

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO AUDREY EVANS

• Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to Judge Audrey Evans, who will be retiring as United States Bankruptcy Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Arkansas.

Judge Evans graduated Cum Laude from the University of Texas at Austin in 1967 and taught in public schools before eventually settling in Little Rock in 1975. Judge Evans became active in her community, including serving as a volunteer in Little Rock public schools and representing the Little Rock School Board on the Pulaski County Board of Equalization.

In 1983, Judge Evans received her Juris Doctorate, with high honors, from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock School of Law where she was Associate Editor of the UALR Law Journal. Judge Evans began her legal career clerking for G. Thomas Eisele, then Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Arkansas. Prior to her appointment as bankruptcy judge, Judge Evans represented both debtors and creditors in private practice.

While in private practice, Judge Evans was an active member of the bar in many capacities. Notably, she was a member of the Arkansas Board of Law Examiners from 1995 until 2001, serving as Chairperson in 2001; and she was on the Board of the Volunteers' Organization for Central Arkansas Legal Services, VOCALS, for 8 years, serving as chair from 1993 to 1995.

Judge Evans was appointed to bankruptcy court in February of 2002 by President George W. Bush, and served as Chief Judge from 2003-2009. As a bankruptcy judge, Judge Evans is best known for her courtesy and patience as well as her respect for the law and pursuit of justice. Anyone appearing before Judge Evans felt they had a just, fair, and full opportunity to be heard.

Judge Evans continued her service to the bar regularly speaking at bankruptcy conferences in Arkansas, Memphis, and throughout the Eighth Circuit. She was the Education Chair for the Eighth Circuit Bankruptcy Judges Conference, and served as President of the Central Arkansas Debtor-Creditor Bar Association from 2006-2007. She is a Fellow of the American College of Bankruptcy and an active member in the William R. Overton Inn of Court.

Judge Evans has been supported in her work by her husband, Don, their two sons, and five grandchildren. It is with great pleasure today that I rise to recognize and honor her service to Arkansas and to the country.●

TRIBUTE TO DON BAKER

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I wish to honor Don Baker, who will retire as the Pike County Judge after 17 years of honorable service to the citizens of Arkansas in this elected position.

As Pike County Judge, Don can be credited with building 16 steel and concrete bridges in the county, adding to and upgrading the road and landfill equipment, paving and improving many miles of Pike County roads, and organizing the Intermodal Authority for Pike, Montgomery, Clark, and Dallas Counties. In addition to his county judge duties, Don also served as a member of the board of West Central Planning and Development District and president of the Upper Southwest Solid Waste Landfill District.

Public service has always been an important part of Don's life. After graduating from the University of Arkansas in 1963 and teaching school in Mt. Ida, Don worked to extend credit to local farmers, owned a Glenwood grocery business, and served as a member on the Glenwood Chamber of Commerce, was a charter member of the Glenwood Lion's Club and served for 9 years on the Glenwood School Board. In addition, he was active in the Glenwood industrial development and taught Sunday school at Bethel Missionary Baptist Church.

Don Baker has displayed dedication, commitment, and an eagerness to serve his community we can all admire. My staff and I have enjoyed working with Judge Baker on the projects important to Pike County. I am truly grateful for his years of honorable service and dedication to Pike County and the State of Arkansas.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. THOMAS TRUHE

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing my friend, Dr. Thomas Truhe, a generous supporter of the arts who was recently honored with a Golden Palm Star on the Palm Springs Walk of Stars in recognition of his many contributions to the civic and cultural life of his hometown.

This prestigious honor is well deserved. For more than 6 years, Tom Truhe has served tirelessly as chair of the Palm Springs Museum's Annenberg Theater Council, ATC, which supports the museum through an innovative program of music and theatrical performances. The ATC's busy season includes an Opening Night Gala, a major fundraiser for the museum; the "performance series," featuring outstanding Broadway artists; and the tremendously popular Cabaret 88, a series of nine sold-out shows with top musical talents. Tom introduced the Cabaret 88 concept and is responsible for every aspect of its production, from selecting the talent and overseeing promotion to securing sponsors for each show.

In addition to his involvement with the Palm Springs Museum, Tom gives generously of his time and energy to numerous other area organizations and charities. He is a volunteer for "One Night Only," Michael Childers' annual gala concert benefitting Jewish Family Service of the Desert, and he served on the event committee for a recent

luncheon honoring Mr. Childers for his contributions to JFS. As a dedicated patron of the arts, Tom also makes a point of attending theatrical productions, concerts, local performances, and other charitable events in the community.

On November 16, 2014, Tom Truhe's Gold Palm Star was dedicated and Mayor Stephen Pougnet officially proclaimed the date to be Dr. Thomas Truhe Day in the City of Palm Springs. As his friend and Coachella Valley neighbor, I am pleased to join in honoring Tom Truhe for his outstanding service to the community.●

RECOGNIZING THE CENTER FOR CLOSING THE HEALTH GAP

• Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I attended a Martin Luther King, Jr. event in Cleveland on a cold, snowy day earlier this year. The keynote speaker said something that we have all heard, but so often do not think about. He said, "Your life expectancy is connected to your zip code."

Whether you grew up in a city like Cincinnati, a suburb like Kettering, or in rural Appalachia, your zip code often determines whether you have access to quality health care, great education, and the social support necessary to succeed.

Ohio is fortunate to have many organizations, like the Center for Closing the Health Gap in Cincinnati, working to create zip codes where every resident has the opportunity to succeed.

For the past 10 years, The Center for Closing the Health Gap under the leadership of Dwight Tillery has worked to address health disparities across Southwest Ohio through private-public partnerships. Their work is invaluable in the Queen City, as we know health disparities take both a moral and economic toll on our communities.

Today, more than 1.8 million Ohioans live in poverty and almost one in six families do not know where their next meal will come from. We also know that the end of the school year does not mean an end to hunger.

That is why the work of nonprofits like The Center for Closing the Health Gap and programs like the Summer Food Service Program are so important. They work together to ensure that Ohio families know about these programs and ensure our students have enough food to keep growing and learning long after the final school bell rings for summer vacation.

As we work together to address child hunger and nutrition, we are also working to eradicate infant mortality. Ohio ranks 48th in the nation for infant mortality, and we are the worst State for the survival of African American babies.

Each year, there are more than 4,600 sudden unexpected infant deaths, and there is no known cause for as many as half of the 25,000 stillbirths in this country.

No parent should ever have to grieve the loss of a child with no answers and no help.