

the importance of Public Service Recognition Week. This is a critical time for our Nation, with many domestic and global challenges. Although we have designated a week to honor government employees, I rise today to stress the importance of remembering the invaluable service of public servants throughout the year. Our way of life—and the strength of our country would not exist without the work of public employees. And so to all the dedicated men and women currently serving our Nation, mahalo nui loa—thank you very much—for all that you do.

Mr. President, I am including Director John Berry's letter of support for Public Service Recognition Week with my statement and ask unanimous consent that it be printed in the RECORD following my remarks.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

OFFICE OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT,
Washington, DC, May 5, 2009.

Hon. DANIEL K. AKAKA,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing to thank you for your sponsorship of S. Res. 87, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week, May 4 through 10, 2009, and throughout the year.

As you know, Public Service Recognition Week, celebrated the first Monday through Sunday in May since 1985, is a time set aside each year to honor the men and women who serve America as Federal, state and local government employees. Throughout the Nation and around the world, public employees use the week to educate citizens about the many ways in which government serves the people and how government services make life better for all of us.

As the Director of the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), Public Service Recognition Week is the perfect time to spread President Obama's call to public service and to recognize public employees. I am committed to making the Federal government a better place to work by speeding up the hiring process, increasing opportunities for veterans, and implementing programs that help employees balance work and family life.

Thank you for your continued leadership in recognizing the hard work of our public servants during Public Service Recognition Week and I look forward to working with you to make the federal government a better place to work.

Sincerely,

JOHN BERRY,
Director.

REMEMBERING REVEREND ROBERT CORNELL

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the life of Rev. Robert Cornell, a great Wisconsin public servant and teacher. For most of his life, Reverend Cornell called northeast Wisconsin his home—as a student at St. Norbert Abbey, a Congressman, and a professor of history and government at St. Norbert College.

Reverend Cornell was only the second Catholic priest to be elected to Congress when he represented Wisconsin's Eighth Congressional District from 1975 to 1979. Just as he did all his life, Reverend Cornell came to Washington to fight for education and social justice for the Wisconsinites he represented.

But his greatest accomplishments may have come in the halls of St. Norbert College as he used history to help guide young Wisconsinites to new levels of academic achievement. During his decades in the classroom, Reverend Cornell would bring history to life like no other. He brought out the best in his students with captivating lectures that displayed his tremendous knowledge, experience, and wit. His impact will certainly be felt for years to come through the countless students he taught and mentored.

Reverend Cornell stands out as a towering figure in the history of northeast Wisconsin. His influence on education and public service has left a lasting mark on our State.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO CHUCK MACK

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I am pleased and honored to pay tribute to Chuck Mack for his many years of service to the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

After 43 years of dedicated service, Mr. Mack is stepping down from his positions as secretary-treasurer for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 70, and president of the Teamsters Joint Council 7. While Mr. Mack may be leaving his current leadership positions within the Teamsters, he is by no means retiring. Instead, he is heeding the call of the Western Conference of Teamsters Pension Trust, where he will now serve as the co-chair of the organization.

During his four-plus decades of service to the Teamsters, Mr. Mack has worked tirelessly to help negotiate first-class rights for bay area workers and their families. With a reputation for integrity and hard work, Mr. Mack has provided the Teamsters with unparalleled leadership in major labor disputes in northern California throughout his tenure. I particularly commend Mr. Mack for his efforts in advancing environmental justice issues for port communities throughout the San Francisco bay area.

As he transitions to his new position as cochair of the Western Conference of Teamsters Pension Trust, I applaud Mr. Mack's continued involvement with the Teamsters Union. Unions provide valuable representation to American workers and their families, and have worked to establish many of the rights and privileges that we now take for granted—rights and privileges that have helped millions of workers achieve the American dream.

After over four decades of service to the International Brotherhood of

Teamsters, I remain in admiration of Chuck's strong sense of civic duty, his unparalleled service to the labor movement, and his tireless advocacy for workers' rights at the local, State, and national levels. I wish him many more years of continued community involvement and leadership.●

TRIBUTE TO C. BRENT DEVORE

• Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, today I honor the career of Dr. C. Brent DeVore, the dean of higher education presidents in central Ohio. For 25 years, Dr. DeVore has served Otterbein College, its students, and the Westerville, OH, community. He retires at the end of this academic year.

A son of Zanesville, OH, who earned degrees from Ohio University and Kent State University, Dr. DeVore has dedicated his professional life to improving higher education for America's young people.

Dr. DeVore became president of Otterbein College in 1984. He helped develop the institution from a small, liberal arts college to a nationally ranked, comprehensive college. Dr. DeVore put Otterbein on stable financial footing, increasing the school's endowment by fifteenfold. He oversaw a transformation of the campus infrastructure, including the construction of new academic buildings, residence halls, athletic facilities, and an expansion of the library.

More importantly, Dr. DeVore helped transform the human capital of the college. The graduate education program was added in 1989, the graduate nursing program in 1993, and the MBA program in 1997. The number of faculty holding advanced degrees nearly doubled. Student diversity increased, enrollment doubled, retention rates soared, and the quality of incoming students skyrocketed.

Throughout Dr. DeVore's career, he has worked to develop innovative and comprehensive programs to encourage young people to engage in community and volunteer service and oversaw the creation of Otterbein's Center for Community Engagement. In 2007, Otterbein was one of only three schools across the country to receive the Presidential Award for General Community Service in the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.

While, Dr. DeVore's leadership at Otterbein will be missed, his legacy will remain for generations. Dr. DeVore has made Otterbein College better, he has made Ohio better, and he has made our Nation better. I wish him well and hope that his service to Ohio will continue in the next phase of his outstanding career.●

OHIO'S SMALL BUSINESS PERSON OF THE YEAR

• Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, today I commemorate the work of Carla Eng, president of Abstract Displays Incorporated, who has been named the Ohio

Small Business Person of the Year for 2009 by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

The award recognizes Ms. Eng's dedication to success, her passion for her work, and her positive attitude. She is among 53 top small business persons who will be honored at the Small Business Administration's National Small Business Week events. Ms. Eng's company is a premier designer and producer of dimensional solutions for trade show exhibits, events, environments and for all face-to-face sales, marketing, and corporate needs.

I commemorate the work of Carla Eng and congratulate her for receiving this prestigious award. She is a role model for success and an inspiration to us all. I hope you will join me in wishing Carla the best of luck in her future endeavors.●

CONGRATULATING THE GEORGETOWN/SCOTT COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I congratulate the Georgetown/Scott County Chamber of Commerce, a non-profit business organization that recently celebrated its 50th anniversary.

The Georgetown/Scott County Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1959. The chamber promotes local businesses and ensures that jobs stay in the Georgetown and Scott County area. During this uncertain economic time, organizations such as the Georgetown/Scott County Chamber of Commerce strive to ensure that local businesses continue to prosper. The chamber celebrated this distinct milestone at its annual banquet on April 24, 2009, where current chamber president Christie Hockensmith expressed her optimism for the next 50 years.

Again, I congratulate the Georgetown/Scott County Chamber of Commerce on 50 years of service. I wish the chamber the best in the future and in continued support of local businesses.●

REMEMBERING M. ALLYN DINGEL, JR.

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, today I would like to honor a fellow Idahoan who served the Idaho legislature, the Idaho, judiciary, the Episcopal Diocese of Idaho and the Idaho State Bar with honor, integrity, and good humor. M. Allyn Dingel, Jr., passed away at his home in Boise, ID, on April 23, 2009 after a courageous battle with lung cancer.

Allyn was born in Twin Falls, ID, where he played baseball and was the student body president at Twin Falls High. He attended college at the University of Idaho, and continued to organize spontaneous renditions of the Idaho Vandal fight song, whether asked to or not.

Allyn attended New York University Law School, where he was one of the top students and was a member of the NYU Law Review. Allyn worked for the

Idaho Attorney General's Office for 3 years, and then spent more than 40 years in private practice. In his spare time, he served as Chancellor for the Episcopal Diocese of Idaho, providing extensive legal services pro bono.

Allyn was a trial lawyer, and the courtroom was his stage. His methods were not always conventional. He had his own vocabulary, and a way of communicating that was sometimes humorous, but always believable. Allyn was a lawyer's lawyer. He was a fellow of the prestigious American College of Trial Lawyers. He served as Idaho's representative to the Ninth Circuit Commission, and was Idaho's delegate to the American Bar Association House of Delegates. The Idaho State Bar honored him in 2004 when he was named its Distinguished Lawyer, and in 2008 the Idaho Judiciary named a courtroom in Boise after him.

Allyn was a lobbyist for both the insurance industry and the Idaho judiciary. He was especially effective as a lobbyist because he never forgot a political story or a point of Idaho trivia. As a lobbyist, he was generous with his humor and his story-telling. Shortly before his death, the Idaho legislature honored him with Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 111, which commended him for his lifetime service to the legislative branch of the State of Idaho.

But for all of Allyn Dingel's many accomplishments, he will be remembered most for his great compassion and his ability to find the good in people. It was said that he never forgot, but he always forgave. We can imagine him at the Pearly Gates telling St. Peter some long story about Idaho politics. We just hope those in line behind him were patient as he tried to teach St. Peter the words to the Vandal fight song.

I am honored to reflect on Allyn Dingel's wonderful, exemplary life, and pleased to call him my friend. He was an individual who made the most from the opportunities that presented themselves, and Idaho is better for that. My condolences go out to his family: his beloved wife Fran, his sons and their wives, Bryan and Valencia and Mike and Lori, and his six grandchildren. ●

REMEMBERING SAL GUARRIELLO

● Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I wish to honor the life of Sal Guarriello, a decorated veteran and an incredible public servant.

Mr. Guarriello was a beloved citizen of West Hollywood, serving for 19 years on its city council and for three terms as its mayor. During his nearly two decades on the council, he was a voice for the Russian, disabled, and LGBT communities, seniors, and veterans.

Mr. Guarriello received a Purple Heart when he was wounded while serving as an Army combat medic during World War II. For the rest of his life, he strove to honor and represent the needs of his fellow veterans. In 1998, he proposed that a veterans' memorial be built in West Hollywood to honor the

sacrifices of all of America's veterans, and 5 years later his vision became reality.

Before joining the West Hollywood City Council, Mr. Guarriello worked to provide affordable housing as a member of the board of directors of the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation and the West Hollywood Rent Stabilization Commission.

Mr. Guarriello also created the West Hollywood Children's Summer Olympics, initiated a successful anti-drunk driving campaign, and formed the Eastside Redevelopment Agency, which was instrumental in the successful negotiation of a plan to rehabilitate Santa Monica Boulevard.

Sal Guarriello will be remembered by his family, friends, and constituents as a patriot, a public servant, and an exceptional leader of the community.●

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF PLEASANT VALLEY SCHOOL

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I wish today to honor Pleasant Valley Elementary School in South Windsor, CT. Pleasant Valley, or "PV" as it is affectionately referred to by many in South Windsor, will be celebrating its 50th anniversary this June. To mark this momentous occasion, I feel it is fitting to reflect back on all this school has done for its students and its community.

Pleasant Valley's motto is "Pleasant Valley School, a place to learn, to grow, and to care," and many of the students, parents, and faculty that have been involved with the school would attest that it has more than succeeded in creating such an environment. For 50 years, Pleasant Valley has helped the children of South Windsor develop a love of learning and discovery while instilling in them the skills and work ethic needed to succeed in South Windsor's excellent secondary schools.

When Pleasant Valley first opened in September 1958, it taught grades one through eight. While it was tough managing a large group of kids with such large age differences, those who attended or worked at the school during this time fondly recall basketball games, spelling bees, school plays, dedicated teachers, and, of course, friendships that would last a lifetime. Eventually, Pleasant Valley would become responsible for teaching students in kindergarten up to the fifth grade, and would always remain a vibrant, innovative place of learning.

Over the years, Pleasant Valley's staff has consistently launched inspired new initiatives designed to connect with their students. In 1981, PV started the Read at Home Program, which was put together to encourage students to read on their own. The theme for the program's first year was "footsteps to reading," which allowed students to post a paper foot on the school's walls for every book they read. By the end of the year, students had