

block—which in turn, elected him to serve as the first nonfraternity student body president in the school's nearly 200 year history.

After college, his passion for the law took him to Yale Law School, in my home State of Connecticut. His legal education was interrupted by his distinguished service to the United States in the Pacific during World War II. Upon finishing his degree, he became active in the U.S. labor movement. He and his wife and partner in social activism, Patricia, had the opportunity to travel the United States and Europe studying unions and the labor movements that were beginning to gain steam and become a force in politics and society all across the globe. As a young labor attorney he worked to organize some of Connecticut's first municipal unions, and also served as an attorney for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

At the ripe old age of 36 he became Hartford Corporation counsel, which launched a career in public service that continued until 1980. He served on the Hartford City Council from 1959 until 1968, and in 1969 was elected to represent Hartford in the Connecticut General Assembly. During his time on the council and in the general assembly, George worked to highlight and pursue progressive solutions to issues that were not yet part of mainstream concerns; from civil rights, to elder and juvenile justice, to government accountability, and of course, working to provide equal opportunities for all.

He was truly a pioneer when it came to raising concerns about and finding solutions to address the issue of civil rights and equal opportunities. In fact, in the early 1960s—prior to the passage of the Civil Rights Act—he and Patricia started the Connecticut Housing Investment Fund to help finance minority home-ownership and integrated housing. This organization became a model for subsequent national programs to support affordable housing.

Throughout his career he fought tirelessly for the rights of workers, and the advancement of housing, employment, and other opportunities for minorities—including by recruiting and managing the campaigns of the first minority candidates for the Hartford City Council and Board of Education.

He was also the first man ever appointed to Connecticut's Permanent Commission on the Status of Women, an honor that always gave him a smile, and spoke volumes of his commitment to equal opportunities for all Americans.

Even outside of public life, George continued to work to help others. After retiring from the general assembly in 1980, he cofounded the Independent Energy Corporation. One of the projects of Independent Energy helped to streamline the electricity usage of the largest business in the Caribbean region. The electricity savings from that one business helped to lower the foreign exchange bill of the entire nation

of Jamaica—a truly notable achievement.

By any measure, the life of George Ritter was an utter success. In business, in public life, and as the loving father of five children, George led a life of principle and purpose. His work benefitted his community and helped to expand opportunities for the less fortunate.

Even though he has passed, George's spirit of public service lives on. His sons Thomas and John have both served in the State legislature, and his grandson Matt is a member of the Hartford City Council and is running to fill the general assembly seat George once held.

I am confident they will continue to build on George's legacy, and am proud to call them my constituents. I wish them the best of luck, and hope that they will continue to pass George's values and character on for generations to come.●

#### FAITH, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the 100th anniversary of Faith, SD. Faith is a strong community, and I am proud to represent them.

When the railroad announced its plan to settle a community at the edge of the Cheyenne Sioux Indian Reservation, settlers rushed to the area. Businesses sprung up before the town was officially mapped out. The railroad decided to plot the town south of the tracks so the town would expand into Meade County. Even after the drought in 1911, Faith continued to grow, making changes to its approach to farming and ranching. When the water supply was low in 1946, the town began shipping in water from Mobridge, and started constructing a water filtration plant. Faith is also known for the 1990 discovery of Sue, the most complete and best preserved *Tyrannosaurus rex* ever found. Sue is now on display at the Field Museum in South Dakota.

One hundred years after its founding, Faith holds its history close while continually looking to the future, demonstrating what is great about South Dakota, and why I am proud to call this great State home.●

#### FEDORA, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I honor the community of Fedora, SD, and to recognize the 125th Territorial Day. Situated in Miner County, Fedora is a testament to the great State of South Dakota.

From its beginnings, agriculture and small businesses have played an instrumental role in the livelihood of Fedora. Fedora was originally named after the daughter of a founding railroad executive. Upon the completion of the railroad, the town of Fedora slowly flourished. A creamery, grocery store and the Farmers Purchasing and Shipping Company gradually urbanized the

town's landscape. Over time, small businesses have come and gone, however, the town's bond to agriculture is unwavering.

The 125th anniversary celebration will be held July 24, 2010, kicking off with Ghost Parade. More activities include a road race, Jaws of Life demonstration, antique/history display, supper pie auction and a dance. People of all ages will be able to take part in the day's activities.

I am proud to publicly congratulate the community on this achievement. As the people of Fedora take this opportunity to appreciate and reflect on how far the town has come from its beginnings, I know they understand the important role Fedora plays in making South Dakota a great State to live.●

#### SOUTH DAKOTA STATE FAIR QUASQUICENTENNIAL

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, it is with great honor that today I recognize the 125th anniversary of the South Dakota State Fair. This quasquicentennial is meaningful to the citizens of South Dakota, as many visit this event each year for entertainment, competition and great company. Whether it is the 4-H competitions, carnival rides, live music, informational booths or the many commercial vendors there is something for everyone at the State fair.

From its humble beginnings, the State fair started with only 85 acres of land that was deeded to the State of South Dakota by the Chicago and Northwestern Railway Company for \$50,000. With time, the fair grew as the South Dakota population grew. More land has been purchased, buildings have been constructed, and several improvements have been made. Today, the grounds host a wide range of buildings from the 4-H livestock complex to grandstands. Although changes have been made to fair ground's landscape since its founding, the South Dakota State Fair has stayed true to its mission, which is to have the fairgrounds be seen as a successful year-round, family-friendly venue that showcases youth, achievement, agriculture and community.

September 2-6, 2010, South Dakotans from across the State will gather at the State fairgrounds in Huron to celebrate 125 years of our State's history. With live entertainment, livestock events, the South Dakota Outdoor Expo, and more, all ages will celebrate in the day's activities. I hope this celebration gives our citizens a chance to reflect on our shared State history, as well as our promising future.

As frequent visitor to the South Dakota State Fair, I congratulate the South Dakota State Fair on reaching this monumental anniversary, and I look forward to the future as the fair continues to prosper.●

## VIENNA, SOUTH DAKOTA

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I recognize the town of Vienna, SD, on reaching its 125th anniversary. Throughout its history, this small, rural community in Clark County has faced many hardships yet it still remains a strong town, and I congratulate the people of Vienna for all that they have accomplished.

Vienna was founded in 1887 along the Milwaukee railroad. Named by the Austrian founders after Vienna, Austria, this small town quickly grew as a result of daily freight and passenger trains. Unfortunately, a fire in 1913 destroyed six buildings on Main Street, slowing down the progress of the town. However, Vienna persevered and rebuilt two brick buildings which housed a meat market and a drug store. In 1937, a new elevator was built by the Vienna Grain Company, which greatly enhanced the community.

Residents of Vienna will kick off their July 30–August 1 celebration with a lawnmower only poker run followed by the Fireman Olympics, threshing bee, all-school reunion, dance, and conclude with a Sunday morning service at Bethlehem Lutheran Church. I am proud to honor Vienna, a town that contributes so much to the identity of rural South Dakota, for its historic milestone.●

## ARKANSAS'S FARM FAMILIES

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I recognize eight Arkansas families who were recently selected as district winners of the Arkansas Farm Bureau's 64th Annual Farm Family of the Year program. This year's winners are:

Michael and Sarah Oxner of Searcy (White County) in the East Central District. The Oxners own Red River Farms, where they grow 2,700 acres of rice, 2,100 acres of soybeans, 300 acres of corn, 280 acres of cotton and 700 acres of moist soil, millet, and native grasses for wildlife. They have three children, Mary, Laura, and Paten.

Mark and Nancy Satterfield of Norfolk (Baxter County) in the North Central District. The Satterfields are registered seed stock producers of Charolais and Angus cattle with a production herd of 110 cows. They have had champion bulls and females in both Arkansas and Missouri. They have two children, Taylor and Justin.

Lammers Farms Partnership located in Manila (Mississippi County) in the Northeast District. Lammers Farms Partnership is a family operation with three generations of farmers. Louis and Carol Lammers, their children Jeff Lammers and Laura Weiss, and their respective families, are partners of Lammers Farm. Louis and Carol Lammers also have seven grandchildren. On 6,662 acres, Lammers Farms grows 530 acres of irrigated upland cotton, 1,072 acres of nonirrigated upland cotton, 2,060 acres of long grain rice, 80 acres of grain sorghum, 1,207 acres of irrigated soybeans, 742 acres of nonirrigated soybeans and 971 acres dedicated to the Conservation Reserve Program. Lammers Farms Partnership also owns a grain storage facility in Blytheville that is currently leased to Riceland.

Randy and Anjie Cockrum of Rudy (Crawford County) in the Northwest District.

Randy and Anjie Cockrum have 578 acres, 400 of which produce hay. They also have 160 cow/calf pairs and a meat processing operation. When calf prices are low the Cockrums market their calves as beef through their processing operation. They have three children, Siera, Tyler and Shelby.

Curt and Ellen Rankin of Lake Village (Chicot County) in the Southeast District. The Rankin's farm consists of 500 acres of corn, 1,950 acres of irrigated soybeans and 150 acres of nonirrigated soybeans. They have two children, Seth and Jacob.

Darrell and Jennifer Ford of Hope (Hempstead County) in the Southwest District. The Fords graze about 700 yearling calves per year. The cattle-grazing operation also provides pasture for outside farmers. The Fords own 100 cows and about 25 percent of the calves they graze. The Fords also co-own the Hope Livestock Auction, which sells roughly 45,000 head of cattle each year. They have four children, Kade, Kylan, Grace and Aubrie.

Jeremy and Leslie Allmon of Murfreesboro (Pike County) in the West Central District. The Allmons have 103 cows, 92 calves, 35 heifers, 2 bulls, 2 poultry laying houses containing approximately 28,400 hens and 100 acres of hay on their 420 acre operation. They have one child, Holden, who is 2.

Larry and Marilyn Huddleston of Waldron (Scott County) in the Western District. The Huddlestons run 100 cows, 700 stocker calves and produce hay on 1,340 acres. They have two children, Hannah and Cole.

As a seventh-generation Arkansan and farmer's daughter, and as chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, I understand firsthand and appreciate the hard work and contributions of our farm families. Agriculture is the backbone of Arkansas's economy, creating more than 270,000 jobs in the State and providing \$9.1 billion in wages and salaries. In total, agriculture contributes roughly \$15.9 billion to the Arkansas economy each year and is responsible for one out of every four Arkansas jobs.

We must work to continue the farm family tradition, so these families are able to maintain their livelihoods and continue to help provide the safe, abundant, and affordable food supply that feeds our own country and the world and that is essential to our own economic stability.

I salute all Arkansas farm families for their hard work and dedication.●

## 2010 TONTITOWN GRAPE FESTIVAL

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I join residents of Tontitown and all Arkansans to commemorate the 2010 Tontitown Grape Festival. For 112 years, the festival has celebrated the history and heritage of this unique community nestled in the Ozark Mountains.

Like many American towns, the history of Tontitown begins with the story of immigrants. Facing high taxes and political unrest, a group of Italian farming families set sail for the United States in 1895, hoping to start a new life. Father Pietro Bandini bought a plot of land in northwest Arkansas and brought some 40 families to what would soon become Tontitown. Today, Tontitown is a culturally rich and

business-friendly community, home to approximately 1,000 citizens and 100 businesses.

Every year, the Tontitown Grape Festival, sponsored by St. Joseph's Church, has welcomed visitors of all ages. The festival celebrates Tontitown's Italian heritage with live entertainment, a carnival, an arts and crafts fair, a used book sale, a Run for the Grapes, for both kids and adults, and the annual coronation of the Queen of the Festival.

I commend the residents of the Tontitown area for their commitment to the history and heritage of Arkansas. I wish them all the best as they celebrate during this year's Grape Festival.●

## TRIBUTE TO SHARON CAMPBELL

• Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, today I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Sharon Campbell, regional representative for my office in Presque Isle, ME, as she was recently honored with the prestigious Frank Hussey Award from the Presque Isle Rotary Club, named for a highly regarded former Presque Isle Rotarian.

Sharon could not be more deserving of this prestigious accolade as it recognizes her selfless commitment to Aroostook County and our great State of Maine. As I have witnessed firsthand, whether through her outstanding tenure with me which began more than a decade ago to her exceptional examples of giving back as a Rotary member, Sharon is the epitome of our State's motto, "Dirigo or I Lead," many times over.

Just in the past 2 years alone, Sharon has diligently promoted greater literacy in The County, leading the Rotary's Literacy and Thesaurus Project, which distributes thesauruses to area children, and raising close to \$2,000 to start a "Children's Book of the Month Club," where books are purchased every month for school libraries.

Described by her Rotary peers as a "get it done" Rotarian, Sharon strives to make a substantive difference in the lives of others and in a way that garners lasting results. And when it comes to galvanizing support for a new task, it is helpful that people find it incredibly difficult to say "no" to her. By the same token, she is the last person who would say "no" herself to a challenge to help someone else. She is that caring and that determined. Sharon truly exemplifies the can-do spirit and tireless work-ethic that are the hallmarks of the people of Maine she serves, in particular those who proudly call The County home.

Nothing crystallizes Sharon's contributions as a Rotarian and as someone devoted to public service than the Rotary motto of "Service Above Self." Her receipt of The Frank Hussey Award is an enduring testament to her dedication to that precept.●