

Medicare Part D program were free). We need to take care of our own. Use our own oil, feed our own people, keep the illegal aliens out because they are using more of our governments money than we are. I have my doubts you will ever read this, but it is worth a try.

TRISH.

I work for the federal government, but had to make a difficult choice last week. I had to decide on buying enough gasoline to get to work for the next two weeks or providing additional food for my family. I commute daily from 20 miles one way to work and do not have an option to move at this time. The need for gasoline won over the additional food. Please support Senator Crapo and Congressman Simpson as they work to provide real solutions to our increased costs for energy instead of merely blaming the current administration and promising to raise taxes as the only solutions.

TOM, *Ririe.*

I have just read through your website and have found only responses that support your conclusions. Are you afraid to post any dissent on the subject? Yes, gas prices are at a record high and yes, many people are seeing significant new bills and a reduction in their spendable income. Some, certainly, are no longer able to stay out of debt. Nonetheless, all of the solutions that you are proposing will do little to impact anyone's pocketbook or bottom line. Offshore drilling, whether it be in Florida or Alaska, will not ease the current situation. No new oil will flow out of those areas for years. If you allow such exploration, who do you think will pay for the new equipment and technology required to access such oil? I know who—either the consumers or the taxpayers, but probably, both.

More importantly, why are many Americans struggling to pay the increased cost of gas? How many Prius drivers are complaining? How many times did the Senate vote down legislation to force automakers to manufacture more fuel efficient vehicles?

On your website, you state, "It is why I support legislation to fully utilize proven American oil and natural gas reserves in a way that preserves the environment for future generations." How are you going to fully utilize reserves and preserve the environment? Has there ever been an oil installation that preserves, or benefits the environment?

I am extremely happy that you support renewable energies. Idaho certainly has a great deal of renewable potential. We have great solar, wind, and water resources. Are you aware that Idaho, as a state, offers some of the most paltry incentives in the entire country? As a state, we do not even have a net-metering law.

Renewable energies are currently poised to be rapidly deployed, far faster than the decades required to extract the limited quantities of oil out of ANWR.

Before we vote to open vast areas to development, let us look forward to the future to determine if this is a prudent thing to do. At the very least, let us determine if it will even solve the issue at hand.

JAKE, *Driggs.*

Please check out this web site. We would love to have your signature. <http://www.drillforamericaoil.com>.

BOB.

I worked on building the Alaska Pipeline from 1972 to 1986 and have been back several times. I have been on every National Geographic and all the magazines, so I have seen oil as crude and the finished product. The refining is basically the same as in 1973. The cost is low to refine to gas stage. What I am

getting at is what Ted Stevens said to Leo Lucas and I back in the 1980s when I lived next door to him on Leo's ranch. He said, "There can be no crooked oilmen without crooked Senators and Congressmen. He went on to predict this "crunch" we are having as something that OPEC has always said would happen.

Maybe it is time to take it away from the oil people. We have more oil in Alaska than Saudi Arabia, same with North Dakota, Pennsylvania, and nobody has any idea how much is in Utah. But I would never go for drilling in ANWR.

That is something you cannot image. The beauty is stunning, although they say the impact would be like a sheet of plywood in the middle of a football field. I believe them to be liars. They have the best drillers in the world in Alaska. I have worked with all but a few of them. They can drill from elsewhere and get all the oil without going there, even if it is like the sheet of plywood. It will not stay that way. They are pigs and will ruin all they touch. Anyway, who would want a sheet of plywood in the middle of their football field?

For all they would get offshore would be dwarfed by it, anyway. Let us use our resources and tell OPEC that grain is \$139 a bushel. Leave them alone. They hate us. If someone wanted me to stay away from them there is no way they would ever have to say it twice.

OLIVER, *Salmon.*

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HONORING RECIPIENTS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION

• Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, today I am honored to invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating seven of my constituents who are recipients of the distinguished Presidential Unit Citation. This rare and prestigious citation is given to military units for their outstanding bravery, gallantry and service as well as the unit's performance in accomplishing its mission under extreme and hazardous conditions. In January 2009 this heroic award was conferred upon the Alpha Troop, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment for service in the Republic of South Vietnam.

The individuals who received this award include Mr. Dale H. Hollabaugh, Mr. James E. Jackson, Mr. Joseph D. Boone, Mr. Gregory R. Stumbo, Mr. Kenneth Mosley, Mr. Clifton T. Geerde, and Mr. Kenneth E. Fulkerson. In 1970, in War Zone C during the Vietnam conflict, the Alpha Troop, First Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment performed heroically through a series of combat missions over several months. After a 5-year review by the Department of Defense, the unit was awarded this citation. It is an incredible honor to be a recipient of this award and I am humbled to be able to speak of these brave individuals.

We will never forget the brave citizens who fought to protect our freedoms during this time. It is with great honor that I recognize these citizens for what they have done and I know that their families and friends are proud to be a part of their lives.

I would like to thank these individuals for their contributions to the

state of Kentucky and to the United States, and I wish them well in all of their future endeavors.●

REMEMBERING TIM WAPATO

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I wish to honor one of the most dedicated advocates for American Indian tribes in my State of South Dakota and throughout the United States. On Sunday, April 19, 2009, Tim Wapato was called home. Tim has long served many issues important to Indian Country throughout his life and I have included his obituary below and ask that it be printed in the RECORD. An enrolled member of the Colville Confederated Tribe in Eastern Washington, he made his home in Rapid City, SD. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family, including his wife, my friend, Gay Kingman-Wapato, and their family. He will be greatly missed by everyone he touched on his journey through this world.

The information follows:

Sherman Timothy Wapato, 73, entered the Spirit World at his home in Rapid City, SD on Sunday, April 19, 2009 as a result of heart failure. He was an enrolled Member of the Colville Confederated Tribe in Eastern Washington.

Sherman Timothy Wapato was the second child of six children born to Paul and Elizabeth Wapato. During Tim's early years of schooling, the Family moved frequently, as Paul Wapato was an Evangelist Minister. Tim went to nine different elementary schools prior to settling down in the Methow Valley (Washington) for Jr. High and High School. The "Wapato Boys" were the only Indians attending Winthrop, H.S. and were admired for their abilities in school and in sports.

Tim graduated High School in 1953 in Winthrop, WA, where he excelled in sports and government. Tim was a popular student and was well known for his basketball prowess, good humor and leadership abilities. He was Class President as well as Homecoming King.

Tim then attended Washington State University and California State University at Los Angeles Majoring in Political Science, Public Administration and Police Administration.

In 1955, Tim enlisted in the U.S. Army and was honorably discharged in 1957 where he was in Communications and played basketball for the Army.

Tim moved to Los Angeles, California in 1958 where he joined the Los Angeles Police Department. (LAPD) With his quick-wit, coupled with passing a series of LAPD exams and obvious leadership abilities, at the young age of 34, Tim quickly rose to the rank of Lieutenant, LAPD. Tim was the youngest to achieve that rank at that age and at that time. Older Officers learned to "Trust" his Leadership and follow his supervision. He supervised up to 188 Officers depending upon the assignment and circumstances.