

humanity's relationship to the natural world, and he created images to help people see and maintain that connection.

Ernest became an award-winning photographer serving architectural, industrial, and commercial clients while nurturing his dedication to showcasing the beauty of Mother Nature. Ernest was deeply committed to his craft and worked to ensure others had the opportunity to explore photography. Ernest taught photography at several schools including the University of California, Berkeley, and the University of California, San Diego. In addition, he traveled around the world teaching environmental photography workshops in Peru, Kenya, New Zealand, Alaska, Ecuador, China, New Zealand, the Galapagos Islands, and elsewhere. Ernest was a revered and sought-after photographer whose gift for the art form was admired by many.

Ernest's photography has been exhibited in prestigious institutions all over the country, including the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art and the Time-Life Gallery in New York City. In 1968, Ernest was voted the Nation's top architectural photographer by the American Institute of Architects, and in 1970 he won first prize in the landscape division of Life magazine's photo contest. Many of his images have also been published in books celebrating our environment.

Ernest was a kind and decent man with whom I had the great pleasure of being personally acquainted. He will certainly be remembered for his skillful photographic representations of the world around him and for his love and dedication to nature. Although he will be dearly missed, we take comfort in knowing that future generations will continue to benefit from the timeless gifts of the photographs he left behind.

Ernest is survived by his daughter Jennifer; his sons Jeff, Christopher, and Jonathan; and his four grandchildren. Our hearts go out to Ernest's family and friends during this difficult time.●

REMEMBERING KEELER CONDON

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Keeler Bud Condon, former councilman of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe in South Dakota. Keeler passed away on March 30, 2010. The community of Cherry Creek, SD, and all of the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation lost a great leader and friend.

Keeler's Lakota name, Iktomi Kuwapi, is translated as "Cannot Be Fooled." He was born on May 5, 1941, in Porcupine, SD, on the Pine Ridge Reservation, and he spent his childhood years there. Keeler attended a number of tribal schools before graduating from Cheyenne-Eagle Butte High School in 1961.

One of Keeler's greatest joys was sports. He was an avid sports fan and athlete; in 1959, his basketball team

won the South Dakota State "B" Championship. After high school, he played with the All American Indian Semi-Pro team. Illustrating his enduring commitment to community, he maintained contact throughout his life with his high school basketball coach, Gus Kolb. Keeler worked for many years as a certified building and trades professional and also served as a bus driver for the Takini School before he was elected to the Cheyenne River Tribal Council in 2002. He served a 4-year term.

In 2003, I met Keeler when he hosted me and former Indian Health Service Director Dr. Charles Grim in Cherry Creek. We joined him for a tour and pow-wow. I remember well his constant advocacy for better health care and an improved quality of life for tribal communities. After Keeler retired from the Tribal Council, he continued to be a consistent presence at Tribal Headquarters in Eagle Butte. He would take the time to visit with many tribal members and provide guidance to the elected leaders.

I am sure that Keeler's entire family, including his wife Frieda, four children, and two stepchildren are very proud of his accomplishments, as they ought to be. Strong leaders are central to the well-being of tribal communities, and the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe certainly benefited from Keeler's contributions.●

TRIBUTE TO PAULETTE MONTILEAUX

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I wish today to pay tribute to Ms. Paulette Montileaux of Rapid City, SD, on an outstanding 42 years of service to the Federal Government as an employee of the U.S. Department of Interior's Indian Arts and Crafts Board. An enrolled member of the Rosebud Sioux Tribe, Ms. Montileaux began her service in Rapid City as a clerk and typist for the Indian Arts and Crafts Board in 1967. In 1978, she was promoted to Museum Assistant, and in 1983 she was named Curator for the Sioux Indian Museum.

The Sioux Indian Museum in Rapid City was founded in 1939 and is home to the historic Anderson Collection from the Rosebud Reservation, which was gathered in the 1880s and 1890s. This museum is one of three such unique and important Museums nationwide under the care of the Indian Arts and Crafts Board. Over the years, this Museum's collections have grown into one of the most extensive collections of Lakota/Dakota/Nakota artifacts. Ms. Montileaux and her staff have worked tirelessly to preserve these possessions. Housed within the Journey Museum for the past 13 years, items from the Sioux Indian Museum are viewed by the public in a realistic travel through time.

For 42 years, Ms. Montileaux worked to preserve the history of the Lakota/Dakota/Nakota people by maintaining existing collections, as well acquiring

new pieces of art. According to Authur Amiotte, during her long career she assisted in and witnessed the beginning careers of many traditional tribal artisan and contemporary painters, sculptors, and jewelers. Among her varied responsibilities, she coordinated a number of special exhibits each year to highlight the work of emerging artists. The integrity of the collections within the museum and their existence for future generations is in no small part thanks to Ms. Montileaux.

Ms. Montileaux went about her important work each day quietly and without any self interest; all of her attention was always focused on the collections and their importance to the tribes and all residents of South Dakota. Again, I congratulate her on her retirement and wish her and her husband Don Montileaux all the best on their future endeavors.●

REMEMBERING CHRISTOPHER W. WHITE

● Mr. KAUFMAN. Mr. President, in the past couple of years, the economy took a turn for the worse, and the Community Legal Aid Society, Inc.—CLASI, for short—in my home State of Delaware, was hit with a triple whammy. More people needed help while there were fewer private and government contributions to go around.

CLASI's executive director, Christopher W. White, faced these new, increasing, and difficult challenges bravely and with an amazing sense of determination. Some would say Chris did his best work when the going got particularly tough.

Today, the Legal Aid Society is a wonderful and esteemed nonprofit law firm dedicated to providing advice to people with low incomes or disabilities as well as those who are elderly. The success of CLASI is in large part due to Chris's almost two decades of hard work, direction, and excellent fundraising abilities. His devotion to CLASI was clear during the recent recession, when he lowered his own salary so that others could keep their jobs.

However, the Delaware and legal communities faced a tragic blow last week when Chris's life was tragically cut short on Wednesday, April 21. He was 48.

You can't go far in Wilmington without hearing that Chris was a brilliant advocate and overall great person. When you talked with Chris, his passion and drive would rub off on you. He had the effect of making everyone who knew him want to become a better person.

Much of this was owed to Chris's charisma. He was one-of-a-kind, and his intelligence never came off as pretentious. Everything that Chris did was driven by his heart—not politics or career-climbing—and a strong desire to make things better in his community.

Chris was a preacher's son and a graduate of Boston College and Suffolk University Law School. During law

school, Chris had a summer internship at Harvard Legal Aid, which changed his life. He could have been a private attorney with a high salary and a fraction of the workload of a public interest attorney. However, Chris devoted his entire professional career to Delaware's Community Legal Aid Society. Some of the highlights of his very bright career were when he argued before the Delaware Supreme Court.

One of his passions was the issue of safe, affordable, and adequate housing. The original Legal Aid Society dates back to 1946, but just recently CLASI added the Fair Housing Program to enforce fair housing rights for all people regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, and familial status. This is in large part due to Chris's commitment to this issue. He was involved with many community development and housing organizations and took up the cause before the State general assembly. He wrote a new State law to settle conflicts between manufactured-home owners and landlords. He also reworked New Castle County's landlord-tenant code so tenants could better understand their rights.

Chris's hard work was widely recognized by his peers. He received the New Lawyers Distinguished Service Award from the Delaware State Bar Association in 1999 and the Kind Policy Award from the Delaware Housing Coalition in 1997.

Only days after his passing, one of his many projects was opened in downtown Wilmington. He had led the renovation of an abandoned commercial space into "Shipley Lofts," a 23-unit artist community. The 1,500-square-foot gallery has been named the Christopher W. White Gallery in his memory, and the nonprofit organization that oversees the project has been renamed the Christopher W. White Community Development Corporation.

Chris gave everything he had—mind, body, time, resources—to those without a voice. Tragically, he was hit by a car in front of the building he worked so hard to develop as a place of vitality and creativity.

The loss of Christopher W. White is a great loss to Delaware. He will be truly missed. My sympathies go out to his family, friends, and colleagues, especially his wife Leandria and their children, Josh and Kayla, and his mother, Donna.●

REMEMBERING CHRISTOPHER C. BOLKCOM

● Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I wish to speak in order to honor the life and achievements of Christopher C. Bolkcom, Congressional Research Service Specialist, on the occasion of the first anniversary of his passing away, on May 1, 2009.

Christopher Bolkcom served Congress with distinction for 9 years at the Library of Congress as a specialist in military aviation for the Congressional

Research Service. He held a bachelor's degree in international relations from the University of Minnesota, a master's degree in international affairs from American University in Washington, DC, and a master's degree in national security strategy from the National War College in Washington, DC.

Christopher was born on June 13, 1962, in Minneapolis, MN, raised there and then spent his adult life and career in the National Capitol Region until his untimely death on May 1, 2009.

Christopher was recognized throughout Congress, the military Services, the defense community, and the aeronautical industry as an expert on the management, operational use and procurement of military aircraft. In that capacity, he assisted Congress in its legislative and oversight activities, including testifying before the Senate Armed Services Committee; the House Armed Services Committee; the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee; and the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee. Christopher published many influential CRS reports on such subjects as Air Force aerial refueling; the role of airpower in counterinsurgency operations; tactical aviation and bomber force modernization; military aviation safety; suppression of enemy air defenses; and protecting commercial aircraft from shoulder-fired missiles. He provided objective, expert analysis on a number of issues, including the Joint Strike Fighter and the KC-X Tanker, to Congress, the Senate Armed Services Committee, and to me and my staff personally—analysis for which I am very grateful.

Christopher displayed generous enthusiasm for meeting the professional needs of colleagues and clients, enlivened by persistent humor and wit in his interpersonal relations. He worked hard at his public duties. He also played hard with friends, whether skiing or kick-boxing, and found time to serve others, at for example the Falls Church Presbyterian Church in Falls Church, VA.

On this occasion—the first anniversary of Christopher's passing away—I want to honor the life and achievements of Congressional Research Service Specialist Christopher Bolkcom, who is survived by his loving family, including his children Jessica and Maxwell Bolkcom; their mother Mary Anne Alexander; his parents Gene and Ann Bolkcom; his sister Elizabeth Matteson; his brother Bill Bolkcom; and his nephew Tristin Matteson.●

TRIBUTE TO VICE ADMIRAL MIKE LOOSE

● Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment today to recognize the extraordinary contributions of VADM Mike Loose, Civil Engineer Corps, U.S. Navy to our Nation. Vice Admiral Loose has served with exceptional distinction as the Deputy Chief

of Naval Operations, CNO, for Fleet Readiness and Logistics, a position of great responsibility, from January 2007 to April 2010.

Vice Admiral Loose brought a unique and remarkable perspective to the CNO's leadership team, resulting in profound innovations to Navy policy, programs, and resourcing. His professional reach extended to the Joint Staff, the other Services, our international defense partners, and the industry to achieve alignment and collaboration resulting in great benefits to everyone involved. He was the visionary leader and driving force behind the Navy's transition from a level-of-effort based budget to a model-based approach that links Afloat Readiness to output metrics and resources. This transformational leap provided senior Navy leadership the intellectual basis and the tools to enhance core Warfighting capabilities in a restrained fiscal environment and to clearly define the relationship between baseline and overseas contingency operations funding.

Vice Admiral Loose was also the vanguard who recognized the strategic imperative of energy to the employment of Navy combat forces and spearheaded the establishment of Task Force Energy and the Navy Energy Coordination Office 2 years ago. He fully established the mindset that energy is a tactical advantage and strategic enabler for military forces. In short order, his Energy organization was recognized as the premier model for the other Services and as the foundation for the DON's Energy program. In addition, he profoundly reshaped and expertly guided the Navy's Environmental Program at a time when the importance of the program was paramount. His foresight and energetic leadership ensured the Navy achieved regulatory milestones and uninterrupted, critical operational training in support of national command authority objectives.

In recognition of the enormous challenges inherently facing the funding of future ownership costs of existing and new systems Vice Admiral Loose directed the development of a "2030 and Beyond" assessment that demonstrated that the growth in future ownership costs of existing and new systems would far exceed the expected growth in the Navy's topline budget over the next 20 years. His efforts led to an increased focus on total ownership costs across the Navy, specific direction in the 2010 Chief of Naval Operations Guidance and his assignment as the Navy's Executive Agent for Total Ownership Costs.

Today, I honor Vice Admiral Loose for his service to our country, his inspirational and visionary leadership, his extraordinary strength of character and moral courage, and his irrepressible drive and leadership. He and his wife Carol and their son Chris have made many sacrifices during his career in the Navy. I call upon my colleagues