

College in East St. Louis and later La-Salle University in Chicago. He completed his theological studies at the Midwest Theological Seminary.

Rev. Scott was working as bookkeeper by trade, when he was approached about serving as president of the East St. Louis Chapter of the NAACP in 1982. He accepted, but didn't expect to be in the role for more than a year. At the time, he believed that it "was not his type of work."

It turned out to be exactly his type of work. He kept his office doors open 8 hours a day, 6 days a week for the following 32 years.

While he was with the NAACP, Reverend Scott led the effort to create opportunity for and prevent indignities against people of color. He made sure there was scholarship support for thousands of students over the years he served. He played a key role in the U.S. Department of Justice's settlement with the City of Belleville over racial bias in hiring. He helped with sensitivity training for local police. He played a part in mediating disputes around racial epithets used in public. And he represented communities of color on issues from cross burnings to State control of local schools. It is no surprise that membership in the NAACP Chapter in East St. Louis grew under his leadership.

On behalf of a grateful community, I thank the Reverend Scott, his wife Gretta Scott and his three children. He stood and gave voice to a community through 30 years of progress and setbacks, celebration and injury. His leadership has touched East St. Louis deeply. It has been an honor to work alongside Reverend Scott, and Loretta and I wish him and his family the best as he opens the next chapter in his life.

TRIBUTE TO JOE HUBBARD

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I want to take a moment to thank a man that some in my hometown of East St. Louis call a saint and others call "Reverend Joe" although he is not a minister.

Joe Hubbard is the man you call in East St. Louis when you need help and have nowhere else to turn. When Joe was born his parents wanted to name him Raymond Lee. But the Irish priest who baptized him said he should have a good Irish name and so declared him Joseph Patrick, after St. Joseph the Worker. It turned out to be a fitting choice because Joe Hubbard has spent nearly his entire life doing the Lord's work.

He started 50 years ago as a volunteer with the St. Vincent DePaul Society in East St. Louis. Joe was 20 years old back then. He was working as a bookkeeper for the East Side Levee and Sanitary District to help support his widowed mother, but his real joy was helping the poor. Every minute that Joe wasn't working, he was volunteering with St. Vincent DePaul.

After a while Joe quit his job to volunteer full-time to help the people he

calls "God's broken people," the poor, the homeless and the friendless of East St. Louis. He did this for a decade.

In 1972, about a dozen priests, nuns and lay leaders in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Belleville drafted a petition that was later signed by every priest then serving East St. Louis. The petition asked the bishop of the diocese to create a small salary for Joe so that he could continue his good works under the auspices of the Catholic Church. Thus was born in 1973 a new social service agency, Catholic Urban Programs or CUP, as it is sometimes called—with Joe Hubbard as coordinator and sole employee.

CUP's purpose is to perform the works of mercy that Jesus asked of his followers when he told them, "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me."

CUP helps "the in-between people." It fills needs that other organizations, public and private, don't address. In the beginning CUP's services included emergency help, prison ministries and advocacy and guardianships for people who could not manage their own affairs.

Over the decades its programs have grown to include shelters for homeless women, children and families in East St. Louis, a food pantry and a neighborhood law office to provide poor people with legal assistance. Another program, the Griffin Center, offers tutoring and afterschool programs for more than 450 children living in four housing projects in East St. Louis.

On any given day, Joe might give someone money for bus tickets, visit a lonely person in a nursing home, tell stories to children at a day care center, find housing for a family that has been evicted, serve meals at a soup kitchen, attend a funeral and sit up all night at the bedside of someone who is dying and alone.

Above all, what CUP and Joe Hubbard offer is unconditional love. Joe does not hesitate to do work that others might consider too menial or dirty. He will mop up after a sick alcoholic. Twenty years ago, Joe and his right-hand man at CUP, Gerry Hasenstab, found a man living in his car. He was in his 50s and dying. He had open sores and maggots in his arms. His only wish was not to die dirty, in a car. Joe and Gerry got him admitted to a hospital to spend his last hours in a clean bed.

Support for the programs comes from churches and individuals, including many who have been helped by CUP agencies in the past. One woman gave part of her first paycheck to CUP after she got a job. A widow paid CUP back for the money it gave her to help with her husband's funeral.

After the Mississippi River overflowed its banks in 1993, CUP gave a farmer \$400 to buy seed and school supplies. That farmer has sent CUP \$100 every quarter—\$400 a year every year for the last 20 years.

Joe's compassion for others is partly rooted in his own family's misfortune.

Joe is the youngest of four children of Edward and Olga Hubbard. His dad was a steamfitter. When Joe was in grade school his father was badly injured on the job. He lived with constant wrenching pain for 8 years before dying of cancer.

The loss of his father's income hit Joe's family hard. Men and women from the St. Vincent de Paul Society brought food and coal to help the Hubbards survive. Joe said those volunteers inspired him.

He said, "I remember the dedication they showed, the way they reached out and helped others in need through their love of Christ. And I appreciated that they did it in a quiet manner that enabled people to keep their dignity. Their love of God and love of people inspired me to want to do God's work, too." And that is what Joe Hubbard has done his entire life.

In early November, after 40 years of selfless service, Joe Hubbard announced that he was stepping down as coordinator of CUP. At 70, Joe is starting to get a little tired. He's got diabetes, high blood pressure and bad feet, and the arthritis that has pained him his whole life is getting worse.

On Jan. 1, Gerry Hasenstab, Joe's right hand man at CUP for the last 36 years ago, took over as the agency's new coordinator. But don't think for a minute that Joe Hubbard is finished helping people. Joe also still maintains the Belleville Diocese's two cemeteries. And he still volunteers regularly for the St. Vincent DePaul Society and has a small office in their building, which is right next door to CUP.

When CUP started, they got about two dozen calls a day for help. Now they get about 60 calls a day. Last year, CUP programs helped more than 24,000 people in East St. Louis and St. Clair County.

In a letter announcing his decision to step down, Joe wrote: "As I sit here and realize how the times have changed over the past 40 years of Catholic Urban Programs' existence, I am both amazed and discouraged. Technology has made our lives so much easier and efficient in so many ways. High-efficiency furnaces lower our utility bills. But if a family can't pay for the gas or electric, they are useless."

Technological advances are great for some, Joe added. But they've made life even harder for the needy because non-skilled jobs they used to count on to make a living have nearly disappeared.

A couple years ago, Joe noticed violets blooming on a hill near a burned-out house. He thought it was a sign of hope.

He said: "You have to be a believer to be a survivor."

Joe's belief is that God is in every person and that it is not just a responsibility but a privilege to help those he calls "God's broken people." That belief has defined his life and it has made

life kinder and better for countless others in East St. Louis and St. Clair County.

Besides helping people, Joe's other great joy in life is eating good meals with good friends in small, locally owned restaurants. On Saturday, about 400 of Joe's friends will gather at one of Joe's favorites, Fischer's Restaurant in Belleville, to celebrate his retirement as head of CUP. More than that, they will celebrate Joe's unconditional love and unbreakable faith. I want to add my thanks to theirs.

In closing, I would like to read a short editorial about Joe that ran in this past Sunday's Belleville News-Democrat.

Martin Luther King Jr. would have considered Joe Hubbard a kindred spirit. King and Hubbard both spent their careers championing the cause of social justice. King focused on the spirit while Hubbard helped provide for people's physical needs in East St. Louis and throughout the metro-east. Hubbard is retiring after leading Catholic Urban Programs for 40 years.

King considered service to others to be a measure of greatness: "You don't have to have a college degree to serve. . . . You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love."

Hubbard has the sort of heart and soul that King envisioned. Even in retirement, we have no doubt that he will continue his life of service to the poor of our area.

Thank you to Hubbard. May the rest of us learn from his example.

TRIBUTE TO RUSS SULLIVAN

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, Benjamin Franklin once said:

The noblest question in the world is, "What good may I do in it?"

I rise today to honor the service of Russ Sullivan, who was a distinguished member of my staff for more than a decade until his departure earlier this month.

Most of us come to the Senate because it is a place where, despite the many challenges, there remains a capacity to do great good. And too often people forget that. But Russ Sullivan never did. Every day he came to work in the Senate and for the Finance Committee, Russ led by asking our staff how can we do good here? And how can we make this country and the world a better place?

Russ's leadership proves that by working to do good and working together to find solutions we can get things done.

Russ is well known here on Capitol Hill. He has earned the respect and admiration of Senators and staff on both sides of the aisle.

Russ's political career started early. He was twice elected Student Body President—once at McClellan High School and again at Baylor University. He had his sights set on a life of public service in Washington. In 1995, he became tax counsel and Legislative Director to Senator Bob Graham. In 1999, he moved to the Finance Committee staff to serve as Chief Tax Counsel to Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan.

Russ stayed on at the committee when I became chairman in 2001. Through his proven abilities, he was promoted to the staff director of my team in 2004.

During the past 8 years, Russ led the Finance Committee staff to pass major bills that give real help to families across the country. We cut taxes for middle-class families and small businesses. We defended Social Security from privatization. We opened new markets to U.S. exports to create more jobs here at home. We passed health reform to bring top-notch, affordable care to millions of Americans. And we are currently at work on a plan to modernize the U.S. tax code to reinvigorate the economy and create jobs.

True to his style, Russ did all this without a hint of partisanship. He maintained a laser-like focus on solutions. That focus made the Finance Committee more productive, and it strengthened the bills we passed.

I know there are many people here—including my colleagues in the Senate—who share my deep respect for Russ. Senator REID once called Russ "instrumental" and a "problem-solver."

Former Senator Blanche Lincoln once said, "We could not do our job without him," and boy, is she right. Russ has earned the trust of his colleagues and the admiration of his staff.

People who meet with Russ are often surprised to see his desk tucked between filing cabinets and boxes right alongside interns, assistants and law clerks. Russ is a true team player.

It would be impossible to honor Russ without recognizing his public service off of Capitol Hill. In his life outside the Senate, Russ truly embodies the question of "What good may I do?" For many years, he has been a mentor to young people, making a difference in hundreds of lives.

Several years ago, Russ became a foster parent and legal guardian to help teenage boys secure a better future. Since then, he has been a legal or designated guardian for 18 teenage boys. Thirteen are currently in college, and several more have already earned degrees. One of Russ's sons, Abu Kamara, spoke to the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette when it profiled Russ in 2010. Abu said, "[Russ] kept telling me, keep your head up.' He got people to tutor me because my grades weren't good. He kept me focused and made sure I was doing the right thing. He's the reason I graduated from high school."

Abu is the first person from his family to go to college. And there are several other young men who could tell you similar stories.

Last summer, Russ lost one of his sons in a tragic incident. AJ Hassan, who was a student at the University of West Virginia, was assaulted one night and suffered a brain injury. Russ rushed to be at AJ's side, but AJ soon slipped into a coma.

Washington was in the midst of a contentious deficit reduction debate.

Somehow, Russ spent months juggling work, AJ's medical condition, and the needs of his other boys. I will never know where he found the time and energy to have all these bases covered so well. But AJ's condition wavered, and there were complications. AJ passed away in July.

There was an outpouring of support for Russ and his family. Russ's friends and colleagues wanted to show him the same kind of caring and support he always shows others.

Russ continues to mentor and help young people, and he is still changing lives. He helped found the Capital Area REACH program, an organization dedicated to helping young people find success.

REACH connects students with job training, internships, tutors and scholarships. Some of these kids come from tough backgrounds. But REACH helps them find a pathway toward a stable and successful life.

In the spirit of extending the same opportunities he had early in his career, Russ started a program for interns, law clerks and fellows to serve on the Finance Committee. It now has hundreds of alumni who got their first shot at work in Congress thanks to Russ.

That includes a large number of people who have moved up the ladder on my staff. Russ fostered a culture where hard work gets the recognition it deserves.

Like any great staffer, Russ would not leave me without an ace replacement to take on his role. We have a deep bench on the Finance Committee, and I am thrilled to have Amber Cottle as my new Staff Director. She has been on my staff for 6 years, most recently as my Chief Trade Counsel. Amber is a pro. She is whip-smart. And she is a master negotiator.

Russ leaves some big shoes to fill. But Amber is more than capable and, as she likes to say, her shoes are much more stylish. I know without a doubt that she will do a great job.

There is one more thing I would like to say about Russ. Rule number one in my office is to remember the people we serve. They are hard-working people back in Montana and around the country, and it is our job to help them out. Russ never forgot that. A southern boy, Russ adopted Montana as his home State. He thinks of the people of Montana as his neighbors. And Russ always rolled up his sleeves and got results. I truly appreciate all he has done.

I know I am not alone in saying: thank you, Russ, for all your service all your hard work over the years. You did good, Russ.

REMEMBERING THEODORE GARDNER

• Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life of Theodore "Ted" Harbison Gardner. He was a devoted husband, father, a proud veteran of the U.S. Navy and a consummate