

Harlan, IA, is clear. I want to congratulate Tami Kloefer and the entire team at Secret Serenity Salon and Spa for their continued dedication to providing beauty care to Iowans. I look forward to seeing their continued growth and success in Iowa.●

REMEMBERING FLORINE MARK

● Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the passing of my dear friend Florine Mark, an icon and trailblazer in Michigan and the international business community.

A role model, entrepreneur, and businesswoman, Florine established the first Michigan Weight Watchers franchise in 1966, holding her first meeting in a school auditorium. Over the next 50 years, Florine grew her portfolio, acquiring franchises in 13 States, Canada, and Mexico, to become the largest franchise holder of Weight Watchers International, employing over 4,200 people.

Behind Florine's drive for success was a deeply held desire to uplift and inspire others to see and act upon the best in themselves. From her early childhood, growing up in a family with very limited means, Florine's bubbie instilled in her the importance of giving back to others. She often spent Sundays with her grandmother, raising funds for Jewish charities and was an active member of her congregation at Adat Shalom Synagogue.

Florine's signature saying, "love, love, love," not only reflected her love of family, but also her commitment to improving the lives of others. Florine shared her time and expertise to countless community organizations throughout Michigan, including Children's Hospital of Michigan, Detroit Institute for Children, Business Leaders of Michigan, Detroit Regional Chamber, Henry Ford Health System, University of Michigan Cardiovascular Center, Women of Tomorrow, and several others. She was an active board member of the Michigan Fitness Foundation; the Governor's Council on Physical Fitness, Health, and Sports; the Governor's Economic Council Advisory Board; and was on the board of trustees of the Community Foundation for Southeast Michigan since 1992.

As a strong advocate for women's professional development and leadership roles in business, Florine sat on the Women's Leadership Board at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. She also served a 3-year term on the Detroit branch of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, was on the Michigan Committee supporting the Smithsonian American Women's History Museum, and on the board of directors for English Gardens.

A well-known motivational speaker, she hosted "Today's Takeaway with Florine Mark," during which she interviewed celebrity guests and everyday individuals about physical and mental health, relationships, and other self-care topics. Through her "Ask Florine"

and "Remarkable Women" segments on local broadcasts, she sought to uplift women leaders while raising self-esteem by providing an avenue for advice, support, and dialogue.

Florine's leadership earned her several awards throughout her career, including the 2003 "Entrepreneurial Visionary Award" from the Women's Business Center in Washington, DC. She was also recognized among the 100 Most Influential Women in Detroit by Crain's Detroit Business Magazine, was the recipient of the William Davidson Lifetime Achievement Award, and was the first woman to receive the Neal Shine Award for Exemplary Regional Leadership. She received honorary degrees from Eastern Michigan University, Central Michigan University, Oakland University, Walsh College, Wayne State University, and Lawrence Technological University. Five of these were honorary doctorates. And just earlier this month, Florine received the Women Who Make a Difference award from the International Women's Forum for her accomplishments and contributions to her community and the world.

Through a lifetime of efforts big and small, Florine cemented a legacy as an icon in Michigan, across the country, and around the world. She willingly and selflessly made time for her community, her friends, and especially for her family whom she cherished more than anything. I personally know how deeply proud Florine was of her seven children and her many grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

I am proud to honor the life and legacy of my friend, Florine Mark. I ask that we offer our sympathies to her family and thank them for sharing Florine with us all. She will be sorely missed.●

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT WHALEY

● Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, today I would like to honor the life and service of a distinguished Montanan and Vietnam veteran, Lieutenant Colonel Robert Whaley.

Bob is a native son of the Treasure State and graduated from Missoula County High in 1954. He had a successful college football career at Carroll College, where he also served as president of the student body council. After graduating from Carroll, Bob answered the call to serve and enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps for Aviation Office Candidate School. He shortly commissioned as a second lieutenant and spent the next 18 months at Pensacola flight school training in Florida, flying both fixed-wing aircrafts and helicopters.

In April 1962, Bob was a member of the first Marine aircraft unit to serve in South Vietnam. Soon after arriving in Vietnam, he also participated in the Vietnam war's first night medevac mission. Throughout his first two tours of Vietnam, Bob flew medevac helicopters, where he rescued wounded American troops. While flying a Huey

gunship to support transport helicopters in 1965, Bob's aircraft was shot down. He and the rest of his crew miraculously survived the crash, but they sustained serious injuries and were evacuated stateside to recover. After recovering, he began training replacement pilots at Camp Pendleton and eventually returned to Vietnam in 1968, 3 weeks after marrying his wife, LaWana. There, he got back in the Huey and flew hundreds of recon and rescue missions. When Bob finally returned to the U.S. from Vietnam for the last time in 1969, he had logged more than 800 missions and earned 40 Air Medals, two Distinguished Flying Crosses, a Bronze Star, and a Purple Heart. He continued his service in the Marine Corps for another decade and eventually retired in 1979 as a lieutenant colonel and the executive officer of Marine Air Group 39 at Camp Pendleton.

After retiring, Bob returned to his native Missoula and began working as a financial adviser. Eventually, he retired for good so he and LaWana could enjoy the mountains outside of Missoula. Sadly, LaWana passed last December, after 54 years of marriage.

Today, it is my honor to commemorate Bob's incredible service to our country. On behalf of myself and a grateful nation, I commend Lieutenant Colonel Whaley, and extend our deepest appreciation to him and his family. His exemplary service in the Marines is what makes our country the greatest in the world and Montana the Last Best Place. He is a true patriot who has made Montana proud, and we owe him a deep debt of gratitude.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Kelly, 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 two withdrawals which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

REPORT ON THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS ORIGINALLY DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 13413 OF OCTOBER 27, 2006, WITH RESPECT TO THE SITUATION IN OR IN RELATION TO THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO—PM 26

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message

from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency with respect to the situation in or in relation to the Democratic Republic of the Congo declared in Executive Order 13413 of October 27, 2006, as amended by Executive Order 13671 of July 8, 2014, is to continue in effect beyond October 27, 2023.

The situation in or in relation to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which has been marked by widespread violence and atrocities that continue to threaten regional stability, continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the foreign policy of the United States. Therefore, I have determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13413, as amended by Executive Order 13671, with respect to the situation in or in relation to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN, Jr.
THE WHITE HOUSE, October 24, 2023.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2562. A communication from the Marine Resources Management Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Russian River Estuary Management Activities" (RIN0648-BK97) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2563. A communication from the Marine Resources Management Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel Expansion Project in Norfolk, Virginia" (RIN0648-BK21) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2564. A communication from the Marine Resources Management Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Ice Roads and Ice Trails Construction and Maintenance Activities on Alaska's North

Slope" (RIN0648-BJ24) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2565. A communication from the Marine Resources Management Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Take of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Seabird Research Activities in Central California" (RIN0648-BJ47) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2566. A communication from the Marine Resources Management Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to U.S. Navy Construction at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, Maine" (RIN0648-BL78) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2567. A communication from the Marine Resources Management Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Southwest Fisheries Science Center Fisheries Research" (RIN0648-BJ71) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2568. A communication from the Marine Resources Management Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Lighthouse Repair and Tour Operations at Northwest Seal Rock, California" (RIN0648-BJ87) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2569. A communication from the Marine Resources Management Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Southeast Fisheries Science Center Fisheries Research" (RIN0648-BG44) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2570. A communication from the Marine Resources Management Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Alaska Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) Project in Cook Inlet" (RIN0648-BH44) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2571. A communication from the Marine Resources Management Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to U.S. Navy Construction at Naval Station Newport in Newport, Rhode Island" (RIN0648-BK69) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to

the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2572. A communication from the Marine Resources Management Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to Northeast Fisheries Science Center Fisheries and Ecosystem Research" (RIN0648-BK39) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2573. A communication from the Marine Resources Management Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to the U.S. Navy Training and Testing Activities in the Point Mugu Sea Range Study Area" (RIN0648-BK07) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2574. A communication from the Marine Resources Management Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to the U.S. Navy Training Activities in the Gulf of Alaska Study Area" (RIN0648-BK46) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 17, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2575. A communication from the Biologist of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Takes of Marine Mammals Incidental to Specified Activities; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to U.S. Navy Construction of the Pier 3 Replacement Project at Naval Station Norfolk" (RIN0648-BL81) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 27, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2576. A communication from the Director of National Marine Sanctuaries, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Designation of Wisconsin Shipwreck Coast National Marine Sanctuary; Delay of Effectiveness" (RIN0648-BG01) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2577. A communication from the Marine Resources Management Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Taking and Importing Marine Mammals; Taking Marine Mammals Incidental to the U.S. Navy Training and Testing Activities in the Mariana Islands Training and Testing (MITT) Study Area" (RIN0648-BJ00) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 4, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2578. A communication from the Fisheries Regulations Specialist, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast Multispecies Fishery; Amendment 23" (RIN0648-BK17) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 10, 2023; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.