals during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. We also honor those Hispanic veterans who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces and honorably protected the values and ideals that we hold so dear.

While acknowledging Hispanic contributions to American history, culture, and identity, we also pledge to combat xenophobia and ignorance in all its manifestations. We support Hispanics as they seek fair access to equitable healthcare, affordable education and housing, and equal representation and in the private and public sectors. We also renew our commitment to pursuing comprehensive immigration reform and to protecting immigrant populations who call this Nation their home, including Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals—DACA—and Temporary Protected Status—TPS—recipients. As Americans, we all share a responsibility to treat one another with respect, decency, and compassion. Moreover, as we approach the 2022 midterm elections, we must recognize the need to address the disproportionate targeting of Hispanic voters with election-related disinformation.

During the remainder of National Hispanic Heritage Month and throughout the year, let us renew our commitments to a diverse society and mark the unique contributions Hispanics have made in every area of American life, culture, and history. Let us continually celebrate these achievements with appreciation and joy.

#### EMERGENCY NURSES WEEK

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, on behalf of myself and Mr. WICKER, I rise

today to celebrate Emergency Nurses Week and all of the nurses throughout the country and around the world working day in and day out on the front lines to care for those in need.

More than 2 years ago now, the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic turned our emergency rooms into battle zones against the virus virtually overnight, and our nurses fought that battle every single day. They fought it when they were understaffed and didn't have personal protective equipment. They fought it through a rise in violence in their workplaces. They fought it as tireless advocates for their patients, even while risking their own health and the well-being of their own families. And they fought it through exhaustion and burnout. These challenges came on top of an already existing shortage of trained and qualified nurses, a raging opioid epidemic, and a mental health crisis—and now a fentanyl crisis and the monkeypox outbreak.

Our nurses are heroes, and throughout the week of October 9, we will join together to honor and celebrate their heroic work. They deserve all the respect, admiration, and support of a grateful nation—not just for 1 week, but indeed, every day of the year.

#### HONORING PRIVATE FIRST CLASS MELVIN J. LITTLE BEAR

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, earlier this week, more than 71 years after he was killed in the Korean war, U.S. Army Private First Class Melvin J. Little Bear was returned home to McLaughlin, SD.

In 1951, Private First Class Little Bear, a native of Standing Rock, was a member of A Battery, 15th Field Artillery Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division. On February 13, 1951, he was reported missing in action after his unit was attacked by Chinese communist forces, at which point his unit conducted a 2-day fighting withdrawal from Changbong-ni, South Korea, to Wonju. He was captured and held as a prisoner of war at POW Camp Number 1 in North Korea, where POW reports show he died in captivity later that summer.

In 1954, Private First Class Little Bear's unidentified remains were returned to U.N. command under Operation GLORY. However, because investigators were unable to identify to whom they belonged, his remains were buried at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, HI, in 1956.

Through the dedication and preservation of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, the remains of Private First Class Little Bear were finally identified on July 13, 2022, through DNA matching. Seventy-one years after being captured and killed, his remains have finally been returned to his family in McLaughlin, SD, where he will be laid to rest in eternal peace at All Nations Veteran's Cemetery on September 30, 2022.

I consider it an honor to pay tribute to Private First Class Melvin J. Little Bear. May his family and his Oyate find comfort in knowing that his remains will soon be laid to rest and the legacy of his service and sacrifice to our Nation will live on.

#### 375TH ANNIVERSARY OF KITTERY, MAINE

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to commemorate the 375th anniversary of the incorporation of Kittery, ME. The oldest town in Maine has a history that is as fascinating as it is long. It is a history that exemplifies the determination, resiliency, and courage of my State and our Nation.

For thousands of years the rich fishing grounds where the Piscataqua River meets the sea sustained the Native American tribes. The first European settlers, drawn by the abundant natural resources, arrived in 1623, just 3 years after the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth. Built on a foundation of forestry and fishing, the growing community was incorporated in 1647. With a protected natural harbor and ample supplies of lumber, Kittery soon became a key Colonial center for seafaring trade and shipbuilding.

Kittery's maritime heritage is inextricably linked to our Nation's independence and its ongoing defense of freedom. During the American Revolution, warships for the fledgling U.S. Navy were built at Kittery, including the *Ranger*, commanded by John Paul Jones. Kittery is the birthplace of General William Whipple, a ship's captain who was the only Maine native to have signed the Declaration of Independence and was later a hero of the Battle of Saratoga. Kittery also is the hometown of Captain Jeremiah O'Brien, who led American forces to victory at the Battle of the Margarettas at Maine's Machias Bay in 1775, the first naval battle of the American Revolution.

The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, our Nation's oldest continuously operating Navy yard, was established in Kittery in 1800. Its first commander was Commodore Isaac Hull, who achieved fame as captain of the USS *Constitution*—Old Ironsides—in the War of 1812.

The Portsmouth Naval Shipyard rebuilt Old Ironsides during the Civil War and constructed the USS *Kearsarge*, celebrated for its role in clearing the seas of Confederate raiders. During World War I, the shipyard took on the new task of constructing submarines, in addition to the overhaul and repair of surface vessels. Over the course of World War II, more than 70 submarines were constructed there, with a record four submarines launched on 1 day. Today, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, considered the gold standard of our public shipyards, continues its tradition of excellence by maintaining, modernizing, and refueling the Navy's submarine fleet.

The people of Kittery cherish their history and work to preserve its treasures. Some of the earliest homes in

New England are found there, lovingly restored and maintained. The First Congregational Church, built in 1730, is the oldest church building in continuous use in Maine. Two historic seaside forts now offer hiking trails, parkland, a museum, and spectacular ocean views.

As the gateway to Maine from New Hampshire and points south, Kittery has much to offer visitors and residents alike. From extensive shopping, excellent restaurants, and a vibrant arts scene to a wealth of outdoor recreation opportunities, there is something for everyone. The wide range of events held during this landmark anniversary year demonstrates the civic pride found throughout the community.

For 375 years, Kittery has grown and prospered for the future while honoring its past. The story of Kittery is an important part of America's story, written by committed citizens working together. I congratulate the people of Kittery for their accomplishments and wish them all the best in the years to come.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### BICENTENNIAL OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

• Mr. BRAUN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the 200th anniversary of the founding of Montgomery County, IN, and the unique contributions that the Montgomery County community has made to the United States.

This December, Montgomery County celebrates the bicentennial of its foundation. Montgomery County is a place one could characterize as quintessentially "Indiana:" the mellow bends of Sugar Creek crossed with covered bridges; the buzzing hometown feel of Crawfordsville; and the ambitious energy of Wabash college—all hallmarks of Indiana that make my State such a wonderful place to live. Over two centuries, this county has steadily grown from a handful of log cabins into a historic community, contributing greatly to American history and culture.

Consider, for instance, Lew Wallace, a highly accomplished citizen who spent much of his life in Crawfordsville. Wallace left his career as a lawyer to fight for the Union in the Civil War, rising to the rank of general. Later, he served as Governor of the territory of New Mexico. After completing his service to the United States and returning to Crawfordsville, Wallace published his highly acclaimed and influential novel, "Ben-Hur: A Tale of the Christ." It soon became the best-selling novel of the 19th century and is still adapted for stage and film today.

Now, I could not commemorate Montgomery County without mentioning its important role in the story of Indiana's favorite sport, basketball. Indeed, according to many historical

sources, Montgomery County served as the launch pad for the sport of basketball in Indiana. The first Indiana High School Athletic Association basketball championship was won by Crawfordsville High School in 1911, and the following eight Indiana high school basketball champions were located within thirty miles of Montgomery County. Piggy Lambert, one highly influential basketball coach from Purdue University, played basketball at Crawfordsville High School and Wabash College. Even scenes from the legendary movie "Hoosiers" were filmed in New Richmond, cementing Indiana's relationship with basketball in American culture.

Finally, I want to address Wabash College, my alma mater. The time that I spent at Wabash College impressed upon me the qualities that make Montgomery County not only special, but representative of Indiana. Founded in 1832, on what was then our Nation's western frontier, Wabash College has produced thousands of influential graduates across many fields. As president of the student body at Wabash College, I had plenty of experience to prepare me for my careers in business and public service.

In closing, I am delighted to honor Montgomery County, and I want to congratulate the communities of Montgomery County for 200 years of meaningful contributions to American history and culture. Thank you.●

##### REMEMBERING MYLAN HAWKINS

• Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, today I recognize Mylan Barin Hawkins, who passed away on August 26, 2022. Mylan devoted her life to serving others and made invaluable contributions to the State of Nevada. She was a dedicated political and social activist who fought to advance women's rights and advocated for healthcare for women and children.

Mylan was born in Chicago, IL, and attended the University of Chicago. Mylan was involved in Chicago Ward Boss politics before moving to Florida, where she founded Project Survival after giving birth to a premature son. Project Survival helped build a neonatal center at the University of Miami Jackson Memorial Hospital. Mylan was driven by her passion to work on women's and children's healthcare. She served on nonprofits and advocacy campaigns wherever she went. She helped raise funds for the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and for the Sloan Kettering Memorial Hospital in New York.

In 1976, Mylan settled in Reno, NV, and immediately set to work to advance women's rights in the State. Mylan joined the National Organization for Women in their mission to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Along the way, Mylan helped pass ground-breaking legislation and ballot initiatives in the State. Mylan also co-founded the Nevada and California Dia-

betes Association, an organization focused on providing local services including camps, teen, family and adult support programs, and emergency medical information and referral services.

In the late 1980s, Mylan and her colleagues realized the dangers ahead for reproductive freedom. They worked tirelessly to draft a State ballot referendum protecting Nevada women's reproductive rights, which passed in 1990. Mylan continued to advocate for women's rights and was in her late 70s when she launched the 2016 Women's March in Reno, gathering thousands of supporters. Mylan also helped found Northern Nevada Marches Forward, an inclusive volunteer led nonprofit with a mission to support, spotlight, and uplift the voices and power of diverse people and communities to create transformative social change.

Mylan's tenacity and courage are a testament to the grit and spirit of Nevada women, and her legacy lives on in the countless women and activists she has inspired and mentored across the State. Her service and dedication to her country, community, and her family will not be forgotten.●

##### RECOGNIZING THE NEVADA TAXPAYERS ASSOCIATION

• Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Nevada Taxpayers Association.

In 1922, Nevadans started the organization that would become the Nevada Taxpayers Association, NTA. From its first office located in the Reno National Bank Building, the small organization has continued to work on behalf of Nevada taxpayers. It is now one of the oldest governmental research and advocacy associations, not only in Nevada but in the United States.

Today, the NTA is a renowned tax policy and analysis organization, providing valuable service to the citizens of the Silver State. NTA advocates on behalf of Nevada's working families for policies that promote efficiency, accountability and common sense. NTA ensures State and local lawmakers have the data and expert analysis to craft fair tax policy, including by providing the public with "Tax Facts," a digest of tax history dating back nearly 50 years.

NTA had the foresight to advocate with the Nevada Legislature to establish a rainy day fund to insulate the State budget from dramatic swings that sometimes resulted in tough choices and devastating cuts to critical services such as education and healthcare. There are many examples of NTA raising difficult issues that required legislators across the aisle to work together. From helping establish the Nevada Gaming Law in the 1930s, to developing a "computers for schools program" for Nevada's public school system, the association has played an active role in fiscal policy analysis and research that has strengthened our State for the benefit of every Nevadan.