

honorable service to our Nation. During his exemplary career with the Army from May 2008 to January 2017, Captain O'Hern made an immense impact on those he worked with both in the Army and here in Congress.

Captain O'Hern was born at Madigan Army Medical Center at Fort Lewis, WA, and grew up in a military family before graduating from Belton High School in Belton, Texas, in 2004. He received his commission from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 2008. After completing the infantry office basic course, airborne school, and Ranger school at Fort Benning, GA, he was assigned to the 101st Airborne Division, Air Assault, at Fort Campbell, KY, where he served as a rifle platoon leader. He deployed to Kandahar in June 2010 and, after 7 months in Afghanistan was severely wounded, suffering the loss of both legs and a hand. In the course of his 2 and a half year recovery, Captain O'Hern completed the Defense Strategy Course and worked as a future operations planner at U.S. Army North. In 2013, Captain O'Hern was accepted into the Army's prestigious Congressional Fellowship Program. He earned a master's degree in legislative affairs from George Washington University and in 2014 served as my defense legislative fellow. Following his fellowship, Captain O'Hern continued to serve as an Army legislative liaison in the Office of the Chief Legislative Liaison.

Captain O'Hern has performed at the top of his profession throughout his career, providing motivation and serving as a role model for his fellow servicemembers and colleagues. Captain O'Hern demonstrated his impressive intellect in all duties, questioning assumptions and pushing team members to achieve their highest potential. He easily grasped the complexities of policymaking and the appropriations processes, greatly contributing to both while in my office.

Part of what makes Captain O'Hern such a remarkable leader is that his great intellect is coupled with incredible humanity and compassion. I witnessed his inexhaustible drive to provide assistance to fellow servicemembers and veterans, which is in the image of some of the Army's greatest leaders. I was privileged to have Captain O'Hern as an enormously important member of my legislative team. His contributions continue to resonate today.

Captain O'Hern models resilience and determination. His story is a testament to the power of a positive can-do attitude and a shining of example of the refusal to let obstacles stand in his way. Captain O'Hern's inspirational journey would not have been possible without the unflinching support from his exceptional wife. Mrs. Rachel Brooks O'Hern was an integral partner in Captain O'Hern's recovery. In addition to undertaking her substantial caregiver role, Rachel also built an impressive career of her own, serving the wider veteran community.

It is my honor to recognize this remarkable couple and congratulate Captain O'Hern on his military retirement as he proceeds to the next chapter of his life. I ask the entire country to thank him for his service and dedication.

#### TRIBUTE TO AYO GRIFFIN

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, for many years, the Judiciary Committee and the Senate have been well served by the distinguished service of Ayo Griffin. Ayo is a talented lawyer and a principled public servant, respected and admired by his peers, who has ably guided some of my most significant legislative initiatives.

Ayo's career has always demonstrated what Victor Hugo called "conscience in the service of justice." By the time Ayo joined my Judiciary Committee staff in 2011, he had already taken on difficult work conducting foreign corruption investigations in private practice. He had volunteered with human rights litigation and anticorruption training in Cambodia. In the important tradition of making legal aid available to all people, even unpopular defendants, he had represented pro bono detainees at the Guantanamo Bay Naval Base detention center in Cuba.

Here in the Senate, Ayo took on legislation to improve our prisons and strengthen law enforcement, to prevent domestic violence and sexual assault, to reform our immigration regime, to curb gun violence, and to undo the damage done to our campaign finance system by the Citizens United Supreme Court decision. In the wake of the flood of secret money unleashed by Citizens United, Ayo helped me craft the DISCLOSE Act to require groups spending large amounts to influence our elections to identify their donors and to prevent corporations and other wealthy interests from using shell corporations to funnel secret money to super PACs.

Ayo worked closely with good governance advocates, campaign finance experts, and our colleagues here in Congress to build a strong coalition behind the legislation. When Republicans blocked the legislation from proceeding in 2012, Ayo helped me coordinate a midnight vigil, with the bill's Democratic sponsors holding the Senate floor into the morning hours until we secured a vote on the measure. In the end, the DISCLOSE Act twice won support from a majority of Senators in votes before this body. Ayo's contribution to that effort not only channeled a groundswell of popular support, but shone a bright light on an issue at the very heart of our democracy.

Today Ayo is facing a much different challenge. Some time ago, he was diagnosed with a rare form of brain cancer, requiring intensive therapy. He has tackled his treatment with signature determination, working intently with his specialists and therapists to stay

ahead of the disease. His wife, Mary Dewhurst, has shown great love and courage through this trying time and is Ayo's steadfast partner in every winding step of their journey.

"You must work very hard," Maurice Ravel once wrote to a fellow composer, "because someone who is gifted must work harder than someone who is not." I am grateful for both the ample gifts and hard work of Ayo Griffin.

I thank Ayo for his faithful service. My entire staff and I offer our unending support. And I wish him and Mary health and much happiness in their days to come.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO LISA M. CLINE

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I wish to recognize educator Lisa M. Cline for over 30 years of service as a K-6 STEM educator throughout the State of Montana. Mrs. Cline's love of STEM, particularly biology, was inspired by her mother, Nancy Yonkee, who grew up on a ranch during the Great Depression era and was among the first women to study premedicine at her university in the 1950's.

Mrs. Cline grew up on a ranch near Broadus and studied animal science at Montana State University, with the goal of becoming a veterinarian. Later, Mrs. Cline decided that she could have the greatest impact on her communities by sharing her love of STEM with children and earned an additional degree, also from MSU, in education. In her time as an educator throughout the State, including in the communities of Bozeman, Plevna, Great Falls, and Cut Bank, Mrs. Cline has passionately brought to her students a love for the STEM disciplines that is grounded in her agricultural upbringing, her background in biology, and her genuine excitement about asking tough questions, solving tricky problems, and learning along the way.

Throughout her career, Mrs. Cline strived to bring a rigor to her classroom that prepares her students to become the best scientists, engineers, and mathematicians. She does this both inside and outside of the classroom, working tirelessly over the years to organize innovative, inquiry-based assignments, student debates, local science fairs, field trips to archaeological sites, and voyages into the mountains. Most recently, she brought her sixth graders to Glacier National Park, where they learned about its intricate ecosystems and rich geological history.

I want to express my deep gratitude to Mrs. Cline for her dedication and service to educating our country's youth, particularly for cultivating within them a love for STEM and inquiry-based learning. And a big thank you to Dr. Angela Person for her nomination of Mrs. Cline as Montanan of the Week.●

## TRIBUTE TO DAVE RAU

• Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today I would like to recognize Lewis and Clark County undersheriff Dave Rau who announced his retirement after 20 years of service to the people of Montana. Dave is the prime example of law enforcement's tireless efforts to protect and serve Montanans at any cost.

Undersheriff Rau launched his law enforcement career in Texas as a prison guard, and after 7 years he came to the last best place. He began serving Montanans with the East Helena Police, then his path led to the Lewis and Clark County Sheriff's Office. Throughout the last two decades, Dave has garnered countless advocates in the Helena community. Sheriff Leo Dutton has said, "There will never be another Dave Rau."

Dave is a husband to Tammy and father to their children, Aaron and Whitney. He is unsure what his next adventure will entail, but he is sure he will remain active in the community that he loves.

Undersheriff Rau, the U.S. Senate commends you for your service to the people of Helena and Lewis and Clark County. Thank you for your diligent work in keeping the people of Montana safe. I hope that your path continues to be blessed with success.●

## TRIBUTE TO TIM SANDERS

• Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I want to pay tribute to the public service of Tim Sanders, a longtime clerk of the Courts for Madison County, FL. Tim has served admirably as county clerk and comptroller for six consecutive terms and will retire after 24 years, which is an incredible achievement.

His contributions to Madison County and Florida long predate the start of his tenure as county clerk. He began his career at Madison County Memorial Hospital, where he worked on the floor, in the emergency room, and in the x-ray department. After earning a second degree from the University of Florida, Tim spent time surveying in Madison and nearby counties for a business that he later acquired himself. Tim accomplished all of this before starting his career in public service as county clerk.

A true man of the community, Tim currently serves on the board of trustees at the Madison First United Methodist Church, as well as on the boards of directors at Big Bend Hospice, the Madison County Foundation for Excellence in Education, and the Treasures of Madison County Museum.

Tim was born, raised, and attended public schools in Madison. In fact, he has devoted a great deal of time supporting public education and children in Madison County. To give a sense of this man's character, Tim has performed as the American folk hero Johnny Appleseed for elementary school children in Madison and surrounding counties each fall for 20 years.

Dedicated and selfless in his approach to public service, this son of Madison County has surely left a lasting mark on the people of his community and his State. I am honored to acknowledge his retirement from public service and recognize this great Floridian.●

## REMEMBERING TONY REYNA

• Mr. UDALL. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to Taos Pueblo Governor Tony Reyna, who passed away December 5, 2016, at the age of 100, in Taos, NM.

Governor Reyna's life was defined by service to others: he served his country, his State, his community, his Pueblo.

Governor Reyna was born February 1, 1916, to Helario and Crucita Reyna of Taos Pueblo. He was given the name "Chuta," which means "Hunter's Call." According to Governor Reyna, "It was so important, the care my father and mother gave us, their commitment to us they said, 'Don't take. Give something back.' That's the philosophy we live by."

Governor Reyna was raised in the traditional pueblo of Taos—occupied for 1,000 years and considered the oldest continuously inhabited community in the United States. The five-storied adobe pueblo—dramatic and picturesque—lies at the base of the Mo-ha-loh or Ma-ha-lu, which we call the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. Governor Reyna maintained a home there, where the family gathered for pueblo ceremonies.

Governor Reyna attended the Taos Pueblo Day School as a young boy. "By the time we could carry a bucket, we were carrying water and wood for mother to cook. We would run home from school to water and feed the horses. We would ride into town bareback to get kerosene. Those were very enjoyable days. We thought it was very hard, but looking back, it was very worthwhile. We learned to work and to take responsibility."

He attended Santa Fe Indian School and graduated from Santa Fe High School in 1936. After high school, he taught woodworking at Albuquerque Indian School.

Governor Reyna was a member of the New Mexico National Guard in 1941 when he was shipped to the Philippines. At that time, Native Americans were not considered full citizens. They served in the military with bravery and distinction, yet did not have the right to vote. Governor Reyna was captured by the Japanese, along with 10 other servicemen from Taos Pueblo. He endured and survived the 65-mile Bataan Death March and 3 and one-half years of brutal captivity. He was tortured and forced to bury hundreds of his fellow servicemen, including his best friend. "I was raised a farm boy from sunrise to sundown, so I was tough enough to survive starvation," he said. "Determination kept me going. I had a family, a home to come

back to." Five from Taos Pueblo survived till the end of the war, and Governor Reyna was the last surviving of them. His American Legion garrison hat—honoring his service—bears an eagle feather in the band. According to Governor Reyna, "This feather represents all the Indian veterans, men and women."

Today marks the 75th anniversary of the Bataan invasion, which began on December 8, 1941—just hours after the attack on Pearl Harbor—when soldiers from the 200th Coast Artillery Regiment became the "first to fire" to defend the Philippines from Japanese bombers. It is fitting that we Honor Governor Reyna today.

After the war, Governor Reyna returned to Taos Pueblo and, as he said, "... got busy." He married, and he and his wife, Annie Cata Reyna, had four children, Diane, John Anthony, Phillip, and Marie.

Governor Reyna wanted to open an art shop in Taos, but banks would not loan to a Native American, even a veteran. "I went to the bank, but they weren't interested in loans to Indians because they had nothing in the way of security," he said. He found two businessmen in town who would lend to him, and over the next 2 years, he hand-built an adobe shop and home and paid the men back in full.

"I opened the doors to the shop May 1, 1950," he said. "There was no shop like this at the Pueblo at the time. I felt I had a responsibility to promote Indian craft." At the time, Governor Reyna's shop—Tony Reyna Indian Shop—was the only Native-owned store dealing strictly in Native-made crafts. The shop is open to this day—run by Governor Reyna's son Phillip—and is the oldest shop in Taos selling Native-made art.

Governor Reyna served Taos Pueblo as secretary for the Governor's office in 1975 and Lieutenant Governor in 1977. He served two terms as pueblo Governor, in 1982 and 1992, and was a lifetime member of the tribal council. "I served in the Army, I served the state of New Mexico, and I served the city of Taos, but the most important of all was serving my people as governor."

Governor Reyna was instrumental in the successful effort to return Blue Lake to Taos Pueblo. Nestled in the mountains northeast of the pueblo, the lake is sacred to the pueblo. It and 48,000 acres were taken from the pueblo and appropriated as Federal lands in 1906. After much work, the area was returned to the pueblo in 1970.

As Governor, Governor Reyna was instrumental in securing Taos Pueblo's designation as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1992. He secured that status without compromising the pueblos' conditions for privacy. After the designation, he convinced the U.S. Air Force to change flight patterns of supersonic jets over Taos Pueblo. The flights were damaging the structure of the buildings. As a veteran, Governor