

Today, Cheyney University offers a diverse array of academic programming, including bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees in more than 30 fields, master of science and master of education, master of arts in teaching, and master of public administration. The ongoing evolution of Cheyney University is evidenced in continuous efforts to identify new methods and opportunities to prepare their students to succeed.

As we celebrate African-American achievement and extraordinary accomplishments this month, we must also pay tribute to the institutions that are the foundations of these successes. Cheyney University's legacy of academic achievement spans throughout the Civil War, Reconstruction, the era of Jim Crow and the Civil Rights movement and continues today. Cheyney University, having grown from the darker chapters of American history, has served as a true instrument of change in the quest for equal access to opportunities. It is both an honor and a privilege to commemorate Cheyney University and its tremendous impact throughout Pennsylvania and across the Country.●

#### REMEMBERING BILL RAGGIO

● Mr. HELLEER. Mr. President, I wish to pay tribute to the life and work of Bill Raggio, a steadfast Nevadan, my mentor, and dedicated public servant who passed away on February 23, 2012. Our State has lost a truly devoted leader and influential icon in Nevada politics. We mourn the passing of a dear friend and celebrate the life of a man who lived and fought for the betterment of our State.

The loss of Bill is something that will be felt all across Nevada. He was truly a giant in every sense of the word. His recordbreaking 38 years in the Nevada State Senate can only be described as selfless. Over the course of 10 terms, Bill was dedicated beyond question. He not only demonstrated a tactful leadership style but also devoted himself to fiscal responsibility. His ability to compromise and his willingness to work across party lines helped him to overcome partisan differences and legislative hurdles to meet the needs of the great State of Nevada. Bill influenced my work, and for that I am forever thankful.

Never afraid to tackle the difficult problems, Bill pledged his commitment to dutifully protecting the citizens of northern Nevada as the Washoe County district attorney. He was a great man who fought hard for Nevadans and was respected by many. We are fortunate and proud to remember Bill, a second-generation Nevadan and Reno native.

Bill touched the lives of tens of thousands of Nevada families, spanning generations. He served Nevadans with honor and devotion, and we are blessed by Bill's enduring and undeniable passion for public service. I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating

the life of a great statesman who will always be remembered for his unwavering commitment to Nevada. His passing is a tremendous loss, and his legacy will be cherished for generations to come. I wish to extend my deepest sympathies and condolences to Bill's wife Dale and the entire Raggio family.●

#### RECOGNIZING PENBAY SOLUTIONS

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I have the privilege of hearing countless small business success stories from hard-working entrepreneurs across the country. Today I wish to recognize and commend the extraordinary achievements of PenBay Solutions, an award-winning geographic information systems, GIS, firm headquartered in Brunswick, ME.

Since its inception in 1999, PenBay has grown to become a leader in the expanding GIS industry while spurring job creation. Today, the company employs 26 people in Maine, many of which graduated from the University of Maine system, a premier education institution for GIS. Additionally, PenBay employs several individuals working remotely around the country as well as in their New York and Washington D.C. offices.

As a technology leader, PenBay Solutions provides geographic information to help clients economize space, cut costs, comply with building codes, and make better decisions across the board. While GIS is an emerging technology, PenBay has been a forerunner in providing businesses with this vital asset and has distinguished themselves among clients in a breadth of industries including: education, health care, government, and more.

Among their many achievements, PenBay has undertaken several complex and fascinating projects of note. In 2006, PenBay assisted the Fire Department of New York, FDNY, in complying with a New York City law that required the FDNY to review certain buildings and evaluate compliance with new building codes and evacuation procedures. PenBay played an instrumental role in helping the Department achieve this goal by automating over 16,000 floor plans for simple retrieval and evaluation. With PenBay's support, the FDNY was able to meet its goals and concentrate on its main mission: protecting and saving New York City residents' lives.

In addition to working with the FDNY, PenBay has been awarded many other government contracts. In late 2008, PenBay assisted the 6th Civil Engineering Squadron of MacDill Air Force Base, 6CES, with a maintenance contract of 130 government buildings. In this instance, 6CES lacked the significant in-building data necessary to make informed decisions about the space and floor materials within each building. With minimal disruption to

facility operations and within a remarkable turnaround time of 9 days, PenBay Solutions was able to complete Phase 1 of the project and provide the necessary geospatial data for over 1.7 million square feet of building space.

As a result of the company's valuable work, Stuart Rich, PenBay's Chief Technology Officer, was honored by the Technology Association of Maine with their 2011 CxO of the Year Award in recognition of his innovation in the geographic information systems industry. Mr. Rich was also inducted into the University of Maine's Francis Crowe Society in 2010. This tremendous honor is bestowed upon University of Maine engineering graduates who have made substantial contributions to the engineering profession.

I applaud PenBay Solutions for being a hallmark example of an innovative American small business. Their incredible contributions to geospatial technology truly demonstrate the entrepreneurial spirit and remarkable talent found in my home State of Maine. I am proud to extend my congratulations to everyone at PenBay Solutions, and offer my best wishes for their continued success.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, 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 which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:26 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1433. An act to protect private property rights.

H.R. 2117. An act to prohibit the Department of Education from overreaching into academic affairs and program eligibility under title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 287a of title 2, United States Code, the Speaker appoints Thomas J. Wickham, Jr., as Parliamentarian of the House of Representatives to succeed John V. Sullivan, resigned.

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 12:43 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks,