

and his beloved wife, Peg, the marketing director for the South Bend Museum of Art, have four children they are so proud of.

Steve has been South Bend's 31st and longest-serving mayor in the city's history. He took office in 1977, succeeding Joe Kernan, who became the lieutenant governor. Now in his fourth term, Mayor Lueke has championed the development of a city in which all residents can be proud to live and work.

Previously Steve served 9 years as a member of the South Bend Common Council, including two terms as president, representing the First District on South Bend's northwest side.

South Bend under his leadership has become a hub of technological diversity. Mayor Lueke spearheaded the demolition of nearly 4 million square feet of obsolete buildings in the former Studebaker Corridor and strengthened partnerships with leading community institutions, including the University of Notre Dame.

These efforts have come together as South Bend created Indiana's first dual-site, State-certified technology park, consisting of Innovation Park at Notre Dame and Ignition Park on the grounds of the former Studebaker Corporation. In addition, South Bend became the first U.S. city to create a broadband network, the Metronet, using its own traffic conduit.

As the owner of a small construction company, Steve took interest in neighborhood restoration, infrastructure improvements, and the revitalization of our city. Among other projects, he fostered the public-private restoration of the Morris Performing Arts Center, the Palais Royale ballroom, the Northeast Neighborhood revitalization, and the renovation of the former Engman Natatorium into the Indiana University South Bend Civil Rights Heritage Center. Under his leadership, South Bend received a White House designation in 2008 as a Preserve America Community. He also directed the completion of the riverwalk along the St. Joseph River and added 50 miles of bicycle lanes and routes throughout our city.

He has served on the advisory board for Indiana University South Bend during a period of expansion and growth that positioned it as an active participant in the economic development of our region. Enrollment growth at Ivy Tech Community College has exploded and has led to a partnership between the city's Redevelopment Commission and the college as the commission acquires and relocates businesses to help expand the campus of Ivy Tech even more.

With concern for the future, Mayor Lueke's vision has helped provide the spark for several environmental efforts that led to South Bend's designation as Indiana's Green Community of the Year in 2009.

Our city has developed into an innovative, dynamic and progressive place, and in 2011 it was named an All-America City. Mayor Steve's progressive vi-

sion, collaborative leadership, and passionate advocacy for good government earned him the 2011 Association of Cities and Towns Russell G. Lloyd Distinguished Service Award. He is also the 2011-2012 IACT president.

So today, on behalf of all the citizens of South Bend, Indiana, I want to thank Mayor Steve for his unselfish years of dedication to the city and to its people. You will never be forgotten.

Thank you for everything. Thank you, Mayor, and God bless you, Peg and your family.

YUCCA MOUNTAIN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, this is my third time on the floor to talk about high-level nuclear waste in Yucca Mountain. I started talking about Hanford, which is in Washington State, comparing it to the Yucca facility. In Hanford, 53 million gallons of nuclear waste; zero at Yucca. Nuclear waste is stored 10 feet underground in Hanford; waste will be stored 1,000 feet underground in Yucca. Waste 1,000 feet from the water table at Yucca; 250 feet from the water table in Hanford.

At Yucca the nuclear waste will be 100 miles from the nearest river. At Hanford, it's 1 mile from the nearest river. So what are the Senators' positions on Yucca Mountain in Washington State and Oregon, knowing that we have 53 million gallons of high-level nuclear waste 1 mile from the Columbia River?

Senator CANTWELL is not supportive of Yucca Mountain. Senator MURRAY is supportive, at least in her public statements. Senator WYDEN is not supportive. And Senator MERKLEY is silent. They should not be silent.

A couple of weeks ago I then moved to my home State of Illinois and the decommissioned Zion nuclear power plant that still has high-level nuclear waste on site. Again, the same statistics for Yucca are there in a desert away from a river.

Zion is on Lake Michigan. Zion has 65 casks containing 1,135 metric tons of nuclear waste, waste stored above ground 5 feet above the water table, 1,300 feet from Lake Michigan. And Wisconsin has two nuclear power plants also on Lake Michigan. So what do the senators from the two States say?

Well, Senator DURBIN is supportive of Yucca Mountain. Senator KIRK is supportive of Yucca Mountain. Senator KOHL is supportive of Yucca Mountain. Senator JOHNSON is still silent on Yucca Mountain. I imagine we'll know soon.

Now we move to Georgia and South Carolina. Look at the difference here. Savannah River has 6,300 canisters of nuclear waste on-site. The waste is stored right below the ground. It is 0 to 160 feet above the water table, and it's right next to the Savannah River.

Again, compare that to Yucca Mountain—no nuclear waste. Waste would be stored 1,000 feet underground, 1,000 feet above the water table, and 100 miles from the Colorado River.

So where are these senators from Georgia and South Carolina? Well, Senator ISAKSON says "We need to retain Yucca Mountain as our Nation's high-level waste repository." So he supports.

Senator CHAMBLISS says, "We have long advocated that the Department of Energy immediately halt all actions to dismantle operations at Yucca Mountain." He supports.

Senator GRAHAM: "No one should be required to pay for an empty hole in the Nevada desert."

"The decision by the Obama administration to close Yucca Mountain was ill-advised and leaves our Nation without a disposal plan for spent nuclear fuel or Cold War waste." That's what Hanford is, Cold War nuclear waste from our weapons sector.

What does Senator DEMINT say? "Without Yucca Mountain, America will not have a safe and secure place to permanently store nuclear waste and instead waste will pile up at existing reactors."

We will continue, and I will continue to come down on the floor and go through the Nation highlighting high-level nuclear waste all over this country when the Federal law under the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 says we should have one site, and the law says that site is Yucca Mountain.

And so as we continue to go through the States, hopefully some Senators will get off the dime and state their positions, culminating with 60 Senators in support as we move this forward, this Nation forward, to a more secure location for high-level nuclear waste away from lakes, away from rivers, away from the groundwater tables.

There's no safer place on the planet than underneath the mountain in a desert, and that place is Yucca Mountain.

□ 1020

INCOME DISPARITY IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. RANGEL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, it appeared sometime yesterday that the Congressional Budget Office looked at statistically where the wealth of this country is being held and came to the conclusion that 1 percent of America's high earners have 42 percent of the Nation's wealth. It also pointed out that one out of every five kids, American kids, is born into poverty.

Well, certainly one might look at the income tax system to see whether or not this disparity is being dealt with. But if you do, you will find out that we have aggressively protected income for people who are wealthy enough to invest it at lower rates than lower income people who work hard every day