

Charlie Crary was the first person to enter the cave, and 6 years later it was reported to be 3 miles long. An early landowner was once heard saying he had "given up finding the end of Wind Cave."

For nearly 20 years, the cave was held in private ownership through mining and homestead claims. In the late 1890s, the Department of the Interior took jurisdiction over the area after it ruled that no legitimate mining development was occurring and that homesteaders were not acting in good faith to occupy the land. On January 9, 1903, President Teddy Roosevelt, one of our Nation's most revered conservationists, signed legislation creating Wind Cave National Park, the seventh national park in the country and the first ever in the world to protect a cave. Later, Wind Cave officials were put in charge of managing new parks in the Black Hills area, including Devils Tower National Monument and Mount Rushmore National Memorial, until those parks established their own management programs.

For 100 years, Wind Cave National Park has been one of the jewels of the National Park System. Today, the cave is one of the world's longest and most complex cave systems, with more than 103 miles of mapped tunnels, with more passageways still being discovered. Indeed, we may never find the cave's end. Cavers and tourists from around the world are attracted by the cave's unique boxwork, a honeycomb-shaped formation that covers the cave's ceilings and walls. And while that park's namesake is its focal point, the land above the cave is equally impressive, with 28,000 acres of rolling meadows, majestic forests, creeks, and streams. As one of the few remaining mixed-grass prairie ecosystems in the country, the park is home to abundant wildlife, such as bison, deer, elk and birds, and is a National Game Preserve.

As many of my colleagues may know, last year, I introduced the Wind Cave National Park Boundary Revision Act. This legislation would enhance Wind Cave National Park's value to the public and help visitors enjoy it even more by expanding the park in its southern "keyhole" region. This land currently is owned by a ranching family that wants to see it preserved for future generations. The land is a natural extension of the park, with mixed-grass prairie and ponderosa pine forests set off by a dramatic river canyon. The area also boasts archaeological sites, such as a buffalo jump over which early Native Americans once drove the bison they hunted. The addition of this land would enhance recreation for hikers who come for the solitude of the park's backcountry.

Wind Cave National Park is a national treasure, and I can think of no better way to help the park enter its next century than by approving this expansion. The Senate approved the expansion last November, but unfortunately, it was not considered by the

House before Congress adjourned for the year. I intend to reintroduce this legislative soon, and hope that my colleagues will again support its passage so we can permanently protect these extraordinary lands for future generations of Americans to enjoy.

I congratulate the National Park Service and the staff of Wind Cave National Park on the centennial of the park's founding, and wish them all the best for the next 100 years.●

#### HONORING JIM SEARS OF INDIANAPOLIS, IN

● Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Jim Sears, a fellow Hoosier, an Indiana State Police officer, a family man and a friend, who passed away on December 31, 2002.

As those who knew Trooper Sears would attest, his strong commitment to the city of Indianapolis was reflected in his distinguished career. In 1962, he became the first African American to wear an Indiana State Police uniform. He opened doors for other African Americans who aspired to become State Police officers and to break through barriers of all kinds. Marion County's first African American Sheriff, Frank Anderson was a classmate of Sears' at Short Ridge High School in 1956 and was with him on the day they both went downtown to apply for the force. State Police Superintendent Melvin Carraway referred to Sears as "our mentor."

Jim Sears' life was an example of kindness, gentleness and perseverance in the face of constant prejudice. His guiding principle was to protect the dignity of the public, especially those whom he was forced to deal with for legal infractions. He once shared that if he caught someone speeding, he would ask the person to step out of the car if children were present in an attempt to protect the children from witnessing their parent in an embarrassing situation.

Trooper Sears sought to keep others from humiliation, although often he was the recipient of cold, disparaging treatment from fellow troopers and the public because of the color of his skin. Not easily discouraged Trooper Sears remained a perfectionist and a stickler for regulations, allowing others to benefit from his shining example. In 1976, Trooper Sears and a group of other Black troopers settled a racial discrimination lawsuit with the State Police, which subsequently agreed to recruit and promote minorities. "Despite the bad things that happened, I'd do it all over again," Trooper Sears said after the settlement. "Because someone had to straighten out this mess of people not being hired strictly on color. I helped open the door."

After 15 years as a trooper, Jim Sears was transferred to the job he called "the highlight of his career," serving on the security detail for Gov. Otis Bowen from 1977 to 1980. After that detail, Sears was head of the depart-

ment's planning arm when he retired in 1992 after 30 years of service. After retirement, Jim Sears graduated from Indiana University-Purdue University of Indianapolis and worked for the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles.

Trooper Jim Sears opened doors for those who followed. He was a true leader and humanitarian whom the city of Indianapolis and the State of Indiana will miss tremendously.

We owe a debt of gratitude to the late Jim Sears for his lifelong service to Indiana and our Nation.●

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 70TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF MILLARD AND HATTYE MAE BIDDLE

● Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, I rise today in recognition of the 70th wedding anniversary of my dear friends Millard and Hattye Mae Biddle. Our friendship has spanned some three decades. I want to congratulate them on behalf of all Delawareans wish them both the very best in all that lies ahead.

As they celebrate this milestone in their lives, they will surely reflect on the many changes, successes, and accomplishments they have experienced together over the last 70 years. Theirs is a journey of which they can be proud.

The Biddles have lived in the Dover community for many years. For a number of those years, they owned a bed and breakfast in Wyoming, DE. At the start of my career, I worked in Kent County and lived in New Castle County in the northern part of our State. Their trademark hospitality was in full swing. I stayed so often as their guest, they finally gave me my own bedroom and a key to the House! They have always made me feel like a member of their family, and their home became, in many ways, mine as well.

Both Millard and Hattye Mae have lived their lives in the service of others. Long before it was popular, Hattye Mae recognized the tremendous need for early childhood education for kindergartners and preschool children in Kent County. She started a successful preschool called the Little School. Both the school and its students—hundreds of them—have grown up, stronger under her watchful eye.

Hattye Mae volunteers at the Old State House in Dover, giving tours to the many visitors. She has served as a member of the board of directors and is now an honorary member of the Board of Directors of Kent/Sussex Industries, a nonprofit organization that provides work opportunities for Delawareans each year. And no July in Harrington is complete without seeing her sweet smile at the annual Delaware State Fair.

Millard started his career delivering milk for the Frear Milk Company. After serving in World War II, Millard opened a grocery store. He returned to public service as a Kent County assessor shortly thereafter, from which he happily retired.

Millard served as a member of the Dover Housing Authority and served two terms on the Dover City Council. He is, in fact, the oldest living former council member. Millard has enjoyed many hours giving tours at the E.R. Johnson Victrola Museum in Dover, reading about the talking machines, records and other relics of the Victor Talking Machine Company of Eldridge R. Johnson Manufacturing Machinists. A wiz at clock making, Millard enjoys using old Victrola records and transforming them into clocks. They are, by all accounts, incredibly impressive.

Today, I rise to congratulate Millard and Hattye Mae on their 70th wedding anniversary. In a day and age where many marriages do not last 70 months or even 70 weeks, the strength and durability of their union serves as a source of inspiration to us all. In addition, each of them has demonstrated great devotion to their family, three children, nine grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren, and to their community in too many ways to number. I know that their years together hold many beautiful memories. It is my hope that those ahead will be filled with continued joy and contentment. They give true meaning to the words of the poet who wrote, "Grow old along with me, the best is yet to be."●

#### TRIBUTE TO JAMES R. TILLING

● Mr. VOINOVICH. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to James R. Tilling, who is retiring after 33 years of service to the State of Ohio.

Mr. Tilling came to Ohio in September, 1969 to begin a career as a political science professor at my alma mater, Ohio University in Athens. He spent 6 years at Ohio University where he taught courses in American national government, urban government and politics, and Soviet government and foreign policy. In academic year 1973-1974, he was named a "University Professor," an honor given each year to the 10 best teaching professors at Ohio University.

Following his tenure as a distinguished Ohio University professor in 1977, Mr. Tilling joined public service, as director of communications and research of the Ohio Senate's Republican caucus. He served twice as minority chief of staff, in 1979 to 1980 and 1983 to 1984. He was elected clerk of the senate for 1981 to 1982.

From January 1984 until April 1994, Mr. Tilling served as chief executive officer of the senate under then-senate presidents Paul Gillmor and Stanley J. Aronoff. In that capacity, he was responsible for the day-to-day operation of the senate's staff and also worked with senate Republican members to develop their legislative policy agenda.

Through the years, Mr. Tilling made significant contributions which helped improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the Ohio Legislature. For example, in 1981 and 1992, he was the prin-

cipal coauthor of the bipartisan congressional redistricting plans which determined congressional district boundaries for the 1980s and 1990s. In 1991, he served as the secretary for to the Ohio Apportionment Board, where he helped craft the districting plan for the Ohio General Assembly in the last decade.

In addition to creating the redistricting plans that have been in effect for 20 years, Mr. Tilling has been a key advisor in major policy debates in the Ohio Legislature, he has recruited candidates to run for the U.S. Congress and he has the regard of legislators and policymakers on both sides of the aisle.

I worked with him and appreciated his contributions when I was Governor of Ohio during the 1990s. For the past 7 years Mr. Tilling has served as chief of staff and chief policy advisor to Ohio Attorney General Betty D. Montgomery. I recruited Betty Montgomery to run for attorney general and I know how valuable Mr. Tilling has been to her over the years.

James R. Tilling has over three decades of dedicated and distinguished public service to the people of Ohio and our Nation. I commend his intellect and his passion for public service which have inspired colleagues and students alike. His contributions are longlasting and should be emulated for years to come.●

#### EXTENSION OF UNEMPLOYMENT

● Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, the American people are facing difficult economic times. The unemployment rate is at a 9-year high, and a growing number of both skilled and unskilled American workers are left without jobs and without a way to provide for themselves and their families.

I am so pleased that we finally passed S. 23 on Tuesday, which provides a 5-month extension of the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation Act of 2002, and that the House passed it also. I believe that it was critical for the Congress to address the issue of expiring unemployment insurance benefits on the very first day of the 108th Congress. Actually, if we had had it our way, my Democratic colleagues and I would have delivered this aid to unemployed workers last year before 780,000 workers had their benefits cut off. At the end of the last Congress, Democrats asked for unanimous consent eight times to pass a bill that would provide benefits for workers who were cut off from their benefits on December 28, for workers who had not yet received the extension, and for workers who had run out of their State and Federal benefits and had not yet found a new job. But each time Republicans objected to this proposal. An agreement was finally reached between Senate Democrats and Republicans in December, but the Senate agreement was rejected by House Republicans.

S. 23 will help millions of Americans, 91,000 in Massachusetts alone, but there is one deserving group that it

won't help, the more than 1 million unemployed workers who have already exhausted their State and Federal unemployment benefits. On Tuesday, Senator REED asked that the Senate not adjourn until it address the issue of unemployment insurance benefits for workers who have already exhausted their benefits. Unfortunately, I was not present for Tuesday's vote because I was detained at a doctor's appointment, but had I been present I would have voted in favor of continuing the debate until we addressed the needs of the long-term unemployed.

Over 2 million people's benefits have expired since the passage of the Temporary Extended Unemployment Compensation Program in March 2001. Of those 2 million, 1 million are still working hard to find jobs. There are 1.5 million fewer jobs today than there were in March 2001 and the economy remains weak. I have heard from so many of my constituents about how difficult it is to find jobs in this economic climate. Twenty percent of America's unemployed have been without work for more than 26 weeks, and the percentage is still growing. We must not leave the long-term unemployed and their families with no where to turn.

We have taken an important first step to help unemployed workers. But we have not done nearly enough. And I will continue to urge my colleagues to take action to help the long-term unemployed.●

#### BOB POTTER

● Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Bob Potter, president of Jobs Plus in Coeur d'Alene, ID, on his retirement and a job well done.

Idaho found Bob Potter after he retired the last time enjoying life at his home on Hayden Lake. Thankfully, we had a few good salesmen in North Idaho who drew him out of retirement to head Jobs Plus, the then-new economic development corporation for Kootenai County. Over the past 16 years, Bob has done a stellar job. Jobs Plus, under his leadership, has recruited over 70 companies that employ over 3,500 workers with a payroll just shy of \$100 million. What a tremendous benefit to North Idaho.

Bob always jokes that the Governor of California ought to be on his board because no one does more for his recruitment. However, the truth of the matter is that Bob's tireless efforts to recruit small and medium size businesses is what gets results. The key to sales is to show someone they have a need and that your product will meet it. Yes, California's business climate has created a need for businesses to lower costs, and Idaho is the perfect place to come to do that. However, folks wouldn't know about that unless Bob Potter was knocking on their doors.

Over the years, I have answered many a call from Bob to help recruit,