

nationwide. She also appreciated the necessity of bringing government and the private sector together on solutions.

At the Department of Energy, Dr. Hogan oversaw the Better Buildings Program, an initiative to encourage buildings to become 20 percent more efficient by the end of the decade. The program was formally codified through legislation I introduced with Senator Kelly Ayotte in 2013. Its success, however, is entirely the result of Dr. Hogan's tenacity, persistence, and rare ability to forge partnerships beyond government. While at the Department, Dr. Hogan also forged robust appliance standards that save consumers more than \$60 billion on their electricity bills annually.

At the Environmental Protection Agency, Dr. Hogan spearheaded Energy Star, a voluntary program to promote efficiency in housing, industry, and a range of consumer products. Today, Energy Star is one of the most widely recognized consumer labels in America. Since 1992, the program has saved families and businesses over \$450 billion and 3.5 trillion kilowatt-hours of electricity.

The legacy of Dr. Hogan's public service is all around us: in the kitchens of millions of American households, on the factory floor of industrial plants, in the cleaner air our children breathe each day, and in the dozens of new partnerships between the Federal Government and businesses from nearly every sector of the economy.

We are deeply appreciative of Dr. Hogan's contributions, and we wish her all the best in her next chapter. Above all, we thank her for a distinguished career of service to our country.

TRIBUTE TO DUSTY VAUGHAN

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the service of my longtime staff member and dear friend, Dusty Vaughan.

After 14 years of service, he is turning a new page in what has been an impressive and dedicated career of service to the people of Nebraska.

Dusty was the first person I hired after I was elected to represent District 43 in the Nebraska State Legislature in 2004. He served in my legislative office for my entire time in the unicameral, first as my legislative aide and then as legal counsel of the Transportation and Telecommunication Committee, which I chaired for 6 years. As a state senator, I relied on Dusty's expertise to make the best possible decisions that improved our State and helped Nebraska's families.

Together we accomplished a lot. We got results and Dusty worked tirelessly to get the "big stuff" done. Our proudest achievement from our legislative days was securing the passage of LB 84, the Build Nebraska Act, which dedicated a quarter cent of every sales tax dollar to a new highway fund in the State of Nebraska. This was a policy

change for the State and is viewed as a major policy accomplishment in the last 40 years.

In 2012, after I was elected by the people of Nebraska to serve in this Chamber, one of my first decisions was to make Dusty my State director. In the years that followed, when I wasn't here in Washington, I was likely traveling on the road with him across Nebraska. From Scottsbluff to Omaha, we visited countless families, organizations, schools, hospitals, and small businesses. I always enjoyed our many lunches, ice cream breaks, and discussions about everything from policy issues to our families. And we have certainly had a lot of laughs—and a few tears—over these many years.

Each and every day Dusty brought unmatched integrity and heart to work with him. He is a wonderful example of the true goodness of the State of Nebraska. I want to thank Dusty's family, his wife, Julie, two sons Gabe and Kellen, and his two beautiful daughters, Tatum and Zoe, who lent much of his time, including some busy weekends. I know they are proud of him, as I am.

Dusty has shown them what it means to be a true humble servant of our State.

Dusty, I thank you for your positivity, your loyalty, your friendship, and your faith in Nebraskans. I wish you the very best on this next chapter of your career, and I know you will continue to get the big stuff done and make us proud.

TRIBUTE TO KERRY GARLAND

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, it is with a heavy heart that my office says goodbye to Kerry Garland, who has been such an asset to my team this past year.

Kerry has lived in Alaska for 18 years. She went to high school at Bartlett High School in Anchorage and graduated from the University of Alaska in Anchorage with communication and a second degree, a bachelor's of science in nutrition.

After graduating, she worked for the University of Alaska Anchorage. Then we got her. She started as an intern. Her title now is a constituent relations representative, but truly she runs the place. She manages mail. She coordinates the interns. She does so much, and she always does it with the utmost professionalism.

Kerry is headed off to better things. In a few weeks, she will be one of the few and the proud. She is headed off to Quantico, VA, to for the rigorous and very competitive marine officer candidate school and then to the Basic School.

Kerry says that pursuing a career as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Marine Corps, the hardest branch of the military for women to make a career out of, especially as an officer, has been a long-held dream. The child of marine parents, she decided that she

was going to go into the Marines when she was 6 years old. It was "Bring Your Mother to School" day, and Kerry's mother showed up in uniform. She thought then, "I want to be like her." There is no doubt in my mind that she will be.

She plans on becoming a public affairs officer, where she will work to build understanding, credibility and trust. She will also work her hardest to protect the image of the Marine Corps both at home and abroad.

It is young people like Kerry—people with drive, discipline and a servant's heart—that made me so optimistic for our country's future, and the future of my beloved Marine Corps.

She is one of those people who everyone truly likes and who everyone who has ever worked with her trusts her to get the job done and to get it done right.

Kerry, we will truly miss you. You will always have a place in our hearts and will always be part of the Sullivan team.

Semper Fi.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

REMEMBERING RICHARD P. CONABOY

• Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, today I wish to remember Judge Richard P. Conaboy, who served the people of Lackawanna County and the Middle District of Pennsylvania as a judge for over five decades.

Judge Conaboy was born and raised in Scranton, PA. After graduating from the University of Scranton in 1945, he served in the Army Air Force and became a sergeant before his discharge in 1947. He earned a law degree from Catholic University in 1950 and practiced law in Scranton for 12 years until he was appointed to be a judge on the Lackawanna County Court of Common Pleas in 1962. He served on this court with distinction for 17 years. Judge Conaboy was nominated to the Federal bench by President Jimmy Carter and confirmed by the Senate in 1979. He went on to serve the Middle District of Pennsylvania for nearly four decades.

Judge Conaboy also served as chairman of the U.S. Sentencing Commission from 1994 to 1998. Notably, during his tenure, Judge Conaboy raised concerns about Congress's decision to address the crack cocaine epidemic by significantly enhancing penalties for crack, but not powder, cocaine, creating a sentencing disparity that he believed was having a profound disproportionate impact on minority communities. His opposition to this disparity and his dedication to fairness in sentencing presaged Congress's passage of the Fair Sentencing Act in 2010 and have continued to influence efforts to reform Federal sentencing laws.

Judge Conaboy was known for his legal acumen, as well as his humility, patience, and fairness. Members of the

Lackawanna County legal community have recalled his unique ability to resolve disputes and bring parties to the table with his sense of humor and deep respect for all people appearing before him. He worked tirelessly on behalf of the people of the Middle District, and he continued to hear matters before the court until his death.

Judge Conaboy is survived by his wife of 68 years, Marion, as well as their 12 children, 48 grandchildren, and 49 great-grandchildren.●

REMEMBERING WILLIAM J. NEALON

● Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life and career of U.S. District Court Judge William J. Nealon.

Appointed to the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania by President John F. Kennedy in 1962, Judge Nealon became the longest serving Federal District Court judge in U.S. history on August 28, 2018.

Born and raised in Scranton, PA, Judge Nealon attended Miami University until he put his education on hold to join the Marine Corps during World War II. He served his country from 1942 to 1945, and when he returned, he earned his bachelor's degree from Villanova University and his law degree from Catholic University.

Judge Nealon distinguished himself early on in the practice of law. In 1960, less than a decade after joining the Pennsylvania bar, he was appointed to the Lackawanna County Court of Common Pleas, the youngest such judge in the Commonwealth. Less than 3 years later, on December 13, 1962, President Kennedy appointed him to the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Pennsylvania, and Judge Nealon became the youngest Federal District Court judge in the country. He went on to serve in this role for over 55 years.

Judge Nealon was a brilliant jurist, committed to fairness and "equal justice under law" in every case for every party who appeared in his courtroom. He will be remembered for his work ethic and commitment to his family. In addition to leaving behind a legacy of judicial and community service, Judge Nealon is survived by his wife of 70 years, Jean, 5 of their 10 children, 30 grandchildren, 26 great-grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

The Federal courthouse in Scranton, which bears his name, will ensure that his decades of service to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and our country will continue to inspire new generations of public servants.●

TRIBUTE TO LARRY SHELLITO

● Ms. SMITH. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and celebrate the career of retired lieutenant general and current Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs commissioner Larry Shellito. Commissioner Shellito will be retiring from the Minnesota Depart-

ment of Veterans Affairs on January 7, 2019, after leading the department for the past 7 years. His leadership has ensured the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs will continue to provide excellent care and services for years to come.

Commissioner Shellito began his career in 1968 when he enlisted in the U.S. Army, during which time he served in Vietnam as a mobile advisory team leader. In 1973, he joined the Minnesota National Guard where he served for the next 37 years. Starting as a rifle platoon leader, Commissioner Shellito went on to serve in nearly every command position within the Minnesota National Guard, and in 2003, he was appointed adjutant general by Governor Tim Pawlenty. In this final position, Commissioner Shellito diligently led the Minnesota National Guard in responding to domestic incidents, transforming the force from a ready reserve to an operational force through multiple deployments to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. He made sure the needs of his soldiers and their families were met when they returned home through the creation and implementation of the Nation's first Yellow Ribbon Program. Commissioner Shellito's leadership transformed the Minnesota National Guard into one of our Nation's most respected and well-known organizations.

While most people would retire after such an extensive career, Commissioner Shellito stepped up to the plate when Governor Mark Dayton asked him to serve as commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs in 2011. At the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs, Commissioner Shellito has assisted Minnesota's 337,000 veterans and their dependents get the benefits and services they have earned. His stewardship has ensured veterans can find a place to call home, can find jobs in the public and private sectors, and have access to the services they need to help them heal from physical and psychological wounds.

In the past year alone, Commissioner Shellito has led the department in obtaining funding for three new veterans homes, improving residential satisfaction at Minneapolis veterans homes, opening a new state-of-the-art 100-bed skilled nursing care facility in Minneapolis, and establishing the Nation's first veterans home fixed dental care facility. The work Commissioner Shellito has done these past 7 years has set the Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs up for success for years to come and is a testament to Commissioner Shellito's character and commitment to service.

On behalf of myself and all Minnesotans, I want to congratulate Commissioner Shellito on an amazing career. Your more than 45 years of excellent public service, on Active and civilian duty, represents the finest Minnesota has to offer. We recognize your service, we are grateful for it, and we thank you.●

TRIBUTE TO ANCHORAGE AIR TRAFFIC CONTROLLERS

● Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. President, it is coming up on the end of the week, time when I get to do one of the things I love to do best here on the Senate floor: recognizing an Alaskan or a group of Alaskans who help make my State so special. I call them our Alaskan of the Week.

Last time I spoke, I recognized all Alaskans who were impacted by the massive earthquake, a 7.0-magnitude earthquake centered about 7 miles north of Anchorage, that we experienced on Friday, November 30.

The earthquake was the second largest that Alaska had experienced. The extent of the damage is still being evaluated, but the best guess is that it caused hundreds of millions of dollars of damage to homes, schools, roads—infrastructure throughout the area.

Aftershocks continue, at least 4,000 of them, and at least two dozen have been larger than 4.0 magnitude.

Residents of Anchorage and the Mat-Su—Southcentral we call the area—are still rattled, but Alaskans are generous, strong, and resilient, and they are skilled. They know what to do during an emergency.

Today I want to recognize a group of Alaskans who, under immense pressure, did their jobs and served our State with cool heads, smart minds, and the upmost courage: the air traffic controllers who were on duty in both the Anchorage International Airport and at Merrill Field at the time the earthquake hit.

Before I talk about the extraordinary actions they performed to keep air traffic running smoothly through the earthquake and the lengths they went through to make sure passengers were safe, let me spend a few minutes talking about how important aviation is and air traffic controllers are to my State.

So you know that my State is the biggest State in the country, more than twice the size of Texas. If you want to get a sense of how big it is, come up to my office where I have a map in the front room and cutouts of all the other States, to scale.

Many of those States that make up our great country are basically dots on the map.

We are big, but most of Alaska is only accessible by air. In fact, 82 percent of our communities—251—are not accessible by road. You have to fly to get there.

The airspace serves as our highways. Alaska's people travel by air eight times more often per capita than those in rural areas of the Lower 48 and ship 39 times more freight per capita, nearly one ton per person per year.

Not only that, Anchorage is the crossroads to the Asia Pacific—we have one of the world's best cargo hubs—and the air traffic controllers working the towers guide passengers and goods to the Far East, Iceland, and across the globe.