

convictions, often in the face of opposition from powerful forces.

Mr. Stewart served as a leading member of the Marin County Farm Bureau for more than 80 years. He also sat on the boards of the West Marin Chamber of Commerce and the Marin Humane Society. A cattle rancher by profession, he was given the Marin Humane Society's Humane Man of the Century award. Two years ago, Boyd Stewart was honored with the California Excellence in Range Management Award, along with his daughter, Jo Ann Stewart, and his granddaughter, Amanda Wisby, who continue to run the Stewart family ranch today.

Boyd was a dynamic figure in West Marin. My staff and I always knew we could call on him for invaluable information and sound advice. He was the leading expert on West Marin agriculture, to whom agriculture commissioners turned for advice and information. His presence and his accomplishments in preserving Marin open space were greater than any other single person in Marin County in the last century. He was also a deeply-loved member of the Marin community and a wonderful, unique man with a clear mind and steady presence who will be deeply missed. We take comfort in knowing that countless future generations will benefit from his courage, his vision and his leadership. ●

CONGRATULATIONS TO KEVIN CONWAY

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I pay tribute and congratulate Kevin Conway of Lexington, KY, on his reception of the Star of Life Award given to him by the American Ambulance Association.

Mr. Conway has dedicated himself to the emergency response community of Lexington. As an employee of Rural/Metro Ambulance, Mr. Conway has made a difference in people's lives. However, what has set him apart has been his initiative as operations manager to turn Rural/Metro Ambulance into a State-recognized paramedic and CPR education facility. Mr. Conway also represents or works with many different local and State government EMS organizations. Prior to his work at Rural/Metro Ambulance, Mr. Conway was an Army Ranger. After his completion of active duty, he joined the Army Reserve as a senior drill sergeant.

The citizens of Kentucky are fortunate to have the leadership of Kevin Conway. His example of dedication, hard work, and compassion should be an inspiration to all throughout the Commonwealth. He has my most sincere appreciation for this work, and I look forward to his continued service to Kentucky. ●

CHEMISTS WORKING COOPERATIVELY

● Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to share with my colleagues

news of a truly historic conference of Middle Eastern chemists held December 6 through 11, 2003, in Malta. Chemists from Egypt, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, the Palestinian Authority, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and United Arab Emirates gathered in Malta to attend the conference, which was entitled: "Frontiers of Chemical Sciences: Research and Education in the Middle East." The conference was chaired by Dr. Zafra Lerman of Columbia College Chicago. The purpose of the conference was to bring scientists from Middle Eastern countries together under the same roof to work on different issues of common concern.

The Malta Conference was a phenomenal success. The multinational exchange of ideas and information led to the creation of new partnerships in the areas of science and education. The conference was so effective that all the participants involved agreed upon the need for a second conference, tentatively scheduled for 2005.

The Malta Conference permitted participating scientists to address important scientific issues pertinent to the future of the Middle East, but it did more than that. All areas within the Middle East were represented, demonstrating there are some issues that can bring everyone together around a common goal of improving our world and society. This meeting reinforced the fact that the advancement of scientific research and education are vital forces for all nations of the world, and it demonstrated that science and education can help nations that are distrustful of each other to reach across borders and work cooperatively to address common concerns.

The conference chairperson, Dr. Lerman, is the distinguished Professor of Science and Public Policy and head of the Institute for Science Education and Science Communication at Columbia College Chicago. Dr. Lerman received her Ph.D. in chemistry from the Weizmann Institute of Science in Israel. She founded and chaired the Department of Science and Mathematics at Columbia College, where she developed an innovative approach to teaching science to non-science majors which received international recognition. Dr. Lerman is active professionally with national and international associations in the fields of science, science education, and scientific freedom and human rights. For 15 years, she has chaired the national American Chemical Society Subcommittee on Scientific Freedom and Human Rights. She also serves as Vice-Chair for Chemistry for the Board of the Committee of Concerned Scientists and chairs the International Activities Committee of the American Chemical Society, in addition to numerous other positions.

Dr. Lerman has received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring and is a 1998 Kilby Award Laureate for extraordinary contribu-

tions to society through science, technology, invention, innovation, and education. In February 2001, she was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating Dr. Lerman and the organizers and delegates of the conference for their superb work. This event serves as a shining example of the progress available to nations that make the effort to promote understanding and cooperation.

I ask that Dr. Lerman's summary of the conference be printed in the RECORD.

The summary follows.

SUMMARY OF MALTA CONFERENCE

From 6 to 11 December, 2003, chemists from Egypt, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Palestinian Authorities, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and United Arab Emirates gathered in Malta to attend the conference "Frontiers of Chemical Sciences: Research and Education in the Middle East."

The success of this conference tells us that science and scientific research are not just methods of improving the human condition but can also be ways of crossing illusive national and political barriers that bar effective collaboration among neighbors. The invited participants included presidents of universities, members of the respective countries' national academies of science, and a former minister of science. By engaging a stunning array of world-class scientists from the Middle East, as well as selected scientists from England, France, Germany, South Africa, Taiwan, and the U.S., the resulting discussion broadly enriched our understanding of specific scientific issues important to the area's future. The fact that all segments of the Middle East were represented suggests that there are fundamental scientific issues that connect us all.

Six Nobel Laureates served as working group leaders on subjects of common interest to Middle Eastern countries. The subjects of these working groups included: "Environment, Water and Renewable Energy," "Research and New Methodologies in Science Education," "Cultural Heritage and Preservation of Antiquities," "The Use of the Synchrotron to Facilitate Research in the Middle East (SESAME Project)," among others. Participants committed themselves to continue working together after the conference via e-mail and through smaller regional meetings. Among suggestions offered for future topics were: nanotechnology, computational chemistry, and solar energy.

All participants wrote that the conference organization was excellent, that the conference exceeded their expectations, and that the opportunity to work with the Nobel laureates was especially appreciated and it led to stimulating and informed discussion. 100% of the participants felt that a second conference, probably in 2005, would be needed. All indicated that they would want to attend and that they would recommend it to their colleagues. Most expressed willingness to participate in the organization of such an event.

A joint proposal between Israeli and Palestinian participants in the Malta conference was written on water purification and submitted to USAID-MERC.

One of the conference working groups, which concentrated on the synchrotron being built in Jordan (supported by UNESCO) for all the Middle East scientists, raised the urgent need for scientists trained in the use of a synchrotron. Dr. Yuan T. Lee, the Nobel Laureate who is science advisor to

the President of Taiwan, offered during the conference three full scholarships for scientists from the Middle East to spend a year learning to use the synchrotron in Taiwan. An agreement is already signed, and the selection of the three Middle Eastern scientists is in progress.

The President of the Technion (Israel Institute of Technology) offered to provide three full Technion scholarships for any interested student from an Arabic country.

A group of Palestinian participants met in February with their Israeli colleagues in the Weizmann Institute of Science. As a result, an agreement was signed for Palestinian students to study for MSc and PhD at the Weizmann Institute of Science; a committee is now working on financial arrangements needed to run the program.

One of the Israeli participants has been invited to present a lecture in Egypt. All the Egyptian participants expressed their interest in attending his lecture; some extended additional invitations for him to visit and present seminars at their institutions.

Dr. Roald Hoffmann, one of the American Nobel laureates, offered to run an intensive workshop in a Middle East location for graduate students from all the participating countries. This idea was accepted quite favorably by the participants; the location is now being discussed.

Ultimately, all the participants agreed that science is, indeed, a shared language between them all, and that the things they have in common are more numerous than the differences that separate them. The desire among the participants to continue the collaborations and to meet again is proof that the conference succeeded in overcoming barriers heretofore perceived as insurmountable.●

TRIBUTE TO SISTER JEANNE O'LAUGHLIN

● Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I honor a wonderful leader and inspirational person, Sister Jeanne O'Laughlin. Sister Jeanne is retiring as President of Barry University in Miami Shores, FL, after more than 20 years as its president and more than 50 years as an educator. Under her tenure the student population at Barry more than quadrupled and became co-ed and diverse, the budget grew tenfold, the campus added 38 new buildings and Barry became the fourth largest private university in Florida.

But, Sister Jeanne is more than just a president or professor, she is a fixture of the Miami community, a tireless advocate for the indigent and less fortunate and a prolific fundraiser. She has been honored by the Pope and selected for Presidential Commissions. She was the first female member of the Orange Bowl Committee and the Non-Group, chaired the Victory Foundation for the Homeless, the Miami Coalition for a Safe and Drug-Free Community, the Religious Task Force for We Will Rebuild and the Miami Blue-Ribbon Aviation Panel. And in the name of Barry University she would take on any challenge or bet even if it meant singing and dancing.

When important decisions or events were happening in Miami she was there. Many will remember that she rescued three Chinese women from po-

litical prosecution and pushed for 14 months for their political asylum request to be accepted.

Her tireless devotion to Barry, her infectious spirit and devotion to making the world a better place one good deed at a time, make Sister Jeanne a truly remarkable person. I am honored to know her.●

DUPONT DELISLE

● Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, this month DuPont Chemical and the people of the Mississippi Gulf Coast region together celebrate the 25th anniversary of the DuPont Chemical Plant in DeLisle, MS. DuPont began manufacturing in DeLisle in 1979 and in 1991 underwent an expansion. The plant now employs over 1,000 people who are residents of both Mississippi and Louisiana. These employees are the No. 1 reason the plant has achieved some very impressive production rates. In fact, its high productivity levels have made the DuPont DeLisle plant the second largest titanium dioxide producing plant in the world. This is truly cause for the plant's employees, management and all local residents to be proud.

The plant's success over the past 25 years is directly attributable to the partnership between DuPont DeLisle and the city of DeLisle, the Mississippi gulf coast region, and the State of Mississippi. The local community and State maintain a strong interest in supporting the plant and ensuring its continued success, while the plant and its employees work to give back to and improve the local community. For example, over the years DuPont DeLisle and its employees have worked in cooperation with the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College to offer extensive on-site operator training in electrical, machine shop, and computer skills. In addition, employees have conducted American Red Cross blood drives and United Way campaigns, donated equipment to local schools and fire departments, and participated in State and local organizations that are focused on improving Mississippi's workforce.

In addition to their work in the community, the plant's employees have strived to make it the best. As a result, the plant today is the top performer in its business group organization. DuPont DeLisle also work 4 times more safely than comparable industrial plants in the chemical industry using OSHA measurements. In fact, in October 2003, DuPont DeLisle employees exceeded their previous all-time safety record and early this year completed a full year without a single injury requiring medical treatment. These are truly significant accomplishments by employees who are obviously dedicated and committed to their employees' safety.

As one can see, DuPont in DeLisle has been good for the Mississippi economy by creating and sustaining high paying technical jobs. For the past 25

years, Mississippi has been proud to call itself home to this plant and we look forward to our continued partnership for the next 25 years. Congratulations to DuPont DeLisle and its local and State partners on this most noteworthy anniversary.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 11:48 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 4299. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 410 South Jackson Road in Edinburg, Texas, as the "Dr. Miguel A. Nevarez Post Office Building".

H.R. 3939. An act to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14-24 Abbott Road in Fair Lawn, New Jersey, as the "Mary Ann Collura Post Office Building".

H.R. 2523. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 125 Bull Street in Savannah, Georgia, as the "Tomochichi United States Courthouse".

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 389. Concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for the D.C. Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2523. An act to designate the United States courthouse located at 125 Bull Street in Savannah, Georgia, as the "Tomochichi United States Courthouse"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

H.R. 3939. An act to redesignate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14-24 Abbott Road in Fair Lawn, New Jersey, as the "Mary Ann Collura Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 4299. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 410 South Jackson Road in Edinburg, Texas, as the "Dr. Miguel A. Nevarez Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

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-7498. A communication from the Secretary of the Senate, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the receipts and expenditures of the Senate for the period October 1, 2003 through March 31, 2004; ordered to lie on the table.

EC-7499. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Decrease of the Commercial Trip Limit for Atlantic Group Spanish Mackerel