

Development Center has become the go-to shop for the Idaho entrepreneur. Their hands-on approach has meant the difference between closing their doors or turning a profit for hundreds of Idaho businesses.

Through the ups and downs of the economy, the Idaho Small Business Development Center has always been there with an open door and a helping hand. Today, they partner with Idaho's colleges and universities to teach the principles of business and cultivate the next generation of Idaho entrepreneurs.

It is my privilege to recognize the 25th anniversary of what is truly one of Idaho's bedrock institutions, the Idaho Small Business Development Center.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING ALICE A. PETERS

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the memory of Alice A. Peters, a philanthropist who, along with her late husband Leon S. Peters, generously supported many educational, cultural, and community causes in Fresno, CA. Mrs. Peters passed away on January 24. She was 97 years old.

Born Alice Apregan, Mrs. Peters was the daughter of Armenian immigrants who immigrated to Lynn, MA, in 1907 to escape the persecution of Ottoman Turks. In search of a better place to call home, the family moved in 1911 to the San Joaquin Valley of California where many people from their native Bitlis province of Armenia had settled. The Apregan family made their home in the farming community of Del Rey, and Alice attended high school in nearby Selma.

She met her future husband during a visit to Del Rey Packing. Their friendship blossomed into marriage in 1943. Leon Peters learned mechanical engineering on the job while working for Valley Foundry, became sales manager before purchasing the company in 1937. He and his brothers turned Valley Foundry into one of the region's most successful businesses. This success allowed the Peters to become stalwart supporters of community causes that have greatly benefited the people of Fresno and the Central Valley. Over the years, Leon and Alice Peters would become synonymous with philanthropy and charity in the Greater Fresno Area.

Since its establishment in 1959, the Leon S. Peters Foundation has given to many worthy causes and projects that continue to positively impact the lives of Fresno residents. Mrs. Peters and her late husband donated millions of dollars to local institutions such as the Community Regional Center, the Fresno Chafee Zoo, and the Fresno Art Museum and California State University, Fresno.

Mrs. Peters made sure that the vision of the Leon S. Peters Foundation en-

ded after her husband's passing in 1983. In 2002, she donated \$300,000 to the Community Medical Foundation, which made possible an Extern Work Study Program for nursing students at community medical centers. She summed up her commitment to philanthropy by saying "charity work is part of life, we all have to do some of it . . . this is our legacy."

A woman of great conviction and vision, Mrs. Peters leaves behind a legacy of philanthropy and community service and the admiration of those whose lives she touched over the years. She has made indelible contributions to make Fresno a better place. She will be missed.●

CITY OF HOPE MILESTONE

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I want to recognize the important work and accomplishments of City of Hope as it reaches its 10,000th bone marrow transplant, becoming one of the first institutions in the world to reach this milestone.

Founded in 1913, City of Hope has helped to improve the quality of life for thousands of men, women, and children by leading research to develop new treatments and cures for cancer, diabetes, and other life-threatening diseases.

Nearly 35 years ago, City of Hope helped pioneer the development of bone marrow transplantation as a treatment for diseases such as leukemia, lymphoma, and myeloma; this January, City of Hope performed its 10,000th transplant.

City of Hope performed its first successful bone marrow transplant in 1976 on a college student from Indiana who was diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia. Thanks to City of Hope's pioneering bone marrow transfer program, the college student's cancer has remained in remission for more than 35 years, allowing him to live a full life. More than three decades later, City of Hope performed its 10,000th bone marrow transplant on January 13, 2011 on a patient battling leukemia.

About 500 bone marrow transplants procedures are now performed each year, and each year thousands of cancer survivors and their families attend a bone marrow transplant reunion coordinated by City of Hope. This reunion serves as a celebration of life and the positive changes that City of Hope's Bone Marrow Transplant program have created in the lives of so many cancer patients and their families, who truly found their hope again when they turned to City of Hope.

I invite all of my colleagues to join me in commending City of Hope for reaching its 10,000th bone marrow transplant and for its dedication to the advancement of health care services.●

REMEMBERING SAADALLA MOHAMED ALY

• Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I want to take a moment today to mark the

quiet passage of a Washington institution a gentle and elegant man named Saadalla Mohamed Aly, but who was known to most of us simply as "Mr. Aly."

Few Americans outside of Washington have heard of "Mr. Aly," and Mr. Aly was just fine with that—but for 35 years he was a very welcomed sight to everyone and anyone who appeared on "Meet the Press" and spent time in what was very much "his" Green Room.

From 1976 until his death last month at age 79, Mr. Aly was a proud fixture off-camera at America's longest-running news program. He was the tuxedoed figure who greeted the guests, and implored them and their staffs to dig into coffee or orange juice before the show—and to stay for the post-show meal afterwards. He was the quiet, supportive presence who always put you at ease before the grilling interviews and roundtable discussions began. And he was a kind man who—in gestures large and small—harkened back to a time when Washington was more civil, back to an era when people here in Washington really took the time to know each other.

In the 22 years that I knew him, from my very first appearance on the show as a very junior Senator in 1988, to the cold winter morning in December of 2002 when I went on with Tim Russert to announce for President, I never once asked Mr. Aly his political affiliation. He was just a gentle soul in a tuxedo who was unfailingly kind to all the guests, Democrat or Republican.

But I will never forget how he greeted me when I came back to the show in January of 2005 after I lost. When I arrived at the studio, with the snow falling, Mr. Aly was waiting at the front door, and the first thing he did was give me a great big hug. He asked my staff how I was doing. I still don't know whether he cast a vote in that election, but I do know that I was lucky to have a friend like Mr. Aly, who in his quiet, considerate way voted with his actions, not his words.

Like many of us, I learned in the Washington Post that Mr. Aly passed away in December after contracting pneumonia on a trip to his native Egypt. It is fitting that his daughter Dalia arranged for his burial in Washington, because Washington is the place he loved. And Washington is the city that came to love him.

These are years which have seen us lose some special friends at "Meet the Press," starting of course with Tim Russert. But if Tim was the soul of "Meet the Press," Mr. Aly was its heart. Through all these years, as Tim said, if it was Sunday, it was "Meet the Press." And if it was "Meet the Press," it was a warm and friendly greeting from a true gentleman, "Mr. Aly." Mr. President, I will miss him.●

TRIBUTE TO RAY FLYNN

• Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, Ray Flynn has been a towering figure in the