

to spending more time with Beth and their family of five children, I wanted to come to the floor and congratulate him on his accomplishments. His has set an example for all of us. This one-time history professor has earned his place in history. I know I am grateful for his service to this country. I am also grateful to call him a friend.

TRIBUTE TO THE DICK FAMILY

Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, I rise today to honor a family of entrepreneurs who have been loyal and persistent in contributing to the economy of the Commonwealth, the Dick family of Science Hill, KY. The late brothers Arl and Carl Dick opened two separate general stores over 60 years ago which are still open for business and family operated today. In the midst of an economy where small businesses commonly struggle, it is inspiring that Kentucky's very own Pulaski County has two successful family-run businesses that have withstood the test of time.

The brothers Carl and Arl were Kentucky natives, but were living in Ohio when they decided to return to their Pulaski County roots and open a general store that would become a backbone in the local economy. At the beginning of 1952, there were a total of three general stores in the downtown area of Science Hill; one owned by local businessman Ed Gibson and the other two belonging to the Dick brothers. The stores were ahead of their time; they not only carried a full line of groceries but were supplied with items such as shoes, clothes, and hardware as well.

None of the three stores were necessarily in competition with each other because each store specialized in carrying a different supply of items. Carl's grandson James Dick, who grew up working in the family business, started out as a delivery boy. If a customer requested an item that a particular store did not have in stock, James would run from store to store to find the item and make sure it was delivered to the customer.

Carl's son Russell Dick remembers the generosity his father showed to customers on a daily basis. Carl initiated a local system of credit so farmers could obtain the items they needed with an agreement that they would pay for the items as soon as their crops were sold. Carl was also notorious for investing in the local economy. He would lend money to farmers who wished to purchase new farm equipment and entrepreneurs who were interested in starting local businesses, all of which was paid back to him in full.

For the past half century, the general stores of downtown Science Hill have provided a family atmosphere for customers and have established a reputation for caring about their community. Carl Dick's General Store—now run by Carl's son and daughter-in-law

Russell and Hazel Thurman Dick—and Science Hill Market, now run by Arl's widow Ruth Elliot Dick, still value friendly, caring customer service above all else. This devotion to the local customer has led to the long-lasting success of this small Kentucky business in today's modern economy.

The Pulaski County-area publication the Commonwealth Journal recently published an article that illustrates the impact three generations of the Dick family and their businesses have made on the community of Science Hill. I ask unanimous consent that the full article be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the article was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

[From The Commonwealth Journal, June 19, 2011]

CARL DICK'S GENERAL STORE: A SCIENCE HILL TRADITION (By Don White)

Wal-Mart would have had a tough time competing with the Science Hill of yesteryear.

Three general merchandise stores once operated downtown, all within a few feet of each other, carrying items ranging from shoes and clothing, paints, wallpaper, and flooring, to a full line of groceries.

Brothers Arl and Carl Dick each opened his own store at about the same time, and both remain in business.

Arl's widow, Ruth Elliot Dick, is owner/manager of Science Hill Market, and across the way is Carl Dick's General Store, where his son and daughter-in-law Russell and Hazel Thurman Dick hold down the fort, often assisted by their son, James.

The Pulaski County natives opened their stores in 1948 and 1952 after returning home from living in Ohio.

"Arl's is the oldest, and the other store in town was operated by Ed Gibson," says James. "They were so close together, it was almost like they were under the same roof," notes the former delivery boy/floor sweeper/stocker, and cashier who grew up in the business.

James supplemented the \$5 per week paid for working in the store with such chores as delivering mail, watering flowers for residents at a nickel per job, and mowing lawns.

"I was so young when I started mowing my customers had to start the mower for me," he says laughingly.

Often, when things were extra busy in the store, James welcomed the opportunity to make deliveries and figures he went to every house in town, either by walking, riding a bike, motorcycle or driving a golf cart.

"When our store didn't have something a customer wanted, chances were pretty good one of the others would, so I did the running from store to store picking up and delivering the items."

The 45-year-old bachelor and 1984 Somerset High graduate remains on the run, currently serving as president and CEO of Morris & Hislope and Pulaski Funeral homes, in addition to being a licensed funeral director. Life lessons learned in the store are given credit for the success he enjoys today in the world of business and helping people.

He learned about credit due to a big portion of the customers purchasing items with an agreement to pay when their crops were sold.

When adults would gather around the coal stove in the center of the building and swap stories and words of wisdom, James tried to stay within hearing distance.

"Adults were always talking, and I was listening, picking up lots of good advice along the way."

His papaw stressed the value in remaining humble throughout life, saying . . . "If you've got a quarter in your pocket, be sure and make people think it's a nickel," and to always be thrifty.

"I once ended up with \$25 at the end of a month of working, and they took me to Roses to pick out toys. I bought all quality toys. Ended up with a basket full and plenty of change left over."

Well versed in local history, James says his papaw's store was called Four Brothers and operated by the Randall brothers when Carl took over.

Arl purchased his store from Millard Roy. "All the stores stayed extremely busy, and there was never a feeling of one being in competition with the other because each was known for certain items.

"We specialized in shoes, feed and clothing," says James.

"I can remember selling bibbed overalls for \$2.98 per pair," says Russell, also widely known as a used car dealer from 45 years with two lots in Science Hill.

James has always been aware of the respect people in the area have had throughout three generations of service for Dick family members.

"I have all good memories of growing up in Science Hill, a really close-knit community that's a great place to live and work.

"It's been a pleasure to see all the progress, like watching Charles Hall (former superintendent for the Science Hill Independent School System) build that school into one of the best in the state."

At the visitation for his papaw, he heard from dozens of people about the things he had done for them, including lending money for the buying of farm equipment.

"Vernon Merrick told me that papaw took a dollar off every pair of shoes he bought his children, and that meant a lot."

Coming to town to "do your tradin'" at the three stores was a big deal.

"I seldom meet an area family who didn't shop downtown," he says.

And the best thing about the good ol' days is that they aren't over yet in Science Hill, Kentucky.

Carl Dick's General Store is open Monday through Saturday from 8 A.M. until 5 P.M., still selling everything from delicious baloney sandwiches to diamond rings.

Even old-fashioned candy is still sold by the pound at Christmas time.

In fact, the shelves are still stacked high with so much merchandise, the walkways are passable, but very narrow.

"Chances are, if you want it, we've got it, if we can find it," says Hazel.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO JAMIE KAMAILANI BOYD

• Mr. AKAKA. Madam President, I wish to congratulate an innovative educator and health care professional from my State, Jamie Kamailani Boyd, from Kaneohe, HI, on receiving the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation 2011 Community Health Leaders Award. The award was presented at a ceremony last November in Baltimore.

This award was given to ten individuals throughout the Nation who have overcome challenges to improve health and quality of life in disadvantaged or

underserved communities. The award provides \$20,000 to each recipient for personal development and another \$105,000 to the project with which the awardee is affiliated. I am confident that this funding will be put to good use in Dr. Boyd's hands.

Dr. Boyd is a nursing assistant professor and a health programs coordinator for the University of Hawaii's Windward Community College, WCC. She is the first Native Hawaiian faculty member at the University of Hawaii to have earned a Ph.D. while also being a registered nurse. Carrying on a family tradition of nursing learned from her grandmother, she set out to better the health care system in Hawaii by improving nurse training and patient care.

To help achieve those goals, Dr. Boyd created the Pathway out of Poverty program at WCC. The program is founded on Native Hawaiian cultural values and seeks to encourage and train Native Hawaiian and disadvantaged students pursuing careers in nursing. She aims to reduce poverty, increase the number of Native Hawaiian nurses, and improve the quality of nursing care by producing more empathetic and culturally competent providers. Today, Dr. Boyd trains about 50 nurse's aides a year with approximately one-quarter of them going on to pursue an RN degree.

As an educator and former principal, I know firsthand about the countless hours that go into creating curricula and reaching out to students. It makes me proud to see outstanding educators receive well-deserved national recognition for their hard work. Dr. Boyd's dedication to her field and to the people of Hawaii is undeniable. I applaud her for earning this outstanding recognition, and I wish her much continued success in her future endeavors.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF NEW MEXICO'S STATEHOOD

● Mr. BINGAMAN. Madam President, this month marked the 100th anniversary of New Mexico's statehood. In recognition of this occasion, the Senate Historian, Donald Ritchie, wrote a wonderful piece highlighting the political and ethnic issues surrounding New Mexico's efforts to become a State. I thought it would be nice to share this historical note with the public by including it in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Mr. President, I ask that Mr. Ritchie's Senate Historical Minute, titled "New Mexico Enters the Union," be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows.

SENATE HISTORICAL MINUTE—JANUARY 6, 1912

NEW MEXICO ENTERS THE UNION

A century ago, on January 6, 1912, New Mexico entered the Union as a State. This ended a 64-year effort to achieve statehood, stalled by a combination of political and ethnic prejudice.

In 1848, the United States acquired vast territories in the Southwest under the Trea-

ty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo, which ended the Mexican War. The problem was how to organize this territory without inflaming tensions between the North and South over the spread of slavery. The treaty had provided that inhabitants of the territories would become citizens and would be admitted into the Union as States "at the proper time (to be judged by the Congress of the United States)." President Zachary Taylor thought that sectional tensions might be eased if New Mexico and California immediately applied for statehood and avoided territorial status. The Compromise of 1850 admitted California but ignored New Mexico's application for statehood.

Over the next six decades, other Western States were admitted ahead of New Mexico. Congress at that time was often divided between a Democratic majority in the House and a Republican majority in the Senate. Each party tried to block the admission of a new State that might give the other party two more Senators. Because New Mexico was viewed as a potentially Democratic state, the Republican Senate thwarted its admission. In 1888, Republican majorities in both houses passed an omnibus statehood bill that enabled North and South Dakota, Washington, and Montana to move towards statehood, but omitted New Mexico.

Besides politics, New Mexico met resistance from Senators who questioned whether its largely Spanish-speaking, Catholic population was capable of self-government "in the Anglo-Saxon sense." Senator Albert Beveridge, who chaired the Committee on Territories, traveled through New Mexico and Arizona in 1902 and came back convinced that neither was ready for statehood. President Theodore Roosevelt, however, was anxious to settle the issue, and to break the logjam he proposed combining the territories of New Mexico and Arizona into a single State. Its capital would be in Santa Fe, but it would take the name Arizona. When submitted to the voters, New Mexico passed the proposal, but Arizona soundly defeated it.

In his last annual message to Congress, President Roosevelt abandoned the idea of a combined territory and proposed that each should gain statehood. Senator Beveridge continued to fight statehood, but in 1910 Congress adopted the Enabling Act to admit both New Mexico and Arizona. New Mexico immediately submitted an acceptable constitution, but objections were raised against Arizona's more progressive constitution. As a result, New Mexico's admission was blocked by a Senate filibuster until Arizona's constitution was also approved. New Mexico at last became a State on January 6, 1912, and Arizona followed a month later.●

TRIBUTE TO SHERIFF PAUL LANEY

● Mr. CONRAD. Madam President, I wanted to say a few words today about Paul Laney, who is the Sheriff of Cass County, ND. Sheriff Laney has just been named the Sheriff of the Year for 2011 by the National Sheriff's Association, and I can tell you that it is a well-deserved honor.

Sheriff Laney has long been known for his tireless, diligent and innovative efforts on behalf of the people of Cass County. He is always out in public putting the best face on the Sheriff's Department and working hard to strengthen community bonds in that part of the Red River Valley. Last year he received the 9-1-1 Government Leader Award from the E9-1-1 Institute for

his work in helping create the Fargo-Moorhead regional dispatch center, which was the first in the nation to integrate services across State lines.

Sheriff Laney also played a strong and pivotal role in coordinating response to major flooding in both 2009 and 2010 in Cass County. The flooding in 2009 was the worst ever seen in the region, and his leadership made a major difference in a situation that many thought would end in catastrophic loss.

I congratulate Sheriff Laney for being named Sheriff of the Year. I know the citizens of Cass County, like me, greatly appreciate all he has done on their behalf.●

VERMONT STUDENTS' ESSAYS

● Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, I ask to have printed in the RECORD these essays written by Vermont High School students as part of the Second Annual "What is the State of the Union?" essay contest conducted by my office. The following essays were selected as "Honorable Mentions."

The Statements follow.

HANNAH APFELBAUM, CHAMPLAIN VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL (HONORABLE MENTION)

[January 23, 2012]

America is not living up to its full potential. We have one of the highest child poverty rates in the Western world, a high unemployment rate, and test very low in math and science compared to other developed countries. And that's not all—we also face environmental challenges and the decline of the middle class. We must use our differences to unite us by tackling all aspects of the issues we face. But America is asking how, specifically, do we solve these problems?

First, we need to decide what problems not to solve. Iraq and Afghanistan are not in ideal condition. This does not mean, however, that we should be pouring all of our money into military efforts there. Instead, we need to make more money available for the most pressing issues in our own country.

One way to make more money available is to stop giving the wealthiest people the biggest tax cuts. It is understandable that politicians are concerned about backlash from these influential citizens, but the majority of people in this country—the middle class—needs to be taken into account. With the national debt becoming greater and greater, these tax cuts simply are not sustainable.

So where should our money go? The first priority should be education. Successful experiences in the early years of school make children much less likely to drop out or end up in prison—an entity that tax dollars pay for, with less than stellar results. Investment in public elementary schools benefits both the children and the general public. We also need to spend money on college financial aid programs. The most successful students who cannot pay their own tuition deserve to have this opportunity, and will most likely make a large contribution to society in their adult lives. All contributions to education will help make Americans qualified to obtain jobs that will provide them with comfortable wages, and stimulate the economy.

We also need to spend money on healthcare. Every American has the right to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness." Life, especially, is very hard to maintain without adequate healthcare. The right to be safe is something that needs to be provided