

Scottie's remarkable life. I ask unanimous consent that it and an editorial from the same paper be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[The News & Observer, Wed., Apr. 17 2002]

LOUISE 'SCOTTIE' STEPHENSON—FIRST LADY OF CAPITOL BROADCASTING' WORKED THERE 58 YEARS

(By Sarah Lindendfeld Hall)

Louise "Scottie" Stephenson, known as the first lady of Capitol Broadcasting Co., who helped win the original license for WRAL-TV, died Monday morning after a long illness. She was 80.

Stephenson starting working for Capitol 58 years ago and was the communications company's longest-serving employee, with a tenure even longer than that of its founder, A.J. Fletcher. She spent at least three days a week at work until October, when she became ill, but continued to work at home. In February, she attended a board meeting of the A.J. Fletcher Foundation, held at Springmoor retirement community where she lived so she could participate.

"She was a great lady, and she had the respect of everybody that's ever worked for Capitol, and we're going to really miss her personally and we're going to miss her professionally," said James F. Goodman, president and CEO of Capitol Broadcasting Co. "Scottie was sort of our contact with who we are and what we stand for and was an important continuity beginning with the founding of the TV station. She was there when it started."

Stephenson started her career as a receptionist, secretary and record librarian for what was then WRAL-AM. She answered the phones for the popular radio show "The Trading Post," with Fred Fletcher as host, where listeners could swap and sell goods over the air. She became the company's corporate secretary and member of the board of directors in 1953.

She was the only woman on a five-member team seeking a television station license for WRAL.

She helped prepare 3,000 pages of paperwork and testified before the Federal Communications Commission in Washington, D.C., during the 75-day hearing, according to a Capitol press release. The company received its license in December 1956.

Stephenson, a native of Goldsboro, graduated from Broughton High School and took classes at N.C. State University. She married Nelson W. "Steve" Stephenson in May 1948. He died in 1961, and she never remarried.

Stephenson served on the board of the Fletcher Foundation and volunteered with local arts groups. For more than four decades, she coordinated the Golden Agers Club Christmas parties in Raleigh. And for a half-century, Stephenson had lunch once a week with her good friend Pota Vallas, whose family founded National Art Interiors at Hillsborough Street and Glenwood Avenue.

Scottie was active in the Triangle community as well, serving on the board of the A.J. Fletcher Foundation and supporting the arts through volunteer work with the Raleigh Fine Arts Society and the North Carolina Symphony. She coordinated the Golden Age Club of Raleigh's annual Christmas luncheon for over four decades and saw that luncheon grow from 50 to over 1,500 people. Scottie served on the Board of Directors and as Secretary of the Tammy Lynn Center, a resident care facility for severely retarded children, and worked with a variety of other community organizations.

In 1992, she was named Business and Professional Woman of the Year of the Wake

County Academy of Women, sponsored by the YWCA. She was also the first recipient of the Junior Women's Club Outstanding Working Member award.

Scottie most recently resided at Springmoor where she was once again a leader and an inspiration to many. She organized and coordinated outings for her friends to everything from dinner parties to Durham Bulls games.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Nelson W. "Steve" Stephenson, in 1961. Her brother, Sam D. Scott, Jr.; sister, Nancy Scott Reid; and niece, Betty Scott Toomes, also preceded her in death.

Funeral services will be 10 a.m. Thursday, April 18 at St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Raleigh. Burial will be at Montlawn Memorial Park.

Surviving family members include niece, Alice Reid Ritter and husband, Doug of Severna Park, MD; nephew, Samuel Scott Reid and wife, Kathy of Raleigh, NC; niece, Nancy Scott Young and husband, Gary of Manhattan, KS; nephew, Sam D. Scott III and wife, Carolyn of Louisville, KY; great-nephew, Christopher James Stephenson and wife, Ann; and many great nieces and nephews. She is also survived by longtime friend, Roberta Glover.

[From the News & Observer]

ALWAYS ON THE GO

Even after she moved to the Springmoor retirement community in Raleigh, Scottie Stephenson had not retired from her vocation, and avocation, of getting things done. At Springmoor, she organized her neighbors in all sorts of activities, getting them out and about.

For 58 years, Stephenson, who died Monday at the age of 80, served Raleigh's Capitol Broadcasting Company—the first employee and the one who worked there longer than anyone, including the founder, the late A.J. Fletcher. She was out and about there, too—from helping the company obtain the first television station license in Raleigh for WRAL-TV, to writing commercials, to filing complicated federal reports. Stephenson, a gracious and merry person, also served in a multitude of community endeavors through volunteer work in the arts and as a board member of the A.J. Fletcher Foundation. For thousands of citizens in the Capital City, she'll be remembered as coordinating the Golden Age Club's annual Christmas luncheon.

Pillars of the community, such people are called, and too often as they become older their accomplishments seem to fade in memory. It should not be so, for those accomplishments, by one person at a time, build a city. And thankfully, it was not so with Scottie Stephenson, who was acclaimed after her death in on-air tributes from her latest generation of admirers at WRAL. She would have appreciated them. And they were well-earned.

RECOGNITION OF REVEREND KENNETH DYKSTRA

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today I rise in recognition of the steadfast service and commitment of a principled man of God, Reverend Kenneth Dykstra of Pella, IA. Reverend Dykstra served in the capacity as Senior Pastor of Third Reformed Church in Pella from 1969 to 1979. During this period he was involved and actively participated in two extremely consequential missionary trips, one to India and the other to Mexico—both with the Reformed Churches of America.

Kenneth Dykstra devoted the next 8 years of his admirable career to prison inmates through a Bible study ministry as the Senior Pastor with the Worthington Reformed Church in Worthington, MN.

Reverend Dykstra returned home to the beautiful state of Iowa in 1987 to retire in the Dutch community of historic Pella. Knowing "true" retirement for a pastor is rarely an option, he served in a variety of roles including mentor for a church's new pastor and as a Minister of Calling with focused attention on visitations to shut-ins and nursing home residents.

Kenneth Dykstra's significant contribution to not only those his ministry touched, but also the entire State of Iowa, in no way goes unnoticed. I thank and commend him today for all of his dedication, commitment and positive influence on those fortunate enough to know him.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

OUR WESTERN AGENDA

• Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, as I sit here and look around at my surroundings, there is a dominant feature, our Nation's Capitol. The Rotunda is a landmark that is recognized throughout our country.

What is noticeably missing from this landscape is Idaho!

Our Nation's Capitol is vastly different from Idaho. Each day, Congressmen come to work and see the historical landmarks of the Capitol. They do not see Idaho's vast mountains, rural countrysides, expansive farmland, or raging rivers, the landmarks we all feel in part define Idaho.

Every day, I work to promote and advocate for our Western principles and our Western lifestyle. These Western principles are the touchstone for my service in Congress.

And every day, my goal is to work to establish Federal policies that are responsive to the needs and interests of Idaho and the West, as well as to lead in developing natural resource and energy policies that protect Western water and ensure a clean, safe environment, consistent with sound science, community stability, economic growth and the principle of multiple use.

I am a fiscal conservative who believes in the principles of multiple use, conservation, and management at the local level. I believe these fundamental ideas should guide all natural resource decisions. Natural resource management is about balancing the needs of the people with the needs of the land. I have never met someone who wants dirty air, undrinkable water, or devastated forests. We all want a livable environment. Where people differ is over how these goals will be accomplished.

That being said, I have compiled all of my thoughts and feelings on Western issues to create what I call "Our Western Agenda."

“Our Western Agenda” is designed to provide suggestions on specific Idaho and Western issues. It proposes a compass for how our natural resource policy should address these issues.

While the list of issues that touch the West is much longer than this, I believe the following ideas comprise the core. First, I believe access must be guaranteed to our public lands for multiple uses, including ranching, mining, and recreation.

In order to maintain the values of public lands, I believe the most critical characteristic that needs to be preserved is access. Conservation and multiple use, for a century now the dominant policy of our public lands, require access. Only by accessing these areas can active management take place, providing protection for our public lands against disease, wildfire, and insect epidemics.

Next, the long struggle over public access to our lands has left many with battle fatigue and I believe through collaborative conservation, mutual goals of various user groups can be accomplished. Clearly, we need a new approach to solving natural resource conflicts, user conflicts, and management conflicts.

In order to resolve conflict, all the players need to come “to the table” to explore our shared ideals instead of reinforcing our disagreements.

I think we should adopt the strategies of some local activists who have turned away from the existing national standoff. Instead, they are working to bridge differences, to find a common solution that reflects the national environmental ethic. In a phrase: collaborative conservation.

I believe collaborative conservation should include the following. We must discard the doctrine of national communities of interest, where decision makers are selected from national organizations, and return to a doctrine of local community interest. We should not allow Federal bureaucracies and national organizations to upset the fragile process of local consensus making.

We need a process of continuous improvement in reducing our impacts on the land. We must stipulate that for all the progress made by commodity-producing industries, loggers and ranchers, and recreationists, we can always do better.

Federal Government policies desperately need modernization. The Government needs to manage better. It must not allow restrictive approaches based upon inflexible national mandates to trump what would otherwise be environmentally sound activities and shut out local people who have to live with the consequences of Federal decisions.

As a community, we need to come together to solve the challenges of multiple-use in order to achieve conservation and balance on our public lands. I also believe as our Nation’s energy policy continues to develop, we will con-

tinue to look to have access to our public lands to provide resources.

During the past decade, we have heard a chorus of energy marketers and environmentalists sing the praises of natural gas as a cost-effective and environmentally sensitive energy source. The past administration hailed natural gas as the cleanest fuel for home heating and aggressively pushed utility companies to convert oil and coal-fired electric plants to gas.

The irony is that all this aggressive promotion has not been backed by commensurate efforts to ensure supply. Indeed, the Clinton administration complicated our ability to retrieve adequate supplies of gas by locking up Federal land deposits of this valuable energy source, with an estimated 40 percent of potential gas resources in the United States on Federal lands that are either closed to exploration or covered by severe restrictions.

Increases in Federal red tape and bureaucratic inefficiency raised consumer costs while denying consumers the choices they were promised. The fact of the matter is as the United States enters the 21st century, our Nation lacks a readily available and sufficient supply of natural gas to satisfy current demand, let alone the increasing demand that we expect in the immediate future. Consequently, natural gas prices are high and will likely rise in the future.

This will not change until we reverse government policies that have foreclosed opportunities for choice of fuels.

Furthermore, failure to encourage investment in the transmission of electricity has threatened the reliability of service throughout the country.

The Department of Energy has estimated that we will need to construct over the next several years an additional 255,000 miles of distribution lines, at an estimated cost of \$120 to \$150 billion, to ensure that our electric system remains the most reliable in the world.

The notion that our Nation can rely so heavily on natural gas, maintain severe restrictions on exploration and production, and still enjoy low prices is, as Secretary Abraham has stated, “a dangerous assumption.”

Last, I believe a common sense approach will protect our public lands against catastrophic fires, weeds, and exclusive policies. Fire is a natural component of any ecosystem. It stimulates plant growth, maintains a plant understory, and creates diversity. All of these aspects are healthy characteristics of a thriving forest.

However, when fire is suppressed and active forest management activities—thinning, prescribed burns, etc.—that mimic fire behavior are ignored, this is a prescription for disaster.

The neglectful management practices of the past will continue to plague our public lands unless we pursue active management practices that result in a balanced ecosystem. In order to prevent devastating fires, the agencies

need the resources and flexibility to make management decisions that maintain our public lands.

Increased fuel loads create catastrophic fires, contribute to declining watersheds, increase sedimentation and decrease water quality, and lead to the demise of fisheries.

This disastrous spiral must be stopped. Non-native weeds are a serious problem on both public and private lands across the Nation. They are particularly troublesome in the West, where much of our land is entrusted to the management of the Federal Government.

Like a “slow burning wildfire,” noxious weeds take land out of production, force native species off the land, and interrupt the commerce and activities of all those who rely on the land for their livelihoods, including farmers, ranchers, recreationists, and others.

Forests and rangelands are dynamic systems that constantly change in response to both natural and man-made events. They are never static. Any scientist will tell you that a healthy forest or rangeland requires active management. Like your backyard garden, you can’t just let it go and expect it to be productive and healthy. You have to actively manage the resource by doing everything from thinning trees, to spraying for weeds, to maintaining roads.

Without access to our lands, it is impossible to manage our public lands properly. Without access, we will end up with unhealthy lands that are prime candidates for catastrophic wildfires and insect infestations of epic proportions.

It is time to move our public lands management agencies away from a “one-size-fits all” management policy and back toward their original missions.

As set forth in law, the missions are to achieve high-quality land management under the sustainable multiple-use management concept to meet the diverse needs of all users.

In all of this, I believe we still have an Old West, a rural society centered on the original commodity-producing industries and agriculture, and then there is a New West, centered on the vigorous quest for a quality of life that includes the enjoyment of the outdoors.

What ties “the old” and “the new” together is an appreciation for the resources and the value that multiple uses contribute to our livelihoods and communities.

Natural resource management is about bringing the Old West and the New West together to balance the needs of all the people with the needs of the land.●

HADASSAH’S 90TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I rise today to speak in honor of Hadassah, the Women’s Zionist Organization of America, on its 90th Anniversary. Hadassah, the largest Zionist, largest