

#### TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM OUELLETTE

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the Federal service of William "Will" Ouellette of Rapid City, SD. Mr. Ouellette is concluding a dozen years of service in South Dakota and is transferring to Pennsylvania to continue his Federal service career, which now spans 34 years with the Social Security Administration.

Mr. Ouellette began his career with the agency in 1976 as a claims representative in the Boston Region. Three years later, he moved to Billings, MT, where he served as a claims representative, field representative, operations analyst and operations supervisor for the agency. He was promoted to manager of the Rapid City office in 1998 and has continued in that position until the present time. He will soon transfer to a similar position in the Pottsville, PA, agency office to be closer to aging parents and a daughter.

I have appreciated the management work of Mr. Ouellette over his tenure in Rapid City. He has overseen a very dedicated and hard-working staff. Claims have increased substantially over the years and the coverage area in rural South Dakota is one of the largest in the country. I have always been impressed by the sense of professionalism, dedication and willingness to serve Social Security beneficiaries and claimants by Will and his staff. He was always timely and thorough in providing answers to constituent questions, addressing issues impacting beneficiaries and combining a strict, no-nonsense approach and adherence to agency regulations with a caring attitude.

I wish Mr. Ouellette well in the remaining years of his Federal service and wish to thank him for his term of service to South Dakotans over the past dozen years.●

#### TRIBUTE TO FRANK TUMA

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, the Office of Rural Development within the U.S. Department of Agriculture will say farewell to a dedicated colleague and friend later this week. Frank J. Tuma, Director of Community Programs for the Agency in Michigan, is retiring after 37 dedicated years of public service, and I am delighted to have an opportunity to recognize this significant milestone.

Frank began his Federal career with the Peace Corp and spent 2 years in the Philippines. He later accepted a position with the Farmers Home Administration, which would become the Office of Rural Development, where he has served the interests of rural Michigan for 31 years as part of the Community Programs Division. Throughout Frank's 31 years, he has consistently provided invaluable guidance and leadership on countless issues and projects. During the past 5 years, Frank has served as the Director of Community Programs, where he has led efforts to

bring critical funding to rural communities across Michigan. Countless communities now have safe drinking water and efficient waste water systems that protect the environment due to the efforts of Frank and his team.

Those who have worked with Frank describe him as devoted, loyal, and passionate about his work and the people with which he works, qualities that will surely be missed by his colleagues and friends. Beyond his personal qualities, he has distinguished himself through a number of impressive accomplishments and has served as a mentor to many on his staff. The Rural Development National Office has turned to Frank many times over the years for his input and recommendations on new processes and systems. He was instrumental in creating, testing, and implementing the CPAP System, a computer program that compiles data and underwrites loans and grants for water and sewer projects.

I am proud to join citizens and communities across rural Michigan in thanking Frank Tuma for his dedication, focus, and persistent efforts as a Federal employee. Frank has forged a wonderful legacy, and I know he and Connie are looking forward to many years together in retirement.●

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF DELTA TRUST BANK

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, this year marks the 100th anniversary of a landmark institution in my home State of Arkansas. On February 1, Delta Trust & Bank will celebrate 100 years of service in our State. In honor of this milestone, the towns of Parkdale, Hamburg, Wilmot, Little Rock, and Bella Vista will proclaim Monday, February 1, as Delta Trust Day. At a time when many banks across our Nation are struggling, Delta Trust represents a long history of financial strength and security in Arkansas.

Founded as The Bank of Parkdale in 1910, Delta Trust's origins lie in the small town of Parkdale in Southern Arkansas. Parkdale is similar in many ways to my hometown of Helena, where faith, community, and family are an integral part of rural life. These values have stayed with Delta Trust throughout its 100-year history.

Delta Trust touches every corner of our State, with branches in northwest Arkansas in Bella Vista and Fayetteville; in central Arkansas in the Little Rock neighborhoods of Hillcrest, Chenal, and Walton Heights; and in the southeast part of the state in Parkdale, Hamburg, Eudora, and Wilmot.

Delta Trust's assets are impressive at \$298 million. But this institution is about much more than assets or the bottom line. Delta Trust is known for its commitment to community service, not to mention its top-notch customer service. Integrity, privacy, and intelligent advice are the trademarks of Delta Trust. Through its Women's Ad-

visory Council, Delta Trust has committed to serving the banking needs of women, their families, and their businesses.

Mr. President, I salute the partners, associates, and employees of Delta Trust for their dedication to serving the people of Arkansas. I send my best wishes for the next 100 years of service to Arkansans.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 9:36 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, 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. 3726. An act to establish the Castle Nugent National Historic Site at St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4474. An act to authorize the continued use of certain water diversions located on National Forest System land in the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness and the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness in the State of Idaho, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4508. An act to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to section 114(b) of the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development Act (2 U.S.C. 1103), and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Board of Trustees for the John C. Stennis Center for Public Service Training and Development for a term of six years: Mr. TRAVIS CHILDERS of Booneville, Mississippi.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 3726. An act to establish the Castle Nugent National Historic Site at St. Croix, United States Virgin Islands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 4474. An act to authorize the continued use of certain water diversions located on National Forest System land in the Frank Church-River of No Return Wilderness and the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness in the State of Idaho, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

#### 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-4560. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Atlantic Bluefish Fishery; Quota