

(3) supports the commitment of the United States and all countries to improving access to, and developing, new treatments, diagnostics, and cures for rare diseases and disorders.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### RECOGNIZING OUTSTANDING STUDENT VOLUNTEERS

• Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Candonino Agusen and Jackson Button, two students from my State, who were named as top youth volunteers for 2012 by the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. The awards were created in 1995 through a partnership between Prudential and the National Association of Secondary School Principals to honor middle and high school students for outstanding service to others at the local, State, and national levels.

Every year, the top high school and middle school youth volunteers from each State and the District of Columbia are selected as State Honorees. Each honoree receives a \$1,000 award, an engraved silver medallion, and an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. for several days of national recognition events. In addition, other noteworthy students from each State are named Distinguished Finalists and receive a bronze medallion for their contributions.

After the natural disasters in Japan in 2011, Candonino, a junior at Kealakehe High School, recruited others to help him purchase temporary housing kits for the victims displaced by the earthquake and tsunami. These kits included a tent, survival equipment, and a month of supplies for up to 10 people. His team raised more than \$64,000, enough to take care of 640 earthquake victims for a month. Candonino contributed another \$2,000 by making and sending 1,000 paper origami cranes to Japan as a symbol of support.

Jackson, a middle school student at Hawaii Technology Academy, co-founded a nonprofit organization with his sisters that has raised nearly \$100,000 to support a wide variety of projects aiding children in Africa, Mexico, and the United States. Some of the projects funded by the organization include scholarships for children who have lost a parent to cancer or other diseases, a solar heater for a Mexican orphanage, and school supplies for underprivileged students in Hawaii. Through the nonprofit, Jackson and his sisters even arranged for a van to take HIV/AIDS orphans in Uganda to medical appointments, and bought four acres of land in that country to grow food and build a new orphanage.

I would also like to recognize Scott Fetz of Kailua-Kona and Jessica Sonson of Ewa Beach who were named the 2012 Distinguished Finalists from Hawaii, as well as the many other individuals who contribute to the improve-

ment of our communities every day. Our Nation is a better place because of people like these young leaders, who are making a difference in their communities and around the world. These students, like many volunteers, do not perform these services for recognition. I am grateful for awards that acknowledge their selflessness so that these role models can serve as inspiration for others. I am proud of all that these students have accomplished, and I wish them the best in their bright futures.●

##### RECOGNIZING MEDSTAR ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL

• Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the 100th anniversary of MedStar St. Mary's Hospital in Leonardtown, MD. When St. Mary's Hospital was founded in 1912, it was Leonardtown's first community health care center, located in a modest two-story home. The surrounding population was small and rural, and the hospital's running water was heralded in a local newspaper. The new health care center was the first of many institutions that marked the beginning of St. Mary's County's transformation into the modern, thriving region it is today.

As the county has grown and evolved from humble beginnings, so has the hospital. Today, St. Mary's is a full-service hospital facility which offers state-of-the-art emergency, acute inpatient and outpatient care. The emergency room serves over 50,000 patients per year, and St. Mary's is leading the way in using cutting-edge medical technology. St. Mary's was the first hospital in southern Maryland to achieve full certification as a stroke center and won the prestigious Delmarva Foundation Excellence Award five times for consistent improvements in patient safety and clinical outcomes. The hospital's fully integrated electronic medical records system is ranked among the top 5 percent nationally.

St. Mary's is committed to a "patients first" philosophy, which is evident in consistently high patient satisfaction scores. At St. Mary's, treating every patient with respect and compassion is an essential part of the healing process. The hospital offers dignity, comfort, and support to each and every patient and his or her family.

In 2009, St. Mary's joined the MedStar Health System. This partnership helps St. Mary's meet the expanding medical needs of the southern Maryland community and offer the region greater access to specialty care. A new name that blends the hospital's history and future—MedStar St. Mary's Hospital—has been unveiled to celebrate its centennial.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating MedStar St. Mary's Hospital on 100 years of providing outstanding patient-centered care to the residents of Leonardtown and the southern Maryland region.●

##### RECOGNIZING ST. PAUL'S PARISH

• Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I wish to recognize St. Paul Roman Catholic Church of the Diocese of Scranton, PA, as it celebrates its 125th anniversary. Saint Paul's church and school have been a place of worship and education for my family for generations.

St. Paul's Parish, of the Green Ridge Section of Scranton, was created by Bishop Reverend William O'Hara in 1887 as the sprawl from the center city of Scranton commenced with growth in the anthracite coal industry in Northeastern Pennsylvania. The first mass, on March 1, 1887, was attended by 300 people.

A more permanent church, which included classroom space and an auditorium, was built just 3 years later in 1890. In 1892, the Sisters of the Immaculate Heart of Mary began teaching at the school and continue to do so today. A convent was built for the sisters in 1898.

After 38 years, the building that housed the church and school became insufficient, and in 1928, St. Paul School was built and is still in operation. As Green Ridge's population continued to grow, the parish built St. Clare School in 1952, St. Clare Church in 1955, and St. Clare Convent in 1958. Finally, St. Paul's current church was built in 1952 and was renovated in 1999–2000.

Under the current leadership of Monsignor William Feldcamp, St. Paul's Parish remains vibrant with over 4,500 members.

I wish the entire St. Paul community my best as Bishop Joseph C. Bambera celebrates the 125th anniversary mass on Sunday, March 4, 2012.●

##### RECOGNIZING CHEYNEY UNIVERSITY

• Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the 175th anniversary of Cheyney University. Founded on February 25, 1837, as the Institute for Colored Youth, Cheyney University is the oldest of the Nation's historically black colleges and universities.

Born in an era that legally and commonly defined African Americans as property, the Institute for Colored Youth sought to provide a pathway for educational enrichment to a community wherein few opportunities existed.

Established through the donation of Richard Humphreys, a Quaker philanthropist who settled in Philadelphia in 1764, the Institute for Colored Youth sought to prepare African Americans to educate their communities as teachers. Recognizing that African Americans lacked both means and access to higher education, the Institute for Colored Youth provided classes in classical education to young students at no cost in the first years of its creation.

Over time, the vision of the Institute for Colored Youth grew into what we now know as Cheyney University.