

with his brilliant legal mind and prodigious memory, made him an invaluable member of the committee staff. Indeed, Mike had a unique ability to recall past legislation, reports, or other parts of Senate history, and find them in archives and mostly forgotten records, to make sure that present day decisions were informed by the past.

In addition, Mike was known and respected throughout Washington. He will be greatly missed, not only by our committee, but by the many people who have had the privilege to work with him from other offices in the Congress, the executive branch, and the private sector. I know, and am appreciative, that the Office of the Director of National Intelligence will be honoring Mike in October for his numerous services to the committee and the intelligence community.

I have often been amazed at the varied backgrounds of Senators and Senate staff alike, and Mike Davidson is another example why. He grew up in Brooklyn, NY, where his father was a professor of theater at Brooklyn College, and where we believe his devotion to the New York Mets was born. Mike received his bachelor of arts in history from Cornell University in 1961 and his law degree from the University of Chicago in 1964. With law degree in hand, Mike became one of the first Peace Corps volunteers in Kenya where he served for 3 years. Upon his return to the United States, he worked at the NAACP Legal Defense Fund between 1967 and 1973, trying civil rights cases and arguing appeals in various Federal courts. From 1974 to 1977, Mike taught clinical law at the State University of New York at Buffalo. Moving to Washington in 1977, he served as the chief staff counsel for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

In 1979, Mike became the Senate's very first legal counsel, representing the Senate in separation-of-powers and other litigation, and assisting committees in ethics, impeachment and other special investigations. One of the separation-of-powers cases Mike argued before the Supreme Court was *INS v. Chadha*. It turned out that Mike from his Peace Corps days actually knew the appellee Jagdish Chadha, who had been born in Kenya of Indian parents. Not only did Mr. Chadha not take personal offense that the Congress, through opposing counsel Michael Davidson, was trying to deport him, but because of his respect and admiration for Mike, Mr. Chadha brought a bottle of champagne to the Senate Legal Counsel's Office the next day to celebrate Mike's appearance before the Court.

In 1995, Mike retired from the Senate for the first time, but he soon found himself directing or serving as counsel to projects led by current or former U.S. Senators, including a project at the Aspen Institute, a joint project of the American Enterprise Institute and Brookings Institution, and a project at the Constitution Project.

Mike returned to the Senate in 2002 to serve as the general counsel for the

Joint Inquiry into Intelligence Community Activities Before and After the Terrorist Attacks of September 11, 2001. Mike's work for the joint inquiry involved not only fact finding about the conduct of U.S. intelligence agencies prior to the terrorist attacks, but also successful advocacy before Judge Leonie Brinkema in the case of *United States v. Moussaoui*. The appearance was necessary to ensure that the congressional Joint Inquiry had the testimony it needed to tell the story of the FBI's Moussaoui investigation prior to the 9/11 attacks without interfering with the Moussaoui proceedings or other pending criminal prosecutions and investigations. Shortly after the completion of the Joint Inquiry in 2003, Mike joined the Select Committee on Intelligence as minority counsel for then-Vice Chairman JAY ROCKEFELLER. In 2007, he became the committee's general counsel, first for Chairman ROCKEFELLER and later myself.

As general counsel, Mike led the work of the committee on all legislation referred to it and reported from it. Mike's tireless efforts, and his skill in bringing people together to talk about the issues, even after others had given up, led to the passage of an intelligence authorization act signed into law in October 2010, the first authorization bill for the intelligence community enacted in 6 years.

I can certainly attest that passage of that legislation was far from assured. The administration showed little enthusiasm for it, other committees objected to numerous provisions included, and the House of Representatives appeared insistent on two provisions—having to do with intelligence notifications to Congress and with investigations by the Government Accountability Office into intelligence matters—that were subject to veto threats. Mike was instrumental in resolving both those issues, and with working through countless other hurdles, in achieving enactment.

Within 9 months, the committee also saw passage and enactment of its second intelligence authorization act, with the fiscal year 2011 bill signed into law on June 8, 2011. We are well on our way with a third authorization bill in 12 months with the intelligence authorization act for fiscal year 2012.

Mike's careful legislative approach was very much in evidence during the much more prolonged congressional consideration of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act Amendments Act of 2008, during which he worked patiently to find legislative solutions that would satisfy the concerns of the intelligence community in modernizing one of the most important of its authorizing statutes, while also addressing a range of views in the Senate and the House and respecting the privacy and civil liberties concerns of Americans. Mike's painstaking attention to detail in the committee's reports and statements, with this act and throughout his tenure, has resulted in exem-

plary legislative histories for the bills we have reported—an important, and sometimes neglected, aspect in how our laws are implemented and interpreted.

Mike also paid special attention to building the public record concerning the work of the Intelligence Committee. Because of his efforts, the committee has greatly increased the number of public documents available on the committee's website, from the committee's own biennial activities reports to the yearly legislative request from the executive branch. Behind the scenes, Mike sought systematic approaches to informing the public about U.S. intelligence activities to the maximum extent possible consistent with national security.

Mr. Davidson was also essential in the committee's efforts to honor the sacrifices made by the men and women of the intelligence community, and their families, and to ensure that all intelligence agency employees received fair treatment and appropriate recognition by the Nation they served. All Senators understand the importance of taking care of their constituents. The Intelligence Committee attempts, where possible, to take care of intelligence professionals who often have no other place to turn. Not surprisingly to those who know him, Mike took special care with this responsibility. I recall one example—involving a legal dispute over a family member of an intelligence officer—where Mike's intervention led to justice being done, a family being preserved, and an intelligence professional being able subsequently to focus his attention on an absolutely essential operation.

As I mentioned, Mike retired from the Senate very quietly, working away on committee business to the last minute of his last day on the job. We know, however, that he is relishing the chance to spend more time in the Rocky Mountains of Colorado where he and his wife Karen have a second home near Denver, the home of son Jesse, daughter-in-law Ellen, and grandchildren Jordan and Garrett, and where his daughter Kate often visits. We fully expect, however, that with Mike's great energy and legal abilities he will continue to make a contribution to his country from his home here in the District of Columbia as well.

With gratitude for his service to the Senate and the Nation, for myself and the many others who have benefited from that service, I wish Mike the very best in all his future endeavors.

CONGRESSIONAL COALITION ON ADOPTION INSTITUTE

Ms. LANDRIEU. Madam President, today I rise to commemorate the 10th anniversary of a very special organization that is near and dear to my heart, the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute, or CCAI as it is more commonly known. This institute was formally established in 2001, but sprang

from the bicameral, bipartisan congressional caucus known as the Congressional Coalition on Adoption that began in 1985. CCAI is a nonprofit organization that works to raise awareness about the needs of children without families and to remove policy barriers that hinder children from experiencing the love and support a family provides.

In 1998, the congressional leaders of the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Caucus decided it was time that the coalition organize more formally and hire staff to carry out this important work. It was at this point that we hired our first staff member, Kerry Hasenbalg, who was later to become the first executive director of CCAI.

Kerry came to the coalition with extensive knowledge of orphan care and adoption policy having worked in the field for many years. Kerry worked both internationally and domestically on orphan care and adoption issues, and was often sent to Washington, DC, as a liaison to meet with other professionals, leaders and both U.S. and international government officials on international adoption issues. She also traveled extensively abroad to meet with foreign officials and in-country workers, and most importantly she spent time in many orphanages getting to know the children themselves. But even more than her professional experience, Kerry came to the Coalition with a heart and passion for changing the lives of orphans and foster youth, one child at a time.

The Congressional Coalition leaders designated members of their personal staffs to work with Kerry to develop and advance the goals and vision of the coalition. These appointed congressional staff consisted of: Kathleen Strottman from my staff, Brooke Roberts from Senator Larry Craig's office, Bill Dolbow from Congressman Tom Bliley's office and Chip Gardiner from Congressman Jim Oberstar's office. Through the dedicated leadership of the Coalition's Congressional leadership, and the hard work of Kerry and the designated congressional staff, it soon became evident that the coalition could be more effective and have a greater impact if an institute was created to enhance and expand the work of the adoption caucus. After much research and investigation, it was determined that the nonprofit Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute should be formed.

In May 2001, the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute was born and Kerry Hasenbalg was designated as the first executive director where she served for 3½ years. Under her leadership, many of the flagship programs still in existence today were developed and implemented. In addition to the congressional leadership, CCAI's founding Board members included: Maxine B. Baker, President and CEO of the Freddie Mac Foundation and Barbara W. Walzer, a philanthropist and longtime, dear friend of Kerry's.

Although Kerry left her position as executive director when she and her

husband Scott had the first of their three beautiful children, Cole, Maya and Leah, Kerry continues to advocate for children in need of loving homes as a sought after keynote speaker, writer and consultant on orphan care and adoption topics. She is also an advisory board member for CCAI.

CCAI's initial and continued mandate includes service to the congressional members of the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Caucus through the following programs:

The Congressional Resource Program: CCAI presents and informs congressional offices regarding current domestic and international orphan care and adoption issues by hosting briefings, meetings and other events to best support congressional members as they serve their constituents.

Congressional delegations: CCAI plans and arranges travel to strategic countries to further discussions on adoption, orphan care and vulnerable children. The first of many delegation trips organized and hosted by CCAI began with a trip to China where the congressional delegation met with President Jiang Zemin for nearly 2 hours. At the time, more Americans were adopting from China than any other country. This meeting was critical to further establish ties between our countries regarding adoption and orphan care. Additional trips during the early years of CCAI included congressional delegations to: Romania, Russia, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Uganda, and India. More recent delegations have visited Haiti, Guatemala and Ethiopia and have begun to include domestic delegations on child welfare as well.

Foster Youth Internship Program: This unique and very valuable program provides internship positions in both Houses of Congress to college students who have emancipated or spent time in the U.S. foster care system. This program gives a voice to the near half a million children in the U.S. foster care system and gives Congress a first-hand perspective on what it means to grow up in the system. In the past several years these foster youth interns have researched and compiled recommendations for Congress on policy and legislative changes that could be made that would improve the foster care system. Some of their recommendations have already been made into law.

National Adoption Day: CCAI is part of a collective national effort to raise awareness of the over 107,000 children in foster care waiting to find permanent homes and loving families through adoption. National Adoption Day has made the dreams of thousands of children come true by working with courts, judges, attorneys, adoption professionals, child welfare agencies and advocates to finalize thousands of adoptions for children out of foster care.

Angels in Adoption™: This very special annual event gives congressional members an opportunity to highlight

the unsung heroes in their states or districts who tirelessly serve and advocate for children in the U.S. and around the world in need of permanent and loving homes. Without these advocates, many more children would be alone without families to love and support them. In the years since the Angels in Adoption awards program has been in place, more than 1800 individuals, couples and organizations from around the nation have been honored by their Members of Congress.

Now, 10 years later, the same mission and vision of the founders of CCAI remains, due in large part to the leadership of its current executive director, my former legislative director and my dear friend, Kathleen Strottman. At the helm, Kathleen not only maintains the original mission, integrity and continuity of CCAI, but continues to pour her heart and soul into furthering the cause of the orphan. Kathleen has been there from the founding of CCAI as one of the original congressional staff and worked side by side with Kerry as the vision and mission of CCAI grew and developed into what it is today.

Kathleen comes to her position as executive director with not only the historical experience of CCAI but with Capitol Hill experience as well. Kathleen served for nearly 8 years as my trusted adviser and in that role she worked to pass legislation such as the No Child Left Behind Act, the Medicare Modernization Act, the Inter-Country Adoption Act, the Child Citizenship Act of 2000, the Adoption Tax Credit and the Family Court Act. Kathleen has worked to increase the opportunity for positive dialogue and the exchange of best practices between the United States and countries such as Ethiopia, China, Romania, Russia, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and India. Prior to joining my staff, Kathleen attended Whittier Law School's Center for Children's Rights where she graduated with honors and received a State certified specialty in juvenile advocacy. She and her very supportive husband, Matt, are the proud parents of three children, Grace, Noah and Liam.

I am proud to stand here today and honor CCAI on its 10th anniversary along with Kerry Hasenbalg and Kathleen Strottman without whom this institute would not be where it is today and whose personal dedication and sacrifice have changed the lives of children around the world. CCAI has not only stayed true to its original founding principles and mission, but under the dedicated leadership of its congressional members, board and executive directors, CCAI has grown and expanded to further enhance the important work of making a difference in the lives of children both here in the United States and around the world. May God continue to bless the work of CCAI.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO SHIRLEY NATHAN-PULLIAM

• Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, today I wish to recognize and pay tribute to a dear friend, fellow Marylander and 16-year member of the Maryland House of Delegates, Shirley Nathan-Pulliam. Shirley has been a tireless advocate for eliminating health disparities throughout her career as a public servant. The Maryland Department of Health & Mental Hygiene is appropriately honoring her on October 4 by announcing the establishment of the "Shirley Nathan-Pulliam Health Equity Lecture Series" at this year's annual Maryland Health Disparity Conference.

Shirley has strong convictions and has often stated: "In a country as rich and powerful as the United States of America, no person should be without a basic plan of health care." As a registered nurse and former faculty associate at the Johns Hopkins University School of Nursing, Shirley has seen firsthand how minorities are disproportionately harmed by certain diseases and the inequality in care across racial and ethnic lines. Her belief that health care is a basic human right, and not a privilege, has compelled her to serve in public office—a decision that has benefited all Marylanders and has helped improve health equality in our State.

Shirley has had many successes as a legislator, but one of the most important has been her work in establishing the Maryland Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities in 2004. This office is charged with promoting health equity for African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, Native Americans, and other groups experiencing health disparities. Another key legislative accomplishment of Shirley's was her success in providing health care coverage to more than 100,000 children in Maryland.

Shirley is not a woman who idly witnesses society's inequities. Her compassion and empathy drive her to come up with solutions for the problems she sees. As a sponsor or cosponsor of hundreds of bills that have been signed into law, Shirley has been instrumental in improving the lives of Marylanders in countless ways. When Shirley discovered Maryland had the third highest oral cancer rate for African-American men in the Nation, she secured \$500,000 to fight the disease. She also was lead sponsor of legislation providing \$2.6 million annually for breast cancer treatment for low-income women living in Maryland.

Shirley has been an indispensable partner and an inspiration in my efforts to address health disparities at the federal level. We worked together to codify the National Institute for Minority Health and Health Disparities, correcting a long-standing bias in our health care system that was ill-equipped to deal with disparities among different populations.

I wish the University of Maryland's Center for Health Equity and the State Office of Minority Health great success in their stewardship of the "Shirley Nathan-Pulliam Health Equity Lecture Series." There is still a great deal of work to be done in achieving Shirley's dream of erasing health disparities and making health care a right for every human being. But with her leadership and legacy to follow, I am confident her dream will one day become a reality.●

ST. PETER'S CENTENNIAL

• Ms. COLLINS. Madam President, on October 16, 1911, the first Italian Catholic congregation in the city of Portland, ME, met under the guidance of Father Agnello Santagnello. Seventy-five families came together, and plans were laid to build a church for the small but growing community of new Americans.

Before year's end, just in time for Christmas mass, an old stable was transformed into a chapel at a cost of just under \$2,800 and much hard work. That modest chapel was named St. Peter's—the rock of the Church on the rocky coast of Maine.

By the mid-1920s, the parish numbered nearly 1,000 families and the thriving Italian-American community needed a larger spiritual home. Father Teresio DiMingo, who took the reins of the congregation in 1927, went house-to-house throughout Portland's Little Italy neighborhood soliciting funds, and found generosity at every door.

The new church was under construction in 1929 when disaster struck—the stock market crash and the ensuing Great Depression. Father DiMingo returned the contributions to those in need. He matched that act of compassion with determination, and continued the construction with his own life savings.

The Church of St. Peter was dedicated that August. That great celebration included the blessing of Father DiMingo's second great gift to his parish—a cross made from fragments of the True Cross.

Since that day, worshipers have noticed a curious inscription above the doorway—the letters "L & L." That was yet another gift from Father DiMingo. Those letters represent the Latin words for "him" and "her." St. Peter's was then, and is today, a church for families.

Today, in this centennial year, the families of St. Peter's continue to build on that solid foundation. Their vibrant church remains a rock of faith.

And it grows as a center of charity and caring. In the early 1950s, an Italian priest came to America seeking aid for children orphaned during the Second World War. The generous response from Portland led to the founding of the Italian Heritage Center, which continues to enrich the city with a culture of great food, music, and festivals.

That a small fellowship of faith was born in a stable and grew into a something mighty and lasting is more than powerful symbolism. It is a testament to the spirit, the resolve, and the energy of Portland's Italian-American community. On the 100th anniversary of St. Peter's Roman Catholic Church, I offer the members of that parish the traditional Italian wish for a long life of health and happiness—"Cent'anni!"●

MICHIGAN VOLUNTARISM

• Mr. LEVIN. Madam President, our Nation's veterans made enormous sacrifices in defense of our Nation through their military service. One of the many ways we recognize their service is through essential government programs that form the foundation of our Nation's promise to care for veterans. These programs are made stronger by the valuable contributions of volunteers. Volunteers who freely offer their time to improve the quality of life of American veterans provide a personal reminder that a grateful nation will always remember and value their sacrifice. This spirit of generosity and compassion is embodied at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans in west Michigan. A banquet to honor the positive impact these volunteers have had over the past year will take place on September 27, 2011.

In operation since 1886, the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans is a 758-bed home for veterans in need of long-term care. Residents are cared for by a professional staff of doctors, nurses and social workers, all of whom tirelessly work to fulfill the home's mission of providing quality interdisciplinary care and helping residents "achieve their highest potential of independence, self worth, wellness and dignity." Supporting the professional staff in these efforts is a capable and compassionate army of volunteers. In 2010 alone, almost 900 different volunteers served at the home, with approximately 200 volunteers putting in at least 100 hours of service. Some volunteers are veterans themselves; some are family members of current or past residents; others have no personal connection to the home other than the desire to help American heroes.

Volunteers provide a host of services for the veterans and hold events that improve the residents' quality of life. Perhaps the most essential service volunteers provide is something that most people take for granted: visiting with veterans individually, offering human companionship. For veterans in homes, especially the elderly or disabled, having someone read or play cards with them, or simply have a conversation with them can provide great comfort. In addition to providing a simple yet powerful human connection, volunteers ensure that veterans at the home live active lives by helping to run the home's woodshop, bowling alley and library, as well as escorting residents to painting and ceramics classes. Residents also enjoy the animal therapy