

take extraordinary steps to effect positive change and make a sustainable impact in their communities and beyond.

Today's Girl Scouts are tomorrow's leaders. Former Girl Scouts are at the top of their fields in science, media, medicine, business, and politics. With one-half of the women in the 114th Congress being former Girl Scouts, it is evident that Girl Scouts builds girls of courage, confidence and character.

On this Girl Scout Day, I wish to applaud the work of Girl Scout councils throughout Michigan and across our country. Their commitment to diversity and service, tied with their dedication, makes them true leaders of society.●

TRIBUTE TO PHYLLIS SCHLAFLY

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, a beloved American icon recently celebrated her 90th birthday. For more than one-half century, Phyllis Schlafly has been a leading voice in defense of our Constitution, our values, and our way of life. Fearlessly, tirelessly, Phyllis has championed the American family and American values. As a speaker, author, activist, and radio commentator, Phyllis has inspired and mobilized generations of conservatives.

Her 1964 book, "A Choice Not an Echo," took direct aim at the establishment class and helped pave the way for Goldwater and Reagan. Her advocacy presaged many of the political challenges we face today in ensuring that the voiceless have a voice and that the everyday worker, mother, father, and citizen is not drowned out by special interests. As one profile noted, Phyllis "continues comforting the afflicted conservative, afflicting the comfortable Republican."

I remember well reading "A Choice Not an Echo" while in high school and her arguments helped shape my political philosophy as it shaped the philosophy of many others. I also remember attending her speech at the University of Alabama dealing with the national defense issues she wrote about while I was in law school. Dynamic, smart, beautiful, and articulate, she played an important role in establishing a sound conservative philosophy.

An unrelenting critic of big government, Phyllis has spoken out time and again on the need for the family—not the bureaucracy—to form the center of American life. She has explained that we cannot strengthen our financial system without also strengthening our families and our communities. She knows that no nation can be better than the people who make it up and that families, communities, and churches are vital to developing good people.

The values Phyllis embodies are not merely traditional but enduring—just as she is. Enduring values are a national compass, a guide for all times—always pointing true north in even the stormiest weather.

Congratulations to Phyllis on her remarkable 90th year and her even more remarkable life.●

RECOGNIZING THE LEARNING TRAIN

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, American small businesses across the country possess the ability to recognize and fill unique service gaps in their local towns and cities. This is especially important when these small businesses work with the children in our communities. Such is the case with this week's Small Business of the Week, The Learning Train, located in Lafayette, LA.

Keri and Matt Hebert opened The Learning Train as a way to promote the physical, emotional, educational, and social development of children aged 6 months to 4 years old through a variety of weekly classes and camps. A mother of two, Mrs. Hebert designed The Learning Train to offer small group classes that promote learning and bonding between parents and their children. A typical 45-minute session at the center provides children and their parents with a safe, fun space to hone age-appropriate developmental skills through enjoyable playtime with peers. The center's structured learning activities aid in developing crucial skills, including symbolic thinking, active listening, problem solving, and knowledge retention.

In addition to the sharpening of technical skills, children are afforded quality time strengthening and developing healthy social bonds, as well. Having spent thirteen years as an educator, Mrs. Hebert noticed a growing need for a safe, fun environment for young children to be nurtured. She maintains that a child's time spent playing with their guardian reinforces social development and builds trust between the two. The Learning Center's diverse classes provide ample space, opportunity, and variety to reinforce bonds between a child's parents as well as with their peers. Since its establishment in 2013, the Learning Train also regularly partners with local organizations to give back to their community, including participating in food drives.

I am honored to recognize a business that provides the high quality care and attention that our future generations deserve. Congratulations again to The Learning Train for being selected as Small Business of the Week, and I thank them for the important work they do for the families and children in the Lafayette region.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 4:15 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Chiappardi, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. THORNBERRY) has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 1213. An act to make administrative and technical corrections to the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH).

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. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. COATS, and Mr. COONS):

S. 723. A bill to amend the National Energy Conservation Policy Act to provide guidance on utility energy service contracts used by Federal agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 724. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide enhanced penalties for marketing candy-flavored controlled substances to minors; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 725. A bill to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. COATS:

S. 726. A bill to establish the prudential regulator of community and independent depository institutions as the conduit and arbiter of all Federal financial oversight, examination, and reporting; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. KING (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 727. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to include biomass heating appliances for tax credits available for energy-efficient building property and energy property; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 728. A bill to provide for programs and activities with respect to the prevention of underage drinking; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REED, Mr. WARREN, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. KAINE, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 729. A bill to amend title 11, United States Code, with respect to certain exceptions to discharge in bankruptcy; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. REED, Mr. FRANKEN, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 730. A bill to permanently extend the Protecting Tenants at Foreclosure Act of 2009; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S. 731. A bill to enhance Social Security benefits and ensure the long-term solvency of the Social Security program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. UDALL):

S. 732. A bill to amend the Act of June 18, 1934, to reaffirm the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to take land into trust for Indian tribes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.