

him for his efforts to provide future generations of Nevadans the same recreational opportunities we enjoy. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Bruce for his commitment to Nevada.●

RECOGNIZING OAKHURST DAIRY

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, in honor of June being National Dairy Month, I rise today to recognize Oakhurst Dairy, located in Portland, ME, for supplying New England with essential vitamins and nutrients. Through its sale of refrigerated milk and dairy products, Oakhurst is committed to producing the highest quality goods sourced from over 70 local farms throughout Maine and northern New England.

National Dairy Month began in 1937 in an effort to promote the immense benefits derived from milk and to stabilize the dairy demand during surplus production. Calcium, potassium, protein, and vitamins A and D are just a few of the indispensable nutrients found in dairy products that help reduce the risk for hypertension, osteoporosis, and certain cancers, while also helping improve weight management, muscle tissue repair, and healthy skin. Although this national campaign only lasts for the month of June, the family-owned Oakhurst Dairy is constantly working to increase awareness of the necessity of these nutrients through community integration and product innovation in northern New England.

Stanley Bennett purchased the Portland dairy farm in 1921, naming the company after a grove of Oak trees found nearby. He promised to provide only the freshest quality products to all of his customers and established the trend of supporting the local community and the environment, practices which still hold true today. Oakhurst Dairy embodies the ideals of entrepreneurialism and encourages this spirit in others by resourcing products from small local farms to create their milks, dairy creams, cheeses, and juices. These products are then distributed to a variety of retailers, including chain grocery stores, and small independent grocery stores, and to foodservice outlets such as schools and restaurants.

Oakhurst understands the importance of providing for its employees and in the 1940s became one of the first businesses in southern Maine to initiate company-paid medical insurance and deferred profit-sharing plans. Since that time, Oakhurst has been devoted to providing for the community at all levels. On the corporate level, every year Oakhurst pledges 10 percent of pretax profits to organizations supporting healthy children and a healthy environment. This company also inspires future generations by giving out numerous scholarships for academic achievements and even promotes the future of the milk industry by spon-

soring 4-H dairy program awards given at agricultural fairs. On the individual level, employees are encouraged to donate their time to fundraising events for nonprofit organizations and are often found serving on local boards, dedicating their leadership skills to inspire valuable changes.

The third generation of the Bennett family has continued to keep Oakhurst thriving, which now employs nearly 240 people. In addition to its headquarters in Portland, there are three distribution facilities located in Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts, each operating to guarantee healthy lives in the communities they serve. Oakhurst Dairy—continuously seeking to improve the dairy industry—has recently begun fortifying their products with beneficial additives such as probiotics and Omega-3, which improve digestion, cardiovascular health, and boost immunity. In addition to product innovation, Oakhurst Dairy has made several truly outstanding achievements, including perfect scores from Federal quality and sanitation inspections, and State awards such as the 2011 Maine Restaurant Association's Allied Member of the Year and the 2010 Maine Grocers Association's Vendor of the Year.

In addition, Oakhurst Dairy insists on making green initiatives a top priority in an effort to minimize their impact on the environment. Within the last decade, the company has largely reduced carbon dioxide emissions and offset fuel oil usage by transforming nearly the entire shipping fleet into biodiesel fuel trucks and installing solar panels in several of its facilities. As a means to ensure product safety and customer satisfaction, Oakhurst became one of the first companies in the U.S. to offer financial incentives to partnering farms for abstaining from treating their cows with artificial growth hormones. Oakhurst continues this practice of avoiding growth hormone additives through their trademarked America's First Farmer's Pledge.

Oakhurst Dairy continues to flourish, even in difficult economic times, thanks to its commitment to innovation and service. Year after year, Oakhurst Dairy has cultivated a winning strategy through its tradition of public service, safeguarding the environment, and keeping New England healthy. As a strong advocate for dairy farm protection, I am proud to extend my best wishes to the entire Oakhurst Dairy operation for their continued success.●

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-6480. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to

law, the report of a rule entitled "Horse Protection Act; Requiring Horse Industry Organizations To Assess and Enforce Minimum Penalties for Violations" (RIN0579-AD43) (Docket No. APHIS-2011-0030)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 7, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6481. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Review Group, Office of the Secretary, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Selection and Functions of Farm Service Agency State and County Committees" (RIN0560-AG90) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2012; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-6482. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Legislative Affairs), transmitting legislative proposals and accompanying reports relative to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6483. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Special Compensation for Members of the Uniformed Services with Catastrophic Injuries or Illnesses Requiring Assistance in Everyday Living Fiscal Year 2012 Report Congress"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-6484. A communication from the General Counsel, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the Department in the position of Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6485. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report relative to the national emergency that was originally declared in Executive Order 12938 of November 14, 1994; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6486. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Public and Indian Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision to the Section 8 Management Assessment Program Lease-Up Indicator" (RIN2577-AC76) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6487. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Bureau of Public Debt, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "U.S. Treasury Securities—State and Local Government Series" ((31 CFR Part 344) (Department of the Treasury Circular, Public Debt Series No. 3-72)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6488. A communication from the General Counsel of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Prudential Management and Operations Standards" (RIN2590-AA13) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on June 6, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-6489. A communication from the Deputy Secretary, Division of Investment Management, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Political Contributions by Certain Investment Advisers: Ban