

contributions to the State of Mississippi while serving as the 79th president of the Delta Council. This important organization was formed in 1935 and has grown into a widely respected economic development group representing the business, professional, and agricultural interests of the Mississippi Delta. I am grateful to Delta Council for its continuous role in meeting the economic and quality of life challenges in this unique part of our country.

Walton Gresham's tenure as council president began soon after Congress enacted the Agricultural Act of 2014, and his effective leadership has helped Mississippi producers adapt to the new federal agriculture policies established by this new farm bill. Mr. Gresham has been an active leader on transportation issues in our State, and he is constructively engaged as Congress prepares to consider legislation to reauthorize Federal spending on highway and public transportation programs that are vitally important to the Mississippi Delta and its future. Mr. Gresham's dedication to confronting health care disparities and higher education needs in our State should also be commended. Through its work with Delta Council, Mr. Gresham's family has improved Mississippi's workforce training and readiness.

In addition to his role as president of Delta Council, Mr. Gresham has been active in the Mississippi Propane Gas Association, the National Propane Gas Association, the Petroleum Marketers Association of America, the Mississippi Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Stores Association, and the Mississippi Economic Council. He serves on the board of directors of Planters Bank, Propane Energy Group, Delta Terminal, Gresham-McPherson Oil Company, DoubleQuick, and Indianola Insurance Agency. He is a past president of the Indianola Rotary Club and Indianola Country Club.

Walton Gresham is a respected businessman and his performance as president of Delta Council will complement his well-earned reputation for unselfish service to improve the quality of life for those who live and do business in the Mississippi Delta region. His dedication to the future of the delta and all of those who live there is sincere. I am pleased to join the people of my State in commending Walton Gresham and sharing our appreciation with his wife Laura and their children Lenore and Elizabeth as they prepare for the 80th annual meeting of the Delta Council organizational membership, at which time, he will reflect on his successful tenure before passing the torch to a new president.●

CONGRATULATING TIM WILSON

● Mr. KING. Mr. President, I would like to congratulate Mr. Timothy P. Wilson on receiving the Gerda Haas Award for Excellence in Human Rights Education and Leadership from the

Holocaust and Human Rights Center of Maine.

The Gerda Haas Award recognizes and honors individuals who demonstrate excellence and initiative in human rights education and leadership. In the late 1970s, Gerda Haas was appointed to the Maine State School Board of Education and while serving on the board learned that students were not being taught about the Holocaust in Maine schools. Gerda identified this critical educational void and took action to remedy it, establishing the Holocaust and Human Rights Center of Maine with the goal of combating prejudice and discrimination while encouraging individuals to reflect and act upon their ethical and moral responsibilities in the modern world.

Tim Wilson certainly lives up to this philosophy. Over the course of his vibrant life as a teacher, coach, philanthropist, consultant, government official, husband, father, and grandfather, Tim has dedicated his time to serving others both at home in Maine and in the international community.

After graduating from Slippery Rock University and the University of Washington, where he was certified to teach English as a second language, Tim served in the Peace Corps in Thailand from 1962 to 1965. When he returned to the U.S., Tim took over as the head coach of the Dexter High School football team leading them to two Class C co-state championships and two Little Ten Conference titles. Over the course of his coaching career Tim has been a mentor to hundreds, if not thousands of students throughout Maine advocating education and sportsmanship.

One of Tim's greatest legacies is his work with Seeds of Peace. This student exchange program is focused on bringing young people from conflict zones around the world together in order to build lasting relationships and develop the skills needed to advance peace. In the program's first year, Tim managed the International Camp in Otisfield, ME where a group of 46 Israeli, Palestinian, Egyptian, and American teenagers attended the camp for the inaugural season. As Seeds of Peace grew to accommodate over 100 students every year, Tim worked as director of both the Seeds of Peace International Camp in Maine and the Seeds of Peace Center for Coexistence in Jerusalem. Currently, Tim serves as a special international advisor to Seeds of Peace which has generated over 5,000 international alumni and which continues to help young people work towards peace in international conflict areas.

Tim Wilson has worked under four Maine Governors, including myself. He has served in posts such as chair of the Maine Human Rights Commission, State ombudsman, and associate commissioner of programming for the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Corrections. He served as director of the State Offices of Energy, Community Services, and Civil Emer-

gency Preparedness. He has also been the director of admissions at Maine Central Institute in Pittsfield, the associate headmaster at the Hyde School in Bath, ME, and the annual key note speaker at Dirigo Girls State.

In 1997, the late King Hussein of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan presented Tim with a Medal of Honor. Seeds of Peace has recognized his efforts with a Distinguished Leadership Award and the Maine Youth Camping Association honored him with the Halsey Gulick Award. Tim has also been honored with the Distinguished American Award by the Maine Chapter of the National Football Foundation. Most recently, Tim received the Franklin H. Williams Award which recognizes ethnically diverse returned Peace Corps Volunteers who exemplify a commitment to community service and the Peace Corps' goal of promoting a cultural awareness among Americans.

Tim Wilson has devoted his life to promoting peace and understanding, to educating young people, and to empowering them to make their communities—and the world—a better place. I can think of no one more deserving of the Gerda Haas Award. Tim has led a career dedicated to teaching the next generation of young people and he has done a truly spectacular job of preparing them.●

TRIBUTE TO JERRY DUNFEY

● Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I wish to extend my best wishes to Jerry Dunfey on his 80th birthday this Saturday and to salute his lifetime of remarkable achievements as a business leader and political activist.

Jerry is one of 12 siblings born to Catharine and Leroy Dunfey, who emigrated from Ireland, worked in the textile mills of Lowell, MA, and later opened a small clam stand in Hampton, NH. In the years since, the Dunfeys have gone on to become one of the grand families of Granite State business and politics.

As a teenager, Jerry went to work managing Dunfey's Restaurant at Hampton Beach and then made his way through the University of New Hampshire by working at the family's restaurant in Durham. He and his brothers went on to operate other restaurants, acquired small inns across New England, and founded Dunfey Hotels, which under subsequent owners became Omni Hotels.

In 1968, they purchased the historic Parker House hotel in Boston, where they found the archives of the 19th century Saturday Club salon, which included Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, and Oliver Wendell Holmes. Jerry Dunfey reincarnated this famous club by founding what would become known as the Global Citizens Circle. Since 1974, the circle has brought together elected officials, activists, and ordinary citizens to debate leading issues, advocate for civil