

Karlene Hunter understands what many business owners have learned: owning a business requires talent, know-how, and a lot of hard work and perseverance. Karlene saw a need in her community and started Lakota Express, Inc., the only direct marketing and telemarketing company in the United States that is Indian-owned and operated. Lakota Express, Inc., employs trained professionals that have exceptional marketing skills. Because the company has provided telemarketing and direct mailing services for various organizations, it has an impressive track record of success.

Lakota Express, Inc., has become a valued member of the Pine Ridge community and is truly a South Dakota success story. For the past 5 years, Karlene has worked as CEO of Lakota Express, and has followed her dream of building a small business run out of her basement into the company that has raised \$10 million to fund the Oglala Lakota College's first public library, as well as 10 college centers across the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. Karlene and Lakota Express have also worked to build the first independent Indian-owned public radio station.

Lakota Express' mission is to operate a business that creates economic opportunities for the Lakota Nation and participates in social, educational, and political issues that empower the people and protect the earth. I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the staff of Lakota Express, Inc., who have helped Karlene achieve this remarkable accomplishment; Mark Tilsen, Betty Brave, Theresa Zottola, Jim Head, Stephanie Sorbel, Nick Tilsen, April Rosales, Nicole Pourier, Mary Under Baggage, and Marlene Mesteth. I know that all these individuals and countless others, who have contributed richly to the company's many achievements, take great pride in the personal and collective accomplishments that are recognized through this honor.

It is with great appreciation that I join with the community, the employees, the customers, and the many people who interact with the company, in congratulating Karlene Hunter on her years of service and success. I wish Lakota Express, Inc., enduring good fortune and prosperity in their continued pursuit of excellence.●

EPSILON CHAPTER OF ZETA TAU ALPHA FRATERNITY AT UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS, FAYETTEVILLE

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I wish to recognize the Epsilon Chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity was founded on October 15, 1898, by nine women at the State Female Normal School in Farmville, VA. The Epsilon Chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha, founded on December 18, 1903, at the University of Arkansas

at Fayetteville, will celebrate 100 years of sisterhood from September 26-28 on the campus of the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. The Centennial Celebration is expected to bring many Epsilon alumnae back to the campus, including Amber Elbert, a member of my staff and 1998 Epsilon initiate.

The Epsilon Chapter is unique in many ways. It is the first chapter in Zeta Tau Alpha history to reach a centennial mark and the first chapter founded west of the Mississippi River. Epsilon was also the very first chapter to be announced through the fraternity's official magazine, "Themis." The first pictures ever used in "Themis" were those of Epsilon, its chapter room and the University of Arkansas. The University of Arkansas students who founded the chapter in 1903 were Elizabeth Kell Rose, Hattie Williams, Margaret Hutcherson, Grace Jordan, Bess Byrnes, Della McMillan and Mabel Sutton.

The mission of Zeta Tau Alpha is to make a difference in the lives of its membership by developing the potential of each individual through visionary programming, which emphasizes leadership development, service to others, academic success and continued personal growth for women with a commitment to friendship and the future based on the values and traditions of our past. Having been actively involved with Chi Omega Fraternity as both a collegiate member and an alumna, I have witnessed firsthand the lifelong benefit that can come from membership in a Greek organization, such as Zeta Tau Alpha.

On behalf of all Arkansans, I would like to extend congratulations to the Epsilon Chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha Fraternity for 100 years of excellence and enriching the lives of its members from Arkansas and across the Nation.●

COMMENDING WORK TO AID VICTIMS OF TORTURE

● Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, I wish to acknowledge the important work that is being done to aid victims of torture, in particular the work of the International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims, IRCT. IRCT will be honored in a ceremony today, in New York City, where the Dalai Lama will present them with the Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize.

Torture is a sophisticated form of social and political control designed to stifle dissent through terror. It violates the basic rights of human beings and is contrary to the principles of the U.S. Constitution and the fundamental nature of our republic.

Freedom from torture is a universal and fundamental human right. Yet torture continues to take place in more than 120 countries. It is estimated that one-third of the world's 12 million refugees are victims of torture. Politicians, journalists, teachers, students, religious leaders, trade union and human rights activists are all targets. The aim

of torture is not to kill the victim, but to break down the victim's personality. Crippled, traumatized, and humiliated, the victims are returned to their communities as a warning to others.

That are an estimated 500,000 torture survivors in the United States alone—refugees and asylum-seekers who have fled repressive regimes. And in recent years, there has been a dramatic increase in the number of victims of torture seeking help at U.S. rehabilitation centers.

The IRCT has been a vital part of the global effort to aid torture victims. The Council began with a group of four doctors in Denmark who responded to a call by Amnesty International in 1973 to help diagnose torture victims. Today the IRCT is a global network of 200 rehabilitation centers operating in 80 countries to meet the needs of some 100,000 victims of torture each year. IRCT's mission is to support and promote the rehabilitation of victims of torture, to advocate for the prevention and eradication of torture worldwide, and to provide documentation and research that will ultimately bring perpetrators to justice.

Minnesota is home to the Center for Victims of Torture, CVT, the first comprehensive torture treatment center in this country—and third such facility in the world. The CVT helped establish National Consortium of Torture Treatment Programs, under which the 34 torture rehabilitation centers and programs in the United States operate. As mayor of St. Paul I worked together with the CVT to build a torture treatment center on the east side of the metro area.

The work of IRCT and the U.S. torture treatment programs is all the more relevant given pending legislation. I am proud to be the chief Senate author of the Torture Victims Relief Act, TVRA, of 2003, which will enable the U.S. to continue its leadership in caring for victims of torture. This reauthorization of the TVRA is included as an amendment to the fiscal year 2004 Foreign Relations authorization bill, and I look forward to the passage of this bill.

Once again, I commend the IRCT for their tireless work on behalf of torture victims in the U.S. and around the world.●

TRIBUTE TO VICE ADMIRAL JOHN TOTUSHEK

● Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to congratulate VADM John B. Totushek upon the completion of his career of service in the United States Navy and Naval Reserve. Throughout his 36-year military career, Vice Admiral Totushek served with distinction and dedication, ultimately becoming the first Naval Reservist Commander of the Naval Reserve Force to wear three stars, achieving the rank of Vice Admiral.

Vice Admiral John B. Totushek is native of Minneapolis, MN. A 1966 graduate of the University of Minnesota, he