

questions. His work as an ambassador of cinema will be remembered gratefully by all those whose lives he touched. He touched mine, and he will be deeply missed.

Sydney is survived by his wife Claire Griswold, and their two daughters, Rachel Pollack Sorman and Rebecca Pollack Parker.●

THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. AMBROSE HOUSING AID CENTER

• Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I congratulate the St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center on its 40th anniversary. Since 1968, it has grown from its original mission to confront the “blockbusting” practices harming Baltimore’s neighborhoods to providing a myriad of services to more than 100,000 Baltimoreans as our oldest nonprofit housing provider.

St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center was founded in 1968 by the dynamic and tenacious Father Vincent Patrick Quayle, known to all as Vinny. The center is dedicated to creating and preserving affordable housing in Baltimore. Its many successes are due to the charismatic and effective leadership of Vinny Quayle and the tireless efforts of a dedicated staff.

In the 1970s, St. Ambrose initiated a rental program and converted several vacant Catholic school buildings into affordable apartments. This effort led to neighborhood revitalization in many Baltimore communities. Today, St. Ambrose owns and manages 350 single and multifamily affordable housing units serving very low-income households, households with special needs, and the elderly.

When Baltimore experienced a gentrification movement in the 1980s, many low income families, especially those renting their homes, feared they would be displaced. St. Ambrose led the way in helping tenants convert to homeownership and was instrumental in convincing Baltimore City to establish a “Tenant’s Right of First Refusal” bill.

Two other programs were established that have become core services at St. Ambrose. The Homesharing Program, the only one in Maryland, matches householders with room to share with homeseekers who need affordable housing and are willing to provide help with household tasks or financial support. The Legal Services Program helps homeowners and tenants combat home improvement fraud and predatory lending practices.

St. Ambrose partnered with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD, and bought, renovated and sold Federal Housing Administration, FHA, properties to first-time homebuyers. Through its Homeownership Counseling Program, St. Ambrose serves more than 700 prospective homebuyers every year, with 100 of them purchasing a home within 6 months of completing housing counseling.

As the numbers of subprime mortgages and foreclosures have increased, St. Ambrose has stepped forward to help homeowners save their homes. Expert housing counselors provide assistance to homeowners in a number of ways and staff attorneys are available to provide legal review and action.

I am most proud to extend my warmest congratulations and best wishes to St. Ambrose Housing Aid Center on its 40th anniversary and ask my colleagues to do the same.●

REMEMBERING LIEUTENANT GENERAL WILLIAM ODOM

• Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today I would like to commemorate the life of a great soldier, strategic thinker and American, LTG William Odom. I was deeply saddened to learn of his recent sudden death.

General Odom served our country with honor and distinction throughout his life. During his time serving as a military adviser in the White House, Director of the National Security Agency, and West Point and Yale professor, General Odom demonstrated an uncanny talent for assessing and advancing U.S. interests in a complex and challenging world.

Over the years, the U.S. Congress has benefited greatly from General Odom’s clear vision of U.S. interests in the Middle East. General Odom was a strong critic of the Iraq war even before it began. It is unfortunate that more Members of this body did not heed his insightful and prescient warnings of the perils of invading Iraq. His steadfast commitment to ending the war and restoring a balanced and focused national security strategy has been an inspiration. So, too, was his strong opposition to the President’s illegal warrantless wiretapping program.

Our thoughts are with his wife, son, and family during this difficult time. I hope that they can take some comfort knowing that he will be deeply missed by a grateful Nation.●

REMEMBERING BILL CLARK

• Mr. PRYOR. Mr. President, today I honor the life of a great Arkansan, William E. “Bill” Clark, who passed on May 15, 2007. Bill was respected as a great philanthropist, sportsman, business leader and citizen of Arkansas. He was seen as an unparalleled advocate for the needs and welfare of his State and its citizens. He dedicated his life to serving his community and supporting individual lives in the public and private sector.

Bill graduated from Little Rock Central High School in 1961 and the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville in 1965 with a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering. Thereafter, he joined his brothers at C&C Electric Construction Company in Little Rock, working there until 1981 when he acquired Bragg’s Electric Construction Company. In 1987, Bill partnered with

Dillard’s Incorporated and founded CDI Contractors, which grew to be one of the largest construction firms in the South. High-profile projects completed by CDI under Bill’s leadership include the Clinton Presidential Library in Little Rock, the headquarters for Heifer International in Little Rock and Emmanuel Baptist Church in West Little Rock, of which Bill was a devout attendee for over 27 years. Bill’s impact on the business community of Arkansas is evident by the numerous business and professional awards he received, including Arkansas Business Executive of the Year, Rotary Club of Little Rock’s Business and Professional Leader of the Year Award, Paul Harris Fellow as given by Fifty for the Future, election to the Arkansas Construction Hall of Fame, and admission to the University of Arkansas Engineering Hall of Fame and the Arkansas Academy of Electrical Engineering.

Respected and admired throughout Arkansas for over three decades, Bill took on countless worthwhile projects with optimism and enthusiasm; he was an inspiration to many. The positions he held relating to public service are evidence of his commitment to his community. His awards reflect his professional successes as well as his avid public service. These awards included the Arkansas Arts Center’s Winthrop Rockefeller Memorial Award, the Boys and Girls Club of America National Service to the Youth Award, the Edwin N. Hanlon Memorial Award for Contribution to the Arts, and the Arkansas Children’s Award from the Arkansas Sheriff’s Youth Ranches.

Bill was a past president of the board for the University of Arkansas board of trustees, the Arkansas Arts Center, the Little Rock Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Country Club of Little Rock. Bill served as a board member of the Little Rock Boys and Girls Club, the Arkansas Arts Center Foundation, Baptist Health, the UAMS Foundation, Ouachita Baptist University Business Advisory Council, and the Episcopal Collegiate School Foundation.

During his lifetime, Bill was an enthusiastic outdoorsman. He loved hunting, fishing, and golf, while remaining committed to conservation endeavors. A final gesture honoring Bill and benefiting his community is the establishment of the William E. “Bill” Clark Presidential Park Wetlands, a 13-acre tract located on the banks of the Arkansas River running adjacent to the Clinton Presidential Library. This natural wetland area provides an educational exhibit that can be enjoyed by State, national, and international visitors for generations to come. As contractor for the Clinton Presidential Library, Bill believed in the library’s mission to strive for educational advances within Arkansas, including the history of the United States, the institutional roles of the Presidency and the American political system as applied to President William J. Clinton.

It is hard for people to experience Arkansas without noticing the remarkable accomplishments of Bill Clark. It is not hard to imagine just what makes Bill Clark so special to his family, his friends, and to Arkansas. He was a person of great faith, a loving husband and father, a doting grandfather, and a humorous, compassionate friend to all he met. Bill never approached a situation with a negative attitude; rather, he saw everything as an opportunity to benefit his community. Bill will be well remembered for his generosity and commitment to improving his community.●

TRIBUTE TO KATHRYN TUCKER WINDHAM

• Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, today I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the 90th birthday of one of America's and Alabama's most talented and acclaimed residents, Ms. Kathryn Tucker Windham. Ms. Windham is a beloved storyteller, author, playwright, photographer, television and radio personality and, most importantly, a woman of faith, integrity, grace and high ideals.

This smalltown girl has written larger than life tales including "Thirteen Alabama Ghosts and Jeffery", along with many other historically based ghost-stories that involve smalltown urban legends in Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, and Mississippi. She has also written works like "Twice Blessed", "GRITS" and "Alabama, One Big Front Porch", which reveal the rich joys of Alabama living.

She grew up in Thomasville, AL, not too far from my rural home and not too far from another notable Alabama writer—Harper Lee. Her capacity for storytelling and writing started early, as a news reporter. But she did not stop there allowing her natural talent and inclinations to lead her to a higher plane of national renown. It is always inspirational to see a real person, an individual American, follow their own calling and achieve success.

Ms. Windham represents the highest values of our State and region. This is so because she was raised right, studied hard, thought deeply, and was committed to a life that enriches others. A graduate of my alma mater, Huntingdon College, she followed its admonition, "Enter to grow in wisdom; go forth to apply wisdom in service."

I have known her and her son Ben for many years. I am so in awe of her. Not just for her noteworthy achievements, but because of the content of her character. She is an entertaining storyteller for sure, but she is a truth teller also. Her works reflect with truth the nature of the human condition. In them, she displays a love for all persons that reflects well on her rich heritage of religious faith.

She, from a lifetime of experience and insight, has been a leader in racial reconciliation in her home area. Persons of her integrity and stature can

make a positive difference and she has. She supports good causes, knows in remarkable detail the history of the smallest communities in our State, and knows the importance of simply remembering. She loves children, capturing them with tall tales while stressing education and personal character.

Her wonderful southern accent is well remembered on NPR's "All Things Considered" and her commentaries are still heard on Alabama Public Radio.

I applaud her on her many achievements, and I am thankful to have such a beacon of literary excellence shining from Alabama. She is highly recognized for her achievements by the whole State and around the world and was one of the 13 artists chosen to represent the State by the Alabama State Council for the Arts at Alabama in France and Monaco in 2000. She was also honored in 2003 with the establishment of the Kathryn Tucker Windham Museum at Alabama Southern College.

Fellow Alabama author Harper Lee, author of "To Kill a Mockingbird", which is set in Monroeville not far from Thomasville, nominated Ms. Windham to the Alabama Academy of Honor in 2003. Some of her other accolades include: Alabama Humanities Award in 2000, the Governor's Award for the Arts, the National Storytelling Association's Circle of Excellence Award and Lifetime Achievement Award, the University of Alabama's Society of Fine Arts' Alabama Award, the Selma Rotary Club's Citizen of the Year, and she was inducted into the University of Alabama College of Communications Hall of Fame.

In true poetic form, I think, Ms. Windham sums up her insights in her book "Alabama, One Big Front Porch":

Alabama, they say, is like one big front porch where folks gather on summer nights to tell tales and to talk family. The stories they tell are all alike in their Southern blend of exaggeration, humor, pathos, folklore and romanticism. Family history is woven into the stories. And pride. And humor. Always humor.

I know I speak for all Alabamians and all Americans when I express my gratitude for your eloquence, your literary achievements, and your humanity, and say, "Happy Birthday Kathryn Tucker Windham!"

In closing, I would like to leave the Senate with a few of her words that truly embody the spirit of her work and life:

I think we need to be put back in touch with our childhood . . . to be reminded of what's important, like memories about people we loved, or things that happened to us that affected our lives, things we can laugh about and shed a few tears about . . . I think storytelling is a way of saying "I love you. I love you enough to tell you something that means a great deal to me."●

NEW HAMPSHIRE EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARD WINNERS

• Mr. SUNUNU. Mr. President, today I congratulate the 2008 recipients of the

New Hampshire Excellence in Education Awards. These prestigious awards, commonly called the "ED"ies, are presented each year to individuals and schools who demonstrate the highest level of excellence in education.

The "ED"ies were instituted as a way to honor the best of the best among New Hampshire's educators. For 15 years, annual award winners have been drawn from a rich source of talented and successful teachers, administrators, schools, and school boards. This year's recipients are no exception.

Those individuals selected have been compared against a criteria set by others in their discipline through their sponsoring organization. Schools are chosen by experienced educators and community leaders in New Hampshire based on guidelines established by the New Hampshire Excellence in Education Board of Directors. I am proud to recognize the individuals and schools who will receive this honor on June 7, 2008, and look forward to personally presenting this year's award for Secondary School of Excellence to Londonderry High School, as well as the Presidential Awards for Math and Science to Kimberly Knighton of Profile School and Louis Broad of Timberlane High School, respectively.

As a graduate of Salem High School, I am especially pleased that this year's New Hampshire Teacher of the Year, Benjamin Adams, has taught in Salem for 12 years. As I serve in the United States Senate, I am grateful for the excellent education I received in our New Hampshire public schools, and congratulate all of this year's award winners.

I ask that the list of the 2008 New Hampshire Excellence in Education Award winners be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows.

2008 NEW HAMPSHIRE EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARDS RECIPIENTS

Dr. Maurissa Abecassis; Benjamin Adams; Ina Ahern; Susan Antico; Dawn Bechtold; Alexander J. Blastos; Louis Broad; James K. Crane; Heather R. Cummings; Blanche Garant; Tobi Gray Chassie; Dorothy Grazier; Cynthia Grisa; Jacquelyn Hall; Percy Hill; Mark Humphreys; Kevin Irwin; Maria Knee; Kimberley Knighton; Dan LaFleur; William Marston; Curt Martin; Jan Martin; John Miles; Carl J. Nelson; Christina Nelson; Jill Pinard; Virginia Pinard; Dennis Pymm; Michael Reardon; Christine Reinart; David Seiler; Elise Smith; Bill Tirone; Carolann Wais; Bradley Wolff; and Ellen Zimmerman, RN, M.Ed.

Chichester School Board, Cooperative Middle School, Londonderry High School, Adeline C. Marston Elementary School, Pittsfield Elementary School, Simonds Elementary School.●

TRIBUTE TO GENERAL BURWELL BAXTER BELL

• Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the professional dedication, vision, and military service of GEN B.B. Bell, who is retiring from the U.S. Army after 39 years of dedicated service. It is a privilege for me to recognize the many outstanding achievements General Bell has provided the