

wit. Idaho agriculture has benefited in incalculable ways from his wisdom, wealth of hard-earned knowledge and his ability to see the bigger picture when it comes to dealing with issues important to Idaho's agriculture community such as water, land use, grazing and animal management, conservation, invasive species and community relations. His has been a voice of reason and calm in the sometimes thorny conflicts that occur between Federal, State and local agriculture regulations and issues. Don has been a tireless spokesman for Idaho's growers and ranchers, a community leader and a good friend to many. It has been an incredible honor and a pleasure to have him on my staff. Don has taught me many things, among them the wisdom of a gate wide enough to accommodate a tiller, and the vast array of Idaho scenery that can be even better appreciated when "big" lost in the Little Lost.

Don has been an essential part of my hometown office, in Idaho Falls; as a result, I share office space with Don when I am home. For most of us, the little things that make our offices ours say quite a bit about who we are. Don keeps a supply of Whoppers in his desk, finishes his coffee, cold, in the afternoons, tracks useful information—what Idahoans like to call "scuttlebutt"—and keeps a dollar bill in his desk drawer. He has created many different storage options for himself in his office, has a reputation as a skilled charades player and color codes activities on his calendar. A little light-hearted personal work space analysis reveals that Don, a whopper of a fellow and true to his farming and ranching roots, is wisely frugal, keeps informed about his community, and is prepared for any emergency. He is creative, inventive and works hard to keep his friendships colorful, nurtured and long-lasting.

I want to thank Don for his many years of service, and thank his wife Georgia for her support as he has worked for me. The schedule isn't always the most family-friendly, and she, like Don, has braved it with a sense of humor and patience.

He has served Idahoans with excellence, and, as he takes the helm of the Idaho State Farm Services Agency, his knowledge, character and wisdom will continue to serve Idaho agriculture. I will miss him on my staff.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

INDIANA SERVICE LEADERS SUMMIT

• Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I wish to tell you about a group of extraordinary young Hoosiers. On October 27, National Make A Difference Day, the fifth annual Service Leaders Summit was held in Indianapolis to honor high school students from across Indiana for their service and dedication to their communities and hopefully to inspire

them to continue serving throughout their lives.

The young men and women who were honored have answered the call to service. Some of them have helped build homes, some tutored and mentored younger students, and others have raised money to support cancer research or feed the hungry. Several of the young men and women led service projects on their own to address the problems in their schools and communities. Each one of the students spends hours making a difference in their hometowns. They have impacted the lives of countless Hoosiers.

During the summit, the students heard from Hoosier leaders who have chosen to dedicate their lives to serving others. The speakers highlighted the five pillars of successful service: inspiration, organization, dedication, evaluation, and reflection. Following the speeches, the students divided into groups and participated in service activities at different sites throughout Indianapolis.

Robert F. Kennedy once said, "Some men see things as they are and say 'Why?' I dream of things that never were and say, 'Why not?'" Each one of these young men and women has already asked themselves "Why not?" and have worked to make positive changes in their communities. They represent a new generation of promise with the potential to make a real difference across Indiana and the nation.

Mr. President, I would like to thank each one of the following individuals for participating in the summit and for their service to their communities:

Laura Alexander, Kashua Alexander, Alex Anspaugh, Alexis Arnold, Chase Arthur, Tiffany Aylor, Anne Baenziger, Kelsie Ball, Kristin Barnes, Kaitlyn Batt, Brittany Bedwell, Adam Bernaix, Stephanie Bradley, Andrea Bright, Lesley Bright, Margaret Burke, Emily Burnworth, Conner Caudill, Libby Chang, Joshua Clifford, Ashley Clodfelder, Carla Cotton, Victoria Cottrell, Adam Crick, Conner Cunningham, Katie Day, Brittany Dunlavy, Christopher Ellison, Joey Etling, Iris Farries, Lyndsey Fisher, Riley Fitzpatrick, Eva Flick, Emily Friesen, Laura Gadson, Amy Gibson, Cody Goshert, Kimberly Gregory, Megan Haire, Katie Hawkins, Tim Herniak, Shelby Hodge, Cody Hodges, Matthew Hollars, Clinton Horine, Christopher Horn, Nick Horn, Stacey Houmes, Candice Howard-Perry, Kian Hudson, Taylor Jenkins, Ashley Jones, Lyndsey Kellett, Ericka Kelley, Sarah Kelsey, Alison Kocur, George Mammarella, Nicholas Marchi, Nicole McCann, Kristen McMan, Kandace McNeely, Lindsey Meyer, Nicole Miller, Emily Miller, Dennis Moynihan, Kristina Muehr, Benjamin Myers, Megan Noonan, Kayla O'Brien, Michael Padilla, Carmen Perry, Sarah Polk, Shavonda Price, Ravon Price, Chloé Pugh, Alexis Rivera, Sable Robinson, Rachel Rominger, TaMar Shachaf, Emily Shephard, Trevor Shockey,

Aaron Smith, Jacob Sowers, Parker Stevens, Colin Stretch, Tha Sung, Jordan Taylor, Jennifer Thilges, Cami Thomas, Jessica Thompson, Vance Torres, Alyssa Vermillion, Tiffany Vogeler, Noah Wahl, Paul Weller, MacKenzie Williams, Lashaa Williams, Becky Wilson, Virginia "Ginny" Wright, and Janelle Yaryan.

I would also like to take a moment to express my gratitude to the Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis students who took part in the summit as well. They are role models to younger students, and I am proud to recognize their achievements.

Lauren Bower, Michael Burk, John Burkhardt, Molly Childers, Victoria Easton, Ashley Fry, Paige Gaydos, Sashana Gordon-Jackson, Selene Hernandez-Buquer, Loan Hoang, Jordan Jenkins, Shani Jones, Whitney Kelly, Kyra Kline, David Lane, Janine Mullins, Sharee Myricks, Lauren Nowlin, Pascal Olame, Olutope Omosogbon, Stephanie Pendleton, Megan Prather, Tiffany Reed, Katherine Scheller, Eddie Shmukler, Lygia Vernon, Channe'l Walters, and Brittani Whitmore.●

TRIBUTE TO SHERIFF JAMES HAYES

• Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to Sheriff James Hayes, who passed away on a recent hunting trip. Sheriff Hayes's law enforcement career began at the Etowah County Sheriff's Office in 1972 as a deputy sheriff. In 1986, he was elected sheriff and was subsequently reelected to five more terms, distinguishing him as the longest-serving sheriff in Etowah County history. He was a graduate of the Hokes Bluff High School Class of 1965, and a member of the only undefeated football team in school history in 1964. Sheriff Hayes was a pillar of the law enforcement community, not only in Etowah County, but in the entire State of Alabama and the Nation. In 1994, he carried the distinguished title of president of the Alabama Sheriff's Association, serving both our State and sheriffs across the Nation with distinction. In the course of his career, Sheriff Hayes served on committees and boards throughout Etowah County and the State of Alabama. His unfailing leadership, and his unwavering love of public service, are examples for us all.

During the course of my Senate career, Sheriff Hayes worked closely with me and my staff to bring about positive change in Alabama. The accomplishment that I am perhaps most grateful to Sheriff Hayes for involves his vision for an immigration detention facility in the State of Alabama. In March of 1998, Sheriff Hayes started pursuing the expansion of the Etowah County Detention Facility. He had a vision for a long-term contract with the Federal Immigration Service, one that would increase the bed capacity in the State, and one that would serve to ensure that Federal immigration laws were

more effectively enforced within the borders of our State. It is common knowledge that without bed space, you cannot arrest and deport illegal aliens. With the help of our office, he secured a 15-year agreement with the Immigration Service and an \$8.4 million expansion grant. This grant added over 300 detention beds, more than doubling the number in the existing facility.

When the Immigration Service turned over control of the facility to its New Orleans Field Office after September 11, 2001, Sheriff Hayes further demonstrated his commitment to a successful immigration enforcement system in Alabama by initiating a movement to return oversight for the Etowah County Federal Detention Facility to Immigration Services' Atlanta Field Office. He firmly believed that the beds would be used more effectively under the direction of the Atlanta Field Office, which was hundreds of miles closer and wanted to use the facility for short term, instead of long-term, immigration detainees. Just 2 weeks before his death, I received notification from the Immigration Service that his multiple year-long effort was not in vain. DHS had fully evaluated his position, and had decided to grant his request. My office was able to communicate the good news that his persistence had been met with success to Sheriff Hayes just before his passing.

I am confident that Sheriff Hayes' diligent efforts over the last several years have ensured a more effective Federal partnership with law enforcement in Alabama for years to come. As I read the recent newspaper articles and messages reacting to Sheriff Hayes's death, I was touched to realize that the appreciation of Etowah County's citizens for Sheriff Hayes's unrelenting public service is only surpassed by their love for him as a husband, father, grandfather, brother and friend who will be missed tremendously. Alabama was indeed lucky to claim him as one of her own.

So, in closing, I want to let Sheriff Hayes' family know how much I appreciate his service, his professionalism, and his dedication to the people of Etowah County and the State of Alabama. I know that words cannot adequately express the loss being felt right now in Etowah County, but we can all be assured that Etowah County and our State are better places because of Sheriff Hayes' leadership. Let his life be an example for those of us who continue to serve in public office.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. GEORGE V.
IRONS, JR., M.D.

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, today I commend Dr. George V. Irons, Jr., M.D., native Alabamian, for his outstanding achievements as one of our Nation's foremost cardiologists.

Dr. Irons has treated the hearts of Americans for over five decades. He graduated from the Medical College of Alabama, earning the highest grades

ever recorded in the school's history, straight A-plus. Since that time, his professional accomplishments have been many.

While at the Medical College of Alabama, he was selected by the American Medical Association as one of the top two medical students in the nation. For his superior scholastic record, leadership and service, he won the Stuart Graves Award, as the Medical School's top student.

After military duty as a flight surgeon, Captain, U.S. Air Force, internship and residency, chief resident in cardiology, Dr. Irons joined the Duke University Medical School Faculty in 1964, where he was named fellow in cardiovascular diseases.

Dr. Irons' career has truly been notable. Since 1966, he has been in active practice in Charlotte, NC, as the first board certified cardiologist in western North Carolina. Dr. Irons was Founder and is president of Mid-Carolina Cardiology, a premiere coronary care provider.

As a high school junior, Irons won the prestigious Bausch & Lomb Award, as America's top science student—a nationwide science talent search based on competitive examinations sponsored by the University of Rochester, NY. As the winner, he was offered a substantial scholarship, which he declined, to attend Samford University.

He graduated from Woodlawn High School with a perfect academic record, first in his class, and served as president of the student body. At Howard College—now Samford University—he continued his course, finishing a rigorous 4 year pre-med curriculum in 35 months with a perfect 3.0—first in his class. For his excellence, he was awarded the John R. Mott Trophy and as the outstanding graduating senior, he won the Birmingham Exchange Club Trophy, Danforth Award, and the ODK National Leadership Award. He also found time to letter in varsity track and win the conference championship in his event.

As a distinguished cardiologist, he was inducted as fellow into the American College of Cardiology and received a special Award of Merit with Citation from the National Association of Cardiologists for his distinctive research contributions to the science of coronary disease. Only eight physicians have been so honored in the Association's history. Dr. Irons' research has been published worldwide in leading medical journals.

This year, Dr. Irons was named one of Samford University's Distinguished Alumnus. Samford University is one of America's finest liberal arts universities, founded and serving in the Christian tradition. To be selected Distinguished Alumnus, the nominee must be distinguished in their professional career, community and church involvement.

I would like to commend Dr. Irons, achievements, research, and devotion to superior patient care. He exhibits

tremendous dedication to the science of coronary disease to provide a better life for our citizens through more improved medical technology and treatment.

I proudly salute Dr. Irons, one of Alabama's great native sons, for his extraordinary service to medicine and this latest honor as a Samford University Distinguished Alumnus.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

At 4:41 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 2546. An act to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Asheville, North Carolina, as the "Charles George Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center".

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

At 5:20 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3222) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes; it agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. MURTHA, Mr. DICKS, Mr. VISLOSKEY, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BOYD of Florida, Mr. ROTHMAN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. OBEY, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. HOBSON, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. WICKER, Mr. KINGSTON, and Mr. LEWIS of California as managers of the conference on the part of the House.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bill and joint resolution, without amendment.

S. 2206. An act to provide technical corrections to Public Law 109-116 (2 U.S.C. 2131a note) to extend the time period for the Joint Committee on the Library to enter into an agreement to obtain a statue of Rosa Parks, and for other purposes.

S.J. Res. 7. Joint resolution providing for the reappointment of Roger W. Sant as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 513. An act to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to enhance the protection of credit ratings of members of the reserve component who serve on active duty in support of a contingency operation, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1567. An act to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide increased assistance for the prevention, treatment, and control of tuberculosis, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2949. An act to authorize grants to the Eurasia Foundation, and for other purposes.