

I was absent but had I been present, I would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 322 the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 328, David John Novak, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia.

I was absent but had I been present, I would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 323 the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 348, Rachel P. Kovner to be U.S. District Judge for the Eastern District of New York.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO RANDY VEACH

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I rise today to recognize Arkansas Farm Bureau President Randy Veach for his years of dedication to Natural State farm families and rural communities and celebrate his leadership, advocacy, and passion for agriculture as his service as president comes to a close.

As a third-generation farmer, Randy has made advocating for the rural way of life his calling. He grew up on his family's farm in the community of Lost Cane in Mississippi County. He continues farming on that land with his wife Thelma where they grow cotton, soybeans, rice, wheat, corn, and milo.

His commitment to the industry has extended beyond his own fields. For decades, Randy has been a voice for Arkansas agriculture producers, working to develop policies that benefit farmers. He has served in a number of leadership positions at the local level up to the national level. He is a member of the American Farm Bureau board of directors, and in 2015, he was appointed to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Trade Advisory Committee for Tobacco, Cotton, and Peanuts.

For 11 years, Randy has been at the helm of Arkansas Farm Bureau where he worked to advance the priorities of farmers and ranchers. As a member of the Senate Agriculture Committee, I have been blessed to have Randy's knowledge, experience, and insight to help craft farm bills and ag policy that support Arkansas' agricultural industry and strengthen rural communities throughout our state.

I am grateful for the friendship we have built, for his advice, and most importantly, his service on behalf of our State's farmers and ranchers. Although his time as president is ending, I know his advocacy for agriculture will continue.

I wish Randy and Thelma much happiness in this next chapter of their lives.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NEVADA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

• Ms. CORTEZ MASTO. Madam President, I come forward today to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Ne-

vada Farm Bureau Federation. Founded in 1919, the Nevada Farm Bureau Federation has been a strong voice for Nevada's farmers and ranchers. Unbeknownst to many, Nevada is home to some of the largest agricultural operations in the Nation, and over the past 100 years, the Nevada Farm Bureau Federation has provided a reliable and steady source of advocacy for the agricultural community in the Silver State.

On February 25, 1919, Assemblyman Care C. Tidd of Smith, NV, introduced Nevada Assembly Bill 110 in the Nevada Legislature. The purpose of the bill was to provide for cooperative agricultural and home economics extension work in several counties in accordance with the Smith-Lever Act and provide for the organization of county farm bureaus. Following formation of an authorized county farm bureau, the bill directed that bureau as the official body within county for carrying on extension work in agriculture and home economics in cooperation with the Cooperative Services Program and the Land-Grant University System. The first Nevada Farm Bureau office was founded in Lyon County.

Over the course of the past century, the Nevada Farm Bureau Federation has evolved from its original form into a private nonprofit organization and strong advocate for the State's farmers and ranchers, voicing the concerns of its membership to policymakers on the local, State and federal levels. Additionally, the Nevada Farm Bureau Federation continues its century-old partnership with Cooperative Extension in the Silver State.

The Nevada Farm Bureau Federation is currently made up of 11 county farm bureau organizations representing nearly 18,000 family members. I am pleased to recognize the Nevada Farm Bureau's 100 years of service to Nevadans and our great State and wish the group well in continuing its work on behalf of farmers and ranchers for many years to come.●

REMEMBERING KAY HAGAN

• Ms. DUCKWORTH. Madam President, I come before the Senate today to honor the life of Kay Hagan, who I had the honor of serving in Congress with from 2013 to 2014. A beloved public servant, businesswoman, mother, wife and friend, Kay passed away last month at the age of 66.

I admired Kay's ability to find common ground and work in a bipartisan manner without compromising her core beliefs, as evidenced by both her many legislative successes and her many courageous votes, including healthcare reform and expanded background checks. She was also a tireless voice for women's rights, and advocated for hard-working North Carolinians and U.S. Servicemembers by fighting to crack down on predatory payday lending.

Roughly a decade before I brought my daughter Maile onto the Senate

floor, Kay took on an outdated Senate rule of her own by leading the successful charge to force the Senate swimming pool to allow women. Making the Senate a welcoming place for everyone is an ongoing struggle, but her efforts certainly made it a little bit better for women Senators for years to come.

Kay was an inspirational role model to young girls and young women in North Carolina, often encouraging them to run for office at her events. I have no doubt that many of them now hold public office.

My deepest sympathies are with Kay's loved ones. I am grateful for her passionate service to her State and our country, and I am proud to continue her work in the U.S. Senate.●

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF NORTH OF THE JAMES MAGAZINE

• Mr. KAIN. Madam President, I want to wish a happy 25th anniversary to North of the James magazine and congratulate it on reaching this milestone. I want to thank editor Charles McGuigan and all who worked tirelessly to make the publication what it is today. The magazine started off in a garage in Richmond's North Side neighborhood. It has been exciting to see the news outlet grow and become an integral part of the community it serves. North of the James has served as a unique, hyper-local voice that Richmonders can relate to. This is evident by the loyal readership in the area throughout all these years.

I am proud that this year, Charles McGuigan was awarded first place for the feature writing portfolio by the Virginia Press Association. He also was awarded second place for the feature titled "Kaity Kasper: Blazing into that Good Night." I was proud to be featured by the magazine in 2012, and I was humbled to be among great Virginians, like Oliver Hill, who have been on the cover over the years.

Local news is a vital part of our communities. Whether it is keeping readers informed about art exhibits and food or shining a spotlight on Virginians, we are grateful for North of the James' dedication to serving Richmonders for the past 25 years. I know they will keep up the great work.●

REMEMBERING JOHN H. ADLER

• Mr. MENENDEZ. Madam President, I am honored to rise today in recognition of the late John H. Adler on the occasion of the dedication of the John H. Adler Memorial Park at Challenge Grove in Cherry Hill, NJ.

The Honorable John H. Adler was a remarkable public servant who worked tirelessly on behalf of New Jersey residents for decades. Growing up in southern New Jersey, John worked hard in school and overcame many personal challenges to earn his undergraduate and law degrees from Harvard University before returning home to Camden County. He began a selfless career in