

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING O'KEEFE FUNERAL HOMES

• Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I wish to recognize O'Keefe Funeral Homes of Biloxi, MS, on the occasion of their 150 years of service to residents of the Mississippi gulf coast. Since its inception in 1895, O'Keefe Funeral Homes has grown to include six locations throughout South Mississippi.

In addition to meeting the needs of the bereaved for generations, the O'Keefe family has been pivotal to the growth, support, and success of other economic and cultural enterprises across South Mississippi, assisting with the formation of the Walter Anderson Museum and the Ohr-O'Keefe Museum.

This sesquicentennial anniversary of O'Keefe Funeral Homes represents a great milestone for all coast communities and businesses as it is not only one of the oldest recurring businesses in Mississippi but has also survived and thrived in the face of many of our Nation's most devastating natural disasters.

Six generations of O'Keefes have served South Mississippi with grace and valor. The O'Keefe's service has added value to economic sustainability while providing a better way of life for gulf coast residents and businesses.

I am pleased to recognize the O'Keefe family for their 150 years of exemplary service and ongoing devotion to the Mississippi gulf coast.●

REMEMBERING AMMALINE HELEN HOWARD

• Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, I wish to honor Ammaline Helen "Amy" Howard, a beloved member of the Charleston, WV community.

The Howard family is a great, well-respected family in my beautiful State and I am honored to call the members of this family my dear friends. I had the privilege of meeting Amy, who was affectionately known by so many as Aunt Amy, many times. She was always humble, welcoming, and supportive. She was a pillar in the Howard family, standing strong on values with a captivating yet calming spirit. Her nieces and nephews knew if their parents told them "no" to something, that they could go to Aunt Amy and she would find a way to help them out.

Put simply, individuals like Amy stand out. She was the epitome of what West Virginians are all about, with her welcoming nature and unwavering commitment to help those in need. Amy led by example and treated her neighbors as friends and her friends as family. She instilled this same loyal community service mindset throughout her family. She leaves behind her loving brother Victor, sister-in-law Elaine, and many nieces, nephews, great-nieces, and great-nephews.

She was a second mother to many, and truly brought the whole family to-

gether. She made sure a hot meal was ready every evening, and if she saw you, she made sure you were invited to dinner that night.

A native of Charleston, Amy graduated from Charleston High School in 1933 and gave back to her hometown in many ways. She began working at the Naval Ordnance and Armor Plant in South Charleston before joining her brother in his successful grocery business, Sabe Howard's Market. She then worked for many years as a loyal employee of the Kanawha County Clerk's Office before her retirement in 1974.

Among her many roles, she was a member of the Charleston Hightop Club and the West Virginia Woman's American Syrian League. Amy also supported the West Virginia Symphony League and the St. Jude Hospital because she was passionate about investing her time and efforts to helping others in any way that she could.

She was a lifelong member of St. George Orthodox Cathedral, and was also a member of the Order of St. Ignatius of Antioch and the St. George Ladies Guild, serving as an officer. Amy was fiercely committed to her church family, always willing to lend a helping hand or prepare food for church functions. Every year at the annual dinner she would help prepare food and make sure there were plenty of her legendary cabbage rolls.

Aunt Amy was a model for the ages. She understood what really mattered in life and I enjoyed chatting with her about the jewels in the treasure box of life—family, faith, community, and service. She believed that staying active was the key to living a long, happy life. Amy loved to walk and visit the mall to get her favorite coffee and biscuits, and remained active until her late 90s.

I recall one time being invited to Aunt Amy's basement kitchen where the heavy cooking really took place. It was filled with freezers, refrigerators, microwaves, and every cooking utensil you can think of. Not many people were invited down to her kitchen, so I knew I was really taken in as part of the family. She truly had that effect on people—it was a second home, and you were considered family. And family comes first.

Amy was a beloved aunt, friend, and inspiration to the Charleston community. Her glowing smile and positive attitude were contagious and will live on in the memories and hearts of all those who had the privilege of knowing her. Amy's service was greatly appreciated and will certainly never be forgotten.●

RECOGNIZING STANFORD OVSHINSKY

• Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I wish to recognize Mr. Stanford Ovshinsky, on the occasion of his induction into the National Inventors Hall of Fame. Mr. Ovshinsky, the eldest son of working-class Jewish parents in Akron, OH,

displayed an early conviction to improving the lives of all Americans. This conviction inspired a lifelong dedication to advancing labor rights, civil rights, and civil liberties. Despite no formal education after receiving his high school diploma, Mr. Ovshinsky became one of the 20th century's most prolific inventors. His vision and concern for the greater good led to over 400 patents, including major contributions to flexible solar panels, computer memory, flat-screen TV displays, and the development of the nickel-metal hydride battery.

Mr. Ovshinsky's belief in the ability of science and technology to advance environmental stewardship and quality of life was rooted in his experience as a member of the Workmen's Circle, a Jewish fraternal organization committed to community, an enlightened Jewish culture, and social justice since it was established in 1900. The Workmen's Circle inspired Mr. Ovshinsky to pursue science and develop advanced technology dedicated to heightening economic opportunity and improving people's relationship with the environment around the world. After starting his career as a toolmaker in Akron, Mr. Ovshinsky moved to Detroit in 1952, where he was director of research at the Hupp Corporation and established General Automation with his younger brother, Herb Ovshinsky.

At General Automation, Mr. Ovshinsky continued his research on intelligent machines, as well as early work on various information and energy technologies. He was invited by Wayne State University to conduct research at the university's neuroscience lab, where he discovered the connection between the amorphous structure of brain cells and amorphous glassy materials. This discovery encouraged Mr. Ovshinsky and his brother to construct the Ovitron, a mechanical model of a nerve cell constructed of thin layers of amorphous material, creating the first nanostructure, and establishing the foundation of his research for decades.

Following his experience at General Automation, Mr. Ovshinsky founded Energy Conversion Devices in 1960 with Iris Dibner, who would become his wife and partner for over 50 years. It was at Energy Conversion Devices that he established Ovonic—the process of turning glassy, thin films into semiconductors with the application of low voltage—and developed new electronic and optical switches, including Ovonic Phase Change Memory and the Threshold Switch. These became the basis for the invention of rewritable CDs and DVDs, as well as the cognitive computer. Mr. Ovshinsky's work also revolutionized the construction of solar panels and resulted in the nickel-metal hydride battery, which became an important power source for electric vehicles, consumer electronics, industrial equipment, and telecommunications.

Time Magazine celebrated Mr. Ovshinsky as a "Hero for the Planet"