

highly active on a national level. As a new member on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee I quickly learned how well respected Dan was not only in Arkansas but across the country as witnesses would tell me of their appreciation for his work. He has served on numerous organizations from president of the Southeastern Association of State Highway & Transportation Officials and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation to chairman of the American Associations Special Committee on International Activities Coordination, and prior to being president Dan served as chairman of the Associations Subcommittee on Design, Standing Committee on Highways, and as the associations vice-president.

Dan has also earned many accolades for his work. In 2001, the Arkansas Chapter of the Associated General Contractors presented Flowers with its most prestigious award, the Skill, Integrity, and Responsibility Award, SIR, for his outstanding contributions to the industry, and in 2004 the University of Arkansas Department of Civil Engineering dedicated the Dan Flowers Education and Training Facility.

Dan has displayed dedication, perseverance, and commitment to excellence. I appreciate his friendship and am grateful for his years of service and efforts devoted to the State of Arkansas.●

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#### REMEMBERING JACKIE LEE HOUSTON

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask my colleagues to join me in reflecting on the life, accomplishments, and service of the late Jackie Lee Houston—a prominent businesswoman and philanthropist in the Coachella Valley. She passed away on September 14, 2011.

Jackie Lee Houston was born and raised in Seattle, WA. She began modeling as a pre-teen and continued to do so through graduation from the University of Washington, from which she earned a degree in economics and fashion design in 1956. Her modeling led to a television career as Seattle's first female weathercaster, as well as hostess of the "Hoffmann Easy Vision Talent Show." For a brief period, she pursued a professional career in Los Angeles as a model for Oscar-winning fashion designer Edith Head; but eventually she returned to Seattle to marry her college sweetheart, James Houston.

In 2005, Jackie and James purchased CBS affiliate KPSP located in Thousand Palms—at the time, Jackie was one of only two women in the United States who owned a television station. Through public service announcements and profiles, they utilized their community-focused station to promote causes across the Coachella Valley—through helping the homeless to supporting food banks to AIDS research.

A passionate philanthropist, Mrs. Houston quietly helped struggling individuals and her efforts benefitted a

wide array of organizations, projects, and endeavors—including Angel View Crippled Children's Foundation, Palm Springs Stroke Recovery Center, Desert AIDS Project, Palm Springs International Film Festival, Palm Springs Art Museum, McCallum Theatre, Fashion Week El Paseo, and December Festival of Lights parade. She also gave unstintingly of her creativity and time—using her Rolodex and her home to groom a new generation of philanthropists and to organize distinctive red-carpet events that raised millions for charity.

In recognition of Mrs. Houston's profound influence on the Coachella Valley and the inspirational legacy she leaves for the community, the city of Palm Springs will name the new main entry plaza of the Palm Springs Convention Center in her honor.

On a more personal note, it was an honor for me to have known Jackie. She and her husband founded an extraordinary food bank called FIND, which is run by Jackie's daughter-in-law, Lisa Houston. I was honored to visit FIND with Jackie and Jim at FIND's original Cathedral City location in 2009 and again in 2010 at its new home in Indio. I saw her great pride in this particular project which helps so many survive, particularly in this tough economy.

I extend my heartfelt condolences to the family and friends of Mrs. Houston. She will be sorely missed by so many, including me.●

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#### TRIBUTE TO MARGARET NACHTIGALL

● Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and honor the service of Mrs. Margaret Edna Nachtigall upon her retirement as executive director of the South Dakota Stockgrowers Association.

Margaret was born on May 18, 1937, to parents Leslie and Edna Coates, in Edgemont, SD. She grew up and spent her childhood on the family ranch near Burdock, SD, which instilled in her a strong work ethic and a love of animals, especially horses and cattle. This love for animals blossomed into volunteer work with community agricultural education and outreach through the 4-H program. She could often be found showing her calves and lambs at the Fall River County Fair in Edgemont and the Western Junior Livestock Show in Rapid City. Her love for horses eventually led her to compete in barrel racing and break-away roping. In 1955, she even ended up fifth in break-away roping at the National High School Finals.

Margaret's insatiable drive for learning, combined with her love of animals, eventually led her into the world of cattle breeding and the role that nutrition plays in reproduction. By the time she began her work for the American Breeder Service her business had grown to the point that she was booked solid during breeding season. That work

ethic and passion extends into everything Margaret does.

Margaret's service to the South Dakota Stockgrowers Association spans many years and has had a significant impact on the association and its members. I have always valued Margaret's insight and input on a number of issues impacting agriculture. She has offered a very important voice on behalf of South Dakota Stockgrowers and agriculture producers over the years and her knowledge, expertise and advice have helped guide me and my staff when it comes to general agriculture, farm and ranch, and trade policy. Her work helped us to finally get a country-of-origin labeling law in place in the 2008 farm bill and she helped to lay the groundwork for the livestock competition rule currently pending with USDA's Grain Inspection, Packers, and Stockyards Administration, GIPSA.

In addition to the valuable input and guidance she has given me over the years, she also served as an effective and well-liked leader of the Stockgrowers Association. As just one testament to Margaret's leadership, Larry Nelson, past president of the organization, has this to say about her: "Margaret has been an asset to the South Dakota Stockgrowers Association as our Executive Director. Her strong work ethic and her commitment to the independent, family-owned ranches of South Dakota have shown through her work. I am grateful for her dedication to advancing the policies of the South Dakota Stockgrowers Association and her work to promote our livestock industry."

Margaret's life work on issues that concern cattle producers and their operations has been done because of an intense love for the ranching industry. It is because of the work of people like Margaret that the cattle and ranching industry continues to thrive and maintain its crucial role throughout South Dakota. I am proud to recognize and honor Margaret's retirement from the South Dakota Stockgrowers Association, and am delighted to join with her family and friends in congratulating her on this occasion.●

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#### REMEMBERING VICTOR BUSSIE

● Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I come before you today to celebrate the life and contributions of one of Louisiana's favorite sons. This week the citizens of Louisiana are remembering the monumental life of Mr. Victor Bussie. Mr. Bussie passed away Sunday, September 4, 2011, at the age of 92. He was laid to rest in Baton Rouge, LA last Friday. Mr. Bussie was buried not far from our State Capitol, where he fought tirelessly for more 50 years to strengthen and uphold the rights of working men and women in Louisiana and across the Nation.

A hero to thousands, the scourge of some, and ally for many; Mr. Bussie spent a lifetime fighting side-by-side with like-minded men and women. He

was motivated by a sense of justice and a desire to secure worker protections and the fundamental civil rights that many of us take for granted. During his 41 years at the helm of the Louisiana AFL-CIO Mr. Bussie saw the evolution of not just workers rights but our country's constant struggle for fundamental civil rights. From 1956-1997 Mr. Bussie worked to secure civil rights, equal rights for minorities and women, a fair minimum wage, adequate workplace safety, defined pension plans, and numerous other fair labor laws for the people of Louisiana.

Mr. Bussie kept his sharp and analytical mind to the very end. He passed with his beloved wife Fran at his side.

When I began my political career as a State legislator almost 33 years ago, Mr. Bussie was a fixture at the Louisiana Legislature. He spent tireless hours effectively advocating on behalf of the hundreds of thousands of men and women he represented. I remember him as fearless and resolute in his belief in civil rights and fair treatment for all. He refused to back down even after his house was bombed by a member of the Ku Klux Klan in 1967. In 2010, I attended a dinner honoring the lifetime achievements of Mr. Bussie and was in awe of his accomplishments. Mr. Bussie was a strong willed and tenacious advocate for what he believed in but he consistently treated everyone with dignity and respect.

Mr. Bussie was born in Natchitoches Parish, home of the oldest permanent settlement in the Louisiana Purchase. His family later moved to Boyce in the central part of Louisiana near Alexandria. He served in the Navy during WWII and later worked as a hose man with the Shreveport Fire Department. Many times over the years he described to me how much he had loved being a firefighter and how much he loved the camaraderie among the men in his unit.

It was because of his sense of fairness, sharp intellect and demeanor that he was approached by his fellow firefighters to represent their interests. In 1956, he was elected president of the Louisiana AFL-CIO. He remained president until his retirement in 1997. Throughout his career Mr. Bussie acted with dignity and garnered the respect of even from those who opposed his position.

Mr. Bussie was a giant in the State of Louisiana and an example of how passionate advocacy could and should be expressed with dignity and grace. Like countless other Louisianians, I am a better person for having known him. On behalf of the U.S. Senate, I wish to offer my condolences to his wife Fran, the entire Bussie family, and all the members of the Louisiana AFL-CIO. Louisiana lost a true hero.●

#### TRIBUTE TO SUE COPINGA

● Mr. LEE. Mr. President, it is my pleasure today to offer my sincerest congratulations to an inspirational

constituent of mine, Sue Copinga. Sue is the recipient of the 2011 LifePoint Hospitals companywide Mercy Award. LifePoint's Mercy Award recognizes individuals who follow in the footsteps of the company's founding chairman and CEO Scott Mercy, who passed away in 2000. Sue works at Castleview Hospital in Price, UT and is a patient advocate in the emergency room, while working part time as an emergency medical technician. Castleview Hospital serves residents of Carbon and Emery Counties. Like so many rural hospitals around the country, Castleview is the only hospital for miles around, making it a vital resource where citizens of Carbon and Emery Counties can get the medical care they need.

While Sue has a deep history of giving back to others through her job and in her personal life, she demonstrated her extraordinary dedication to caring for others during one of the worst mine disasters in Utah's history. On August 6, 2007, the Crandall Canyon Mine collapsed in the middle of the night, trapping six miners underground. Sue did not hesitate. Immediately after learning of the tragedy, Sue headed straight to the scene to provide whatever assistance was necessary. She spent the following days and nights at the site standing ready, eager and willing to treat the men we all hoped and prayed would be rescued. Then, on August 16, a second collapse brought the walls down around rescuers who were working tirelessly to free the trapped miners. The second collapse claimed the lives of three men and injured numerous others.

Sue provided emergency care to injured rescuers and miners, despite the dangerous conditions. She voluntarily went into the mine that day not only to help those who were injured, but also to spare fellow EMTs from being put in harm's way. Sue was worried about a coworker with six young children and told his fellow EMT to stay behind, noting that her own children are grown and raised.

Sue's commitment to caring for others is also what makes her invaluable as a patient advocate in the emergency room of Castleview Hospital, where she has worked for 14 years. During her days—and often long nights at Castleview—Sue touches countless lives, making a positive impact on each patient she encounters. Sue provides care and compassion to her patients at a time when they need it most, and has come to be known affectionately as "Grandma Sue" for the way she soothes children, the most vulnerable of her ER patients—children.

Sue's devotion to helping others is not confined to the hospital's walls. She also serves part time as an EMT where she provides patients emergency care and transport in critical situations. When Sue isn't caring for patients in the emergency room or ambulance, she is educating future generations of EMTs. For fifteen years, Sue has given back to her community by

teaching countless people how to save others' lives in times of crisis.

Sue lives in Elmo, one of Utah's smallest towns. She is the proud mother of 5 children, including a Navajo foster daughter, and has 19 grandchildren. Sue also plays a role in supporting the children of her larger community by leading church youth groups and chairing an annual "community day" in her town.

It gives me great pleasure to know that Sue's caring, selflessness, and devotion to her community is being recognized through the LifePoint Hospitals Mercy Award.●

#### TRIBUTE TO MRS. SARAH J. GREENLEE

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I speak today in honor of Mrs. Sarah J. Greenlee, who this week accepted the 2011 Joan Orr Air Force Spouse of the Year award. Sarah was selected from thousands of nominees worldwide who selflessly support their loved ones in uniform. I am pleased to note that Sarah earned this honor while serving in the great State of Alaska at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson. Sarah and her husband, LTC Paul Greenlee, have recently been transferred to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, but Sarah has left an indelible mark on the Anchorage area through her volunteer work and leadership in the community.

Sarah was born into a military family and traveled extensively in the United States and Europe before graduating from Clark High School in San Antonio. She attended Southwest Texas State University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in psychology, and later the University of Texas-Arlington, where she achieved a master's degree in social work. Sarah subsequently entered the Air Force through the Commissioned Officer Training Program as a social worker. After 4 years of service, Sarah left the Air Force to become a full time wife and mother. Sarah and Paul are proud parents of Andrew, Rachel, and Zoe.

There is a saying in the military that "home is where the service takes you," and for the Greenlees home has been Mississippi, Washington, Illinois, Alaska, and now Hawaii. While we ask much of our men and women in uniform, we recognize it is the entire family who serves. With every move, families say goodbye to dear friends, kids start school in new places, and the clock starts ticking again toward the next transition. Despite enduring these frequent moves, military spouses quickly become leaders on base and in the local community. Sarah Greenlee is a fitting case in point.

Sarah took several actions worth noting. We had two tragic aircraft accidents last year in Alaska where we lost the crews of a C-17 and an F-22 within a matter of months. In the aftermath, Sarah jumped in with support and comfort, providing food and offering encouragement to leaders and personnel