

As Trevor Potter, a Republican, former Chairman of the Federal Election Commission, said in a statement submitted to the Rules Committee: Disclose 2.0 is “appropriately targeted, narrowly tailored, clearly constitutional and desperately needed.”

The same cannot be said for the conservative majority’s holding in *Citizens United*, echoed again today in *American Tradition Partnership*. The conservative Justices’ desire to maintain their error and to keep the corporate money flowing represents a sad, sad day in the history of the Court. It will, as I said earlier, one day be corrected. One day, *Citizens United* will lie next to *Lochner v. New York* and other decisions that have disgraced the Court in the past on the junk heap of judicial history. But until that day, it is up to all of us to work together to restore control of our elections, to restore control of our democracy, to put it back in the hands of the American people, to assure that we continue a government of the people, by the people, and for the people—not a government of the big corporations, by the big corporations, and for the big corporations.

I yield the floor.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, I will take a moment to go through the closing script, and in doing so I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TRIBUTE TO TSA DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR GALE ROSSIDES

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to pay tribute to a dedicated public servant, a talented administrator, and a tireless warrior for homeland security. Transportation Security Administration Deputy Administrator and Chief Operating Officer Gale Rossides is retiring at the end of the month, and her departure will be a significant loss not just for TSA and the Department of Homeland Security but for the American people, whom she has served so well throughout her 34-year career in the public sector.

As Chairman of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, I came to understand the central role Ms. Rossides played at TSA. In appearances before the Committee, she impressed me as a knowledgeable and experienced manager whose dedication to the agency helped TSA stay on track through a difficult and chaotic start up and develop into a more mature agency as the years progressed.

Ms. Rossides’ institutional memory, alone, will be irreplaceable. She was one of the original six executives hired to build TSA from the ground up in 2001, and in his book “*After: How American Confronted the September 12*

Era,” Steven Brill wrote that “no matter what was added to her plate, or what she reached out for to put on it herself, she seemed to take it in stride.” Despite the grueling 13-hour days and 6-day weeks, Ms. Rossides stayed at TSA for 10 years—with a 1-year hiatus as senior advisor to the Under Secretary for Management at DHS. I think it is fair to say that today she is one of the department’s most respected senior executives.

Ms. Rossides brought critical management experience to the nascent TSA. In the tense period after September 11, 2001, she led the team of government and private sector officials that trained and certified more than 50,000 screeners in less than 6 months—the largest public mobilization since World War II. She oversaw the debut of TSA’s federalized screening force at Baltimore Washington Airport. And she led the effort to develop and implement screener technical training and certification standards.

Throughout her TSA tenure, Ms. Rossides has fostered collaborative partnerships with stakeholders; pushed for more intelligence sharing; created leadership development programs; and developed innovative workforce programs to encourage communication and conflict management. Under her watch, TSA reduced its employee injury and attrition rates and raised employee morale through innovative solutions like providing benefits to part time personnel.

Ms. Rossides moved steadily up the management ladder during her tenure at TSA. She has served as the Associate Administrator/Chief Support Systems Officer, been a Senior Advisor to the Deputy Secretary and the Under Secretary for Management at DHS, and in 2007 she was appointed acting Deputy Administrator, a position that became permanent in January 2008. She has held that position longer than any other in the agency’s history.

From 2009 to January 2010, she served as Acting TSA Administrator. As such, she oversaw the implementation of Secure Flight and introduced other key security programs, including measures implemented to detect and deter improved explosives devices that could be concealed on terrorists, in the aftermath of the attempted Christmas Day terrorist attack.

This career arc more than justifies Steven Brill’s description of her in his book as “an incurable workaholic” who would “run over or cleverly sidestep almost any obstacle to get to the goal.” It is a tribute to her character that she remained universally well-liked while doing so.

Before she was hand-picked to help launch TSA, Ms. Rossides had worked at the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms, within the Justice Department, for 23 years, where she started as an administrative assistant. She was co-chair of a blue ribbon panel to overhaul ATF after the 1993 siege of the Branch Davidian ranch in Waco, TX.

For 8 years, she served as the first assistant director, in charge of all law enforcement, investigative, regulatory, and leadership training at ATF—the first woman to hold such a significant post at the bureau. And she was a member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center for 6 years.

The American people have been fortunate that Ms. Rossides has given much of her life to the Federal Government. We are certainly better off because of it.

AGRICULTURE REFORM, FOOD, AND JOBS ACT

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I could not support Senate passage of S. 3240, the “2012 Farm Bill.” CBO estimates the Senate’s Farm Bill will consume a colossal amount of taxpayer dollars—at least \$966 billion over 10 years. While I agree that we need nutrition programs to assist low-income families as well as programs to ensure farmers receive a fair return on their labors, the fact remains we are living in an era of crushing national debt and runaway government spending. Ultimately, the American people, both farmers and consumers, lose under this bill.

Farm Bill programs are ripe for reform. Unfortunately, we rejected amendments to fix USDA’s sugar programs which cost American consumers \$3 billion annually in artificially high sugar prices. We created several new so-called “shallow-loss” subsidy programs, which could balloon to \$14 billion each year if crop prices drop from today’s record high levels and return to average prices. We implemented a new \$3 billion cotton program that may exacerbate our ongoing trade dispute at the World Trade Organization. We could have eliminated the outdated mohair subsidies, but didn’t, and wound up creating several new and unnecessary subsidy programs for products like popcorn and maple syrup. We’ve made some progress on imposing stricter payment limits on subsidies and we eliminated wasteful and duplicative USDA programs like the Catfish Inspection Office. Unfortunately, much more remains to be fixed in the Senate’s farm bill before I could support it.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO IKE LIBBY

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Mr. Ike Libby, who, with his company Hometown Energy, has worked tirelessly to ease the burdens of rising home heating costs for the people of my home State.

Founded in 2004 by Ike Libby and Gene Ellis, who handles the business aspects of the company and owns a variety store next door, Hometown Energy of Dixfield, ME, supplies heating oil to a region that knows just how cold winter can be. With seven employees, Hometown Energy is a quintessential local small business. Known for its

long, harsh winter season, Maine's heating oil providers not only sell a product, they serve as barrier between Mainers and the biting cold.

Relationships and care are at the heart of the Hometown Energy service structure, where, in true neighborly spirit, it is more crucial to ensure that customers are taken care of than to adhere to a stringent payment plan. Hometown Energy will often waive service fees and structure payments to give as much leeway as possible during the coldest months when resources are at a premium and ability to pay the high costs of energy may be scarce. It is this devotion to a customer-first philosophy that embodies the entrepreneurial spirit of Maine small businesses. The flexibility and understanding exhibited by Hometown Energy has proven vital to many in these difficult economic times.

Hometown Energy's efforts to assist Mainers was given national attention this year when they were featured by the New York Times article "In Fuel Oil Country, Cold That Cuts To The Heart," which detailed the difficulties of home heating during the trying northern winters. Since the article ran, donations have been pouring in to Hometown Energy to assist in covering the costs of heating oil. More than \$250,000 in donations have been sent by contributors from around the world. The kindhearted response and outreach has been so great that Hometown Energy has developed a Web site specifically dedicated to receiving these contributions.

For his immeasurable compassion and commitment to serving the people of his community, Mr. Libby has been recently recognized by Dixfield's Board of Selectmen as Dixfield's Distinguished Citizen for 2012. There can be no doubt that this honor is well-deserved by Mr. Libby, who has generously given his time, energy, and very self. Through his efforts, he has profoundly touched the lives of so many in his community.

Congratulations to Ike Libby on being named Dixfield's Distinguished Citizen for 2012. Mr. Libby and everyone at Hometown Energy's kindness and selfless dedication to assisting the most vulnerable truly warms my heart. I extend my most sincere gratitude for their steadfast service and offer them my best wishes for continued success.●

TRIBUTE TO KEN DUNLAP

● Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, today I wish to remember a man who had significant impact on the lives of hundreds, maybe thousands of Kansans.

Kansans very rarely live idle lives. We are an active hard-working State, always in motion, quick to rise to a challenge. The bigger the obstacle, the faster a Kansan will be there to remove it. Our Founders seemed to know that would be the case when they chose for our State motto, "ad astra ad aspera"—"to the stars through difficul-

ties." Kenneth Orville Dunlap, who grew up and lived in and around Wichita, KS, lived up to the motto.

A little less than 40 years ago, this Nation made a commitment to disabled children—or "differently able" as Ken liked to say—that we were going to provide them the best possible education in the least restrictive environment. Some people saw that commitment as an obstacle. Ken saw that commitment as an opportunity to help people live fuller lives.

Ken had been a teacher and coach in Kansas public schools for a couple of years when he decided to fully commit himself to special education. In the early 1970s, Ken established Wichita Public Schools' first Adaptive Physical Education curriculum at Levy Special Education Center. He went on to teach special education for 18 years at Wichita East High School, where he developed the first community-based instruction program, assisting special students with job readiness and placement.

Some folks might have looked at those accomplishments and called themselves a success. Ken, however, wasn't done yet. He went on to serve as a special education coordinator for the Wichita School District for 5 years and as principal of three special education programs at Starkey, Ketch, and Heartspring.

Still not finished, in 1996, Ken established one of the most innovative special education programs in the country—the Chisholm Life Skills Center. Ken had a vision for a school that would serve the community of Wichita, and at the same time teach its students the skills they would need to live independently. Chisholm students care for the yards of area seniors on their way to full-time paid jobs with landscaping companies. Students cook in the school cafeteria on their way to a career in food service. The school itself contracts with local businesses like Cessna/Textron Aviation, Intrust Bank and the United Way and students go on to work at several of those businesses. Chisholm is more than just a school; it is a bridge for "differently able" kids from education to the workforce and community. The staff, faculty and parents still strive for every student at Chisholm to be fully equipped with the skills needed upon graduation to live the most independent life possible in the local community.

In 1999, a Kansas storm put a different obstacle in Ken's way, when a deadly tornado ripped the roof off of Chisholm. Again, Ken saw the opportunity, transitioning from his role as educator and administrator to foreman. While most educators were enjoying their summer vacation, Ken was overseeing the cleanup and rebuilding of the school. He rallied the whole community. Teachers, parents and alumni all pitched in, clearing debris, cleaning and rebuilding Chisholm. The school today stands as a testament to Ken's leadership and the whole community's persistence.

And, just as Ken's commitment to his school didn't end with the school year, his commitment to special education didn't end in the schoolyard. Ken and his wife Jan devoted countless hours to volunteering with the Special Olympics. They took students on annual camping trips and chaperoned the Chisholm Prom each year. They went to students' weddings and attended their funerals. Even after he retired from his 37 years in public education, Ken continued to serve on the Sedgwick County Physical & Developmental Disabilities Advisory Board.

For the last year, Ken has battled lung cancer and on Saturday, surrounded by his family, he took his last breath. This remarkable man's life was celebrated and remembered this week by family, friends, colleagues and former students. During the visitation on Tuesday at the funeral home, one of the last people to pay their respects to Ken was a former student. This young man shared with Ken's family that he had caused a lot of trouble to Ken when he was a student. Before he left, he walked over to the casket and put his hand on Ken's shoulder. He said simply, "Thank you for everything, Mr. Dunlap," and turned to leave. Then he stopped. He asked Jan if he could leave something behind. Pulling a Special Olympics Medal from his pocket, he laid it on Ken's chest, thanked him again and left.

We will never know how many lives Ken touched nor the full impact he made—but he leaves behind a great legacy and his life stands as an example to us all. His dedication to others is a powerful reminder of what is most important in life—the people around us. May we learn from Ken's example and make a lasting difference in the lives of others.●

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF REPTILE GARDENS

● Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize a very important South Dakota business and visitor attraction that is observing its 75th anniversary this year. Reptile Gardens has been a main focal point for Black Hills area residents and the touring general public since 1937.

It all began in 1935 when 19-year-old Earl Brockelsby discovered people's interest in snakes. As a young tour guide at a local Rapid City attraction, this fearless snake enthusiast would often end his tours by removing his hat and revealing a live rattlesnake coiled on top of his head.

With the help of some friends, Earl built an 18-by-24-foot building at the top of a long hill outside of Rapid City and put a handful of specimens on display. Even then, the young entrepreneur knew the vital importance of location, location, location, as back in the 1930s cars would often overheat as they reached the top of a long hill. Earl's idea was to have the cars stop in Reptile Gardens' parking lot to cool