

In an address to the residents of Mount Pleasant, the mayor made clear this was a difficult decision. He could have stayed in office and carried on. But Mayor Hallman felt he could no longer meet the high standard he had set for himself of being "effective."

As Mayor Hallman said in his resignation, "To me, being 'effective' means 'excellence'. I realize now that I am not meeting my personal definition of 'effective.' This Town deserves only the best from its leadership. Half way will not do for my Town."

His resignation was the mark of a true public servant willing to put the interests of the town he loves above his own personal interests.

Mayor Hallman has compiled a long and distinguished career of service in public office and private life.

After being elected to the office of mayor in September of 2000, Mayor Hallman spent nearly two terms in office growing his town and improving its assets. He will be remembered as a mayor who instituted infrastructure projects that helped change the face of Mount Pleasant. After only 3 years under his service, the town saw over \$150 million worth of road improvements and city development. Additionally, he helped secure Federal and State moneys for a newly debuted farmer's market venue and a waterfront park for public use.

During his time as mayor of Mount Pleasant, Mr. Hallman chaired the Police, Legal and Judicial Committee and the Transportation Committee. He also served on the Water Supply Committee and as an ex-officio member of the Mount Pleasant Waterworks Commission, the Patriots Point Authority, and the Charleston Aviation Authority.

In 1988, Mayor Hallman was elected to serve in the South Carolina House of Representatives. While in office, he chaired the Charleston County Legislative Delegation as well as the State House Committee, which was responsible for overseeing the \$78 million renovation of the South Carolina State House. He also offered his skills on the Joint Bond Review Committee, and the State Development Board.

Born and raised in South Carolina, Mayor Hallman took great pride in seeing his State develop from corner to corner. As the son of a retired oil executive and a stock market investor in Greenwood, SC, he grew up to appreciate all that the State has to offer. He was a 1958 graduate of the University of South Carolina, where he finished with a degree in business administration. Years later he was awarded an honorary doctor of humanity letters degree from the University of Charleston.

As a distinguished member of the State community, Mayor Hallman was often asked to participate in the development of multiple health and educational improvements and expansions. He served on the University Study Committee as their chairman, as well as the Low Country Graduate Advisory Board. Mayor Hallman chaired the

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control and served as treasurer for Charleston Memorial Hospital. His dedication to all aspects of life in South Carolina was broad in scope and great in impact.

A devoted citizen, Mayor Hallman formally retired on May 20, 2009, as a revered member of the Mount Pleasant and South Carolina community. His leadership and his commitment to our State will be forever marked by his extraordinary vision and endless sacrifice. Throughout his entire career and to this day, Mayor Hallman has served as a model to those around him.

Along with his wife Shirley "Brooke" Hallman, who has stood next to him with unwavering loyalty and shared sacrifice, he celebrates his retirement with his three children and six grandchildren. I thank him for his service and wish him the very best in his retirement.

I ask that the Senate join me in honoring him for his lifelong career of service and also send along our best wishes to him and his family as he continues his battle.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. TOM DEAN

● Mr. JOHNSON. Madam President, today I rise to recognize Dr. Tom Dean of Wessington Springs, SD, who has been named the National Rural Health Association's 2009 Practitioner of the Year and wish to congratulate him on this well-deserved honor.

Dr. Dean has spent the majority of his 30 years in practice as a family physician in Wessington Springs, SD, and has served as a member of the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission since 2007.

After completing his medical education and training out of the State, Dr. Dean returned to his native Wessington Springs, SD, as a National Health Service Corps physician. Dr. Dean dedicated his professional career to delivering health care to his neighbors in rural South Dakota. He is well known in his community for the personal attention he gives to his patients and for his understanding of the value of the patient-doctor relationship.

Having spent most of his career helping the residents of Wessington Springs stay healthy, Dr. Dean has come to understand the particular challenges of rural health care delivery and the impact of health policies on rural America. Dr. Dean is greatly involved with the National Rural Health Association, an organization whose mission is to improve the health and well-being of rural Americans and to provide leadership on rural health issues.

In addition to his practice and MedPAC work, Dr. Dean is chief of staff at Avera Wescota Memorial Medical Center, and serves on the board of directors of the Bush Foundation Medical Fellowship and the South Dakota Academy of Family Physicians. He is a past president of the National Rural Health Association, recipient of numer-

ous awards and honors, and his research is published in many medical journals.

Through his practice and research, Dr. Dean has demonstrated his commitment to improving the quality of care provided to the one-fifth of Americans who live in rural areas.

I applaud Dr. Dean's commitment to providing quality health care to his patients. His contribution to shaping health care policy has added a valuable and powerful voice for both rural health care providers and patients.●

TRIBUTE TO ERIC F. ROSS

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Madam President, I wish to pay tribute to Eric F. Ross who will celebrate his 90th birthday on June 25, 2009. A loving grandfather, great-grandfather, and husband, Eric has been dedicated to educating the public about the Holocaust and is a passionate supporter of educational and cultural institutions in the United States, Germany, and Israel.

Born in Dortmund, Germany, Eric fled Nazi Germany and arrived in the United States when he was 20 years old. He courageously returned to Europe in 1942 as a soldier in the U.S. Army and a member of the "Ritchie Boys," a group of young men who escaped Nazi Germany and joined the Army. These men were specially trained to fight the Nazis and because of his service, Eric was awarded a Bronze Star. He went on to become a successful businessman, establishing Alpha Chemical & Plastics in Newark, New Jersey and Mercer Plastics Company, which is based in Florida.

Holocaust remembrance and education are extremely important to Eric. In 2003, he was appointed by President George W. Bush to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council and he remains actively involved with the museum. He and his beloved wife Lore, who recently passed away, are the museum's largest individual donors and the museum's Ross Administrative Center is named in memory of his parents, Albert and Regina Rosenberg, who perished during the Holocaust.

I am pleased to ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the 90th birthday of this remarkable man. His passion for education and dedication to philanthropy has touched countless lives and should serve as an example to others. I thank him for his tireless work and would like to extend my warmest wishes on this momentous occasion.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neiman, 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.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Zapata, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 915. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2010 through 2012, to improve aviation safety and capacity, to provide stable funding for the national aviation system, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1676. An act to prevent tobacco smuggling, to ensure the collection of all tobacco taxes, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 267h, and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Mexico-United States Interparliamentary Group: Mr. MCCAUL of Texas, Mr. DREIER of California, Mr. MACK of Florida, Mr. BLBRAY of California, Mr. NUNES of California.

The message further announced that pursuant to section 703(c) of the Public Interest Declassification Act of 2000 (50 U.S.C. 435 note), the Minority Leader reappoints the following member to the Public Interest Declassification Board: Admiral William O. Studeman of Great Falls, Virginia.

The message also announced that pursuant to the National Foundation of the Arts and Humanities Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 955(b) note), the Minority Leader reappoints the following Member of the House of Representatives to the National Council on the Arts: Mr. TIBERI of Ohio.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 915. To amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2010 through 2012, to improve aviation safety and capacity, to provide stable funding for the national aviation system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

H.R. 1676. An act to prevent tobacco smuggling, to ensure the collection of all tobacco taxes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment:

S. 713. A bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to quickly and fairly address the abundance of surplus manufactured housing units stored by the Federal Government around the country at taxpayer expense (Rept. No. 111-23).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 1160. A bill to provide housing assistance for very low-income veterans; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 146

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 146, a bill to amend the Federal antitrust laws to provide expanded coverage and to eliminate exemptions from such laws that are contrary to the public interest with respect to railroads.

S. 211

At the request of Mr. VITTER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 211, a bill to facilitate nationwide availability of 2-1-1 telephone service for information and referral on human services and volunteer services, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 211, *supra*.

S. 229

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 229, a bill to empower women in Afghanistan, and for other purposes.

S. 311

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) were added as cosponsors of S. 311, a bill to prohibit the application of certain restrictive eligibility requirements to foreign nongovernmental organizations with respect to the provision of assistance under part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

S. 354

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 354, a bill to provide that 4 of the 12 weeks of parental leave made available to a Federal employee shall be paid leave, and for other purposes.

S. 369

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 369, a bill to prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating

generic drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market.

S. 455

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 455, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of 5 United States Army Five-Star Generals, George Marshall, Douglas MacArthur, Dwight Eisenhower, Henry "Hap" Arnold, and Omar Bradley, alumni of the United States Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to coincide with the celebration of the 132nd Anniversary of the founding of the United States Army Command and General Staff College.

S. 456

At the request of Mr. DODD, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) were added as cosponsors of S. 456, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, to develop guidelines to be used on a voluntary basis to develop plans to manage the risk of food allergy and anaphylaxis in schools and early childhood education programs, to establish school-based food allergy management grants, and for other purposes.

S. 461

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 461, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 511

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 511, a bill to amend part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an exemption of pharmacies and pharmacists from certain Medicare accreditation requirements in the same manner as such exemption applies to certain professionals.

S. 515

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. KAUFMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 515, a bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform.

S. 547

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 547, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to reduce the costs of prescription drugs for enrollees of Medicaid managed care organizations by extending the discounts offered under fee-for-service Medicaid to such organizations.