

reaction to a certain food, which differs from food intolerance; a metabolic disorder. During an allergic reaction the immune system mistakenly believes that a harmless substance, in this case a food item, is harmful. In its attempt to protect itself, the body creates specific antibodies to that food. The next time the individual eats that food, the immune system releases massive amounts of chemicals and antihistamines. These chemicals trigger a cascade of allergic symptoms that can affect the respiratory system, gastrointestinal tract, skin, or cardiovascular system.

Any food can cause an allergic reaction, but eight foods cause 90 percent of all food allergies and they are: milk, egg, wheat, peanut, soy, tree nuts, fish, and shellfish. In most cases, children outgrow their food allergy with the exception of allergies to peanuts, tree nuts, fish, and shellfish, which are life-long allergies.

Presently, a cure does not exist for food allergies, only a strict avoidance of the problematic food will allow these individuals to lead a near-normal life. Therefore, accurate food labeling is vital to avoid life-threatening allergens.

If a problematic food is consumed, the individual will experience symptoms ranging from a tingling sensation in the mouth, swelling of the tongue and the throat, difficulty breathing, hives, vomiting, abdominal cramps, diarrhea, drop in blood pressure, loss of consciousness, to death. Symptoms will typically appear within minutes or up to two hours after the person has eaten the food to which he or she is allergic. The most severe reaction will cause anaphylactic shock or anaphylaxis. Anaphylaxis is a sudden, severe, potentially life-threatening allergic reaction. It typically involves two or more of the body's systems and can be fatal, sometimes within minutes. Peanuts, nuts, fish and shellfish commonly cause the most severe reactions.

Epinephrine also called adrenaline, is the medication of choice for treating a severe food allergy reaction. Epinephrine usually relieves anaphylactic symptoms for about 15 minutes, just long enough for the patient to get medical treatment. That is why it is so very important that ambulances and emergency health care providers, such as EMT's carry and be allowed to administer this life-saving drug. Unfortunately, only nine states currently allow EMT's to administer epinephrine, but the Food Allergy Network has been working hard to educate states about why this is so vitally needed.

Mr. Speaker, physicians are reporting an increase in the number of patients with food allergies across the country. It is estimated that between 100 and 200 people die each year from food allergy-related reactions. That is why the Food Allergy Network's mission of increasing public awareness about food allergies and anaphylaxis, to provide education, and to advance research on behalf of all those affected by food allergies is so important. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in supporting Food Allergy Awareness Week and recognizing the valuable work of the Food Allergy Network.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION AND
COMMENDATION FOR ALVIN R. BELL,
ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM PUBLIC
EDUCATION

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 8, 2000

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to spotlight a very special individual who has unselfishly given his time, energy, and spirit to

others in the Fourth Congressional District of Ohio. The month of June will pose many challenges to Findlay High School since it will be losing a top notch teacher and educator to a well-deserved retirement. His shoes will be very difficult to fill.

Al Bell has taught at Findlay High, my alma mater, in Findlay, Ohio since 1964. It is not every high school that can boast of a teacher who has taught there for 36 years. Over the years I have witnessed how Al cares very deeply for his high school community family. For twelve years, Al has instructed and guided his students to state and national awards for their accomplishments in the We the People . . . competition. He has served eleven years as the History Department chair at FHS. Al sat on the Strategic Planning Committee for Technology and the Selection Committee for the Robert H. Hill Award for Findlay City Schools. Al has served in all aspects of academic life. He has been a teacher, advisor, scholar, international consultant and mentor. He knows inside and out how to guide a school to academic success and national recognition.

The Center for Civic Education has also recognized that Al's academic strength and professionalism can benefit those around the world. He has served in both consultative and editorial roles for the Center. The Center has twice selected Al to travel to war-torn Bosnia to help educate Bosnian teachers on the virtues and benefits of democracy and how to impart this knowledge to young Bosnians. Al Bell is a peacekeeper in his own right.

Though he will no longer work as a teacher for FHS, he will never be far from it in mind and spirit. The inspiration to "think" is perhaps one of his greatest legacies which lives on in those blessed enough to have known him. To Al and his wife, Judy, all the best as they approach this new adventure of retirement together.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, May 9, 2000 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 10

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act.

SR-485

Armed Services

Closed business meeting to markup proposed legislation authorizing appropriations for fiscal year 2001 for military activities of the Department of Defense.

SR-222

Appropriations

Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Subcommittee

Business meeting to markup proposed legislation making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2001.

SD-192

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings on the nomination of Anna Blackburne-Rigsby, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia; the nomination of Thomas J. Motley, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia; and the nomination of John McAdam Mott, of the District of Columbia, to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia.

SD-342

10:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

International Operations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the United Nations state of efficacy and reform.

SD-419

11 a.m.

Judiciary

Administrative Oversight and the Courts Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on 1996 campaign finance investigations.

SD-226

2 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings on pending nominations.

SD-419

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on the United States Forest Service's proposed revisions to the regulations governing National Forest Planning.

SD-366

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters.

SH-219

MAY 11

9:30 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings on the Administration's legislative proposal on the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan.

SD-406

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Pipeline Safety Act, focusing on the safety record of the natural gas and hazardous liquid pipeline transportation industry, the adequacy of existing federal pipeline transportation safety regulations and suggestions for additional pipeline safeguards.

SR-253

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings on the nomination of Richard Court Houseworth, of Arizona, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation for the remainder of the term expiring December 25, 2001; and the nomination of Nuria I. Fernandez, of Illinois, to be Federal Transit Administrator.

SD-538

10 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings on the nomination of John R. Dinger, of Florida, to be Ambassador to Mongolia; the nomination of Edward William Gnehm, Jr., of Georgia, to be Ambassador to Australia; the nomination of Douglas Alan Hartwick, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Lao People's Democratic Republic; the nomination of Susan S. Jacobs, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to Papua New Guinea, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to Solomon Islands, and as Ambassador to the Republic of Vanuatu; and the nomination of Michael J. Senko, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Republic of Kiribati.

SD-419

Judiciary

Business meeting to markup S. 2089, to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to modify procedures relating to orders for surveillance and searches for foreign intelligence purposes; H.R. 371, to expedite the naturalization of aliens who served with special guerrilla units in Laos; S. 484, to provide for the granting of refugee status in the United States to nationals of certain foreign countries in which American Vietnam War POW/MIAs or American Korean War POW/MIAs may be present, if those nation-

als assist in the return to the United States of those POW/MIAs alive; and S. Res. 247, commemorating and acknowledging the dedication and sacrifice made by the men and women who have lost their lives while serving as law enforcement officers.

SD-226

2 p.m.

Environment and Public Works

To continue hearings on the Administration's legislative proposal on the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan.

SD-406

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation Subcommittee

To hold hearings on S. 1367, to amend the Act which established the Saint-Gaudens Historic Site, in the State of New Hampshire, by modifying the boundary and for other purposes; S. 1617, to promote preservation and public awareness of the history of the Underground Railroad by providing financial assistance, to the Freedom Center in Cincinnati, Ohio; S. 1670, to revise the boundary of Fort Matanzas National Monument; S. 2020, to adjust the boundary of the Natchez Trace Parkway, Mississippi; S. 2478, to require the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a theme study on the peopling of America; and S. 2485, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to provide assistance in planning and constructing a regional heritage center in Calais, Maine.

SD-366

MAY 12

10 a.m.

Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings on the nomination of Amy L. Comstock, of Maryland, to be Director of the Office of Government Ethics.

SD-342

MAY 16

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings on the nomination of The following named officer for appointment as Chief of Naval Operations, United States Navy, and appointment to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., sections 601 and 5033: Adm. Vernon E. Clark, to be Admiral.

SR-222

3 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee

To hold oversight hearings on the United States Forest Service's proposed transportation policy.

SD-366

MAY 17

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on Indian arts and crafts programs.

SR-485

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on S. 1148, to provide for the Yankton Sioux Tribe and the Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska certain benefits of the Missouri River Basin