

upcoming retirement as general manager of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, also known as SEPTA. Mr. Casey has served SEPTA in this position for the last 7 years and will officially retire on September 30, 2015.

For those who do not know, SEPTA is the largest transit system in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the sixth largest in the Nation. Services including bus, subway, commuter rail, light rail, and electric trolleybus are provided to over 3.9 million people in and around Philadelphia, PA, including parts of Delaware and New Jersey. A lifelong resident of the Philadelphia area, Mr. Casey's first memories of SEPTA were riding the trolley to visit his grandmother in the city and to attend games at Connie Mack Stadium.

Mr. Casey began his career at SEPTA in 1982. Before becoming general manager in 2008, he served for 6 years as chief financial officer and treasurer. In senior leadership positions at the Internal Audit and Finance departments, he received praise for his efforts to implement fiscal responsibility at the authority.

As general manager of SEPTA, Mr. Casey oversaw 9,000 employees and instituted several necessary programs for the authority. He shifted SEPTA's customer relations focus to reflect the "Four Cs"—Cleanliness, Convenience, Courtesy and Communication—and implemented initiatives to reduce energy consumption on vehicles and at facilities. As a result, SEPTA received the 2012 American Public Transportation Association, APTA, Outstanding Public Transportation System Award.

Throughout his tenure, Mr. Casey has focused on community engagement and policy reforms with the aim of helping riders and the overall transit infrastructure system. I applaud Mr. Casey for his work with SEPTA over the past 34 years and his service to the residents of southeast Pennsylvania. His leadership and determination should serve as an example for his successor.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

FOSTER GRANDPARENTS PROGRAM 50TH ANNIVERSARY

• Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, today I wish to commend all foster grandparents on the program's 50th anniversary this year. The Foster Grandparents Program provides ways for volunteers age 55 and older to stay active by serving children and youth in their communities. These volunteers give their time and talents as role models, mentors, and friends to children in need.

More than 25,000 foster grandparents volunteer through over 300 programs throughout the United States. Last year, foster grandparent volunteers provided 23 million hours of service to their local communities, serving more than 189,000 children facing academic,

social, and financial challenges. These volunteers serve at thousands of locations, helping children build reading skills, providing one-on-one tutoring, mentoring troubled teenagers and young mothers, caring for premature infants or children with disabilities, and assisting children who have been abused or neglected.

I am particularly proud to honor the more than 500 seniors in Kansas who contribute their time and talents serving children in my State. Foster grandparent programs operate across Kansas out of Augusta, Hays, Kansas City, Manhattan, Paola, Topeka, and Wichita. Volunteers serve in an array of locations throughout the State, including schools, hospitals, juvenile correctional institutions, and early childhood education and childcare centers. These compassionate individuals have reached more than 5,000 Kansas students over the last 50 years. The following are just a few examples of their inspiring service:

Alice Reid has been part of the Foster Grandparent Program since 2004. At the age of 92, she has consistently given an average of 33 hours per week and 11,341 lifetime volunteer hours. She primarily works on reading with children younger than 5 years of age, but Grandma Alice is happy to help any student. She often spends her lunch hour in the cafeteria eating with the children. Grandma Alice is so valued that the school had a big celebration for her 90th birthday. There were more than 400 children involved in this birthday celebration for their friend. The students made birthday cards and sang to her. A kindergarten teacher remarked, "We love Grandma Alice and we appreciate all that she does for us. She has been a wonderful part of our school."

In WaKeeney, Grandma Deb Fabrizius serves in kindergarten classrooms at Trego Grade School and has formed trusting friendships with many of the children she serves. She shared a story about a child, "a sweet little guy who is quiet, very particular about his work and has a great smile. This little boy does not hug a lot, but when he does it, it is special—he's very sincere about it." The child told Grandma Deb that he wanted to share a secret with her. She followed him to his locker, where he took out a folder from his backpack with papers in it. The papers detailed what he wanted to be when he grew up. Grandma Deb was touched that he trusted her enough to keep his secret, and she told him that his parents would be proud of him and encouraged him to share his dreams with them. Foster grandparents such as Grandma Deb are sometimes the only adults with whom children have consistent, loving, nonjudgmental relationships. Grandma Deb and other foster grandparents do their best to encourage students and inspire them to have self-confidence and reach for the stars.

Carol Sheffield, Udena McKee, Naomi Graves, and Margaret Hill work as fos-

ter grandparents in the Manhattan area. These women note the work they do for the kids is very fulfilling, and they plan to continue to serve in the classroom for years. By giving positive attention to kids, the volunteers and teachers have been able to see a real turnaround in students' lives. Carmen Flaz, principal of Oakdale Elementary School in Salina, said that foster grandparents have a large effect in the classroom.

Grandma Linda Downs is the only foster grandparent in Waterville, a town of around 700 people in northeast Kansas. Grandma Linda serves students in her local preschool as well the afterschool and summer elementary programs. She volunteers at least 30 hours each week for her community.

Grandma Melinda serves as a foster grandparent at Lucas-Luray Elementary School in Luray. When she was younger, she lost her right thumb in an accident. While most people do not notice her missing thumb, Grandma Melinda says, "Leave it to a kid! They look you over from head to toe. They spy my missing thumb right away. They watch me holding a crayon or glue stick. They are always watching my hand to see what I can do." When children at school ask her about her missing thumb, Grandma Melinda lets them look closer and touch her hand if they want. She uses this opportunity to teach the children a life lesson about each person being special in their own way and about accepting everyone.

Grandpa Hubert Brown serves in a Head Start classroom in Great Bend, where he gives special attention to three particular students. A set of two boys have formed a close bond with him. Another child, a little girl who is very shy and did not talk much with other students, always finds a place near Grandpa Hubert during circle time. Through her friendship with Grandpa Hubert, she has increased her involvement in class and developed friendships with her classmates.

The special way of life we live in Kansas and across this great country would not be possible without individuals committed to giving back to improve their own communities, and foster grandparents change the world for the better one soul at a time. Their acts of kindness and selflessness are inspiring to us all. I honor foster grandparents for their shining examples of service to others. This commitment to service enriches our own homes and strengthens our Nation.

Thank you, congratulations on your 50th anniversary, and all the best for many more years of helping others.●

REMEMBERING LIEUTENANT CHARLES GLINIEWICZ

• Mr. KIRK. Mr. President, on September 1, 2015, Lieutenant Charles Joseph Gliniewicz of the Fox Lake Police Department made the ultimate sacrifice. Lieutenant Gliniewicz, who

served his community as a police officer for over 30 years, was nearing retirement when he was shot and killed while in pursuit of suspects during his morning patrol.

Lieutenant Gliniewicz, known as "G.I. Joe," was a pillar of his community, committed to his job, his family, and the children he trained at the Fox Lake Police Explorer Post 300. As founder of Post 300 and leader since 1987, Lieutenant Gliniewicz trained young people ages 14 to 21 for a career in law enforcement. Hundreds of these "Explorers" entered into law enforcement and military careers following Lieutenant Gliniewicz's training and mentorship. Prior to his career in Fox Lake, Lieutenant Gliniewicz was a member of the U.S. Army and proudly served his country from 1981 to 2007, receiving numerous service awards during that time.

While Lieutenant Gliniewicz dedicated much of his time to his community, he was also a loving family man. He was married to his wife Mel for 26 years and the couple have four children.

I wish to express my deepest condolences to the family and friends of Lieutenant Charles Joseph Gliniewicz and the entire Fox Lake community. On behalf of the people of Illinois, I thank Lieutenant Gliniewicz for his dedication and service to his community and his country. I encourage all law enforcement personnel to honor his memory by continuing his mission to foster positive relationships between police officers and the people they serve and to inspire the next generation of law enforcement.●

CUSTER STATE PARK BUFFALO ROUNDUP 50TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the Custer State Park Buffalo Roundup. The Buffalo Roundup will be celebrating its 50th anniversary on September 25, 2015. The exciting and historical event is accompanied by an arts festival, a buffalo wallow chili cook-off, concerts, and more.

Taking place in the beautiful Custer State Park, located in the Black Hills, the Buffalo Roundup is a spectacular event. Each year, thousands of visitors watch as a herd of approximately 1,300 bison is driven into corrals by cowboys on horses, all-terrain vehicles, and pickup trucks. Following the roundup, the bison are sorted for sale and medical evaluations.

Millions of bison roamed the Great Plains hundreds of years ago, but in the 1800s the bison population dwindled to less than 1,000. Custer State Park purchased 36 bison in 1914 as part of an effort to conserve the bison population, and the herd was often gathered for culling and inspection. It was not until 1965 that the roundup became an annual event.

The Buffalo Roundup is integral to maintaining a healthy bison herd in Custer State Park. At its largest, the

herd included 2,500 bison. Once the bison are in the corrals, they are vaccinated, branded, and sorted for sale. Several hundred bison are sold each year in order to prevent overgrazing and preserve the grasslands.

I offer my congratulations to the Custer State Park Buffalo Roundup on its 50th anniversary and wish them prosperity in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO MARTIN GUTIERREZ

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, today I honor Martin Gutierrez, division director for Catholic Charities Archdiocese of New Orleans and the recipient of the 2015 Excelencia Award as a Community Leader by the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Louisiana.

Martin grew up in the New Orleans area, graduating from Chalmette High School and going on to receive a degree in business administration and management from the University of New Orleans. While still in high school, Martin took a job at a local bank where he continued to work for the next 14 years.

Following his banking career, he became the executive director of the Hispanic Apostolate of New Orleans. While there he supported the work of 16 church parishes that offered a ministry targeted to the Hispanic community. In 2007, he became the director of Immigration/Refugee Services and Hispanic Outreach for Catholic Charities in New Orleans. Since then, he has served as the executive director for Neighborhood Community Services and as vice president for Community Services Ministries. He was named division director last year and in that role he manages a number of programs that include a staff of around 100 people and a budget of approximately \$7 million.

In addition to his work with Catholic Charities, Martin is also involved in a number of other community organizations. He serves on the board for the New Orleans Family Justice Center, UNITY for the Homeless, Puentes New Orleans, and ASI Federal Credit Union. He has also participated in training with the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office Citizens Academy, New Orleans Police Department Citizens Academy, and the FBI Citizens Academy.

In 2006, he received the Galvez Cut from the New Orleans Hispanic Heritage Foundation in recognition of his work in the Hispanic community and in 2010, he was presented with the Role Model Award by the Young Leadership Council. I am pleased to join with the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Louisiana to recognize Martin Gutierrez as an outstanding community leader.●

RECOGNIZING THE LIVINGSTON PARISH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I wish to honor the Livingston Parish Chamber of Commerce for being awarded the 2015 Louisiana Chamber of Commerce of the Year Award.

The Livingston Parish Chamber of Commerce is made up of more than 500 members from across Livingston Parish, representing a wide range of businesses including small mom-and-pop shops to large corporations. While serving the interests of more than 20,000 employees of local businesses, the chamber of commerce has worked to make Livingston Parish one of the fastest growing parishes in the State. Their exemplary hands-on approach to support members of the community is evident through programs such as "Leads for Lunch" and "Breakfast on the Run," events designed to allow members to promote their businesses and encourage referrals for other chamber members.

One of the most distinctive aspects of the Livingston Parish Chamber of Commerce is its commitment to supporting and training local students and educators. Through scholarship opportunities, Student of the Month awards, and other educational programs, it is clear the chamber of commerce recognizes the importance of training the business leaders of tomorrow. Additionally, all members of the chamber can feel confident knowing they will have ample opportunities to learn from their peers, connect with members of the community, and network with local officials. By providing such a strongly interconnected business community, the Livingston Parish Chamber of Commerce has proved to be vital in the success of its local economy.

It is my honor to recognize the Livingston Parish Chamber of Commerce for their unwavering service to the local business community and for being an exemplary role model for the rest of the State and country.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:19 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, without amendment:

S. 1359. An act to allow manufacturers to meet warranty and labeling requirements for consumer products by displaying the terms of warranties on Internet websites, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in