

Eight descendants of Charles Dickens are expected to attend this year's festival and provide readings of Dickens' work.

The festival also honors our proud and historic ties between Texas and the United Kingdom. In 1846, the first British Consulate in the Lone Star State was established in Galveston, and it remained open until 1939. The Second British Consul-General to Texas, Arthur Lynn, is buried in Galveston's City Cemetery.

I am pleased that the British Consulate-General in Houston will be the presenting sponsor for this year's festival. Events will take place in multiple locations across the city, including the Salute to Sunset on the Official Tall Ship of Texas, the *Elissa*, which was built in the United Kingdom.

Galveston's holiday tradition has won 24 International Festival and Events Association Pinnacle Awards in its history. It has also brought much happiness and pride to the community and the visitors who come to take part in the celebration.

Congratulations to all involved in organizing the 50th Dickens on The Strand Festival, and I wish all of its guests, staff, and honorees a very successful weekend.●

RECOGNIZING CARVER PUMP

● Ms. ERNST. Madam President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Carver Pump of Muscatine, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 1938, Carver Pump was founded by brothers Ralph and Roy J. Carver in Matherville, IL, as a specialty manufacturer of self-priming pumps that are designed to prevent air pockets from forming while pumping fluids. Shortly after its founding, Carver Pump began providing pumps to the U.S. and the Allied navies during World War II. In 1941, Roy restructured the company and relocated to its current home in Muscatine, IA. Since World War II, Carver Pump has remained committed to providing high-quality pumps to the U.S. Navy. Currently, every Navy ship-building program, which is responsible for the ship construction of the U.S. Navy fleet, relies on a centrifugal pump from Carver Pump. Due to their hard work, Carver Pump received certification for their high-quality management systems by the International Organization for Standardization. Their pumps are used in a variety of industries, including mining, agriculture, automotive, and maritime. Roy J. Carver passed away in 1981, leaving behind a legacy of hard work, philanthropy, and business excellence. Today, Carver Pump is run by Carver family member Andrew Carver.

Carver Pump is an exemplary family business. Multiple generations of the

Carver family have worked at the company and been recognized for their contributions to both the pump industry and philanthropic efforts in Iowa. In 2019, Roy and his wife Lucille were posthumously awarded the Muscatine Community College Legends award for their continued legacy in Iowa. The Roy J. Carver Trust was also posthumously established and has been involved with the University of Iowa, Iowa State University, the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and Augustana College. At the University of Iowa, the Carver-Hawkeye Arena and Roy J. and Lucille Carver College of Medicine are named after Roy J. and Lucille in honor of their continued support of the university's academic and athletic programs. In 2023, Carver Pump celebrated its 85th business anniversary.

Carver Pump's commitment to producing high-quality pumps in Muscatine and supplying critical products to help the U.S. military is clear. I want to congratulate Andrew Carver, the Carver family, and the entire team at Carver Pump for their continued dedication to providing high-quality pumps throughout the world. I look forward to seeing their continued growth and success in Iowa.●

TRIBUTE TO BRUCE SAITO

● Mr. PADILLA. Madam President, I rise today to congratulate Bruce Saito, director of the California Conservation Corps—CCC—on a decades-long career spent protecting California's environment, building a climate workforce of the future, and introducing generations of Californians to the conservation movement.

Today, the CCC is the oldest and largest conservation corps in the country and stands as a hallmark of California's commitment to the environment. But in 1977, just 1 year into its nascent mission, a young Bruce Saito signed up to serve with the organization as a supervisor and instructor, initiating what would become nearly a half-century of service protecting the beautiful State he grew up in.

From the beginning, Bruce worked diligently, earning promotions to become the director of the Los Angeles Urban Center and conservationist supervisor at the CCC Camarillo Center. In 1986, he left the CCC to help found the Los Angeles Conservation Corps, where he would serve for three decades transforming the nonprofit into one of the largest in the country. Thanks to Bruce, over 100,000 trees have been planted in and around Los Angeles, and parks around the city have thrived.

In 2015, Bruce would return to his roots when Governor Jerry Brown appointed him to serve as director of the CCC, where he served until October 31, 2023. In his time working there, Bruce has helped countless young Californians, giving young people valuable skills that in turn launched many of their careers and ignited lifelong passions for conservation.

California is a leader in the fight against the climate crisis—not just in the United States, but around the world. But that ethos of environmentalism, the culture of care for the community, wasn't always inevitable. California remains the environmental envy of the Nation because of people like Bruce, who not only had the passion to protect our earth but the willingness to bring others along with him.

And it is because of people like Bruce that our children's generation has a chance to know the same beauty of the land around us that we grew up with.

All of California wishes Bruce well in his much-deserved retirement, and we thank him for his decades of service.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:49 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, 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. 4480. An act to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to report on the veterans interagency task force, to require the Comptroller General of the United States to report on access to credit for small business concerns owned and controlled by covered individuals, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4668. An act to amend the Small Business Act to require the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman to publish guidance documents for certain rules, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4670. An act to amend the Small Business Act to require reporting on additional information with respect to small business concerns owned and controlled by women, qualified HUBZone small business concerns, and small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5427. An act to prohibit individuals convicted of defrauding the Government from receiving any assistance from the Small Business Administration, 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. 4480. An act to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to report on the veterans interagency task force, to require the Comptroller General of the United States to report on access to credit for small business concerns owned and controlled by covered individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

H.R. 4668. An act to amend the Small Business Act to require the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman to publish guidance documents for certain rules, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

H.R. 4670. An act to amend the Small Business Act to require reporting on additional information with respect to small business concerns owned and controlled by women, qualified HUBZone small business concerns, and small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans, and for other purposes;

to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

H.R. 5427. An act to prohibit individuals convicted of defrauding the Government from receiving any assistance from the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

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-2851. A communication from the Regulation Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Presumptive Service Connection for Rare Respiratory Cancers Due to Exposure to Fine Particulate Matter" (RIN2900-AR44) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 14, 2023; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-2852. A communication from the Regulation Development Coordinator, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "VA Pilot Program on Graduate Medical Education and Residency" (RIN2900-AR01) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2023; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-2853. A communication from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting, pursuant to law, the eighteenth report to Congress on crime victims' rights; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2854. A communication from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting, pursuant to law, the seventeenth report to Congress on crime victims' rights; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2855. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Annual Report for fiscal year 2022; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-2856. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Oxathiapiprolin; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 11426-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 27, 2023; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2857. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Tolpyralate; Pesticide Tolerances" (FRL No. 11435-01-OCSPP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 27, 2023; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2858. A communication from the Special Projects Coordinator, Rural Development Innovation Center, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Guaranteed Loanmaking and Servicing Regulations" (RIN0570-AB07) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2023; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2859. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and

Sustainment), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Department of Defense Explosives Safety Board 2022 Report to Congress; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-2860. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report of the continuation of the national emergency with respect to the situation in Nicaragua that was declared in Executive Order 13851 of November 27, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2861. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency that was declared in Executive Order 13303 with respect to the stabilization of Iraq; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2862. A communication from the Chair and President of the Export-Import Bank, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a transaction involving U.S. exports to Ukraine; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2863. A communication from the Senior Congressional Liaison, Legislative Affairs, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "2023 Fair Debt Collection Practices Act Report"; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2864. A communication from the Senior Legal Advisor for Regulatory Affairs, Financial Stability Oversight Council, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Guidance on Nonbank Financial Company Determinations" (12 CFR Part 1310) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2865. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Enterprise Regulatory Capital Framework - Commingled Securities, Multifamily Government Subsidy, Derivatives, and Other Enhancements" (RIN2590-AB27) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2866. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of the Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Clearing Agency Governance and Conflicts of Interest" (RIN3235-0695) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 27, 2023; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-2867. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Emergency Preparedness for Small Modular Reactors and Other Technologies" (RIN3150-AJ68) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2868. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Revisions; California; San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District" (FRL No. 10663-02-R9) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 27, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2869. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval of Air Quality Implementation Plans; New Jersey; Exemptions to Im-

prove Resiliency, Air Toxics Thresholds, PM 2.5 and Ammonia Emission Statement Reporting, and PM 2.5 in Air Permitting" (FRL No. 11034-02-R2) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 27, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2870. A communication from the Associate Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "New Source Performance Standards Review for Secondary Lead Smelters" (FRL No. 9630-02-OAR) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 16, 2023; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-2871. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel, General Law, Ethics, and Regulation, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Assistant Secretary (Economic Policy), Department of the Treasury, received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2023; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2872. A communication from the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and Federal Disability Insurance Trust Funds, transmitting, pursuant to law, a notification that the asset reserves held in the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund will become inadequate under the meaning of this section within the next ten years; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2873. A communication from the Senior Legal Advisor for Regulatory Affairs, Office of Recovery Programs, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds" (RIN1505-AC83) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on November 28, 2023; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2874. A communication from the Board of Trustees of the Federal Hospital Insurance and Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Funds, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's 2023 Annual Report; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2875. A communication from the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance and Federal Disability Insurance Trust Funds, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Board's 2023 Annual Report; to the Committee on Finance.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. REED for the Committee on Armed Services.

*Navy nomination of Vice Adm. Stephen T. Koehler, to be Admiral.

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. Hope C. Rumpy, to be Major General.

Air Force nomination of Brig. Gen. Thomas P. Sherman, to be Major General.

Army nominations beginning with Col. Michael A. Ake and ending with Col. Jeffrey D. Wood, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on November 1, 2023.

Air Force nomination of Col. Patti L. Fries, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Col. Tommy F. Tillman, Jr., to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Brig. Gen. Steven J. Butow, to be Major General.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination