

national praise and will give the County a firm guide for the future.

During his career in public service, Supervisor Mullen has served with many different organizations and received many awards for his leadership and vision. He served as Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, the Riverside County Transportation Commission, the March Joint Powers Authority (MJPA) and currently serves as Co-Chairman of the County Child Protective Services Committee. Among Mullen's accolades, he received the Riverside Community College Alumnus of the Year Award in 2000, the Management Leader of the Year Award from UCR's A. Gary Anderson School of Management in 1998 and the good Government Award from the Riverside County Chapter of the Building Industry Association in 1997.

It is clear that Supervisor Mullen has made a tremendous impact on the County and on the lives of the people of Riverside. With good economic sense and organization, Tom Mullen has been able to lead one of the nation's fastest growing areas. I commend him and extend my best wishes to the Supervisor, his wife, Kathy Tappan, and his family on this occasion and in the future.●

#### COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PADUCAH GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, on October 24, 2002, the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant in Paducah, KY commemorated and celebrated its 50th anniversary. In 1952, the Paducah Plant began the process of enriching uranium to help build and maintain our national security against our adversaries throughout the Cold War era, and to this day the 1,500 workers there continue their work to help ensure a safer world by dismantling nuclear agents from Russia's stockpile of weapons from its gladly-gone-days as the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Throughout these past 50 years, the Federal Government did not always shoot straight with the Paducah Plant workers. Much of the time the workers were exposed to harsh and deadly chemical and industrial agents. Many became sick and many died while the Federal Government looked the other way. But throughout these times these workers forged ahead, and they continue to do so today. Now knowing the dangers of then and even the risks that go along with their jobs today, these dedicated workers still roll up their sleeves and get the job done, without complaint and with no questions asked. They are selfless and humble. The history of the Paducah Plant and its workers, and what they have and continue to do to ensure a more peaceful world, has and will continue to be an inspiration to us all.

The Paducah Plant is tucked away in God's country in southwest Kentucky between the Ohio River and rolling prairies and farmland. The Paducah

community and those in the surrounding area have been bedrock in their support of this plant and its workers, and they are owed a great deal of gratitude as well on this 50th anniversary. They have always been there with support and prayer for these plant workers and their family members during the toughest and roughest of times.

While the Federal Government and others turned away and failed to live up to their responsibilities to the Paducah Plant workers—neighbors, friends and family members were always there to comfort them and each other. This is a spirit which humbles us all. May God bless all those associated with this plant and its mission. We owe all of them more than we will ever realize.●

#### MR. STEPHEN ROGERS

● Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, it is with a heavy heart and great sadness that I bring news of the death of Stephen Rogers, a former publisher and long time President of the Syracuse Post-Standard. Mr. Rogers was a Central New York institution, a man who actively played a role in the newspaper's operation up until the day he died at ninety years old.

Although not originally from Central New York, he became one of the area's most influential figures, both because of his pen and community activism. Rogers was famous among local politicians for never shying away from asking tough questions, prompting a close friend to call him Socrates with a press card. Everyone from the Governor on down knew that an editorial board meeting at the Post-Standard was no walk in the park, as Rogers would force all who came to Syracuse to vigorously defend their policy choices. It is testament to Rogers' character and to how much he respected his craft, however, that no one ever doubted that the meetings would be enlightening and evenhanded. Indeed, journalism was part of the very marrow of Rogers' bones and a beloved profession: he once wryly told a group of college students, "Believe me, it's more fun that working for a living."

Rogers' love of fishing was perhaps the only activity that could match his commitment to his trade. New York State's beautiful lakes quickly helped bond him to the area when he first arrived in 1955, and he showed his love for the area by giving back to the community in so many ways. As Chairman of the Metropolitan Development Association, he was a staunch advocate and promoter of economic development in Central New York. Although he was criticized by some for overstepping the limits of objectivity required by his day job, Rogers felt that he could not in good conscience earn a living in community without giving back. It's not surprising that he could also count his leadership of the state publishers' association, the water board, and the

United Way, as well as time spent on the boards of the YMCA, the former Crouse-Irving Memorial Hospital, Le Moyne College, the Red Cross and the symphony as other significant volunteer accomplishments.

If there is one thing to say about Stephen Rogers, it is that he was the epitome of good citizenship. His dedication to his craft, community activism, and unceasing work ethic meant that he stood out as a leader in Central New York up until his final days. He will be sorely missed by us all.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CENTURY CONSTRUCTION

● Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Century Construction in Erlanger, KY. Last Friday, Sandy Taylor, Assistant Administrator for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's, OSHA, 5th region in Chicago, presented Mike Mangeot, President and CEO of Century Construction, with a Voluntary Protection Program, VPP, award for Century's exemplary record of safety in the workplace.

OSHA's Voluntary Protection Programs are designed to recognize and promote effective safety and health management. In the programs, management, labor and OSHA work together to establish a cooperative relationship aimed at improving safety standards in the workplace. VPP participants are a select group of facilities, which have designed and implemented outstanding health and safety programs. Kevin Still, Century's Vice President for Administration and Safety Director in charge of Century's safety programs, deserves special recognition for the part he has played in creating a safe working environment for Century's employees. Kevin has been an integral part of Century's success.

There are over 6 million work places in the United States. Of these, only 900 have received VPP awards. Out of the nearly 750,000 construction contractors in this country, only three have won a VPP award for safety. Century is the first ever mobile site participant to win this award. By working with employees from both top-to-bottom and bottom-to-top, Century has demonstrated how far communication and teamwork can take an organization.

The men and women of Century Construction deserve our admiration and respect for their hard work and determination. I am proud to know that such companies are operating within Kentucky.●

#### RECOGNIZING PUBLIC SERVICE OF ANN JORGENSEN

● Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I want to take this opportunity to recognize and express appreciation for the contributions to public service made by Ann Jorgensen, who is finishing her term as board member to the Farm Credit Administration.

A production agriculture and hog farmer from my home State of Iowa, Ms. Jorgensen moved to Washington in 1997 to serve on the Presidentially appointed, Senate-confirmed, three-member board of the Farm Credit Administration, FCA. FCA is an independent U.S. Government agency responsible for regulating and examining the entities of the Farm Credit System. The Farm Credit System is a nationwide financial cooperative that lends to agriculture and rural America.

Members of the FCA board also serve as Directors for the Farm Credit System Insurance Corporation, FCSIC, to which Ms. Jorgensen was elected as the first woman chair in January 2000. FCSIC is an independent U.S. Government corporation responsible for ensuring the timely payment of principal and interest on insured notes, bonds, debentures, and other obligations issued on behalf of Farm Credit System banks. Ms. Jorgensen's leadership was instrumental in keeping the insurance fund at or near the statutory 2 percent capitalization level.

During Ms. Jorgensen's 5-year tenure at the Farm Credit Administration, many changes took place in the Farm Credit System influenced by the FCA board. Through the board approval of restructuring applications, the number of Farm Credit System associations consolidated from 250 to 103, thus creating greater efficiencies, better customer service, and cost savings to associations. The board also amended participation regulations allowing for the purchase of a 100-percent interest in participations and eliminating the territorial consent requirement. With these and other changes, the Farm Credit System today is well capitalized and profitable with a high asset quality.

Prior to her appointment to the FCA board, she served on a number of governing boards for the State of Iowa, including 6 years as a member of the Board of Regents. The Board of Regents is responsible for the State's three universities, including the University of Iowa Hospital, a world-renowned teaching hospital, and its affiliated clinics. She also served on the board of the Iowa Department of Economic Development and chaired the Iowa Rural Development Council. Among many other boards and committees, she has also served on the Agriculture Product Advisory Board, the Interstate Agricultural Grain Marketing Commission, the National Pork Producers Council Environmental Committee, the European Trade Task Force Legislative Study Committee; the Iowa Public Broadcasting Network Board of Directors and Foundation Board.

She was named to the Farm Foundation's Bennett Agricultural Round Table in June 2000. This provides a forum for discussion and dialogue among agricultural, agribusiness, government, academic, and interest group leaders on issues of importance to agri-

culture and rural America. Alpha Zeta, the national honorary agricultural fraternity, named her to its Centennial Honor Roll in 1997. She has also been inducted into the Iowa Volunteer Hall of Fame, and along with her husband, has previously been recognized by Farm Futures magazine as owner of one of the Top 10 Best Managed Farms.

I thank her for her numerous contributions to our farmers as well as rural America, and I extend my very best wishes for her continued success.●

#### TRIBUTE TO LT. COL. THOMAS J. STAPLETON

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding soldier who has distinguished himself in his service to the United States Senate and the Nation as a United States Army Fellow. Lt. Col. Thomas Stapleton's fellowship officially ends upon the adjournment of this session and before he leaves, I wish to extend my most sincere thanks and appreciation for his exemplary service to myself, the citizens of Missouri and our great nation.

Lt. Col. Stapleton is a seasoned military leader with over 17 years of tactical, budget and acquisition experience that have been a tremendous contribution to my office. Lt. Colonel Stapleton served his nation in Operation Just Cause and Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm from 1989-1991. He is a Distinguished Military Graduate from Canisius College, Buffalo, New York, holds a Master of Business Administration from Rochester Institute of Technology and attended Georgetown University's Government Affairs Institute.

Throughout his career, Lt. Colonel Stapleton's level of commitment and service have been evident in his various decorations and awards including the Bronze Star which he was awarded for exceptional service in Operation Desert Storm. Lt. Colonel Stapleton has proven his abilities and has consistently performed above and beyond the call of duty.

During his tour as a military fellow, Tom fulfilled crucial functions and carried out critical assignments within my office. His budgetary experience as an Army comptroller served him well in resolving numerous defense appropriations issues. His tactical experience was an invaluable resource as evidenced by the many dependable information briefs I received after the devastating attacks of 9-11. These attributes further served Tom as he traveled the roads of Missouri on my behalf meeting with veterans, military service-members and constituents at various installations, veteran's facilities and town hall meetings. In addition, I relied heavily on Lt. Colonel Stapleton's strong volley and solid serve in crushing two of my distinguished colleagues, Senator STEVENS and Senator WARNER, on the tennis court.

Lt. Colonel Stapleton is not just a soldier but a devoted husband and committed father of three children. Whether he was coaching soccer with his son, enjoying family vacations or throwing a birthday party for his children, Tom consistently made time for his family throughout his very demanding tour as a fellow. Anyone familiar with Lt. Colonel Stapleton's numerous achievements, awards and much deserved commendations knows that Tom's top priority is to be a dedicated family man. Tom embodies the values that we as Americans all hold dear. His commitment to family and country set the standard for a professional soldier and solid role model.

The Military Congressional Fellows programs affords members of Congress with a critical military perspective coupled with invaluable service and professionalism. The tremendous reputation and success of this program are a direct reflection of Fellows like Lt. Colonel Stapleton. Tom has distinguished himself as a member of my staff and my defense team. On behalf of the citizens of Missouri and a grateful Nation, we wish Lt. Col. Thomas Stapleton, his wife Anne, and three children Toni, Carly and Jack the best as he continues his distinguished career.●

#### TRIBUTE TO NANCY KRAFT

● Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to a dedicated member of the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, FWP, as she concludes 32 years of service to her State and Nation. We are proud that this native Montanan spent her entire working life dedicated to serving Montana's State's citizens and visitors.

Mrs. Nancy Kraft deserves this honor. We owe her our gratitude for her contributions to the conservation of Montana's wildlife and natural resources, as well as her efforts to preserve the outdoor heritage that makes the Treasure State's way of life unique.

Nancy's personal and professional career accomplishments truly reflect the character of life under the big sky. Her loyal service over three decades—spent in our capital city of Helena—are a testament to all those who value wildlife and open spaces. I would like to take a moment to reflect upon Nancy's career as she embarks on a new phase of life beyond government service.

Born in Helena, Nancy attended primary school locally and began work at the then Department of Fish and Game in 1970 as a temporary employee in the General Licensing section handling delinquent accounts. Skilled in pursuing overdue collections she soon designed a system that over the years returned more than \$300,000 to the people of Montana.

Nancy progressed through several positions of increasing responsibility, while continuing to make sure licensing operations were closely related to