

which has been held annually for the last 42 years. The various entrants were placed into separate categories based on their size and were judged according to their 2001 incident rate. This rate is based on the number of worker-related reportable injuries or illnesses and the number of worker-hours during 2001, as defined by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

I ask that my fellow colleagues join me in recognizing the Franklin Electric Plant Board for its ongoing and unwavering commitment to safety and the community. Not only is the Franklin Plant focused on serving the electric needs of its 4,680 customers, but it has proven its dedication to providing a safe atmosphere where employees can work without fear of serious injury or illness.●

TRIBUTE TO ROBERT L. TUNSTALL

● Mr. WYDEN. Madam President, Mr. Robert L. Tunstall of Oregon has spent a lifetime in service to his fellow Americans—as a member of the U.S. Marine Corps, as a U.S. postal worker, and as a dedicated representative of his many colleagues in the Postal Service.

In November 1998, Mr. Tunstall was elected to the third-highest office of the American Postal Workers Union AFL-CIO, becoming the organization's secretary-treasurer. Prior to that election, Mr. Tunstall was twice chosen as director of the union's clerk division, serving from 1992 to 1998.

Mr. Tunstall's illustrious service record with the APWU spans more than three decades. He became president of the Portland, OR local in 1974 and served until 1976. He followed that service as a national representative from 1976-1978, national vice-president for the Seattle region from 1978-1985, and as assistant clerk division director from 1985 until 1992. Mr. Tunstall also represented APWU members as a member of the rank and file bargaining advisory committee in 1975 and as chairman of the appeals committee in 1982.

Mr. Tunstall's employment with the U.S. Postal Service began nearly 40 years ago. In 1963, after completing four years in the U.S. Marine Corps. Mr. Tunstall was hired as a distribution clerk. He went on to hold numerous positions, including stamp supply clerk, bulk mail clerk, postage due clerk, box section clerk and pouch rack clerk.

Mr. Tunstall was born in Sioux Falls, SD, but raised and educated in Portland, OR. After graduating from Portland's Jefferson High School, he attended Multnomah Junior College, where he made the dean's list in 1967; he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree at Portland State University in 1969. Later, in 1977, Mr. Tunstall earned a law degree at Northwestern School of Law at Lewis and Clark College. Mr. Tunstall has taught at the Labor Education Research Center of the University of Oregon.

In addition to a career of honorable service, Robert Tunstall has built a fine family as well. He is married to Rae Ann; they have a son, Brett, a daughter, Brooke, and a grandson, Matthew Martinez. I am proud to honor this fellow Oregonian today and I hope that Oregon and the nation benefit from many more years of his public service.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOAN R. LIETZEL

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute to Dr. Joan R. Lietzel, President of the University of New Hampshire. President Lietzel has been named this year's recipient of The Charles Holmes Pettee Medal for outstanding accomplishment and distinguished service to the State of New Hampshire.

The Pettee Medal was established in 1940 by the University of New Hampshire Alumni Association and the University Board of Trustees, in memory of the late Dean Pettee. This medal is awarded annually to a resident or former resident of the State of New Hampshire in recognition of outstanding accomplishment or distinguished service of any form to the State, Nation, or world. The Pettee Medal represents a rare devotion of service as was expressed by the life commitment and service of Dean Pettee.

I applaud the contributions that Dr. Lietzel has made to the University of New Hampshire since her appointment in 1996 as the President of the university. Since her arrival, Lietzel has worked tirelessly to raise the level of excellence in academic programs as well as the day to day operation of the university. During her tenure, Lietzel has successfully run the most aggressive capital campaign in the history of the university, as well as implementing new financial and fiscal management policies. Her vision and commitment have taken the university's academic standard to a higher level, as well as successfully increasing the amount of research funding the university receives.

Previous to her stay at UNH, Dr. Lietzel served as the Senior Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where she was an accomplished educator and worked to improve the program and budget planning. Dr. Lietzel also served as a professor at Ohio State University, in the Department of Mathematics.

On behalf of the citizens of New Hampshire, I would like to thank Dr. Joan Lietzel for her endless dedication to academic excellence. She has set a positive example for educators across the Granite State, as well as the Nation. My congratulations to Dr. Lietzel as she accepts this year's Pettee Medal for her distinguished service in the State of New Hampshire. It is truly an honor to represent her in the U.S. Senate.●

EULOGY FOR LORAL JOHNSON

● Mr. NELSON of Nebraska. Madam President, while I was home in Nebraska, a great Nebraska citizen passed away. Loral Johnson was a newspaper publisher in southwestern Nebraska and a pillar of his community.

He began working in the newspaper business at age 9 as a "printer's devil." He started at the Imperial Republican newspaper as a linotype operator following graduation from high school in 1952. He purchased the paper with his wife, Elna, in 1968.

Loral Johnson was well respected and known by his colleagues as an innovative newspaperman. Johnson's editorial pages were often positive and progressive, calling on community members to move forward and always striving to make Imperial a better place for current and future generations. He was inducted into the Nebraska Journalism Hall of Fame and was named a master-editor publisher, the highest award of the Nebraska Press Association. Johnson's Imperial Republican was also among the first weekly papers to print on an offset press and to use computers.

However, Loral Johnson will be remembered as far more than just a newspaper publisher. He was also a key leader in his community and his church. He was a member of the school board for 28 years, a co-founder and board member of the local nursing home for 33 years, and secretary for the Imperial Planning Commission for 21 years. His important contributions to education and health care will be remembered for many years to come.

While we will miss Loral Johnson greatly, it is comforting to know that his two daughters and a son-in-law are continuing the tradition of excellent journalism in Imperial. His family and the devotion to community that he has passed on to them and so many others are his greatest legacy.●

TRIBUTE TO RAY BURKE

● Mr. JEFFORDS. Madam President, I rise today to congratulate and thank Ray Burke of Berlin, Vermont, for over 30 years of service as Vermont's highway dispatcher. Ray retires at the end of this month from the Vermont Agency of Transportation and he will be missed heartily.

Humorist Kin Hubbard once said, "Don't knock the weather; nine-tenths of the people couldn't start a conversation if it didn't change once in a while." I suppose then that the art of conversation is easiest for Vermonters, especially during the winter months. For most of us, that conversation often turns into complaining futilely about the weather, except, of course, when Ray was talking. And Ray, as dispatcher, is known for his talking.

For 32 years, Vermonters have relied on Ray's constant updates and information on which roads were being treated with salt and sand, which