

The Gaynor Cranberry Company's roots are deeply embedded throughout the Wisconsin cranberry industry. I congratulate all those who have played a role in this remarkable 150th anniversary, and I wish the Gaynor Cranberry Company continued success for generations to come.

TRIBUTE TO MEL TONASKET

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I rise today along with my colleague Senator MURRAY to join many in the Pacific Northwest community and Indian country to honor Mel Tonasket, a leader and member of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation.

Mel retired last week after more than 55 years of service to his Tribe, community, and country.

After serving the Nation in the U.S. Navy, Mel worked for the Bureau of Indian Affairs for 8 years before being elected in 1970 to the Colville Business Council, the governing body of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation. Mel would continue to serve on the Colville Business Council as a representative of the district serving Omak, WA, at various times for the next 55 years, which concludes with his well-earned retirement.

Mel helped lead the Colville Tribes and Indian country during one of the most consequential periods in modern Tribal history. He was part of the generation of Native leaders who sought to reverse the Federal policy of termination and fought to preserve the rights and future of Tribal communities. That work helped protect the sovereignty of the Colville Tribes and contributed to a broader movement that reshaped Federal Indian policy.

Mel's impact extended well beyond his reservation. From 1973 to 1976, he served for 4 years as president of the National Congress of American Indians, the largest and oldest national Tribal organization in the United States. While President, he helped mobilize national support for landmark legislation, including the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, and the Indian Child Welfare Act. Between breaks serving on the Colville Business Council, Mel worked for the Indian Health Service and retired from Federal service as the CEO of the Colville Service Unit, which provides healthcare to citizens of the Colville Tribes.

Over the course of his career, Mel served in numerous leadership roles and has represented Tribal governments in national and international forums. Through that leadership, he strengthened the voice of Tribal nations at the national level and helped secure protections and opportunities that continue to benefit Native families and communities today.

It is my honor to join the Colville Tribes, the people of Washington State, and all those throughout Indian Country in congratulating Mel Tonasket on

this remarkable milestone. Mel, we wish you the best of luck in your retirement and hope you can create more memories in this next stage of your life.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT MAJOR DAVID MARSHALL

Mr. SCHATZ. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional noncommissioned officer in the U.S. Army, SGM David J. Marshall, who currently serves as the deputy chief for the Army's Senate Liaison Division and will retire from Active Duty after 20 distinguished years of active Federal service at the end of this year. Throughout his career, Sergeant Major Marshall has personified the highest standards of Army professionalism and the soldierly values of loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity, and personal courage to the Army and our Nation. Many of us on Capitol Hill have enjoyed the opportunity to work with Sergeant Major Marshall and it is my privilege to recognize his achievements.

Sergeant Major Marshall is a distinguished leader whose career in the U.S. Army has been marked by unwavering dedication and exceptional service. Born and raised in St. Louis, MO, Sergeant Major Marshall embarked on his military journey with a commitment to excellence that would define his decades-long career.

Enlisting as a combat documentation production specialist in 2006, Sergeant Major Marshall began his service as a combat photographer at 55th Signal Company (Combat Camera) and completed one combat deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He held various tactical and operational positions, including roles at American Forces Network Livorno, the Army Entertainment Detachment, the Cyber Center of Excellence Noncommissioned Officer Academy Detachment, the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, and 9th Psychological Operations Group (Airborne).

Sergeant Major Marshall was competitively selected to serve as an Army congressional fellow for the fiscal year 2023 and was assigned to my office. During his fellowship, he gained valuable insights into the workings of Congress and its relationship with the U.S. military, while also advising our team on defense and veterans' issues. His dedication and professionalism were evident in every task he undertook. For the past 3 years, he has served in the Army's Senate liaison office, where he has played a crucial role in answering congressional requests for information, staffing engagements between Army senior leaders and Members of Congress, and leading congressional delegations abroad to conduct defense oversight.

Sergeant Major Marshall's lengthy and diverse career was filled with experiences that have enriched him both as a soldier and a person. It is no surprise

that he has been honored with numerous military awards and decorations including the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, several Army Meritorious Service Medals, the Combat Action Badge, and the Signal Corps Bronze Order of Mercury, among others. His exemplary service and steadfast leadership have earned him the respect and admiration of colleagues and superiors alike.

Any tribute to Sergeant Major Marshall would be incomplete without acknowledging the unwavering support of his wife Jillian and the joy brought by their son Miles. Jillian has stood by Sergeant Major Marshall at every step of his journey, providing love, care, and wisdom.

On behalf of the U.S. Senate and a grateful nation, I thank Sergeant Major Marshall, his wife Jillian, son Miles, and their entire family for the commitment, sacrifices, and contributions they have made throughout his honorable military service. Congratulations on completing an exceptional and successful career.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DR. ANNIE NORMAN

• Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Annie Norman on her retirement as State Librarian of Delaware and director of the Delaware Division of Libraries. Throughout her 40-year tenure at the Delaware Department of State, Dr. Norman has remained an unwavering public servant dedicated to improving Delaware's libraries for all Delawareans. Her visionary leadership has transformed Delaware's library system, and her legacy will benefit generations of Delawareans for years to come.

Throughout her career, Dr. Norman served under five different administrations. For each Governor, Dr. Norman has been a trusted voice for the advancement of literacy and lifelong learning. Under her leadership, the Delaware Library Catalog was established and expanded to all Delaware public libraries, academic libraries, and many school libraries, allowing over 4 million books and other materials to be shared statewide.

Dr. Norman has been a leading voice in addressing our State's literacy challenges, serving as founder and co-chair of the Delaware Literacy Alliance alongside Delaware Secretary of Education Cindy Marten. In 2020, Dr. Norman oversaw the statewide launch of Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, which provides free books to all Delaware children from birth to age 5.

I am proud to have partnered with Dr. Norman to secure Federal funding and expand the division of libraries' teleservices kiosk program, which connects Delawareans in rural and underserved communities to healthcare, employment assistance, and legal services. During my years in the House of

Representatives and now the Senate, I always appreciated the opportunity to meet with Dr. Norman to discuss Delaware's library funding needs, statewide literacy initiatives, and the many ways our libraries strengthen communities across the State.

Dr. Norman's contributions have been recognized with many awards and accolades across her career, including her appointment by President Biden to the National Museum and Library Services Board and her induction into the Hall of Fame of Delaware Women. Dr. Norman's leadership has resulted in the expansion of more than two dozen libraries across the State and the delivery of state-of-the-art services through robust technology infrastructure. She has truly transformed Delaware's libraries into community hubs for Delawareans to gather, learn, and receive necessary services. I wish Dr. Norman the best of luck in her retirement.

Today, I invite my colleagues to join me and the people of Delaware in congratulating Dr. Annie Norman on her retirement and for an outstanding life of public service.●

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL YOLANDA D. GORE

● Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the incredible service of Colonel Yolanda D. Gore. COL Gore is preparing to finish her time as the 89th garrison commander of Fort George G. Meade, a role she executed with strength, vision, and principled leadership.

Born in Estill, SC, Colonel Gore joined the South Carolina National Guard immediately following her high school graduation. She served for 5 years until her commission in 2002 and subsequently graduated and earned her Army commission from South Carolina State University, SCSU. She earned a bachelor's degree in family and consumer science business and later went on to earn a master of arts in leadership and management from Webster University and a master of arts in strategic studies from the Army War College.

Colonel Gore served briefly as a signal officer before discovering her passion in the Adjutant General Corps. She led a diverse career through a variety of assignments, excelled in key leadership roles, and received numerous commendations before becoming the first woman to be installed as garrison commander.

Throughout her time as garrison commander, Colonel Gore has taken the role to new heights. She brought modernization to Fort Meade and the surrounding community by implementing a barracks renovation project, helping break ground on a child development center, and reforming physical security across the installation. She cultivated community and culture by expanding veteran and family outreach, extending options for community feedback, and leading major herit-

age and remembrance events. She has left an indelible mark on Fort Meade through these efforts and many others.

I am very grateful for Colonel Gore's commitment to progress and collaboration at every level of government. Fort Meade, the State of Maryland, and our Nation have all greatly benefited from her leadership.

Colonel Gore has been married to COL Michael Gore of Loris, SC, for 22 years. They are the proud parents of Shantell, a graduate of East Carolina University, and Morgyn Gore, a senior at Virginia Tech University.

Colonel Gore is preparing to complete a remarkable 2-year term spent in the pursuit of excellence, progress, and community. She has dedicated herself to leadership, and I thank her for her commitment. I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Colonel Gore for her incredible service.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:10 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. 139. An act to make daylight savings time permanent, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1181. An act to prohibit payment card networks and covered entities from requiring the use of or assigning merchant category codes that distinguish a firearms retailer from general-merchandise retailer or sporting-goods retailer, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3074. An act to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to stop minting the penny, to permit cash transactions to be rounded up or down to the nearest five cents, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6556. An act to prohibit the use of certain concentration limit exceptions with respect to mergers involving a failed bank unless the applicable agency determines such use is necessary to prevent significant economic disruption or significant adverse effects on financial stability, and for other purposes.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 201(b) of the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6431), and the order of the House of January 3, 2025, the Speaker appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Commission on International Religious Freedom for a term ending May 14, 2028: Dr. David A. Anderson of Bowie, Maryland, to succeed Mrs. Vicky Hartzler.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 803(a) of the Congressional Recognition for Excellence in Arts Education Act (2 U.S.C. 803(a)), the Minority Leader appoints the following individual on the part of the House of Representatives to the Congressional Award Board: Ms. Cheryl Johnson of Chevy Chase, Maryland.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 139. An act to make daylight savings time permanent, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 1181. An act to prohibit payment card networks and covered entities from requiring the use of or assigning merchant category codes that distinguish a firearms retailer from general-merchandise retailer or sporting-goods retailer, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 3074. An act to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to stop minting the penny, to require cash transactions to be rounded up or down to the nearest five cents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 6556. An act to prohibit the use of certain concentration limit exceptions with respect to mergers involving a failed bank unless the applicable agency determines such use is necessary to prevent significant economic disruption or significant adverse effects on financial stability, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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-4051. A communication from the Director, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, transmitting, pursuant to law, the annual report to Congress concerning intercepted wire, oral, or electronic communications for calendar year 2025; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-4052. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting, proposed legislation to modify the Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration's deadline to submit to Congress its annual Selected Acquisition Reports on each new nuclear weapon system program, to include those undergoing life extension or major alteration; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4053. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Child Welfare Outcomes 2023: Report to Congress"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4054. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Medicare Beneficiary and Competitive Acquisition Ombudsman Report to Congress for Calendar Years 2022-2024"; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4055. A communication from the Director of the Regulations and Disclosure Law Division, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Indefinite Suspension of the De Minimis Exemption for Merchandise Arriving Through All Modes Other Than the International Postal Network" (RIN1685-AA44) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2026; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-4056. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to section 36(b)(5)(C) of the Arms Export Control Act, the notification of enhancements or upgrades from the level of sensitivity of technology or capability ((RSAT Case 26-1B) (OSS-2026-0523)); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.