

It will be a moment I will remember for the rest of my life.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO SOUTHGATE'S VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I congratulate the members of the city of Southgate's Volunteer Fire Department. This year marks the department's centennial anniversary.

This year the city of Southgate's Volunteer Fire Department is celebrating 100 years of service to the Northern Kentucky area. Southgate is my hometown, and I know and appreciate the great lengths that the fire department goes to in order to keep its citizens safe. I want to honor every volunteer who, on a daily basis, risks his or her life to faithfully serve their neighbors.

Again, I congratulate the city of Southgate's Volunteer Fire Department on reaching their centennial milestone. I know that the volunteers' efforts are an inspiration to others in Kentucky and throughout the Nation.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF PINEY WOODS SCHOOL

• Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to congratulate the Piney Woods School in Piney Woods, MS on their 100th anniversary. The Piney Woods School was founded in 1909 by Dr. Laurence C. Jones to educate the head, heart, and hands of young people. This transformative educational model was first exhibited by teaching the children of poor sharecroppers to read. Today, the school serves as a home, and offers educational opportunities to students from 23 States and 7 foreign countries.

The Piney Woods School is one of only four historically African-American boarding schools left in the United States. Diligently preparing their students for institutions of higher learning, Piney Woods propels 98 percent of its graduates on to attend some of the best colleges and universities in the country. The school has been featured on "60 Minutes" and "U.S. News and World Report" for their commitment to educate our disadvantaged youth.

The Piney Woods School has also made a commitment to service and leadership in their community, State, and country. The school was the first high school in the Nation to incorporate an Americorps program into its curriculum. Each of the 50 members in the senior class at Piney Woods School serves in the role of a quarter-time Americorps volunteer. In this capacity, they are actively involved in providing service in disaster areas, building playgrounds in inner cities, creating after-school programs for youth in rural American communities, and providing online tutorial services for students.

I congratulate the Piney Woods School on 100 great years and commend

them on their educational successes and commitment to service. I am proud that the Piney Woods School is in my home State of Mississippi, and I wish them the best in the future.●

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ACT

• Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I would like to congratulate the ACT organization, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary, this year. As many of our colleagues know, ACT is an independent, nonprofit group based in Iowa City that provides an array of testing, assessment, and research services in the areas of education and workforce development.

ACT was launched in 1959 as the American College Testing Program by a University of Iowa professor of education and colleagues from 16 Midwestern States. Their goal was to help college-bound students find a good match for their interests and aptitudes, and to help colleges and universities place students into appropriate freshman-level classes.

On November 7, 1959, about 75,000 students took the first ACT assessment. This year, nearly 1.5 million graduating seniors 45 percent of all high school graduates in the Nation took the ACT exam.

From its relatively humble beginnings a half century ago, ACT has grown into an enterprise with a global reach. In addition to its testing and assessment services, it has developed programs to prepare students for success in college. It has created the National Career Readiness Certificate, a tool that thousands of educators and employers nationwide use to confirm that individuals have essential core employability skills. In addition, ACT is one of several partners in a new Manufacturing Skills Certification System designed by the National Association of Manufacturers, the Nation's largest industrial trade organization.

In addition to its Iowa City headquarters, ACT has 12 field offices across the United States, as well as offices in Australia, Korea, China, Singapore, and Spain. It has a global workforce of nearly 1,500.

I salute all of the superb professionals at ACT, whose vision and hard work have built an organization respected worldwide for its innovation and excellence. And I wish them even greater success in their next half century.●

RECOGNIZING THE MUSCATINE HISTORY AND INDUSTRY CENTER

• Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I would like to congratulate the Muscatine History & Industry Center for being selected to participate in the rigorous Museum Assessment Program sponsored by the American Association of Museums.

The entire Muscatine community takes great pride in the History and Industry Center's success in showcasing

the city's past role as "pearl button capital of the world," as well as the historic contributions of three local enterprises: Bandag, a half-century-old company specializing in silver tubes, mesh venting, and tire treads; HNI Corporation, the world's second largest manufacturer of office furniture and the nation's No. 1 maker of gas- and wood-burning fireplaces; and Stanley Consultants, a global provider of engineering, environmental, and construction services.

The Muscatine History and Industry Center is a relatively small museum, but it has a very big impact. Not only does it welcome many thousands of visitors annually, it reaches out to the community with a variety of programs and activities, and hosts daily visits by school groups—from prekindergarten through high school. Students and youth groups learn by interacting with the Center's artifacts and many hands-on activities.

As the center begins participation in the Museum Assessment Program, it looks forward to an extended period of self-examination and peer review designed to improve its operations and programming, and to identify current and future challenges.

I congratulate the Muscatine History and Industry Center for taking this giant step forward in its development as a museum. And I salute all the outstanding professionals and volunteers at the center whose vision and tireless efforts have made this institution such an important part of Muscatine's cultural life.●

RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY MUSEUMS

• Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I would like to congratulate the University Museums at Iowa State University for earning formal accreditation by the American Association of Museums, an honor that is bestowed on fewer than 10 percent of museums across the United States.

As a proud alumnus of Iowa State, I know that the university community takes great pride in its diverse collection of museums, including the three museums that together make up University Museums at Iowa State University: the Brunnier Art Museum, the Art on Campus Collection, and the Farm House Museum.

The Brunnier is dedicated to the decorative arts, including works by Grant Wood and Louis Comfort Tiffany. The Art on Campus Collection consists of more than 2,000 works of public art located all across the campus in buildings, courtyards, open spaces, and offices. The Farm House Museum is a wonderful 19th century house and a National Historic Landmark, offering visitors a window into what life was like on campus in the university's earliest days, when most faculty members lived on the college grounds.

These collections and museums make a powerful contribution to the cultural

life of the ISU campus. They do so thanks to the quality of their art works and artifacts. Just as importantly, they do so by inviting the community to participate in special conferences, lectures, panel discussions, gallery walks, and gallery talks. University Museums has reinvented the idea of the museum as an educational and intellectual center, reaching out beyond the campus to the wider Ames community, including K-12 schools, with a wide range of cultural programs and activities.

Accreditation by the American Association of Museums does not come easily. It involves a rigorous process in which a museum demonstrates its commitment to the highest professional standards, public service, and excellence in education. University Museums at Iowa State University now joins an elite group of 778 AAM-accredited institutions spanning the United States.

I congratulate University Museums for this hard-earned recognition. And I salute all the outstanding museum professionals and volunteers whose vision and tireless efforts have contributed so much to the campus and to the entire Ames community.●

RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA MUSEUMS AND COLLECTIONS

● Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I would like to congratulate the University of Northern Iowa Museums and Collections for being selected to participate in the rigorous Museum Assessment Program sponsored by the American Association of Museums.

I know that the university and the entire Cedar Falls community take great pride in the University Museum, the Marshall Center School, and the various collections that they encompass. The University Museum's collections and temporary exhibits focus on the natural world and traditional cultures. The Marshall Center School is a restored one-room schoolhouse, with a permanent exhibit celebrating Iowa's rural schools.

These museums and collections make a powerful contribution to the cultural life of the UNI campus. They do so thanks to the quality of their exhibits and artifacts. Just as importantly, they do so by inviting the community to participate in special conferences, lectures, panel discussions, and other activities. The university views its museums not as static institutions but as active educational and intellectual centers, reaching out beyond the campus to the wider Cedar Falls community, including K-12 schools.

The UNI Museums and Collections have been accredited by the American Association of Museums since 1975—an honor that is bestowed on fewer than 10 percent of museums in the United States. As this institution now begins participation in the Museum Assessment Program, it looks forward to an

extended period of self-examination and peer review designed to improve its operations and programming, and to identify current and future challenges.

I congratulate the UNI Museums and Collections for taking this important step forward in its development as an institution. And I salute all the outstanding professionals and volunteers whose vision and tireless efforts have contributed so much to the campus and to the entire Cedar Falls community.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Williams, 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 nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3123. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Bureau of Reclamation, to remedy problems caused by a collapsed drainage tunnel in Leadville, Colorado, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1772. A bill to require that all legislative matters be available and fully scored by CBO 72 hours before consideration by any subcommittee or committee of the Senate or on the floor of the Senate.

H.R. 3548. An act to amend the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 to provide for the temporary availability of certain additional emergency unemployment compensation, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3590. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the first-time homebuyers credit in the case of members of the Armed Forces and certain other Federal employees, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

S. 1776. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the update under the Medicare physician fee schedule for years beginning with 2010 and to sunset the application of the sustainable growth rate formula, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with

accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3305. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Fireworks Displays within the Captain of the Port Puget Sound Zone" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USG-2009-0752)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3306. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Calcasieu River, Hackberry, Louisiana" ((RIN1625-AA87) (Docket No. USG-2009-0317)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3307. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; IJSBA World Finals, Lower Colorado River, Lake Havasu, Arizona" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USG-2009-0194)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3308. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "San Clemente Island Northwest Harbor October and November Training; Northwest Harbor San Clemente Island, California" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USG-2009-0747)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3309. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Robert Moses Causeway Bridge State Boat Channel, Captree, New York" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USG-2009-0755)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3310. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Cape Charles Tomato Festival Fireworks Event, Chesapeake Bay, Cape Charles, Virginia" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USG-2009-0529)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3311. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone; Parker US Open Nationals; Parker, Arizona" ((RIN1625-AA00) (Docket No. USG-2009-0474)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3312. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Safety Zone and Regulated Navigation Area, Chicago Sanitary and Ship Canal, Romeoville, Illinois" ((RIN1625-AA11) (Docket No. USG-2009-0767)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on October 7, 2009; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3313. A communication from the Attorney Advisor, U.S. Coast Guard, Department