

A graduate of Dartmouth's Tuck School of Business, Duncan combined his business experience as a management consultant with his vision to help under-resourced children to make CLiF self-sustaining within its first year of operations. CLiF is proud to be an entirely community-supported organization, through the private donations of more than 600 donors each year and receives no State or Federal funds.

Before starting CLiF, Duncan spent 6 months visiting local communities, talking to people about his idea, and getting their feedback. One of the first board members was a woman who had served as a superintendent in a very small rural school district in northern New Hampshire. Her insights into how CLiF could broaden their impact and what the kids really needed were key. Initially, CLiF considered accepting donations of used children's books to distribute. The former superintendent rejected that idea because the children they were dealing with come from underserved families and always got hand-me-downs. New books would be exciting for these children. She was right.

From the beginning, the board members worked as a genuine team with a hands-on approach. In addition to board meetings, they sorted books, and helped deliver them to rural public libraries; they remained on site, giving presentations and reading from the donated books, as well as engaging the librarians to become part of the process. Through encouragement and guidance from CLiF, public libraries worked with their local schools, something that was new to many of those communities; everyone benefited. When CLiF showed up at a library or community center, the whole town knew about it.

Duncan, after dealing with librarians in these small communities, realized how isolated they were. So he came up with the idea of CLiF hosting a rural librarian's conference that CLiF underwrote; the only cost to the librarians was transportation. Suddenly, these librarians had a community—a real community—to share ideas and support. And that is what CLiF is now: a community-building organization that uses books for kids as a common denominator.

In the early days Duncan would load up his car with donated new books and drive to sites all over Vermont and New Hampshire with free books for children. Since those first days, CLiF has served over 375,000 children in 430 communities and has distributed more than \$10 million in new books. Today, CLiF's community partners offer more than 1,000 literacy events per year in public elementary schools, libraries, preschools, afterschool programs, community centers, low-income housing sites, and correctional facilities, among others. CLiF is a living example of Duncan's belief that change should happen from the ground up. I congratulate Duncan McDougall on a job well done.

## ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

### TRIBUTE TO EMILY OSTER

• Mr. CRAPO. Madam President, along with my colleague Senator TAMMY DUCKWORTH, we join in honoring Emily Oster, ParentData CEO, best-selling author and data-driven economist whose work eases the minds of both new and experienced parents across the country. We thank her for speaking to the Senate Moms group.

Emily Oster is a data-driven economist and professor of economics at Brown University. She is the author of four books—Expecting Better, the Family Firm, the Unexpected, and Cribsheet—which examine data-driven decision-making from pregnancy, parenting and beyond. Cribsheet earned her a spot as a New York Times best seller.

As CEO of ParentData, Emily translates complex scientific research into answers for some of the most pressing questions parents have. She has helped moms and dads alike dissect panic media headlines and social media claims and avoid hours of late-night-panic-Googleing. In providing clear explanations of detailed data, her work inspires parents to have more confidence about the choices they make on a wide variety of topics from conception to school-aged children. Her efforts make moms especially feel less alone in the concerns they have about doing what is best for their children. Emily lives with her husband and two children.

Our staff led the Senate Moms group, a bipartisan group of more than 200 moms employed by the U.S. Senate. The group's regular meetings and internal resources in the Senate help working moms feel united and supported in navigating the Senate workplace and raising children in the Washington, DC, area.

Thank you, Emily, for your inspiring work to quell the concerns of many Senate moms and giving them the resources that empower the decisions they make about their families every day. You have set an outstanding example for the many working moms who help keep the U.S. Senate functioning day-to-day. We wish you the best in all the future offers you.●

### TRIBUTE TO ROBERT WEBER

• Mr. DAINES. Madam President, today I have the distinct honor of recognizing Robert Weber of Park County on his 100th birthday.

Robert was born in Hobson, MT, and he and his brother moved to Paradise Valley when they were young. As a young man, he answered the call to serve our great Nation during World War II, becoming a gunner aboard a B-29 Superfortress bomber and flying missions over Japan.

After the war, he returned to Montana to build a life in Paradise Valley, raising sheep and cattle on a property

neighboring his brother's. He is passionate about the outdoors and was quite the hunter in his day. Robert is a family man and devoted to his daughter Cathy, grandchildren, and now great-grandchildren.

It is my distinct honor to recognize Robert Weber for his dedication to his family and country and to mark the momentous occasion of his 100th birthday. Robert's legacy of service and hard work will continue to inspire generations to come. I wish you a very happy birthday, Robert, you make Montana proud.●

### TRIBUTE TO TRAVIS PARKER

• Mr. TUBERVILLE. Madam President, we learn a lot about a person by seeing where they choose to spend their time. For Medical Corpsman Travis Parker, he has chosen to give the last 50 years giving back to Alabama's veterans.

After being drafted into the Army, Travis chose to become a medic. He was passionate about combining his medical training with helping soldiers harmed overseas. After completing his training at Fort Sam Houston, Travis was assigned to finish his tour at Fort Rucker. It was there that Travis saw the scars of war firsthand, as he treated soldiers returning home from the Vietnam war.

This experience left a lasting impact on Travis that led him to devote his time serving other veterans and raising awareness to the challenges they face. He decided to make Enterprise his permanent home and has contributed to the Wiregrass in so many ways that it is hard to name them all.

Travis began the "Flags for Forgotten Soldiers" to honor veterans who have lost their lives to suicide. Thanks to his efforts, more than 660 flags have been placed around the area to commemorate the number of veterans that are lost to suicide each month. Travis has also helped make it easier for veterans to go about their daily routines by partnering with the American Legion to build wheelchair ramps in homes and public spaces. And in 2023, Travis helped bring the Traveling Vietnam Wall to Dothan on the 50th anniversary of the ending of the Vietnam war. Travis has helped lead numerous organizations, including AM-VETS Post 7, American Legion Post 82, and his local Vietnam Veterans of America chapter. Travis also founded the Wiregrass Honor Flight Hub and played a key role in launching the Association of Service Agencies (ASA), fostering collaboration among civic, church, and government organizations. Additionally, Travis is helping launch Alabama's first-ever Guitars for Vets chapter. He spearheads numerous other local events to honor our Nation's heroes, including Wreaths Across America, Memorial Day, and 9/11 Patriot Day.

Travis has received numerous awards for his inspiring community service

and veterans' work. Whether it is combating veterans' suicide or teaching veterans how to play the guitar, Travis has played a critical role in reminding Alabama's veterans they are not alone. He reminds us of what an important impact anyone can make on those around you just by showing up and lending a helping hand.

Alabama is blessed to have veterans like Travis who didn't let their service end when they left the military. It is my honor to recognize Travis Parker as the April Veteran of the Month.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Hanley, 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 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 11:21 a.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. 517. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the rules for postponing certain deadlines by reason of disaster.

H.R. 997. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to conform to the intent of the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998, as set forth in the joint explanatory statement of the committee of conference accompanying Conference Report 105-599, that the National Taxpayer Advocate be able to hire and consult counsel as appropriate.

H.R. 998. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require additional information on math and clerical error notices.

H.R. 1152. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the application of the mailbox rule to documents and payments electronically submitted to the Internal Revenue Service.

H.R. 1155. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow taxpayers to elect to receive certain replacement refunds electronically.

H.R. 1234. An act to direct the Librarian of Congress to promote the more cost-effective, efficient, and expanded availability of the Annotated Constitution and pocket-part supplements by replacing the hardbound versions with digital versions.

#### ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 2:47 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 joint resolution:

H.J. Res. 25. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Internal Revenue Service relating to "Gross Proceeds Reporting by Brokers That Regularly Provide Services Effectuating Digital Asset Sales".

The enrolled joint resolution was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

At 3:17 p.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 bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1491. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make the postponement of certain deadlines by reason of disasters applicable to the limitation on credit or refund, and to take postponements into account for purposes of sending collection notices.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 517. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the rules for postponing certain deadlines by reason of disaster; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 997. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to conform to the intent of the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring and Reform Act of 1998, as set forth in the joint explanatory statement of the committee of conference accompanying Conference Report 105-599, that the National Taxpayer Advocate be able to hire and consult counsel as appropriate; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 998. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require additional information on math and clerical error notices; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 1048. An act to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to strengthen disclosure requirements relating to foreign gifts and contracts, to prohibit contracts between institutions of higher education and certain foreign entities and countries of concern, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R. 1152. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the application of the mailbox rule to documents and payments electronically submitted to the Internal Revenue Service; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 1155. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow taxpayers to elect to receive certain replacement refunds electronically; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 1234. An act to direct the Librarian of Congress to promote the more cost-effective, efficient, and expanded availability of the Annotated Constitution and pocket-part supplements by replacing the hardbound versions with digital versions; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

H.R. 1491. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make the postponement of certain deadlines by reason of disasters applicable to the limitation on credit or refund, and to take postponements into account for purposes of sending collection notices; to the Committee on Finance.

#### PRIVILEGED NOMINATION REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

On request by Senator RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, under the authority of S.

Res. 116, 112th Congress, the following nomination was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs: Donald Bergin III, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Congressional and Legislative Affairs).

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LEE, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:

Special Report entitled "History, Jurisdiction, and a Summary of Activities of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources During the 118th Congress" (Rept. No. 119-7).

By Mr. PAUL, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs:

Special Report entitled "Activities of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs During the 118th Congress" (Rept. No. 119-8).

By Mr. CRUZ, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 99. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to produce a report that provides recommendations to improve the effectiveness, efficiency, and impact of Department of Commerce programs related to supply chain resilience and manufacturing and industrial innovation, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 119-9).

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Committee on the Judiciary:

Special Report entitled "Activities of the Committee on the Judiciary During the 118th Congress" (Rept. No. 119-10).

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEE

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. WICKER for the Committee on Armed Services.

\*Elbridge Colby, of the District of Columbia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Policy.

\*Army nomination of Lt. Gen. Christopher C. LaNeve, to be Lieutenant General.

Mr. WICKER. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report 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.

Air Force nomination of Christopher A. Ridlon, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Mark D. Goodwin, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Carlos J. Ramirez Jimenez, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Jeffrey W. Buckner, to be Colonel.

Army nomination of Shawn P. Polonkey, to be Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Joseph R. Petkus, to be Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Bijan C. Derakhshan, to be Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Jonathan W. Landers, to be Colonel.

Marine Corps nomination of Christopher L. Junkins, to be Lieutenant Colonel.