

Norwich and across the State of Connecticut, he would go on to work in the manufacturing industry as a machinist at Pratt and Whitney and as a partner at the Norwich Machine and Tool Company.

During his decades of work as a public official in Norwich, Philip was never one to stay silent on any issue that he felt was important to the citizens of that city. That approach won him many allies, and it certainly earned him his share of critics. But everyone admired the passion and the dedication that Philip Shannon brought to his many years of public service.

He helped spearhead a series of important local projects, including the Norwich Golf Course and development along route 82. He also had the foresight to successfully campaign against selling the city's public utilities department to a private corporation. The decision to keep the department ultimately made the city more money than it would have received from the sale.

Those are only a few of Philip Shannon's many accomplishments. In the words of Bill Stanley, a former State Senator, "he did more for Norwich than anyone will ever know."

His work on behalf of the Democratic Party in Norwich was so tireless that he became known as "Mr. Democrat." He served as Democratic town chairman for 20 years and represented Connecticut's 19th District on the Democratic State Central Committee. In his role as a party leader, he recruited numerous candidates who went on to hold local and State offices.

Philip was as good to his friends as he was to the Democratic Party. He was a longtime friend of my father, and I will never forget how he supported me when I first ran for the Senate back in 1980.

Norwich is a better place today because of the efforts of Philip Shannon. He will be greatly missed, both by the people he served and by everyone who knew and loved him.

I offer my most heartfelt sympathies to Philip's wife Cresencia, his four children, six grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and his entire family.●

JOSEPH W. MCCrackEN

● Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to acknowledge the passing of Joseph W. McCracken on October 26, 2003.

For over 4 decades, Mr. McCracken represented the forest products industry in Oregon and other western States, as the Executive Vice President of Western Forest Industries Association. Mr. McCracken represented a sector of the industry that I hold in particularly high esteem—a sector comprised of small, family-owned sawmills and plywood plants.

These are the mills that traditionally depended on our Federal forest lands for their supply of timber. These are

the mills that are located in small rural communities where they provide the backbone of the local economy.

During his years of service to his industry, Joe McCracken was a fixture in his town and served as an advisor and mentor to many of our predecessors in this body. Warren Magnusen, Scoop Jackson, Mark Hatfield, Bob Packwood, Frank Church, Jim McClure, Jim Melcher, and other stalwarts of our western Senate delegation looked to Joe for counsel and advice on public land issues affecting his constituents.

He represented them with a passion and commitment that was exemplary. Joe McCracken was a visionary and was responsible for creating and influencing countless pieces of legislation and regulations that benefitted his industry, the people that work in it and the communities that depend on it.

The Small Business Set Aside Program, as just one example, assured small, family-owned mills a fair share of the Federal timber sold from our national forests and lands manager by the Bureau of Land Management.

Joe McCracken was a pioneer in crafting the policies and regulations affecting the Oregon and California Railroad lands in western Oregon, today known as the "O & C" lands. He did this both as a professional staff person for the Department of the Interior and as an advocate for his trade association.

Under Joe McCracken's representation, the small, family-owned mills throughout the west prospered. Many of them are under second and even third generation management. Unfortunately, many of them no longer exist.

After Joe's retirement in the early 90s, a sea change in Federal policies regulating the management of public forests unfolded to the point that very little timber is being provided from these forest lands and many of the mills have closed.

Unfortunately, these were the mills Mr. McCracken fought so hard to preserve. Those that have survived owe their existence largely to Joe McCracken.

Joe was born in Butte, MT in 1925. He served his country as a lieutenant in the United States Marines. He attended Princeton University where he earned a masters degree in political science.

He had a distinguished career with the Department of Interior, and specifically, the Bureau of Land Management prior to taking the leadership position with the Western Forest Industries Association.

Joe McCracken was a unique individual who left a profound imprint on the growth and evolution of public forest policy and the industry that is so closely dependent on public forest lands. His contributions to this body in assisting us in the thoughtful debate and deliberation of these important matters are worthy of our formal recognition.

I extend my heartfelt sympathy to Joe McCracken's wife Janet and his two children, Jon and Tamsen.●

THE LIFE OF BRIAN HOWELL

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to a friend who lived his life in the service of his community and his family.

Brian Howell was a committed journalist, and his activities reached far beyond reporting and editing. He wrote eloquently about the importance of honest government, and voiced outrage when news broke of political corruption in Wisconsin's State legislature.

Brian worked his way to become editor of Madison Magazine, a position he took after serving as features editor of the Wisconsin State Journal.

Brian Howell's dedication extended to the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where he taught a course on public campaigns and publicity. Shortly after the attacks of September 11, Brian worked closely with students to publish an issue of their student magazine that captured the circumstances, changes, and emotions surrounding the attacks. Always eager to engage young writers, Brian knew the power of good journalism.

Brian's voice remained strong, even into his last days. He wrote openly about his disease, lung cancer. In calling for increased research about the disease, Howell knew that despite lung cancer's stigma and common association with tobacco, its sufferers deserved the same scientific dedication that other patients received.

Right before he passed, Brian received by telephone the UW-Madison journalism school's Director's Award for Distinguished Service to Journalism. He greatly deserved this high honor.

My wife Mary and I will truly miss Brian. He was a friend of ours for many years and my wife had the distinct pleasure of working with him at Madison Magazine. His friendship is something we will always treasure and hold close to our hearts.

Brian's death is a great loss to the Madison community and to Wisconsin as a whole. I am saddened by his passing and join in honoring his achievements. I know that he will live on through all that he accomplished, and through everything that he taught those of us fortunate enough to call him a friend.●

TRIBUTE TO PAUL WALLACE-BRODEUR

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to Paul Wallace-Brodeur, an outstanding Vermonter and a national leader in the area of health care reform. As he prepares to retire from his position as director of the Office of Vermont Health Access in Waterbury, VT, it is important to reflect on how much one person can accomplish in serving others.

Paul has been on the forefront of providing individuals with greater access to the health care delivery system. As the State Medicaid director, which is

Vermont's second largest insurance program, Paul helped Vermont obtain the distinction of having one of the lowest uninsured rates in the country. Under Paul's leadership, Vermont broadened its eligibility standards and was one of the first States in the country to expand Medicaid services to children under the Dr. Dynasaur program. During his tenure, Medicaid programs grew to cover 143,313 Vermonters.

Paul began his career in Vermont as a social worker at the Brandon Training School. He quickly rose to leadership positions as a direct provider and then consultant in the field of mental health, followed by his position as the chief social worker for the Vermont State Hospital. It came as no surprise to those of us who know Paul that he was selected in the mid-1980s to lead the State of Vermont's efforts in creating universal access to health care as the executive director of the Vermont Health Policy Council and through his work for the Vermont Health Care Authority. Also during the mid-1980s he spearheaded the creation of the Vermont Ethics Network, an organization dedicated to increasing the understanding of ethical issues, values, and choices in health and health care.

Over the course of 40 years, Paul has been involved with virtually every health policy initiative in Vermont, particularly the State's efforts to expand health coverage. He is personally responsible for authoring Vermont's 1115 waiver, which over the years, and with many amendments, has provided more expansive and flexible Medicaid services to Vermonters. In his quiet unassuming way, Paul is an integral part of the health care delivery system in Vermont and has gained recognition for being a national health policy leader and mentor. He has always brought a steadfast commitment and institutional knowledge to solving the problem at hand while maintaining a vision for improving Vermont's health care system.

Paul's unwavering commitment toward improving the health status of every Vermont citizen is a great lesson for all public servants. Vermont is truly indebted to him. His deep commitment to the citizens of the Green Mountain State has endeared him to us. He has our best wishes for the future.●

ALBERT W. BILLINGTON

● Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I am pleased today to draw the Senate's attention to a public servant who has given meritorious service to Rhode Island and to the Nation.

Since 1981, Albert W. Billington has been a Special Agent with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS). In December, Mr. Billington will retire from the NCIS. He leaves a record of achievement, and his service will be missed.

Al Billington graduated from Northeastern University in 1977 with a bach-

elor's degree in Criminal Justice. Beginning his career as a Special Agent, his first assignment was the San Francisco office where he investigated general criminal matters. Just 2 years later, he began a one-year assignment as the Special Agent Afloat aboard the *USS Enterprise* (CVN 65). During the tour, he led several high-profile investigations while the ship and battle group were deployed in the Western Pacific, and for this he received the NCISRA San Francisco Special Agent of the Year Award for Distinguished Service.

Later, Mr. Billington graduated from the Department of Defense Polygraph Institute in Anniston, AL, and was reassigned as a Special Agent Polygraph Examiner to the NIS Northeast Region Polygraph Site in New London, CT. He rose through the ranks first as the Site Manager and later as the Special Agent in Charge of The Polygraph Office.

As Division Head at NISHQ, he conducted oversight of all polygraph matters for the Department of the Navy.

In 1994, Al Billington was appointed Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Northeast Field Office in Newport, RI, handling all criminal and fraud investigations.

In 1997, he was promoted and reassigned as the Special Agent in Charge of the NCIS Middle East Field Office in Bahrain. He served with distinction during this time of heightened alert and terrorist activity and was awarded the Navy Superior Civilian Service Award by VADM C.W. Moore, Commander Fifth Fleet, USN.

Two years later, he was transferred to NCIS Headquarters and served as the Deputy Assistant Director for Investigative Support.

In 2001, Mr. Billington assumed his present position as the Special Agent in Charge of the NCIS Washington, DC, Field Office.

Upon his retirement, Mr. Billington will be returning to his home in Portsmouth, RI, spending time with his wife, Bonnie, and son, Matthew.

I join with Al Billington's colleagues in expressing thanks for his dedication and valuable service to our Nation, and in wishing him success in all his future endeavors.●

70TH BIRTHDAY OF SAM MAYNES

● Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Sam Maynes of Durango, CO, on his 70th birthday, although it would be more appropriate to congratulate those with the good fortune to have had Sam for an advocate or friend over the years. I have been lucky enough to count him as both.

While others have lived as many years, very few have achieved a legacy as significant and lasting as his will prove to be. The Southern Ute Tribe, Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, and all of southwestern Colorado will be enjoying the fruits of Sam's hard work long after the struggles and acrimony he en-

dured these past decades have been forgotten. Those who time and again pronounced Animas-La Plata a lost cause obviously didn't know the stuff Sam was made of. I knew—and I knew that so long as there was any chance at all, he would keep fighting. Sam has a warrior's heart, and it was an honor to do battle alongside him.

There are generations of Coloradans not yet born, who may never know the name of Sam Maynes, but who will live better lives because of his tenacity. So congratulations to them, Sam, and happy birthday to you.●

TRIBUTE TO VERMONT ASSOCIATES FOR TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT, INC.

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, today I would like to pay tribute to Vermont Associates for Training and Development as it celebrates 20 years of service in meeting the employment needs of Vermonters, age 55 and older, who are ready, willing, and able to work.

I also acknowledge the organization's founding executive director, Pat Elmer, for her vision, leadership, and management skills as she has guided the organization during the past two decades. The agency has developed a number of programs related to career counseling, job search, and computer training in order to prepare individuals for the work place. In addition, they provide on-the-job training stipends to allow people the opportunity to build their resumes through real-life work experiences.

Too often employers may overlook this valuable, and often untapped, resource, which older workers have to offer the workplace. I commend Vermont Associates for leading the way in changing the mindset of many companies by creating new opportunities for employees and employers alike.

As a member of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, HELP, which has jurisdiction over the Older Americans Act, I commend Vermont Associates for their wise and prudent use of funding from this act. Vermont Associates, and their colleagues across the country, were very helpful to me as I chaired the HELP Committee during the long-awaited reauthorization of this legislation.

I have a strong admiration for Pat's dedication and the many others, including board members and volunteers, who have built Vermont Associates. Vermont is grateful to Vermont Associates for their steadfast commitment to equal access to employment. Collectively, they have greatly improved the quality of life in our small State. For that, Vermont owes a great deal of gratitude.●

TRIBUTE TO JOHN R. (JACK) CHAILLET

● Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding