

TRIBUTE TO ADMIRAL RICHARD CAMACHO

Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I wish to say a few words of tribute today on behalf of my friend Admiral Dick Camacho, on the occasion of his retirement from the private sector.

Admiral Camacho's ties to Hawaii go back to the 1870s, when his family emigrated from the Azores and began working on coffee and plantations on the Big Island and Oahu, respectively. His father went through the machinist apprentice program at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and was working there as a supervisor when it was attacked on December 7, 1941. Then eight-year-old Dick Camacho waited for two days before hearing from his father that he was okay and had been working around the clock putting out fires and assessing the damage from the attack.

Dick left the Islands to attend the University of New Mexico via the Naval Reserve Officers program where he graduated with a degree in Naval Engineering. He did post-graduate work in Electrical Engineering at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey and later completed Harvard Business School's Management Development Program.

Dick began his distinguished naval career as a junior officer on the USS *Requisite* in about as different a climate as he could find from Hawaii. The ship was deployed to the Arctic to engage on a mapping and survey mission. From there he was ordered to Submarine School in Connecticut.

After graduating from Submarine School, Dick returned to Hawaii to serve as an officer aboard the USS *Gudgeon*, which was home-ported at Pearl Harbor. Admiral Camacho distinguished himself as a leader and was promoted. The Navy also increased his responsibilities, sending him to Naval Sea Systems Command, Submarine Forces Atlantic, Supervisor of Shipbuilding, Pascagoula, Mare Island Naval Shipyard, and Charleston Naval Shipyard where he served as the Shipyard Commander.

In 1984, Dick became the first son of Hawaii to assume command of the Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard. I had the pleasure of attending a welcome home reception for Dick and his wife, Norma Jean, where over 1,000 people were present, including members of Hawaii's Congressional delegation and local government representatives. Dick was promoted to Rear Admiral in 1985 and given the additional responsibilities of serving as the Supervisor of Shipbuilding and Commander of Naval Sea Systems West until his retirement in 1986.

Embarking on his private sector career, Dick took a position with a San Diego-based company involved in the repair and modernization of Navy vessels. During this second career, which saw him open numerous shipyards around the country, Dick always stayed close to Hawaii. He returned many times and led the effort to re-

talize the State's private sector ship repair business. He convinced his company to purchase a local shipyard and make significant investments in the facility through workforce training and equipment and an unparalleled commitment to workplace safety.

Both the public and private sector owe a great deal to Admiral Dick Camacho and his amazing wife, Norma Jean. Hawaii is a better place for the contributions of these two wonderful people. I wish them both fair winds and following seas.

RECOGNIZING THE FAMILY & CHILDREN'S PLACE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to commend an organization in Kentucky that is working to build brighter futures for children by fighting the trauma of child abuse, violence and neglect. The Family & Children's Place, based in my hometown of Louisville, KY, has provided support to families and children in the region for over 127 years.

And I am pleased to report that they are taking a big step forward in being able to accomplish their mission by the construction of a new Child Advocacy Center. This center will be a model for charities with similar missions throughout the southeastern United States by including charity services, law enforcement, child protective services, and prosecutors all in one location.

The Family & Children's Place's mission is to strengthen the community through research-based services that heal the trauma of abuse, violence, and neglect and promote safe, healthy and stable families. They work to educate families to prevent abuse, respond to children on the very day that abuse comes to light, treat victims to reduce damage to their lives, and take steps to protect children from further maltreatment. They have created an array of services to prevent, end and treat these problems.

And they do all this thanks to the generous donations of many notable Louisville area businesses and sponsors, and under the leadership of the group's president and chief executive officer Mr. Daniel Fox.

Mr. President, I wish to bestow the gratitude of this United States Senate on the Family & Children's Place of Louisville, KY, and wish them continued success for many years to come. Their success can only benefit the youngest and most vulnerable Kentuckians, who need their services the most.

Recently, the newspaper the Louisville Courier-Journal published an article highlighting the new Child Advocacy Center for the Family & Children's Place, and I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD that particular article.

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

[From the Courier-Journal, Oct. 25, 2011]
FAMILY & CHILDREN'S PLACE HAS MONEY FOR BIG CENTER

(By Sheldon S. Shafer)

Family & Children's Place, a charity dedicated to helping sexually exploited children, has raised the money it needs to proceed with plans for a Child Advocacy Center at the old Salvation Army site near Fifth and Kentucky streets.

The Louisville Metro Police Department's Crimes Against Children Unit and prosecutors from the Jefferson County commonwealth's attorney's office also will have representatives at the center, envisioned as the city's first comprehensive site to help young victims of abuse or violence.

The center "will be a tremendous addition to the neighborhood, a top-notch project, and it will be great for the kids who come through here," said Daniel Fox, president and chief executive officer of the Family & Children's Place.

The organization plans to move its existing Child Advocacy Center from Fourth Street near Muhammad Ali Boulevard to a site near the Old Louisville, Limerick and South Broadway neighborhoods.

Police investigators, prosecutors and contract pediatricians usually have to come to the current office, which is small, to interview or help victims. At times, the arrangement results in multiple interviews and extra stress for the children, Fox said.

Consolidating services, including those of Family & Children's Place's counselors, at the Kentucky Street site should 14 mean help can often be provided more quickly, he said.

"The idea is to get everyone together at one location," Fox said. "We hope to make it a national model for dealing with child sexual-abuse cases."

The agency bought the property at 512 W. Kentucky St. from the Salvation Army in 2009 for \$450,000. The Salvation Army left the site, which has a long history for use as a hospital, rehab facility and command center, when it purchased the old Male High School building four years ago.

Fox said plans call for gutting and refurbishing the 18,000-square-foot structure and building several additions, increasing the space to 22,000 square feet.

The agency hopes to break ground by March and occupy the renovated site by the end of 2012. The project will cost about \$4 million.

In addition, it is spending more than \$700,000 to buy a vacant tract southeast of Fifth and Kentucky streets, behind the former Salvation Army property, from the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

The Family & Children's Place has worked out a land swap with the commission that runs Memorial Auditorium. The commission will give the children's agency a parcel (now an auditorium parking lot) on the corner of Fifth and Kentucky streets to be used for one of its additions.

The children's agency, in turn, will use part of the land it is buying from the Sons of the Revolution to develop parking for the auditorium.

Longer-range plans call for the Family & Children's Place to use most of the rest of the land it is buying from the Sons of the American Revolution to build a 10,000-square-foot family-support center.

The timing of the family center is uncertain, Fox said, but the plan is to move the children's agency's main offices and staff from 2303 River Road to that location. The family center's cost is estimated at more than \$2 million, much of which is yet to be raised.

So far the children's agency's Building Brighter Futures campaign, which began 2008, has about \$7.3 million in donations and pledges, including \$2 million from Kosair Charities and \$1 million from the James Graham Brown Foundation. The eventual target is \$11 million, including money for operations and endowment.

Of the sum raised to date, nearly \$5 million has been earmarked for the Child Advocacy Center project, including land acquisition, and just over \$2 million for agency operations. Most of the balance has been budgeted for the endowment.

The children's agency plans to borrow against the pledges to get enough construction money to start work, Fox said.

He said the agency has tried to keep neighbors apprised of the plans as they have unfolded, including periodic briefings.

Herb Fink, an Old Louisville neighborhood leader, said the neighbors have been working with the children's agency for several years. He said they opposed an initial plan, since shelved, for the agency to use Ben Washer Park, on the north side of Kentucky at Fifth, for part of its Project.

Renovation of the old Salvation Army site "will improve the neighborhood, save an old vacant building and cleanup an eyesore. We want to be very supportive of this (children's services) program that is of national significance," Fink said.

Family & Children's Place provides direct services to about 1,000 exploited children annually.

RECOGNIZING F.S. VANHOOSE & COMPANY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the most vital components of the American economy, the family-owned business. For over a century, Kentucky's own F.S. VanHoose & Company has persevered throughout the struggles that many small businesses face, and they are still on top. The company has a rich history of serving the Kentucky communities of Paintsville, Prestonsburg, Louisa, and the surrounding area. Although they have evolved and changed throughout the years to keep up with their competitors, it is their dedication to the customer and to the employee that still lies at the heart of the organization. And that is something that has never changed—not in the VanHoose family, and not in the VanHoose Company.

Frew S. VanHoose founded the lumber company in 1910. Frew's son Howard VanHoose, who worked briefly for the company after studying at the Kentucky Military Institute, would answer the call to serve his country in 1943. Howard VanHoose was killed in action in Germany in April of 1945, his son Joe Howard VanHoose aged only four at the time.

Frew VanHoose went on to spend 54 years running the company as president and CEO, until he could not manage the business anymore due to his failing health. With the founder of the company stepping down, the course of the company would dramatically change. After a brief 2-week interlude, in 1964, Frew S. VanHoose's grandson Joe Howard VanHoose, then just 23 years old, became the new president of

F.S. VanHoose & Company. In over a century of business, F.S. VanHoose & Company has had only two presidents in its entirety.

Joe was perhaps inexperienced and not entirely ready to handle the management of his family's company, which under his grandfather, had grown to become a large, multi-faceted operation. In his own words, Joe described himself as "23 going on 18."

"I thought to myself, Joe, it's either sink or swim. I swam," Joe said.

Today, the company's sales rate is 30 times greater than it was in the mid-1960s. Joe has spent 58 years as the company's president and CEO. The business is financially stable and annually injects great amounts of out-of-county and out-of-state money into the local economy. VanHoose & Company has been listed by various national trade magazines in the top 400 businesses several times.

The secret to this small-town lumber company's success is simple. By treating employees well and keeping turnover rates low, the employees are able and ready to stay at VanHoose & Company for the long haul.

Next, Joe relies heavily on the leadership of his fellow family members throughout the company. He believes it is up to them to carry on the business in the future.

Also, every business needs to be able to change with the times—and sometimes even before the times. Joe remembers VanHoose & Company using computers long before they were the norm. Now he can hardly imagine going a day without them.

Last, but certainly not least, is pride. Each individual involved with the organization cares deeply about the well-being of the company, and reveals it in their day-to-day display of upstanding character and customer service.

It is my hope that today, my fellow Senators will join me in recognizing the contribution that this company has made and is continuing to make in the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Success stories like that of F.S. VanHoose & Company resonate as examples of what hard work, perseverance, and dedication can lead to in our great country.

There was an article recently printed in the publication "Discover the Power of Southeast Kentucky," published by the Southeast Kentucky Chamber of Commerce in the summer of 2011. I ask unanimous consent that it appear in the RECORD.

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

[From Discover the Power of Southeast Kentucky, Summer 2011]
VANHOOSE LUMBER SINCE 1910

When you meet Joe Howard VanHoose, president and CEO of F.S. VanHoose & Company, you notice first the smile, contagious laughter and friendly demeanor. Under all this congeniality he's a very good businessman who guided the family business from financial straits in the mid-1960s to the celebration of its 101st anniversary, making the company one of the oldest continuing retail

businesses in the tri-state region. Joe VanHoose has seen the company through the worst of times and the best of times, with more good times than bad.

F.S. VanHoose & Company was founded in 1910 by Frew S. VanHoose who ran the business until he was into his 80s. "Technically, we have had only two presidents of the company in the 101 years of operation," Joe says with a smile. "My grandfather's failing health in the 1960s changed our course. In 1964 I was nominated as president of our company. I was 23 going on 18. Oh, we had an interim president for two weeks. Frew gave one of his cronies the position with no money changing hands. The man was to get his with what was to come by turning the business around. A 'falling out' over something said to him got him to throw down his keys and go home."

"At that time we had a longtime secretary/treasurer of the company named McKinley Baldwin, also a stockholder in the business, who nominated me as president. I'm pretty sure he was looking out for his own interest as well as the company's when he did that. He knew I was so green and inexperienced I would do whatever he said. I thought to myself, 'Joe, it's either sink or swim.' I swam!" Then he added with a grin, "More out of fear than intelligence."

Joe came from good stock. His father Howard VanHoose had graduated from Paintsville High School in 1935 and attended Kentucky Military Institute before joining his father in the family lumber business as manager of the Louisa operation. He was very active in civic affairs: a member of the Louisa City Council, vice president of the Rotary Club, secretary/treasurer of the Business Men's Club and a member of the I.O.O.F. This was all interrupted in 1943 by a call to service for WWII. Howard VanHoose was killed in action in Germany in April 1945. Joe was but four years old.

When Joe assumed the leadership role, F.S. VanHoose & Company had a hardware store, lumber yard and wholesale department in Paintsville, a facility in Prestonsburg and a lumber yard in Louisa. To get the company back on solid ground, Joe said he shored up some things and put good practices into place. "We consolidated our Paintsville operations and the Louisa yard."

Joe attributes much of the success of the company to hiring and retaining excellent employees. "We give employees a good benefits package. This is one reason we have so many long-time employees. That, plus we treat them well. Low turnover means a lot to us as well as to our customer base—friendly, familiar faces. Besides our regular career employees, we have family members who have been here a long time. My cousin Scott Craft retired from here about six years ago. He was vice president. His brother Mike retired about two months ago. He was manager of our Prestonsburg operation as well as secretary/treasurer. I have a son, Harry, in the business now, and hopefully the family will carry the business on in the future."

Another crucial move on VanHoose's part was changing with and sometimes before the times. His company utilized computers before it became the norm. "It's so common now," he said "that I wonder how companies ever operated without them."

At one point the growing trend of "chain yards" started getting close to what was considered F.S. VanHoose & Company's market area, which was a 75-to-100-mile radius reaching into three states. "They were getting into Huntington, around the Ashland Oil plant near Catlettsburg and in Ironton, Ohio. They were shifting into our market, and I knew we had to do something. I knew it would be just a matter of time before they were in our face."