

Award for Excellence in Education for its exceptional and innovative achievements in educating children.

Orono Intermediate School is truly a model of educational success, where students are advancing to a new phase in their educational experience. Exercising higher levels of responsibility and independence in their learning, students achieve within a challenging and caring environment. The dedicated staff at Orono work closely with students to foster personal and academic success. The staff are committed to providing students with rigorous academic curricula that challenge them to achieve higher standards. To this end, staff strive to develop an educational program that addresses each child's individual needs and allows all students to achieve to their full potential.

Orono Intermediate School is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, NCA. Accreditation is granted to schools that demonstrate a commitment to continued improvement and curriculum review.

Orono Intermediate School enhances educational opportunities through a variety of programs and policies, including: a concentration on small class sizes, field trips, computer/media labs, an aquatics program, a United Nations peace site, competitive academic teams, an artist-in-residence program, service learning projects, and world languages, taught before and after school.

The success of Orono Intermediate School is reflected in its test scores. In 2005, Orono Intermediate received five stars in both math and reading from the Minnesota Department of Education. In 2004, the school received four stars in math and five stars in reading.

Much of the credit for Orono Intermediate School's success belongs to its principal, Paula Martin, and the dedicated teachers. The students and staff at Orono Intermediate School understand that, in order to be successful, a school must go beyond achieving academic success; it must also provide a nurturing environment where students can develop the knowledge, skills, and attitudes for success throughout life. All of the faculty, staff, and students at Orono Intermediate School should be very proud of their accomplishments.

I congratulate Orono Intermediate School in Orono for winning the Award for Excellence in Education and for its exceptional contributions to education in Minnesota.●

IN MEMORY OF SIGMUND
STROCHILTZ

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, today I speak in memory of Sigmund Strochiltz, a truly remarkable man from New London, Connecticut who passed away on Monday October 16, at the age of 89. I was saddened to hear about Mr. Strochiltz's death, and I will keep his friends and family in my thoughts and prayers.

Mr. Strochiltz was best known as the owner of Whaling City Ford, a successful car dealership that became a local institution in New London. Almost anyone who has lived in southeastern Connecticut can recall the television commercials for his dealership, in which Mr. Strochiltz would pleasantly invite the viewer to "Come in. I would like to meet you," a simple slogan that reflected his pleasant demeanor and truly optimistic outlook on life. Those who knew him best say that he had a deep appreciation for the simple joys in life, like dining with friends or spending time with his grandchildren.

Mr. Strochiltz's optimism is incredible considering the horrors he had to endure early in life. Mr. Strochiltz grew up in Poland, where he lived through both world wars. During the Second World War, he was held in a concentration camp in Auschwitz, Poland, for over 15 months. During this truly horrible experience, Mr. Strochiltz was forced to watch as his parents, two sisters, his first wife, and countless others marched off to their deaths.

Yet Mr. Strochiltz's spirit could not be broken, and he refused to give up hope that the people of all nations could live together in peace. After being released, he was determined to ensure that no one else ever had to suffer as he had.

Mr. Strochiltz believed that if mankind was never allowed to forget the atrocities committed by the Nazi regime, such atrocities might never be repeated. He worked tirelessly toward this end. He served on the U.S. Memorial Holocaust Council, which worked to establish the National Holocaust Memorial and Museum. He served as chairman of the council's remembrance committee, where he lobbied the governments of every State and the District of Columbia to hold annual ceremonies to remember victims and survivors of the Holocaust.

In addition to his great work with the council, Mr. Strochiltz helped elevate the writer Elie Wiesel, a close friend of his, to international fame. The two were partners in their mission to make sure the world never forgot the evils of the Holocaust. Together they traveled the globe, meeting with world leaders, such as German Chancellor Helmut Schmitt and Pope John Paul II. Mr. Strochiltz also lobbied Capitol Hill to have Mr. Wiesel nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize; he was successful, and Mr. Wiesel was deservedly awarded the prize.

The passing of Sigmund Strochiltz is truly a loss for the people of Connecticut and throughout the world. May his kind nature and devotion to promoting peace and tolerance in the world live on in all those he has touched.●

RECOGNIZING EARL MCVICKER

● Mr. ROBERTS. Mr. President, today I congratulate a Kansan, and a friend,

Earl McVicker, whose hard work, perseverance, and dedication has earned him recognition by those in his profession. Last month, Earl, who started his banking career at a bank in a town of 400, was elected chairman of the American Bankers Association. I join his friends, family, and colleagues in extending my congratulations and best wishes to him during the upcoming year.

Earl's career in the banking industry began shortly after his graduation from Kansas State University, home of the always optimistic and fighting Wildcats. Although Earl earned an engineering degree from K-State, he had taken a few business classes and a course on rural banking, which captured his interest. His first job was at the Bazine State Bank. Earl worked hard, learning the banking business from the ground up. His strong work ethic paid off, and he rose steadily in the banking industry, moving on to banks in Colorado and Kansas before becoming CEO of Central Bank and Trust, in Hutchinson, KS. By this time, Earl was looking for more than just another job at another bank. He was looking for the opportunity to make policy decisions, and he knew the only way to achieve that was to buy a bank.

Well, Earl succeeded in this goal, in part, by doing something we should all take a lesson from. When he became CEO at CB&T, he made the decision that he would continue to live off the amount of his previous salary and save and invest the difference in order to buy CB&T stock. This self-discipline, along with some help from his parents and a loan from another bank, allowed Earl to continue buying stock in CB&T, eventually gaining majority ownership. Further, the loan that he took out, that he hoped to pay off in 10 years? He paid it off in 5. Earl acknowledges that he risked everything on this one venture, but it is certainly a risk that has paid off.

Perhaps the quote that Earl has framed and hanging in his office best sums up what guides him. The quote, by President Calvin Coolidge, reads: "Nothing in this world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent. The slogan 'press on' has solved and always will solve the problems of the human race."

Earl's own hard work, persistence, and willingness to take risks gives him an understanding and an empathy for people who are looking to start and own their own business. His commitment to promoting entrepreneurship, his willingness to help individuals start a business, and his ability to recognize the potential of these individuals, even those who may not have business experience, makes him unique and reminds us all of the important role hometown

banks play in a community. They understand the needs of the customers, their community, and know that their role in helping individuals and businesses succeed is vital to economic health.

Now, I don't want to leave you with the impression that Earl is just another skilled businessman, although over the past 14 years, his private investment company, Central Financial Corp., has grown to include banks in a dozen States and has outperformed Warren Buffet's Berkshire Hathaway, as well as the Dow and the S&P 500. In fact, Earl wears several hats, including a Stetson when he is out horseback riding with his wife Molly or helping out on his parent's farm near Ness City. And he's particularly fond of the motorcycle helmet that he wears when he takes his Harley for a ride up to Sturgis, SD. Maybe not what you expected from the incoming ABA chairman.

Earl has reached a milestone in his career, but in this success, he has also helped others succeed in starting and growing their businesses and has taken an active role in helping communities like Hutchinson thrive. I am proud to call Earl a friend. I know he will approach his year as chairman of the ABA by expanding his "commitment to community" philosophy throughout the country. It is this commitment, working as a partner with his community, that has made him a leader in the banking profession.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:22 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Hays, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills and joint resolutions, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 864. An act to provide for programs and activities with respect to the prevention of underage drinking.

H.R. 1245. An act to provide for programs to increase the awareness and knowledge of women and health care providers with respect to gynecologic cancers.

H.R. 6314. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain expiring provisions of law and to expand eligibility for

the Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance program.

H.J. Res. 96. Joint resolution recognizing the contributions of the Christmas tree industry to the United States economy.

H.J. Res. 100. Joint resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2007, and for other purposes.

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. 496. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

The message further announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 435. An act to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of the Farmington River and Salmon Brook in the State of Connecticut for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes.

S. 819. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to reallocate costs of the Pactola Dam and Reservoir, South Dakota, to reflect increased demands for municipal, industrial, and fish and wildlife purposes.

S. 1131. An act to authorize the exchange of certain Federal land within the State of Idaho, and for other purposes.

S. 1140. An act to designate the State Route 1 Bridge in the State of Delaware as the "Senator William V. Roth, Jr. Bridge".

S. 3880. An act to provide the Department of Justice the necessary authority to apprehend, prosecute, and convict individuals committing animal enterprise terror.

H.R. 409. An act to provide for the exchange of land within the Sierra National Forest, California, and for other purposes.

H.R. 860. An act to provide for the conveyance of the reversionary interest of the United States in certain lands to the Clint Independent School District, El Paso County, Texas.

H.R. 1129. An act to authorize the exchange of certain land in the State of Colorado.

H.R. 3085. An act to amend the National Trails System Act to update the feasibility and suitability study originally prepared for the Trail of Tears National Historic Trail and provide for the inclusion of new trail segments, land components, and campgrounds associated with that trail, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5842. An act to compromise and settle all claims in the case of Pueblo of Ileta v. United States, to restore, improve, and develop the valuable on-reservation land and natural resources of the Pueblo, and for other purposes.

The enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS).

At 3:34 p.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 enrolled bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 6326. An act to clarify the provision of nutrition services to older Americans.

At 4:44 p.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, without amendment:

S. 101. An act to convey to the town of Frannie, Wyoming, certain land withdrawn by the Commissioner of Reclamation.

S. 4001. An act to designate certain land in New England as wilderness for inclusion in the National Wilderness Preservation system and certain land as a National Recreation Area, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House agrees to the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 5585) to improve the netting process for financial contracts, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3699. An act to provide for the sale, acquisition, conveyance, and exchange of certain real property in the District of Columbia to facilitate the utilization, development, and redevelopment of such property, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

H.R. 6314. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain expiring provisions of law and to expand eligibility for the Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance program; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 4051. A bill to provide sufficient resources to permit electronic surveillance of United States persons for foreign intelligence purposes to be conducted pursuant to individualized court-based orders for calls originating in the United States, to provide additional resources to enhance oversight and streamline the procedures of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978, to ensure review of the Terrorist Surveillance Program by the United States Supreme Court, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. WARNER for the Committee on Armed Service.

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. James B. Mallory III to be Major General.

Navy nomination of Vice Adm. Patrick M. Walsh to be Admiral.

Navy nomination of Rear Adm. Thomas J. Kilcline, Jr. to be Vice Admiral.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, for the Committee on Armed Services I report favorably the following nomination lists which were printed in the RECORDS on the dates indicated, and ask unanimous consent, to save the expense of reprinting on the Executive Calendar that these nominations lie at the Secretary's desk for the information of Senators.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Air Force nomination of Thomas C. Hankins to be Colonel.