

Poindexter's Total Information Awareness Program, which basically would have involved holding every American upside down and shaking them to see if anything bad fell out, to crafting my fair flat tax bill to simplify and reform the Tax Code.

Carole's team-building efforts extended well beyond the office. She organized and served as captain for a Wyden Team that ran the 195-mile relay race from Mt. Hood to the Oregon coast. As Carole saw it, there is no better way to build camaraderie than to have a bunch of sweaty runners crammed into a van together for 20 hours.

For someone who is used to spending her spare time running marathons and winning national championship squash tournaments, I don't see Carole's retirement as a glidepath to the rocking chair. She has got too much energy and too much passion to sit on the sidelines for long. I know that she and her long-time partner—and fellow Senate veteran—Kate Cudlipp, will be making certain that her skills and energy are put to good use. And in whatever she chooses to do, I know she will continue to shine.

Again, I can't thank Carole enough for all she has done for me, my staff, the State of Oregon, and the Nation. She will always be my dear friend and a member of our Team Wyden family. I wish her all the best for the next chapter of her life.

#### TRIBUTE TO CHARLIE BATTERY

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I rise to thank Charlie Battery, 1st Battalion, 147th Field Artillery, and congratulate and welcome them home after a year spent proudly serving their country in Iraq. Charlie Battery, based in Yankton, SD, has certainly earned this homecoming and the gratitude of our Nation.

These brave soldiers have been away from their loved ones for over a year, and they have accomplished an enormous amount in that time. Charlie Battery served commendably in some of the most dangerous areas of Iraq. They performed transition team missions with Iraqi police and conducted joint patrols that included route security, reconnaissance, rescue and recovery, and personal security detachment missions all over Baghdad.

The soldiers of Charlie Battery were not immune to the violence that has plagued Iraq. On this day of celebration and reunion, let us remember those who were wounded and those who made the ultimate sacrifice protecting and serving our Nation, as well as the family members and friends they left behind. Those who gave their lives in Iraq include SSG Greg Wagner, SFC Richard Schild, SSG Daniel Cuka and SGT. Allen Kokesh, Jr.

But let us also remember that these sacrifices were not in vain. Charlie Battery, 1st Battalion, 147th Field Artillery, trained more than 1,000 Iraqi

police and created stability in the southern and eastern districts of Baghdad. Charlie Battery's efforts enabled a district in the center of Baghdad to become the first to transition responsibility of security to Iraqi police. While the mission is not over, Charlie Battery has done the Iraqi and the American people a great service by their accomplishments, and they have made their country proud. I thank them, I applaud their courage, and I welcome them home.

#### COSPONSORS OF S. 3709

Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, on July 24 the majority leader placed in the RECORD a list of the Senators who had sought to be cosponsors of S. 3709, the United States-India Peaceful Atomic Energy Cooperation Act.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that an updated list of those who wish to be listed as cosponsors be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the list was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

LUGAR, BIDEN, HAGEL, CHAFEE, ALLEN, COLEMAN, VOINOVICH, ALEXANDER, SUNUNU, MURKOWSKI, MARTINEZ, DODD, KERRY, NELSON (FL), OBAMA, CORNYN, BAYH, HUTCHISON, and DEWINE.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRUANCY COURT PROJECT

• Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize the students who participated in the Truancy Court Project for the Pennington County Juvenile Diversion Program.

The students who participated are Emanuel Martindel Campo, Christopher Eagle Bull, Randolph Two Bulls, Alan Shaw, Corey Johnson, Alicia Moon, Brian Dooley, Jennifer Martell, Collin McCracken, Amanda Hastings, Shane Watkins, Timothy Gerry, Darrin Leenknecht, Adam Erickson, Eldon Jenness, Corey Johnson, and Lalita Isabel.

These students successfully participated in the Truancy Court Project and deserve the special recognition they are receiving today. After starting off the school year with a rocky beginning, each individual student took it upon themselves to volunteer for this project and to excel at it. Each of them has improved attendance, improved their relationships with their teachers, and most importantly learned the value of education.

It gives me great pleasure to rise with the citizens of Rapid City and Ellsworth in congratulating the Truancy Court Project students for their successful participation in the program.●

##### TRIBUTE TO ROBERT LAURENZ

• Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Robert Laurenz, who was

named the South Dakota Minority Small Business Person of the Year by the Small Business Administration. This is a prestigious award that reflects the quality of small businesses that are found in South Dakota.

Mr. Laurenz's business, Dakota 2000, Inc., was founded in 1995 and supports Federal, State, local, and tribal government agencies with information technology services. Dakota 2000, Inc., sells millions of goods and services annually and has successfully completed contracts with several government agencies. Businesses such as Dakota 2000, Inc., are vital to the health and economic well-being of South Dakota's future.

It gives me great pleasure to rise with Robert Laurenz and to congratulate him on receiving this well-earned award. I wish him and Dakota 2000, Inc., continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JAMES T. CASSIDY, MD

• Mr. BOND. Mr. President, today I wish to honor and recognize the immeasurable contribution Dr. James T. Cassidy has made to pediatric medicine in Missouri and across the United States.

Born in 1930 in Oil City, PA, Dr. Cassidy received his both undergraduate and medical education at the University of Michigan. He completed 2 years of active duty in the U.S. Navy and 7 years in the Naval Reserve. He returned to the University of Michigan to complete his residency in internal medicine and a rheumatology fellowship in the Rackham Arthritis Research Unit under the mentorship of Dr. Roseman and Dr. Johnson. He went on to the faculty in 1963 and worked his way up the ranks becoming professor of internal medicine and pediatrics in 1974. In 1984, he was recruited as professor and chair of pediatrics at Creighton University School of Medicine in Omaha, NE. Four years later he came to the University of Missouri-Columbia as a professor in the Department of Child Health and Internal Medicine and chief of pediatric rheumatology. He became emeritus professor in 1996 and continued to staff his arthritis clinics until this year. In 1991, Dr. Cassidy published with Ross Petty, M.D., the first "Textbook of Pediatric Rheumatology," a textbook now in its fifth edition which remains the foremost authority in the field both nationally and internationally. He has received many awards, including ACR Master and the ACR Distinguished Clinical Scholar Award from the American College of Rheumatology.

I am particularly proud of his work in Missouri. As a professor in the Department of Child Health and Internal Medicine at the University of Missouri-Columbia, Dr. Cassidy has inspired cutting-edge research and shared his limitless expertise in pediatric

rheumatology. Yet Dr. Cassidy has done more than just teach, write, and research. Through his efforts, the Missouri Department of Health established the Juvenile Arthritis Care Coordination Program in 1993 to help families obtain family-centered, community-based, coordinated care for children diagnosed with juvenile arthritis. His efforts did not stop there.

Realizing that there were children in Southern Missouri who were too poor or too sick to travel to Columbia to receive treatment, Dr. Cassidy and his wife Nan would get in their car every other week and drive to a small clinic in Springfield, MO, and see as many as 25 young children suffering from juvenile arthritis. It didn't matter that they couldn't pay, Dr. Cassidy insisted on finding a way to get the children the treatments they needed. As one doctor said, "Dr. Cassidy will go to any length to help a child."

Dr. Cassidy's support extended to his patients' families as well. "He is an incredibly compassionate physician," said one mother, "who ensures that each family understands how juvenile arthritis affects their child and what parents can do to help their child lead normal and healthy lives." Dr. Cassidy was instrumental in building a community of support across Missouri and the United States for families living with juvenile arthritis. In 1980, it was through the encouragement and support of Dr. Cassidy that a mother of one of his patients and two other mothers from other States formed the American Juvenile Arthritis Organization, AJAO, which eventually became a council of the Arthritis Foundation.

Dr. Cassidy was instrumental in organizing the first juvenile arthritis educational conference for parents, children, and health professionals held in 1983 which became an annual national conference. He felt education for families of children with arthritis was critical to their care and helped coordinate many Missouri regional conferences in St. Joseph, Kansas City, St. Louis, and Columbia.

Perhaps the best measure of Dr. Cassidy's legacy as a doctor comes from the praise and admiration of his patients. Twelve years ago, Dr. Cassidy began treating two young sisters who suffered debilitating pain from juvenile arthritis. Throughout the years he persistently encouraged them, to their chagrin, to wear braces and take their medicine. Recently, Dr. Cassidy received a letter from the girls. They are starting college as healthy, happy, young women—a circumstance virtually unthinkable when Dr. Cassidy began his career. They thanked him for supporting them and giving them the opportunity to live life as they never thought they could.

Dr. Cassidy has led an extraordinary life in which he has practiced, researched, and guided aspiring doctors for almost 50 years. He has improved the understanding and awareness of pediatric rheumatology and changed the

lives of thousands of children. On behalf of the children and families in Missouri and across the country, is my pleasure and honor to commemorate the distinguished career of Dr. Cassidy, a true pioneer in the field of pediatric rheumatology. ●

#### HONORING CHARITIES FOR THE BLIND

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Charities for the Blind, a nonprofit organization in southern California. This organization continues to make a positive impact on the lives of individuals who are blind or visually impaired.

Charities for the Blind is an organization that provides computer adaptive technology and training to blind and visually impaired individuals. The men and women who volunteer their time and energy to this organization provide an important service to the people of Southern California and our Nation.

Charities for the Blind was created by Craig Schneider in 2000 after he suffered a complete loss of his vision. Craig Schneider is a general building contractor who became blind after complications from radiation treatments and exposure to radon gas. He found it difficult to adapt to a visually impaired lifestyle. He took computer courses with the assistance of computer adaptive technology but found them difficult and frustrating. Other students were similarly frustrated, and when some began to drop out of classes, he knew that he was not alone. After seeking assistance from State rehabilitation authorities and blind charities, Craig Schneider recognized that there is an important need among the visually impaired that needed to be met.

According to the National Federation of the Blind, 70 percent of individuals who live with blindness or a visual impairment are unemployed. This overwhelming number of individuals have the potential to live highly productive lives and gain meaningful employment. Charities for the Blind recognizes this need and works to assist individuals with blindness and visual impairment, providing them with tools they need to overcome their disability.

In addition to providing training, counseling, and computer adaptive equipment to the visually impaired and blind, Charities for the Blind also employs blind individuals directly. Craig Schneider has five employees who work with him who are also blind, who help make Charities for the Blind possible. Craig Schneider funds the organization from his private business, which allows him to pay for computers and equipment, employees and technicians, and travel to and from people's homes to help train them in the use of adaptive equipment.

In its first year, Charities for the Blind gave away 12 computers. Today, the organization provides roughly 30

computers each month, with a short yet successful history of meeting needs in the blind and visually impaired community for individuals between the ages of 10 and 96. Those who have received counseling and equipment from Charities for the Blind have gained new levels of independence, and more and more blind and visually impaired individuals are being empowered and employed each day.

Today I salute the dedication and service of Charities for the Blind. This organization has recognized a tremendous need and works daily to help empower our Nation's blind and visually impaired. I applaud the work and commitment Charities for the Blind has made in bettering the lives of many. ●

#### TRIBUTE TO EDGAR WAYBURN

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that today I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the incomparable Dr. Edgar Wayburn on his 100th birthday. To Californians and others across the United States, Ed Wayburn is a living legacy and an environmental hero.

Ed Wayburn was born on September 17, 1906, in Macon, GA. He attended Harvard Medical School and moved to San Francisco in 1933 to start his medical practice. He found northern California's natural beauty intoxicating and refers to the Sierra Nevada and Yosemite National Park as his "first wilderness love."

Within 6 years of moving to California, Ed joined the Sierra Club. And over the next 50 years, his love and passion for nature and conservation grew. He served five terms as the Sierra Club's elected president.

Ed shared this love of nature with his wife Peggy Wayburn. Together they traveled throughout Alaska and fought to protect natural areas in California and the West for over 50 years.

More than 100 million acres of natural beauty throughout California and Alaska have been protected today thanks to Ed's hard work, including northern California's Golden Gate National Recreation Area and Point Reyes National Seashore and Alaska's Denali and Glacier Bay National Parks.

Dr. Wayburn is credited with saving more wilderness than any other person alive today.

I always say that one of my proudest honors is the Edgar Wayburn Award presented to me by the Sierra Club. It is a frequent reminder of the work Ed and I have done together. It is also a reminder of the important work which still remains to protect and preserve our natural surroundings.

Without Ed's efforts over the past decades, I would not want to imagine what the American landscape would look like today. Ed's leadership and perseverance have ensured the preservation of precious open space and wild areas for generations to come. His work will continue to be an inspiration