

Leadership Alliance founding members and the only member in Pennsylvania. According to the university, the Leadership Alliance complements Penn's broader strategic vision of increasing diversity within its graduate student body and faculty. As it seeks to prepare leaders and role models for service in academia and the private and public sectors, the Leadership Alliance disseminates best practices in recruitment, mentoring and career development. With 20 years of experience in developing and sharing these essential techniques, the Leadership Alliance has helped to provide the Nation with a more diverse and globally competitive workforce. I wish to congratulate the Leadership Alliance on its 20th anniversary and thank its leaders and scholars for their significant contributions.

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I am proud to rise today to honor the Leadership Alliance, which was founded 20 years ago in 1992 at Rhode Island's Brown University. It has grown to become a consortium of 32 of our country's leading higher education research and minority serving institutions, working together to bring students from underrepresented groups into competitive graduate programs and professional research careers. Through training and mentorship, the Leadership Alliance opens doors for our best and brightest young people to become the innovators of tomorrow.

During its 20 years, the Leadership Alliance has mentored more than 2,600 undergraduates, including 43 Rhode Islanders. These students are offered the unique and exciting opportunity, through the Summer Research-Early Identification Program, to participate in a 9-week paid summer internship where they work side by side with faculty in the academic discipline of their choice at some of our leading research institutions. They then present their research to the annual Leadership Alliance National Symposium. This summer experience gives the students the opportunity to expand their intellectual horizons, as well as network with academics and their peers. The program has produced nearly 200 PhDs, the Leadership Alliance Doctoral Scholars, along with professionals in private research and academia.

It is vital for our country's continued competitiveness in the world that we seek to inspire our young people to innovate and experiment, to push the boundaries of our current knowledge. The Leadership Alliance has recognized that mentoring is key in order to ensure that students from all backgrounds feel that they have access to graduate education and know that they have peers in research. The innovative programs the Leadership Alliance has created over 20 years have not only allowed these students to increase their own opportunities academically and professionally, but allowed past students to become role models themselves.

I congratulate the Leadership Alliance, Brown University, and the other participating colleges and universities, as well as academics and students, past and present, who through 20 years have shown their commitment to American education, leadership, and innovation.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO EDWARD J. HAMILL

• Mrs. MCCASKILL. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to Edward J. "Eddie" Hamill, who is retiring on July 31, 2012 after more than three decades of exemplary service to the U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency. On July 17, the Missouri Farm Service Agency, FSA, held a reception for Eddie recognizing his service. Today, I would like to stand to honor his contributions to agriculture and the people of Missouri.

Eddie is a lifelong Missourian who has served the people of Missouri through his work at the Farm Service Agency since 1979. In addition to his dedicated work at the Farm Service Agency, Eddie's passion for public service is evident in his willingness to serve beyond his normal workload. He is active in the Perry Lion's Club, Mark Twain Young Farmers, Missouri Cattlemen's Association, Missouri Farmer's Union, and serves as a member of the Ralls County Health Department Board of Directors. On top of all this, Eddie operates a family farm with 1,200 acres of cropland and pasture for a cow-calf herd.

In July 2009, Eddie was appointed by President Obama to serve as the State Executive Director of FSA, responsible for overseeing the delivery of the income support, disaster assistance, conservation and farm loan programs. With more than 100,000 farms, Missouri agriculture employs nearly 250,000 people. Immensely productive and highly diverse, it is the backbone of Missouri's economy. The task of ensuring that Missouri's farmers and ranchers have the tools they need to provide for our families and communities is vital.

During his tenure as Missouri FSA Director, Eddie has worked tirelessly to ensure the agency is doing everything it can to properly serve our State. With nearly 100 offices in counties throughout the State, the local Farm Service Agency office is where Missouri farmers turn for assistance. A husband, father of four, and a farmer himself, Eddie believes in improving economic stability for Missouri farmers one family at a time. From the letters that have come in to my office from Missourians expressing the importance they place on their local Farm Service Agency office, the value of his approach and dedication is clear.

Perhaps nowhere has the value of Eddie's leadership been clearer than in response to the devastating natural disasters Missouri agriculture has faced. From the devastating flooding we experi-

enced along the Missouri River, to the catastrophe at Birds Point, to this year's crippling drought conditions, Eddie and the entire Missouri Farm Service Agency staff have answered every call to help.

I am happy today to pay tribute to Eddie Hamill. He stands out amongst public servants, and he has my thanks and surely that of all Missourians for his service to our State. I wish congratulations and good luck to him and his entire family. •

REMEMBERING HIRAM HISANORI KANO

• Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to a historic figure in Nebraska who helped this country through troubling times in a battle against racism, hatred and fear and in pursuit of justice and equality.

Hiram Hisanori Kano was born in Tokyo, Japan, in 1889. When former Presidential candidate William Jennings Bryan traveled to Japan, the Kanos, as part of the Imperial family, hosted his visit. Their visitor from the west sparked in young Kano an intense desire to travel to the United States and especially to Bryan's home state of Nebraska.

As the story is told by James E. Krotz during the Annual Council Eucharist at the Church of Our Savior in North Platte, NE, in 1916 Mr. Kano came to America, where his skills were put to good use in helping the many young Japanese who were immigrating to the United States to farm. He came to America and quickly earned a Masters Degree in Agricultural Economics at the University of Nebraska. In the years that followed he served as organizer, translator, teacher and spokesman for Japanese immigrants living in Nebraska.

Just 1 year after his graduation from the University, Kano faced his first challenge when the Nebraska Constitutional Convention assembled in Lincoln in 1919. The purpose was to update the State constitution to reflect the monumental social, economic and political changes brought about by World War I. A number of bills were introduced that would have discriminated bitterly against Japanese immigrants. One would have prohibited aliens from owning land, inheriting farmland, or even leasing land for more than 1 year. Since the Japanese did not have the right to become naturalized citizens at that time, these laws would have excluded them entirely from farming, except as hired laborers.

Mr. Kano left his farm in rural Nebraska and hurried off to the State capital, where he testified before the Judiciary Committee. "In Nebraska," he told them, "there are about 700 Japanese, including Nisei [American citizens born to Japanese immigrant parents]. There are about 200 Japanese farms, mostly raising sugar beets along the North Platte River. Nearly all are

tenant farmers whose skill and hard work satisfies their landlords and the sugar company. Japanese living in towns or cities mostly operate cafes and restaurants, with the help of their employees. They are friendly and cooperative with their neighbors, sharing their joys and sorrows." Mr. Kano was successful in persuading the Nebraska Legislature to vote against the anti-Japanese bills, which went down in defeat.

Several years later, Mr. Kano joined with Bishop George Allen Beecher to defeat a similar bill and came up with a compromise. Bishop Beecher, an Episcopalian, was obviously impressed by Hiram Kano because in 1923 he descended on the Kano farmstead unannounced and asked Mr. Kano to serve as a missionary to the Japanese immigrants living in western Nebraska. Already a deeply committed Christian, though not an Episcopalian, Kano was profoundly moved; and in 1925, he left his farm and traveled to Mitchell, NE, to begin Bishop Beecher's missionary work among the Japanese.

Kano was ordained Deacon in 1928 and continued in that order for 8 years. He served as pastor of St. Mary's church in Mitchell and also served the Japanese mission in North Platte. For the next 12 years, Deacon Kano served as an agricultural consultant, English teacher, advocate, friend and pastor to the Japanese in the Platte Valley. In 1936 he was ordained priest and continued his tireless ministry.

On December 7, 1941, the Japanese Imperial Navy attacked Pearl Harbor in Hawaii. American reaction against Japanese immigrants was swift and harsh. Father Kano was arrested by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that very afternoon on the steps of his church in North Platte.

Despite the protests of their many friends and without regard for their exemplary behavior, the Japanese were severely treated and some even sent to prison camps. Father Kano spent time in five different camps. There he continued his ministry, calming the fears of his people and giving them strength through knowledge. Through what he called the "Internment University," he helped hundreds of Japanese Americans learn to read, speak, and write English. Following his release from custody, Father Kano returned to his mission with the church.

It was not until the Walter-McCarran Act of 1952 that Father Kano, then 63 years old, could become a naturalized citizen. By then, he had worked 33 years in service to his country, his people, and his church.

The Reverend Hiram Hisanori Kano died on October 24, 1988, at the age of 99. Each year, the Episcopal Church in Nebraska and in Colorado celebrates the life and ministry of Father Kano on the anniversary of his death. As a layman, Father Kano was a quiet, persevering warrior in the battle against the evils of racism. He was a champion for his people in the struggle for justice

and peace, respected as he fought for the dignity of every human being.●

POLITICS AND GOVERNMENT

● Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, on July 11, I addressed the Fund for American Studies annual Congressional Scholarship Award Dinner here in Washington. I ask consent to have this transcript of my remarks printed in the RECORD.

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

Very often, young people say to me, "How can I get involved in politics and government?" Tonight there are at least 85 of you here who are young and may be wondering about that, so I'm going to tell you exactly how to do it.

Here's the secret formula: Pick someone whom you admire. Volunteer to help carry their bag, write their speeches, do anything they ask you to do that's legal. Watch what they do, watch what they do well, watch what they do wrong, and learn from it. That's the way I would suggest to get involved in politics and government.

Now, back when I was governor, I made a speech and my late friend Alex Haley, the author of *Roots*, was in the audience, and he came up to me afterwards and said, "Lamar, may I make a suggestion to you?" And I said, "Of course Alex." He said, "When you start a speech, if you will just say 'Instead of making a speech, let me tell you a story,' people might actually listen to what you have to say." So instead of making a speech, let me tell you some stories to illustrate my secret formula for how to get involved in politics and government.

I'm going to mention three of my mentors, and I think it's important for you to know that I had no special connection to these three who helped me get involved in politics and government.

When I was running for president some years ago, the *New York Times* wrote an article that said, I grew up in a small town in lower-middle class family, in a small town on the edge of the mountains in Tennessee. And, when I called home later in the week to talk to my mother, I found her reading *Thesalonians* to gather strength on how to deal with this slur on the family. She said, "Son, we had never thought of ourselves in that way. You had a library card from the day you were three, you had music lessons from the day you were four. You had everything you needed that was important." So I had everything I needed that was important, but to these three men, who helped me so much, I had no special connection at all.

The first was John Minor Wisdom. Toward the end of my third year at New York University Law School, I didn't know what to do and the dean of the Law School said, "Would you like to clerk for Judge Wisdom in New Orleans?" And I said, "Well of course, he's one of the best in the country." He said, "There's one hitch, he's already got a clerk and he's only allowed one." So I said, "Well how do I get to be a clerk?" He said, "He has a position of messenger that pays \$300 a month, and if you'll take the job as messenger he'll treat you like a clerk." So, I took it. I drove down to New Orleans—the Harvard guy got a clerkship, and I was the messenger. Of course, Judge Wisdom treated me like a clerk and I had a wonderful year. I did get tired of making so little money, so I went down to Bourbon Street and got a job playing trombone, washboard and tuba at a place called "Your Father's Mustache," and

that's how I got started with Judge Wisdom. So, if you want to be a clerk, and someone offers you a job as messenger, take it, and then learn to play the trombone, the washboard, and tuba.

Now my second mentor: Howard Baker. Many people here know Howard. I could speak about him for a week, and he is undoubtedly the most important person in my life, other than my own family members. But how did I get connected to him? Well, I didn't know him. His father was our congressman. My dad took me to the courthouse to meet Mr. Baker, Howard's father, when I was ten years old. He gave me a dime, I remember that, and I thought I'd probably met the most respected man I was ever likely to meet, other than my father and the preacher. But when I was getting through with Judge Wisdom I noticed that Howard Baker was running for the United States Senate from Tennessee. We'd never had a Republican Senator, so I wrote him a letter, volunteering to work in his campaign. I never heard from him. So I was home for Easter in 1966 and I finagled an appointment with him, got in to see him and volunteered for his campaign. The long and short of it was, a couple of months later I had a little bit of a paying job.

Then, to our surprise, he got elected, he brought me to Washington, and I was his first legislative assistant. We had, as he likes to tell it, a perfect relationship. One of my duties was as his speechwriter. I would write a speech, give it to him, and he seemed happy. Well one day, I wanted to hear him deliver one. He didn't say a word of anything I'd written. I went a second time. Not a word. So I asked to see him. I said, "Senator, we have a problem." He said, "What's the problem?" I said, "I work hard, write these speeches and you never give a word of it." He said, "Lamar, we have a perfect relationship. You write what you want to write, I say what I want to say."

Now the mentor I'd like to talk about tonight is a man well known to this organization because this institute was once named for him—Bryce Harlow.

In 1968, I was working for United Citizens for Nixon-Agnew in the Willard Hotel, and it was filled with people who didn't quite fit into the Republican establishment at the time, one of whom was Bud Wilkinson, the most famous football coach of the time. And when the campaign was over, I didn't have a job. And so Bud said, "Well, let me call Bryce Harlow." Which he did, and I got a job. And so Bryce Harlow was President Nixon's first appointee and I, without ever having known him, ended up as his executive assistant, which means I sat in his office in the West Wing of the White House, about eight feet from him for six months, smoking cigarettes with him, answering the telephone and getting a Ph.D. in politics and government from the wisest man in Washington, D.C. Today, that office is the office of the Vice President of the United States, JOE BIDEN.

After Bryce got tired of me sitting so close to his office for six months, he moved me out and created a little cubbyhole. And, if any of you are in there visiting JOE BIDEN, you can still see that cubbyhole today.

But why do I say that Bryce Harlow was the wisest man in Washington, D.C.? Well, here's an example. He was from Oklahoma. He was recruited to Washington to work for General George Marshall. He used to tell me, and here's a lesson, that he was very popular with the generals because he could take shorthand. Bryce was a small guy. He said there's nobody more popular in a room full of generals than a short little guy who can take shorthand and write down all those orders. He moved straight up the ladder. So the