

committee and its staff, it is my privilege to give public notice and honorable mention to the outstanding service that Annette Marie Gillis, deputy staff director, has provided to the committee and the Senate for the past 36 years.

Annette, the middle child of Henry Lee and Geneva G. Gillis's seven children, was born and raised in Alexandria, VA. She began her Federal service in 1979, right after high school, with the U.S. House of Representatives, working first for Congressman Herbert E. Harris and then for Congressman Carl D. Purcell.

In September 1980, Annette came to the Senate Select Committee on Ethics as a staff assistant. While working for the committee, she earned an associate of science degree in management from Northern Virginia Community College and then a bachelor of arts in Psychology, magna cum laude, from Marymount University. Because of her intellect, hard work, and professionalism, she advanced to become systems administrator, then chief clerk, and finally, in 2005, deputy staff director. Her contributions to the critical work of the committee have been invaluable. Over the years, serving under 14 different chairmen, including myself and Senator BOXER, Annette has been the constant in the committee's work, expertly managing the operations of the committee and its staff.

I now would like to yield to the Senator from California, whom I have had the honor of serving with on the Select Committee on Ethics, so that she can say a few words about Annette.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, Annette's contributions go far beyond the committee itself. Through her work on the committee's education and training programs, reporting requirements, and compliance functions, Annette has reached the entire Senate community and, indeed, the Nation. Her contributions, drawn from a reserve of institutional knowledge and experience, have been immeasurable.

The committee commends Annette's unwavering commitment to its work and is honored to have been the beneficiary of her loyal service. Despite the impact of her retirement, we, the committee members and staff, are pleased to see Annette receive the recognition she deserves for her decades of faithful service to the U.S. Senate and the American people.

We ask our colleagues to join us in thanking Annette for her invaluable service to the Select Committee on Ethics, the Senate community, and our Nation.

We thank you, Annette, for your 36 years of dedicated service.

#### TRIBUTE TO ROB NOEL

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I wanted to take a moment to thank a key member of my office who, after more than 4 years of service to the people of Florida, is leaving us tomorrow to pursue a new career opportunity.

Rob Noel started in our office's communications shop, often rising before the sun to see what was in the news and to make sure my staff and I had the latest info on the issues of the day. Over time, his duties would grow, eventually becoming our speechwriter and deputy communications director.

Rob is a talented writer and has been an invaluable part of our efforts to communicate the causes that are important to us, to shine a spotlight on injustices we see around America and the world, and to rally support for the ideas and solutions that we believe can make a difference for people.

On behalf of myself, your colleagues, and the people of Florida, thank you, Rob, for your service. We wish you the best.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TEXT TO 911 IN NEW JERSEY

• Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, I wish to commend the hardworking men and women in New Jersey who have made significant strides to ensure our State keeps pace with modern technology when it comes to public safety. This month, all 21 counties in our great State will have access to expanded 911 services, by being able to text to 911 in case of emergency.

This exciting new development will help save lives across our State and serves as a national model for receiving public safety services. Text to 911 further empowers persons with disabilities—such as hearing or speech impairments—who may have previously faced barriers to accessing emergency services. Today, 911 in New Jersey is open and accessible to more residents than ever before, and I commend the hard work and collaboration in New Jersey that resulted in this accomplishment.

Tragically, there are situations that happen every day where victims of crime or domestic violence are not in a position to physically call 911. With text to 911, individuals who can't speak on the phone can still access vital services. Further, with text to 911 enabled, there may soon come a time when victims can send information they never could have before, such as photos which can be instantly shared with first responders on the ground.

In February of this year, the text to 911 system was rolled out at Rutgers University and showed excellent results. In July, Camden County announced its successful implementation of this new service. And today all counties in our entire State have access to this convenient way of reaching local police. While this service is incredibly important and helps bring our emergency communications into the 21st century, it is important to note that, at this time, a phone call is preferred over a text message. I commend the educational campaign that has accompanied the text to 911 roll out, sharing

the message to "call if you can, text if you can't."

With this month's announcement, New Jersey leads the way as the fifth State to implement text to 911 in the entire Nation. This major achievement would not have been possible without the commitment and collaboration from cellular providers, Rutgers University, and other host sites across the State, as well as State and local governments and emergency response professionals who came together to advance this goal. I am confident that text to 911 will have a tremendous impact on the residents of our State, and I hope our successes and lessons learned in New Jersey can help further inform other States seeking to update their 911 capabilities and better protect their citizens.●

##### REMEMBERING RONNIE BALDWIN

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to remember the life of Ronnie Baldwin, who passed away on August 28, 2016.

Ronnie Baldwin led a life dedicated to public service. He joined the Wynne Police Department after graduating from Wynne High School in 1970. He served with that department for more than 15 years, first as a patrolman, then a lieutenant and a criminal investigator. He continued his commitment to protecting the community as the Brinkley chief of police and served as sheriff of Cross County from 1999–2008.

He remained committed to the law enforcement community, serving as executive director of the Arkansas Sheriff's Association, which he told friends was his dream job.

His commitment to public service extended beyond the borders of Arkansas. He was a board member of the National Sheriffs' Association and also served as a board member of the Arkansas Professional Bail Bond Licensing Board for more than 11 years.

Ronnie once said in a newspaper interview that he believed "actions define character." Those who had the privilege of working with him knew that he lived by those words.

A true family man and dear friend, Ronnie leaves behind many loved ones, including his wife, Martha, children, grandchildren, and many friends. I want to offer my prayers and sincere condolences to his loved ones on their loss. Ronnie was a true hero who led a life committed to protecting public safety. I thank him for his lifelong commitment to Arkansas and law enforcement throughout the Nation.●

##### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY—EMPLOYMENT LAW CENTER

• Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, as the Legal Aid Society—Employment Law Center, LAS-ELC, celebrates its 100th anniversary, I want to congratulate the staff, volunteers, and supporters of this extraordinary organization for all

they have done for decades to support low-income workers in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Established in 1916 by the State Commission of Immigration and Housing, LAS-ELC has a long history of successfully advocating on behalf of working families. Beginning with its early efforts to assist struggling workers during the Great Depression and WWII veterans as they integrated back into life at home, LAS-ELC has provided critical support for men and women in need of help. Their groundbreaking work includes securing the first-ever Federal grant to provide free legal services to indigent criminal defendants, leading the settlement of a major class action on behalf of women and minorities who were denied jobs and promotions by the San Francisco Fire Department and winning a court ruling establishing AIDS and HIV status as a disability protected by State and Federal employment laws.

Over the years, the organization has won hundreds of individual rulings and settlements for workers discriminated against on the basis of race, gender, ethnicity, disability, or religious beliefs. Today, LAS-ELC serves thousands of clients annually, provides free information about workers' legal rights, and advocates for policy changes that better support workers and help strengthen families and communities.

A hundred years after its founding, LAS-ELC continues to lead the fight against discrimination, harassment, wage theft, and other workplace injustices. I am pleased to join in honoring this special anniversary and wish LAS-ELC continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO BRUCE DUTTON

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, this week I have the distinct honor of recognizing Bruce Dutton of Garfield County, who celebrated his 100th birthday in August this year. He is a Montanan and a veteran who served his country during World War II, and he is also a sheep rancher. Montana has a long history of strong work ethic and dedication to service and Mr. Dutton exemplifies these qualities.

When Bruce was born 100 years ago, homesteaders were settling homes and setting up communities across Montana, carving out a living from the land. His parents, Bruce and Margaret, had a family homestead between Mosby and Sand Springs, MT. When Bruce's mother, Margaret, felt it was nearing time for her to give birth, she traveled over 20 miles to Mrs. McDougal's neighboring homestead for help. Mrs. McDougal provided her dugout for Margaret where she gave birth to Bruce, the third of seven children.

Bruce did not lack for education on the homestead. The Dutton family even provided boarding for teachers who traveled from as far as Idaho to serve the local school. When a proper

teacher was not available, a local high school graduate would fill in. After eighth grade, he took a break from school to help on the family ranch, but was still able to learn algebra. When he returned to school, Bruce traveled over 200 miles to stay with an aunt and uncle in Great Falls for high school but returned closer to home to finish school while ranching sheep.

On July 25, 1942, Bruce traveled over 300 miles to Butte, Montana to enlist in the Army where he served a variety of duties. While training in Texas, Bruce worked for a local rancher bucking hay on the weekends. As the end of his duty approached, Bruce wrote his father asking if he was needed at home. If he was needed at home, he wanted his father to know he could elect to terminate his service early. His father did, in fact, call him home, and Bruce forfeited \$75.00 of separation pay to terminate his military service early and return to Montana.

With a \$2,000 bank loan to buy sheep, Bruce committed to his own sheep business with his brother, Joe. His persistence and hard work continued to pay off when—as he says, through pure determination—he convinced Daisy, a teacher in Winnett, to marry him and devoted his life to his family, the community, and the work of lambing, docking, and sheering sheep.

Today his legacy is the present-day Cat Creek Cattle Company Ranch near Cat Creek. Bruce and Daisy raised two children, continued to be involved in the community serving as Garfield County commissioner, working on the Weede State Grazing District Board, and the Sage Hen Grazing District Board, as a Mason and a Shriner.

Now, on his 100th year, Bruce is part of a generation of Montanans who have witnessed incredible advancements in our State and our Nation. From the homestead dugout near Melstone, to his military service, a man on the moon, we owe much to his generation.●

#### REMEMBERING MARGARET MARIE MCISAAC

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today we honor the life and legacy of an outstanding individual, Margaret Marie McIsaac, whose passing signifies a great loss to the State of Nevada. I send my condolences and prayers to Mrs. McIsaac's family in this time of mourning. She was a woman truly committed to her family, friends, and community. Although she will be sorely missed, her hard work and great influence in Nevada will be felt for years to come.

Margaret was born in Winsor, NC, but moved several different times before establishing herself in Sparks, NV. While in Sparks, Margaret was soon acknowledged throughout Washoe County as a defender of Republican values and principles, as well as a true American patriot. Margaret was also a prominent personality in the Washoe Republican Women, WRW, volunteer group.

In addition to being one of northern Nevada's prized Republican supporters, Margaret dedicated much of her time to American veterans and their families after losing her beloved husband, Don, who was a steadfast Washoe County conservative as well. After her husband's death, many thought Margaret's dedication to her fellow Republicans would simmer, but she continued to fight for her beliefs and truly made a difference in several key elections throughout the Silver State.

Margaret was such an inspiring and kind woman, and I am honored to have known her. She was also an incredibly valuable resource to conservative efforts across our State, and her devout loyalty to me and several other elected officials in Nevada is truly inspiring. Margaret's joyful disposition was infectious, and I was proud to call such a committed supporter my friend.

I extend my deepest gratitude for all of her work on behalf of our State. Margaret's years of service will be remembered for generations to come. Our State is fortunate to have had a public servant of such commitment and unwavering devotion, and I am deeply appreciative of Margaret's invaluable contributions to Nevada.

Today I join citizens across Nevada in celebrating the life of a truly dedicated and inspirational woman, Margaret Marie McIsaac.●

#### COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION OF NORTHERN NEVADA'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 10th anniversary of an important entity to Nevada, the Commercial Real Estate Development Association, NAIOP, of northern Nevada. I am proud to honor this NAIOP chapter and its contributions that make such a significant impact on the commercial real estate industry in northern Nevada.

NAIOP commissioned a chapter in northern Nevada in October of 2006. Since then, NAIOP of northern Nevada has continuously assisted Nevadans striving to succeed in the commercial real estate business. Specifically, the northern Nevada chapter provides beneficial business and educational resources to its members, as well as a critical networking program that enables NAIOP members to connect with each other all throughout the United States.

The northern Nevada chapter has 15 board of directors, as well as several different committees that consist of a chairperson and other NAIOP members. These committees perform specific tasks that work toward NAIOP's overall vision and are crucially important to the growth and success northern Nevadans experience firsthand.