

congregation on its 30th anniversary and its bright future.●

TRIBUTE TO SHANNON HARPS

● Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I would like to express my sorrow regarding the tragic death of one of Washington's finest young environmental advocates Shannon Harps on December 31, 2007. She was killed by an unknown assailant as she was returning to her Capitol Hill apartment in Seattle from the grocery store. Shannon's death is a tremendous loss to our community and the many issues to which she devoted her life. I join with Shannon's family, friends, and colleagues in the Sierra Club in mourning the loss of this wonderful person and fine community organizer. Though her life was cut short, she was able to make a large impact on the quality of the Northwest environment.

Shannon came from her home State of Ohio to Seattle, WA, in February 2004 to join the staff of the northwest office of the Sierra Club. This move joined two of Shannon's strongest desires to work to protect our environment and to live in the Northwest where she could more vigorously pursue her strong love for the outdoors.

Shannon had a wonderful sense of humor and a style of working with people that immediately put them at ease and made it easy for them to join her in protecting our environment and quality of life. Shannon particularly enjoyed working with high school and college students to help them develop their interests and talents in working to create a better world. While Shannon's work was directly focused on protecting our environment, from wilderness to global warming, her values were deeply embedded in a strong sense of fairness and justice for all people.

In the 4 years that Shannon lived in Washington State she helped to protect some of our finest lands. Shannon worked with Sierra Club volunteers and staff from the many groups to help move the Wild Sky Wilderness proposal through the various steps of its arduous journey through the congressional process. She spent countless hours on the phone, in meetings, and on the trail helping to bring people together to advocate for protection of these spectacular wild lands. Shannon believed that people were better advocates if they had firsthand knowledge of the places they were advocating for. As part of this belief she led countless hikes into some of Washington's wildest lands.

Shannon's was a natural leader in the State of Washington and worked with colleagues around the country to help thwart the various efforts to open up America's Arctic Coastal Plain to oil and gas drilling. She was a lead organizer in the successful effort in 2006 to pass the renewable energy portfolio standard for Washington State. And, in the recent 2 years, much of her work focused on building relationships with

local officials and creating public support so they would endorse the mayor's Climate Protection Agreement.

In her all-too-short life, she made contributions that benefited our community, State, and the world. She lived her life as an example of living lightly on the planet and engaged the people and world around her with grace, humor, kindness, and respect. Everyone who worked with her admired her style, tenacity, and sense of purpose, along with her sparkling smile and laugh.

Shannon loved living and working in the Northwest. She reveled in the outdoors and nothing made her happier than to participate in a competitive run, or hike our high mountain trails. Her death is a loss for us all. But her spirit still resides with all of those with whom she worked and walked the trails, and those who continue the struggle to protect our lands and environment and create a more just and fair world for us all.●

TRIBUTE TO MARC HERSHMAN

● Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, today I honor Marc Hershman, a professor and former director of the University of Washington School of Marine Affairs and adjunct professor at the school of law, for his exceptional public service to our country. Since 1972, Professor Hershman has been a valued leader, colleague, and mentor in the fields of marine policy, coastal zone management, marine ports and transportation, and law.

Mr. President, it is my sad duty today to report that Professor Hershman passed away on Monday, February 18. Today, I want to extend my condolences to his entire family, including his wife Carol, his daughter Carla, his son Jordan, and his sister Susan.

Professor Hershman led faculty and students engaged in teaching and research on integrated coastal zone management, ports and transportation, living marine resource management, marine protected areas, impacts of climate change, and other ocean issues. He had more than 30 years of experience in the study of ocean and coastal law and policy. In 1972, he founded the Coastal Management Journal and served as its editor in chief. He served as president of The Coastal Society, was a cofounder of the Marine Affairs and Policy Association, and was an active member of the nationwide Ocean Governance Study Group. He was the founder and a board member of Odyssey Maritime Discovery Center on Seattle's central waterfront.

Over the years, Professor Hershman was the recipient of several awards in the marine policy field. As voted by his peers, he was the first to receive the biennial Orville T. Magoon Service Award, which recognized his long-time Achievement Award and was twice presented with the Distinguished Service Award from the Coastal Society. In

2001, at the recommendation of U.S. House Minority Leader Richard A. Gephardt, Professor Hershman was selected by President George W. Bush to serve on the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy.

Recently, Professor Hershman was working on ocean policy in Washington State. He led 25 students in preparing ocean policy recommendations to the Governor's Ocean Policy Working Group. In collaboration with NOAA's Sea Grant Program and various State agencies, Professor Hershman developed the groundwork for a marine policy fellowship program in the State government, to be called the Hershman Fellowship.

I extend my condolences to Professor Hershman's family and friends. His passing is a loss not only to his family and those who knew him but to academia and the entire field of marine policy.●

HONORING KAREN HONTZ

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the outstanding service Karen Hontz has provided to the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship in her capacity as a detailee from the Small Business Administration, SBA. Karen came to the Senate last June and quickly established herself as an invaluable asset from her first days on the job when the committee held a roundtable and subsequent markup on venture capital legislation. As Congress prepares to take a short recess, Karen will begin her transition back to the SBA, as well as her 20th year of distinguished service to the Federal Government. This will certainly be SBA Administrator Preston's gain and my and my staff's loss. Thank you Administrator Preston for allowing us to work with Karen over the last 9 months.

As I reflect on Karen's tenure, I will always remember how she far exceeded all expectations, working long hours to provide me with clear and succinct materials about critical issues facing America's small businesses. This was particularly impressive given the volume of activity before the committee and the fact that Karen was new to the Senate. Indeed, since Karen came to Capitol Hill, the committee held seven oversight hearings on issues ranging from Government contracting, to women's business ownership and grant programs, to the SBA's budget. The committee also held two markups, sending venture capital, entrepreneurial development, and contracting legislation to the Senate floor. My staff and I could not have navigated these committee actions without Karen's sage counsel and invaluable insight gained from years of experience at the SBA.

Not only was Karen extremely helpful in assisting me with committee hearings and markups, but she also played an integral role in moving legislation on the Senate floor, a rare feat for a new employee. For example,

Karen, together with other members of my staff, successfully negotiated with House and Senate committee, floor, and leadership staff with respect to controversial provisions in the Military Reservist and Veteran Small Business Reauthorization and Opportunity Act of 2007, H.R. 4253, critical legislation that will expand business opportunities for veterans and help reservists keep their businesses afloat during and after deployment. Karen was instrumental in helping the Senate to clear this bill by unanimous consent in late January before President Bush signed it into law in mid-February. Karen was also pivotal in helping to include a bipartisan and bicameral small business title to the energy bill that was signed into law last December. In addition, Karen also helped the Disaster Response and Loan Improvement Act, S. 163, to pass the Senate last August. It was her political savvy and innovative thinking that helped produce a less costly bill that met both the Senate's and the administration's objectives and was able to garner the support of the entire Senate Chamber.

Finally, I would also be remiss in not pointing out that there are often concerns when an executive branch employee comes to the Senate for a work assignment, as Congress and the administration sometimes approach issues from differing viewpoints. Karen carefully and gracefully fulfilled her fiduciary duties relating to confidential information received from the two branches of Government, which could not be shared between those entities. She was also able to give fair and balanced advice, explaining in an unbiased manner both sides of an issue. In addition to Karen's in-depth knowledge of the SBA, she also provided broader insight into executive branch operations, including the Federal rulemaking and administrative processes, as well as the Office of Management and Budget's role in the budget and appropriations process.

Karen has truly been a vital part of my team and has provided a unique viewpoint and voice that has truly broadened this committee's grasp on the SBA and small business issues. Karen's extraordinary performance has far exceeded my expectations, and she will be greatly missed. I wish Karen and her husband Stephen all the best as she returns to the SBA.●

RECOGNIZING THOS. MOSER CABINETMAKERS

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I congratulate Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers, a family-oriented business from my home State of Maine that continues to thrive after 36 years of producing extraordinary furniture. With galleries open in nine locations, including one in South Korea and its newest in Los Angeles, Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers has truly exceeded expectations while staying true to its Maine roots.

Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers' founder, Thomas Moser, began his professional

career as a professor both throughout the United States as well as in Saudi Arabia. Shortly after getting married in 1957, Mr. Moser and his wife began purchasing old furniture, refurbishing it, and then reselling it to supplement their income. Realizing how passionately he enjoyed woodworking, Mr. Moser gave up teaching to pursue the legacy that has now propelled his product into a household name. Working with his sons, Mr. Moser is dedicated to maintaining a family business for years to come and credits his success to his partnership with his wife.

What has always stood out about Thos. Moser is that the company adheres to a creed that stresses function over fashion, creating beautiful works for everyday living. From dining tables and stools to beds, benches, and rocking chairs, Thos. Moser's furniture belies a unique and timeless quality. The company's various collections and pieces have frequently resulted from Mr. Moser's worldwide travels and experiences. The inspiration of Danish furnituremaking provided the impetus for the curved Astral Bench while the Eastward Stool pays tribute to the famed Japanese-American woodworker George Nakashima. Mr. Moser's furniture additionally celebrates places of natural beauty in Maine, from its largest peak, Mount Katahdin, to the island-laden coastal town of Harpswell, to farm-draped New Gloucester, the placid town where Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers got its start. One of the company's most admirable aspects is its warranty. Guaranteed for life, Thos. Moser furniture is ensured to be replaced if it is ever found to be faulty.

To continue constructing such superb furniture, and to stay competitive in the woodworking industry, Thos. Moser recently teamed up with the Maine Manufacturing Extension Partnership to incorporate the Lean manufacturing program into its regular business practices. This program helps workers and management alike think in an innovative, goal-oriented manner, and as a result, many employees at Thos. Moser have taken up leadership positions they never would have attempted otherwise. In all, 35 employees were trained through the program, but the benefits were far-reaching.

Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers grew out of a passion for woodwork, and the current operation has sacrificed none of that early fervor. The company is a strong example of Mainers' determined entrepreneurial spirit, and it shows no signs of letting up. I congratulate Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers and its over 200 employees for their steadfast enthusiasm and committed work ethic, and wish them much continued success.●

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:46 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the

following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5492. An act to authorize the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution to construct a greenhouse facility at its museum support facility in Suitland, Maryland, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 290. Concurrent commemorating the 175th anniversary of the special relationship between the United States and the Kingdom of Thailand.

At 5:27 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H. Con. Res. 316. Concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives and a conditional recess or adjournment of the Senate.

At 6:28 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 2733. An act to temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following concurrent resolution was read, and referred as indicated:

H. Con. Res. 290. Concurrent resolution commemorating the 175th anniversary of the special relationship between the United States and the Kingdom of Thailand; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, March 12, 2008, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled joint resolution:

S.J. Res. 25. Joint resolution providing for the appointment of John W. McCarter as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. KENNEDY, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

Report to accompany S. 901, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide additional authorizations of appropriations for the health centers program under section 330 of such Act (Rept. No. 110-274).

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 980. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to address online pharmacies.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first