

was motivated by a sense of justice and a desire to secure worker protections and the fundamental civil rights that many of us take for granted. During his 41 years at the helm of the Louisiana AFL-CIO Mr. Bussie saw the evolution of not just workers rights but our country's constant struggle for fundamental civil rights. From 1956-1997 Mr. Bussie worked to secure civil rights, equal rights for minorities and women, a fair minimum wage, adequate workplace safety, defined pension plans, and numerous other fair labor laws for the people of Louisiana.

Mr. Bussie kept his sharp and analytical mind to the very end. He passed with his beloved wife Fran at his side.

When I began my political career as a State legislator almost 33 years ago, Mr. Bussie was a fixture at the Louisiana Legislature. He spent tireless hours effectively advocating on behalf of the hundreds of thousands of men and women he represented. I remember him as fearless and resolute in his belief in civil rights and fair treatment for all. He refused to back down even after his house was bombed by a member of the Ku Klux Klan in 1967. In 2010, I attended a dinner honoring the lifetime achievements of Mr. Bussie and was in awe of his accomplishments. Mr. Bussie was a strong willed and tenacious advocate for what he believed in but he consistently treated everyone with dignity and respect.

Mr. Bussie was born in Natchitoches Parish, home of the oldest permanent settlement in the Louisiana Purchase. His family later moved to Boyce in the central part of Louisiana near Alexandria. He served in the Navy during WWII and later worked as a hose man with the Shreveport Fire Department. Many times over the years he described to me how much he had loved being a firefighter and how much he loved the camaraderie among the men in his unit.

It was because of his sense of fairness, sharp intellect and demeanor that he was approached by his fellow firefighters to represent their interests. In 1956, he was elected president of the Louisiana AFL-CIO. He remained president until his retirement in 1997. Throughout his career Mr. Bussie acted with dignity and garnered the respect of even from those who opposed his position.

Mr. Bussie was a giant in the State of Louisiana and an example of how passionate advocacy could and should be expressed with dignity and grace. Like countless other Louisianians, I am a better person for having known him. On behalf of the U.S. Senate, I wish to offer my condolences to his wife Fran, the entire Bussie family, and all the members of the Louisiana AFL-CIO. Louisiana lost a true hero.●

#### TRIBUTE TO SUE COPINGA

● Mr. LEE. Mr. President, it is my pleasure today to offer my sincerest congratulations to an inspirational

constituent of mine, Sue Copinga. Sue is the recipient of the 2011 LifePoint Hospitals companywide Mercy Award. LifePoint's Mercy Award recognizes individuals who follow in the footsteps of the company's founding chairman and CEO Scott Mercy, who passed away in 2000. Sue works at Castleview Hospital in Price, UT and is a patient advocate in the emergency room, while working part time as an emergency medical technician. Castleview Hospital serves residents of Carbon and Emery Counties. Like so many rural hospitals around the country, Castleview is the only hospital for miles around, making it a vital resource where citizens of Carbon and Emery Counties can get the medical care they need.

While Sue has a deep history of giving back to others through her job and in her personal life, she demonstrated her extraordinary dedication to caring for others during one of the worst mine disasters in Utah's history. On August 6, 2007, the Crandall Canyon Mine collapsed in the middle of the night, trapping six miners underground. Sue did not hesitate. Immediately after learning of the tragedy, Sue headed straight to the scene to provide whatever assistance was necessary. She spent the following days and nights at the site standing ready, eager and willing to treat the men we all hoped and prayed would be rescued. Then, on August 16, a second collapse brought the walls down around rescuers who were working tirelessly to free the trapped miners. The second collapse claimed the lives of three men and injured numerous others.

Sue provided emergency care to injured rescuers and miners, despite the dangerous conditions. She voluntarily went into the mine that day not only to help those who were injured, but also to spare fellow EMTs from being put in harm's way. Sue was worried about a coworker with six young children and told his fellow EMT to stay behind, noting that her own children are grown and raised.

Sue's commitment to caring for others is also what makes her invaluable as a patient advocate in the emergency room of Castleview Hospital, where she has worked for 14 years. During her days—and often long nights at Castleview—Sue touches countless lives, making a positive impact on each patient she encounters. Sue provides care and compassion to her patients at a time when they need it most, and has come to be known affectionately as "Grandma Sue" for the way she soothes children, the most vulnerable of her ER patients—children.

Sue's devotion to helping others is not confined to the hospital's walls. She also serves part time as an EMT where she provides patients emergency care and transport in critical situations. When Sue isn't caring for patients in the emergency room or ambulance, she is educating future generations of EMTs. For fifteen years, Sue has given back to her community by

teaching countless people how to save others' lives in times of crisis.

Sue lives in Elmo, one of Utah's smallest towns. She is the proud mother of 5 children, including a Navajo foster daughter, and has 19 grandchildren. Sue also plays a role in supporting the children of her larger community by leading church youth groups and chairing an annual "community day" in her town.

It gives me great pleasure to know that Sue's caring, selflessness, and devotion to her community is being recognized through the LifePoint Hospitals Mercy Award.●

#### TRIBUTE TO MRS. SARAH J. GREENLEE

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I speak today in honor of Mrs. Sarah J. Greenlee, who this week accepted the 2011 Joan Orr Air Force Spouse of the Year award. Sarah was selected from thousands of nominees worldwide who selflessly support their loved ones in uniform. I am pleased to note that Sarah earned this honor while serving in the great State of Alaska at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson. Sarah and her husband, LTC Paul Greenlee, have recently been transferred to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, but Sarah has left an indelible mark on the Anchorage area through her volunteer work and leadership in the community.

Sarah was born into a military family and traveled extensively in the United States and Europe before graduating from Clark High School in San Antonio. She attended Southwest Texas State University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in psychology, and later the University of Texas-Arlington, where she achieved a master's degree in social work. Sarah subsequently entered the Air Force through the Commissioned Officer Training Program as a social worker. After 4 years of service, Sarah left the Air Force to become a full time wife and mother. Sarah and Paul are proud parents of Andrew, Rachel, and Zoe.

There is a saying in the military that "home is where the service takes you," and for the Greenlees home has been Mississippi, Washington, Illinois, Alaska, and now Hawaii. While we ask much of our men and women in uniform, we recognize it is the entire family who serves. With every move, families say goodbye to dear friends, kids start school in new places, and the clock starts ticking again toward the next transition. Despite enduring these frequent moves, military spouses quickly become leaders on base and in the local community. Sarah Greenlee is a fitting case in point.

Sarah took several actions worth noting. We had two tragic aircraft accidents last year in Alaska where we lost the crews of a C-17 and an F-22 within a matter of months. In the aftermath, Sarah jumped in with support and comfort, providing food and offering encouragement to leaders and personnel

from the affected units. She opened her home to children of commanders working on the recovery effort, relieving them to focus on obligations to their units.

Sarah's impact in the local community was no less remarkable. She was active in the Mount Spurr Elementary School PTA and Anchorage Faith and Family Church. Pastors Brant and Tamara Barker, founders of the church, have travelled from Alaska to Washington to celebrate Sarah's significant accomplishment.

Those who know Sarah best say she is a source of encouragement for all she meets. Her listening ears, compassionate words, and acts of kindness bring others support and hope.

The Air Force Spouse of the Year award is named after the late Joan Orr, wife of former Secretary of the Air Force Verne Orr. Mrs. Orr was a rare, inspirational leader who would accompany her husband on visits to bases, meeting with families and visiting community support facilities. During the Christmas holiday, the Orrs traveled to remote bases in my home State of Alaska to visit servicemembers who were separated from their families. Mrs. Orr had a passion for teaching dance. Even as she struggled with the debilitating effects of Lou Gehrig's disease, she never cancelled a dance class. From a wheelchair and using a writing slate when her voice failed, she taught up to 2 weeks before her death. Sarah, like Joan, realized she had something to give and the willingness in her heart to give it.

I offer warm congratulations to Sarah on her selection as the 2011 Air Force Spouse of the Year and wish her and her family a bright future.●

#### TRIBUTE TO PHILIP RUSH HALEY

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, today I honor an American patriot and a constituent of mine, Philip Rush Haley of Denham Springs, LA. Phil grew up in Baton Rouge, LA and enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corp in 1939 at age 18.

While stationed in Manila, Philippine Islands, Mr. Haley served as a guard outside the office of Admiral Hart, Commander in Chief of the Asiatic Fleet. After Admiral Hart left the Philippines, Mr. Haley relocated to Corregidor and was placed under the command of LTG Jonathan Wainwright. The American forces surrendered to the Japanese in 1942, and it was at this time Mr. Haley became a prisoner of war.

The State Times in Baton Rouge wrote an article entitled "Local Marine Declared Missing in Action." Most in his family thought Phil Haley was dead, but his mother maintained that Phil's strength and resilience would keep him alive. Nearly 1 year later, the Haley family received word that Phil was indeed alive at Mukden, a Japanese POW camp located in Manchuria, China.

Phil would be in the camp for 3½ years before the war ended and he was

liberated by the Russians. His positive attitude and perseverance, as his mother predicted, did indeed keep him alive.

Phil is still persevering. He understands the importance of service, and the Marine motto always faithful. Many consider him to be a patriarch and a well-respected leader in his church. He is constantly serving others in his community through his active involvement in First Baptist Church of Denham Springs. Phil is an ordained deacon, a member of the building committee, and a member of the "Helping Hands" team.

On this special day we will all look back and see the hallmarks of a life well lived. His quiet determination, unyielding kindness, and unyielding spirit have made him a pillar not only of a proud and loving family, but to all who have come to know him. Beneath a humble exterior lies a generous and kind soul. He is beloved not for a litany of accomplishments, but simply for who he is.

Tom Brokaw, in his book "The Greatest Generation," notes that their sacrifices made possible the many comforts and conveniences we enjoy today. It is my honor to pay tribute to this great American. He, like so many today, went into harm's way and sacrificed so much so that we can experience our liberties today. I am humbled to have the opportunity to express my appreciation for Mr. Philip Rush Haley's service to our country, and wish him all the best in years to come.●

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-3304. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Editorial Correction to the Export Administration Regulations" (RIN0694-AE90) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3305. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Agusta S.p.A. Model A109A and A109AH Helicopters" (RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2011-0861) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3306. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; General Electric Company (GE) CF6-45 Series and CF6-50 Series Turbofan Engines" (RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2010-0998) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3307. A communication from the Trial Attorney, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Truck Safety Standards; Concrete Cross-ties" (RIN2130-AC35) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3308. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Procedures for Protests and Contract Disputes" (RIN2120-AJ82) (Docket No. FAA-2010-0840) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3309. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Airworthiness Directives; Agusta S.p.A. Model A109A, A109A II, A109C, and A109K2 Helicopters" (RIN2120-AA64) (Docket No. FAA-2011-0823) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3310. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Area Navigation Route Q-37; Texas" (RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2009-0867) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3311. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendment of Class E Airspace; Hawaiian Islands, HI" (RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2011-0754) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3312. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class E Airspace; Copperhill, TN" (RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2011-0402) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-3313. A communication from the Senior Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of Class E Airspace; Forest, VA" (RIN2120-AA66) (Docket No. FAA-2011-0378) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 19, 2011; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. BAUCUS for the Committee on Finance.

\*Janice Eberly, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

\*Maurice B. Foley, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.

\*Juan F. Vasquez, of Texas, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years.