

Ella Carroll, 1815–1893. Our recognition of her achievements is long overdue.

Anna Ellen Carroll was born in Somerset County, the daughter of Maryland Governor Thomas King Carroll. She was one of President Abraham Lincoln's closest advisers and a senior strategist during the Civil War. And though she is nearly absent from history books, Anna was one of the most influential American women of the 19th century.

Anna believed in justice and fairness. She was a free thinker and an abolitionist. In 1853, she freed the slaves she inherited from her father's estate and persuaded her abolitionist friends to accompany the newly freed men and women to Canada, ensuring they would remain free.

Anna's belief in freedom and humanity led her to campaign passionately on behalf of the abolitionist movement. In fact, many believe that Anna's hard work and strong voice helped motivate President Lincoln to end slavery in America.

Anna formally joined the ranks of President Lincoln's top advisers in 1861, after writing a political pamphlet that impressed the President so much that he requested an interview with its author.

After the meeting, President Lincoln sent Anna on a reconnaissance mission to the secessionist South. When she arrived, Anna immediately knew the proposed Union strategy of sending troops down the Mississippi would fail. She recommended an alternative—send troops to divide the South by using the Tennessee and Cumberland rivers. The President listened, and ultimately, Anna's strategy helped the Union win the war.

Anna served as a consultant to Lincoln's War Department and, after his assassination in 1865, as an advisor to President Ulysses S. Grant. She also was a recognized political essayist, an avid writer, and an influential member of the Maryland and Washington political circles before and after her role in wartime politics.

During her life, Anna was recognized by her contemporaries as a top adviser to President Lincoln. In the 1864 painting of Lincoln and his Cabinet by Francis B. Carpenter, a chair sits empty. It is surrounded by maps and notes similar to those carried by Anna during her time advising Lincoln, implying her place at the table. Still, despite multiple petitions, she was never formally acknowledged for her contributions.

Anna Ella Carroll was a woman who had a profound impact on the trajectory of our country's reunification, helping make decisions at a crossroads that were critical to America's survival. I am proud to count her among the ranks of Maryland's most influential women. It is time we give her a proper place in our history books.●

#### TRIBUTE TO RON HAYES

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, I am honored to bring to the attention of the Senate the work of a remarkable American and constituent of mine, Mr. Ron Hayes, of Fairhope, AL.

As blessed as we are to be living in America, we would do well to remember that our society continues to be enhanced through the noble efforts of those who tirelessly and passionately pursue a better quality of life for us all. These often unsung heroes seek only the reward of knowing they have transformed our laws and our land for the better.

Today I wish to honor one such individual who has spent nearly two decades advocating for strengthened workplace safety regulations and timely communication between the government and accident victims and their families. His efforts have made a difference.

Ron Hayes began his journey to improve workplace safety in 1993 when he lost his beloved 19-year-old son, Patrick, to a grain silo accident in Florida. Facing tremendous emotional pain, Ron and his wife Dot sought details of their son's death as well as survivor's benefits from local, State and Federal agencies, only to be met with delays and few answers. After 2 years of navigating the bureaucracy, they resolved to learn everything they could about workplace safety standards and sought ways to improve both job safety rules and enforcement.

Ron Hayes' dedication resulted in the revision of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's, OSHA, grain handling standards. But this was only the beginning. Ron and his wife founded the Families In Grief Hold Together "FIGHT" Project, a nonprofit group devoted to assisting families and workers cope with the consequences of workplace accidents and deaths.

Some 10,000 people lose their lives while working each year. Ron Hayes worked with OSHA to create a policy which the agency often uses in communicating with family members after a workplace accident.

Since its founding, the FIGHT Project has reached out to nearly 800 families, providing valuable help in the grieving process, negotiating the red tape and ultimately in healing.

Ron Hayes could have stopped there, but his dedication to improving worker safety has motivated him to speak to almost 50,000 workers and taken him to some of the largest companies in the world. He has testified before Congress on numerous occasions and has served as a special adviser to the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee.

In the process, Ron Hayes has received many awards for humanitarian efforts.

I commend Ron Hayes' selfless dedication to worker safety while providing comfort and valuable counsel to families.

In our society it is possible for one person, or in this case a husband and

wife, to make a difference that will positively impact the lives of millions. Ron Hayes has shown us that a lone voice for good cannot only be heard but it can change society for the better.●

#### RECOGNIZING TILSON TECHONOLOGY MANAGEMENT

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, it is essential that today's small businesses be flexible and responsive when it comes to changing demands and conditions if they wish to be successful and truly distinguish themselves. My home State of Maine boasts a number of these highly innovative companies, which are poised to lead our economic recovery in the coming years. I rise today to recognize one of these firms, Tilson Technology Management, a small independent information technology project management company based in Portland, which is helping businesses grow through the creative and comprehensive training it offers its customers.

Mike Dow founded Tilson Technology Management in 1996 with the goal of improving the day-to-day operations of construction companies through the unique technology consulting training it offers to its clients. Tilson quickly met this goal and, adjusting to the needs of a variety of other industries, set its sights on providing technology solutions to businesses on a broader, global scale. As such, Tilson expanded its expertise, offering its critical technology services to a wider range of markets, including the biotechnology, banking, and manufacturing industries. All the while, Tilson has maintained its reputation as a leading example of solid and principled business management.

At its core, Tilson is a company of solutions, helping businesses meet their customers' needs while also helping to improve Maine's high-tech infrastructure. As a result of the company's hard work and determined success, Tilson was recognized this year with the Governor's Award for Technology Company of the Year. This honor is bestowed annually on a business that takes great pains to ensure that Maine is a cutting-edge technology State.

The company's work to find solutions to everyday technology problems is never-ending. In Maine, this includes constructing 1,100 miles of fiber optic cable that will expand the reach of broadband and the countless opportunities that will come as a result. I look forward to the completion of this project and the doors it will open for the citizens of Maine and local industries seeking a wider, global reach. At the same time, Tilson is helping to improve the lives of Americans abroad. The company is taking on the crucial task of developing ways to furnish U.S. troops with the food and supplies they need while serving our country in Iraq and Afghanistan.

A member of such organizations as the Portland Regional Chamber of