

then, I have repeatedly relied on her counsel and deep knowledge of the valley.

Her relationships and devotion to the community have been invaluable, and I will miss her insights and perspective. It has been an honor to work with Charlotte, and I wish her a long and happy retirement. I know our friendship will continue for years to come.

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TRIBUTE TO MAJOR MICHAEL  
"PAKO" BENITEZ

Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I recognize Maj. Michael "Pako" Benitez for all of his hard work on behalf of myself, my staff, and the State of South Dakota while working in my Washington, DC, office.

Pako entered military service in 1997 and has devoted his career to the United States Armed Forces. Before his time in my office, Pako served as a flight commander and F-15E instructor weapons system officer. Pako's experiences and expertise have been a true asset to the office.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Pako for his service to our country. I wish him continued success in the years to come.

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TRIBUTE TO SHELLI COFFEY

Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I recognize Shelli Coffey for all of her hard work on behalf of myself, my staff, and the State of South Dakota while working in my Washington, DC, office.

Shelli has spent her career working at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, spending time in Chicago, New York, San Francisco, and Washington, DC. Shelli's insight into regulations and community banks has been a true asset to the office.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Shelli for all of the fine work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

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ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

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TRIBUTE TO DR. CHARLES  
MCMILLAN

• Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. President, it is an honor to recognize Dr. Charles McMillan for his leadership and service at Los Alamos National Laboratory as he plans his retirement at the end of this year.

For 6 years, Dr. McMillan has served as director of Los Alamos, which employs some of the best and brightest minds in the Nation and is indispensable to our Nation's security and scientific and technology innovation.

It has been a pleasure to work with Dr. McMillan to support LANL's national security missions and position the lab so it will continue to play vital role in nuclear security, cutting-edge research, and scientific advances in the decades ahead.

Under Dr. McMillan's leadership, LANL has undertaken critical work to modernize our nuclear weapons complex through the Stockpile Stewardship Program.

The multidisciplinary science and engineering at LANL has also produced new materials and technologies with applications such as earth system modeling, supercomputing analysis, exploration of Mars, and improved responses to global health crises.

I have especially appreciated Dr. McMillan's commitment to working with the lab's surrounding communities in northern New Mexico.

The incredible success of Los Alamos depends on building trusting relationships with local communities.

I have been proud to work with Dr. McMillan to bring together LANL leadership, regional colleges, universities, and public schools to train more New Mexicans to become part of LANL's future workforce.

I am grateful for the steps Dr. McMillan has taken to engage with the regional coalition of LANL communities on important issues such as contracting with local small businesses and cleaning up legacy waste.

I commend Dr. McMillan for his incredible record of service to our Nation addressing some of our most complex issues and challenges.

It has been an honor for me to know Charlie, and I wish him the best in all of his future endeavors.●

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TRIBUTE TO MARGIE ALT

• Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, Margie Alt belongs on the Mount Rushmore of environmental advocates. For more than three decades, first at U.S. PRIG and then Environment America, Margie has been one of the leading generals in this monumental fight to combat climate change and protect our environment.

It was Margie's vision that transformed U.S. PIRG and Environment America into the powerhouse environmental advocacy organization it is today, with more than 1 million members across the country. Because of her leadership, EA doesn't just stand for Environment America, it also stands for everywhere in America, because that is where she planted the seeds of grassroots change and political activation.

As a tireless consumer protection champion, she has ensured that America's air and water is clean, our beaches and waterways are protected, and the public is safeguarded from toxic threats. She led groundbreaking work to organize the majority of State Renewable Electricity Standards in America, laying the foundation for the clean energy revolution that is now unstoppable. Her voice, passion, and strategic brilliance have been indispensable as the environmental movement she helped build takes on climate deniers and corporate polluters.

For her entire career, Margie has stood up for the public's health, stood

against the special interests who would despoil our lands, and stood for integrity and progress. She is truly Massachusetts' commitment to public service personified. America has been fortunate to have had Margie Alt's extraordinary leadership for these many years, and I have been fortunate to call her my friend.●

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TRIBUTE TO GEORGE  
NINCEHELSE

• Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I recognize George Nincehelsner, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all the hard work he has done on behalf of myself, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

George recently graduated from the University of Nebraska where he majored in criminal justice and received minors in Arabic, national security, and global studies. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience and who has been a true asset to the office.

I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to George for all of the fine work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

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RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL  
INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC  
ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION

• Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, today I wish to formally recognize the 40th anniversary of the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association, NIAAA, which is headquartered in Indianapolis, IN. Since its founding in 1977, the NIAAA has established itself as a leading professional organization for educational-based athletic programs for academic institutions nationwide. This association plays a critical role in the development of our young people as athletic administrators work tirelessly to provide access to extracurricular activities, teach strong work habits, and promote civil engagement.

December of 2017 will mark the 40th year since launching the NIAAA mission. The organization has since grown to over 11,000 members nationwide. Currently, its core curriculum consists of 45 courses with a budget over \$1.8 million. Despite the known fact that physical activity improves the overall personal development of young adults, evidence argues that the quality of coaching impacts the developmental effects of extramural sports. To ensure that positive, professional development is preserved, the NIAAA offers resources for secondary school athletic administrators to manage safe, high-quality athletic programs for all students. Along with professional educational opportunities, the NIAAA has participated in 10 years of scholarship donations totaling to \$120,000 and recognizing 600 students as scholarship essay winners.