

Rule—to treat other people the way we want to be treated—is part of every major religion, the Golden Rule. I do not care if you are Catholic, I do not care if you are a Jew, I do not care if you are a Muslim, Hindu, some form of the Golden Rule is right there. She was a big proponent of the Golden Rule, and that was the work of her life.

She was also one of those people who focused on excellence in everything she did. She was committed to doing things well and wanted to be surrounded by staff that did things well. When things would go well for her and she would do a good job, she would always give credit to her team. When her team would fall short, she was not one of those people who blamed the team; she blamed herself.

Another thing I would say is she just didn't give up. She was tenacious—not very tall, not tall in stature, but, boy, was she tenacious. She showed this especially by the way she fought for her life to the very end 3 days ago.

I want to talk just a little about her vote on the Affordable Care Act and why she thought it was the right thing to do. Matthew 25 does not say anything about: I was lame and you gave me healthcare or access to healthcare. My own source of healthcare was the hospital, what did you do about it? That doesn't say that in the New Testament.

But I think the implication is clear. We have an obligation—I think a moral obligation to try to make sure everybody has access to healthcare and, hopefully, to affordable healthcare. That is what we tried to do with the Affordable Care Act, and that is why she supported it.

Sometimes people think the Affordable Care Act is just the exchanges, just the marketplaces. Every State has an exchange or marketplace that is there. It is sort of like a purchasing pool for healthcare that people can become a part of. If they don't work for an employer who provides healthcare, that is issued by the employer, and they are not old enough for Medicare or their income level is too high to allow them to participate in Medicaid and, in those cases, they have to find some way to get access to healthcare.

Back in 1993, the Republican Senator from Rhode Island, John Chafee—who is also a Navy guy, later Secretary of the Navy—he introduced legislation here in the Senate in 1993 as a Republican response to something Hillary Clinton was doing during her husband's administration that was working to find ways to make sure that everybody had access to healthcare in this country.

We worked on something called HillaryCare, and the Republicans ridiculed her efforts and those around her. She said basically in response: What is your idea? What is your idea?

The response was by Senator Chafee, joined by 22 or 23 Republican Senators, and part of what they came up with is that every State should have an ex-

change and every State should have the ability to set up the purchasing pool in their State. People who didn't have coverage could get their coverage in the exchanges.

Neither one was turned into law, but about 10, 12 years later, the new Governor of Massachusetts, MITT ROMNEY, took the idea of the exchanges and introduced the Mitt Romney Care so that the people in his State would have the opportunity to sign up for the coverage in their exchange.

We wrote the Affordable Care Act, we did it, and we took good ideas from all over the country and all over the world to provide healthcare to people that was affordable. One of the ideas that we stole to put in the Affordable Care Act was Governor Romney's idea of the exchanges.

And you know what? It was a good idea. It was a good idea. The first few years of RomneyCare in Massachusetts, they did a pretty good job of extending coverage. They did not do such a good job initially on affordability, and they kept trying, and they finally figured it out—competition in the marketplace, in the exchange, and more insurance companies providing, participating, and this worked well. We found in the first 2 years that the Affordable Care Act was standing up the exchanges 7, 8, or 9 years ago that it was a challenge. It was difficult.

What has happened now is the insurers are starting to figure it out. They priced too high. The States have come up with ways to buy down the risks for the insurers and to make a number of States' health insurance in the exchanges more affordable, so that more people can actually afford that help.

I would just close this here. The majority leader is standing here waiting to speak, so I will just close if I can by saying after a number of years seeing the cost of healthcare coverages in exchanges across the country go up, up, up—sometimes by double-digit rates—the insurance companies were trying to figure out how to price health insurance for people who have not had health insurance for years. It took them several years to figure it out, but they finally, for the most part, have. The cost of healthcare in exchanges doesn't go up by double-digit rates anymore.

In fact, we have 20 or more States now where the cost of healthcare coverage in the exchange is only going up a couple of percentage points, maybe less. In a half-dozen States, the cost of healthcare in the exchanges is actually going down. In the State of Delaware, when the exchanges open up tomorrow, the people will sign up for the healthcare exchange in Delaware, the price will not be going up next year. It will be going down by 19 percent. There are six other States where the consumer experience is similar, and that is encouraging.

A lot more insurance companies are offering coverage in the States, 23 last year and 45 this year—and that is going

to introduce competition and, we hope, a cycle that will allow more people to get better coverage for a lower price.

So, Kay Hagan, we miss you, and we considered it a privilege to have served with you here. Something good has come out of something very difficult. The passage of the Affordable Care Act was hard. It has been hard finding a way forward since then, but I think better days lie ahead, and market forces are starting to work, and that is a good thing.

And with that, I will yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session for consideration of Calendar Nos. 468 through 477 and all nominations on the Secretary's desk in the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, and Navy; that the nominations be confirmed; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the RECORD; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nominations considered and confirmed are as follows:

IN THE ARMY

The following named officers for appointment to the grade indicated in the United States Army under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be brigadier general

Col. Andrew C. Hilmes

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. James B. Hecker

IN THE NAVY

the following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Gregory C. Huffman

The following named officer for appointment in the grade indicated while serving as Surgeon General of the Navy under title 10 U.S.C., section 8077:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. Bruce L. Gillingham

IN THE ARMY

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen Mark C. Schwartz

The following named Army National Guard of the United States officer for appointment in the Reserve of the Army to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12211:

To be brigadier general

Col. Karl Konzelman

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Randy A. George

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C. section 601.

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Edwin J. Deedrick, Jr.

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Army to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance—and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601.

To be lieutenant general

Gen. James E. Rainey

IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment in The United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be admiral

Vice Adm. Charles A. Richard

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

IN THE AIR FORCE

PN1112 AIR FORCE nomination of David B. Martin, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1113 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning MATTHEW W. STYLES, and ending LINDSEY P. DAVIS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1114 AIR FORCE nomination of Shayla A. Canty-Smith, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1116 AIR FORCE nominations (15) beginning TRAVIS M. ALLEN, and ending CHRISTOPHER D. UNDERWOOD, II, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1118 AIR FORCE nomination of Brandon R. Burden, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1184 AIR FORCE nominations (4) beginning STEVEN D. GRESSWELL, and ending TESSA L. WINTERTON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1185 AIR FORCE nomination of Jason M. Zhao, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1186 AIR FORCE nomination of Samuel H. Bridges, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1187 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning TIMOTHY J. CURRY, and ending RYAN J. GARLOW, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1188 AIR FORCE nominations (2) beginning BRIAN P. BERLAKOVICH, and ending

SCOTT J. RUMISEK, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

IN THE ARMY

PN1119 ARMY nomination of Timothy M. Donelson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1120 ARMY nomination of Cesar A. Patino, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1121 ARMY nomination of John J. Vogel, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1122 ARMY nomination of Lance A. Brown, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1123 ARMY nomination of Gregory J. Hirschey, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

NOMINATIONS PLACED ON THE SECRETARY'S DESK

PN1124 ARMY nomination of Michael C. Haith, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1125 ARMY nomination of Christopher O. Dorsey, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1126 ARMY nomination of Galen Cipperly, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1127 ARMY nomination of Wayne J. Harsha, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1128 ARMY nominations (12) beginning PAULA A. BOICE, and ending CHUNAE ZOH, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1189 ARMY nomination of Brian E. Burk, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1190 ARMY nomination of Rhianna K. Riggs, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1191 ARMY nomination of Fatima H. Khan, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1192 ARMY nomination of Demetrius E. Walton, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1193 ARMY nominations (12) beginning GREGORY B. BATDORFF, and ending ERIC W. WIDMAR, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1194 ARMY nominations (3) beginning JOSEPH A. BURTON, and ending RONALD C. VICARS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1195 ARMY nomination of Eric L. Rahman, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1196 ARMY nomination of Guadalupe Resendez, Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1197 ARMY nomination of Katrina A. Parlow, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1198 ARMY nominations (44) beginning LESLIE E. AKINS, and ending D014484,

which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1199 ARMY nominations (8) beginning MATTHEW W. CASPARI, and ending GLEN E. TEMPLETON, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1200 ARMY nomination of Kenneth J. Biskner, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1201 ARMY nominations (7) beginning NAVARI N. CAMERON, and ending JUAN A. VILLATORO, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1202 ARMY nomination of Deleno M. Harper, Jr., which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1203 ARMY nomination of James M. McCandless, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1204 ARMY nomination of Jens K. Pederson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1207 ARMY nominations (2) beginning GRECO E. CARRERAS, and ending PAUL E. GEBHARDT, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1208 ARMY nomination of James H. Feaster, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1209 ARMY nomination of Christa M. Chewar, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1210 ARMY nomination of Erik A. Ernest, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1211 ARMY nomination of Joshua D. Helsel, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1212 ARMY nomination of Scott T. McCartney, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1213 ARMY nomination of Broderick L. Gardner, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1214 ARMY nomination of Kara S. Krulewicz, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1215 ARMY nomination of Tatchie O. Manso, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1216 ARMY nomination of Eduardo Olvera, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1217 ARMY nomination of Francisco Rincon, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1218 ARMY nomination of Wallace W. Rollins, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1219 ARMY nomination of Taylor S. Schenck, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

PN1220 ARMY nomination of William D. Swenson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

IN THE MARINE CORPS

PN1147 MARINE CORPS nomination of James M. Stephens, which was received by

the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1148 MARINE CORPS nomination of Carlos T. Jackson, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

IN THE NAVY

PN1129 NAVY nomination of Michael J. Tagaloa, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1130 NAVY nomination of Patcho N. Santiago, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1131 NAVY nomination of Bryan A. Boldon, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1132 NAVY nomination of Michael D. Cribbs, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1133 NAVY nomination of Brackery L. Battle, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1134 NAVY nomination of Joel D. Myers, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1135 NAVY nominations (108) beginning BRYAN M. ALLRED, and ending KENDRA M. YATES, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1136 NAVY nominations (138) beginning MARIO D. ADAME, and ending ANTHONY M. YOUNG, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1137 NAVY nominations (1117) beginning WILLIAM H. ABBITT, and ending RUBEN B. ZWEIBAN, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1138 NAVY nominations (30) beginning KELLY W. AGHA, and ending AMY L. YOUNGER, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1139 NAVY nominations (39) beginning KWADWO S. AGYEPONG, and ending SHAUN E. WILLIAMS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1140 NAVY nominations (6) beginning BRADLEY E. CHERRY, and ending NEIL W. WHITESELL, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1141 NAVY nominations (15) beginning HERNAN R. BORJA, and ending BRIAN E. YEE, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1142 NAVY nominations (15) beginning BENJAMIN T. ANDERSON, and ending MATTHEW A. STROUP, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1143 NAVY nominations (16) beginning NICK AVILA, and ending ATHANASIOS R. VARVOUTIS, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1144 NAVY nominations (17) beginning MICHAEL ADAMSKI, JR., and ending AUSTIN C. WEST, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1145 NAVY nominations (60) beginning JASON C. ABELL, and ending JAMES M. ZWEIFEL, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1146 NAVY nominations (49) beginning GARRETT L. ADAMS, and ending IRIS P. WOOD, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of September 19, 2019.

PN1222 NAVY nomination of Joseph L. Coffey, which was received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record of October 15, 2019.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now resume legislative session.

RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED TODAY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the en bloc consideration of the following Senate resolutions, which were submitted earlier today: S. Res. 399, S. Res. 400, and S. Res. 401.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolutions en bloc.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolutions be agreed to, the preambles be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, all en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolutions (S. Res. 399, S. Res. 400, S. Res. 401) were agreed to.

The preambles were agreed to.

(The resolutions, with their preambles, are printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

HONORING THE LIFE, WORK, AND LEGACY OF TONI MORRISON

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 402, which was submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 402) honoring the life, work, and legacy of Toni Morrison.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I know of no further debate on the resolution.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate?

Hearing none, the question is on adoption of the resolution.

The resolution (S. Res. 402) was agreed to.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the preamble be agreed to and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

NATIONAL FARM TO SCHOOL MONTH

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 403, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 403) designating October 2019 as "National Farm to School Month".

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today I am proud to honor the contributions of farm to school programs around the country by introducing a resolution that designates October as "National Farm to School Month." I am glad Senators COLLINS, BROWN, and PERDUE joined me in introducing this resolution.

Under a provision I authored in the 2010 Healthy and Hunger-Free Kids Act, farm to school programs across the country have thrived. Grants have been awarded in all 50 States and the District of Columbia to support programs in more than 43,000 schools. We have learned that one of the best ways to help students make healthy choices is to teach them about their food and how it is grown. Making that connection makes a difference.

We all know that hungry children cannot learn. Studies have shown that healthy nutrition in a young person's diet is crucial to cognitive ability and better health in the long run. Food insecurity and obesity rates are still too high in this country, resulting in poor health and learning and behavioral difficulties at school. The school meal program has made tremendous strides in recent years to ensure not only that children have access to meals throughout the school day but that those meals are nutritious. The Farm to School Program has given children and schools across the country the tools to craft farm-fresh, healthy, and delicious meals that students enjoy.

In Vermont, I have seen firsthand how farm to school efforts have better connected children with the food in their cafeteria. Students participate in school gardens, sustainability projects, and taste tests for new school menu items. Earlier this month, I was glad to visit St. Albans, VT, to announce grants that will enhance classroom curriculum to help children become familiar with local food and how to eat healthfully.

Ensuring children have enough food to eat is an issue that unites us all. There is simply no excuse that in the wealthiest, most powerful Nation on Earth, people go hungry. Small changes in eating habits by children