

first came to work with me as my legal secretary when I was in private practice as an attorney. When I took office, she began working in my Utah Senate office and brought the same dedication and hard work ethic she had displayed in a demanding legal office. Throughout our years of working together I was always so impressed with Sherry's utmost attention to detail and accuracy, and her keen mind and abilities. In fact, I still miss her taking dictation today. Her fingers could really fly, and she always got it right. It was a true talent that has sadly been lost in today's computer world.

Sherry spent many years as a constituent service representative in my State office, helping hundreds if not thousands of Utahns with problems they faced while working with several Federal Government agencies. She specialized in helping people with cases involving such agencies as the Social Security Administration, the IRS, the Office of Personnel Management, OPM, and many others. She always displayed deep concern for the challenges people faced, and worked long and hard to help individuals in my behalf. In fact, she developed lasting friendships with some of the people she had assisted and they continued to visit her for many years.

Sherry always went above and beyond the call of duty. While I was serving as the chairman of the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee, which dealt in part with issues of alcohol prevention and treatment, Sherry and her husband Bruce obtained their drug counseling certificate. She spent many hours working with individuals struggling with the powers of addiction, and even became the choir director for the Utah Odyssey House, a residential substance abuse treatment facility. She touched many lives through her advocacy, support, and talents.

As a former member of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir, she absolutely loved music. She always generously shared her talents not only as a beautiful singer—but she also played the organ weekly for her local ward or church congregation.

Sherry's work and service was very important to her—but her family always came first. She absolutely loved her family. She was married to Bruce for 54 years, and they are the proud parents of Michael, Gary, and Marianne; and grandparents to four grand-children and four great-grandchildren. When it came time for Sherry to retire from the U.S. Senate, Sherry and Bruce moved to Alaska to be with their daughter and in the end were living in Colorado to be closer to their son and grand-daughter. Sherry and Bruce had a great partnership and they were very supportive of each other and their endeavors.

I am sincerely grateful for the opportunity I had to work with and know Sherry Adkins. Her loyalty, dedication, and sincere belief in public service

were so appreciated. I wholeheartedly agree with the simple narrative another former staff member used when describing Sherry: "She was a gem."

Elaine and I extend our deepest sympathies to Bruce and their family members. May they find peace and comfort in the cherished memories they have shared with this great lady.

POLICE WEEK

Mr. PRYOR. Madam President, back in 1962, President John F. Kennedy signed a proclamation designating the week of May 15 as National Police Week. Since then, law enforcement officials from all across our country have gathered together to honor to those killed in the line of duty.

As part of National Police Week, today representatives of law enforcement agencies will gather at the U.S. Capitol for the 33rd Annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service. I join our State in honoring the life and service of the Arkansans who last year paid the ultimate sacrifice:

Conway Police Officer William Michael McGary, Sebastian County Deputy Sheriff Terry Wayne Johnson, Fifth Judicial District Drug Task Force Coordinator Larry D. Johnson, Faulkner County Deputy Sheriff Hans J. Fifer, Wildlife Officer Joel Lee Campora, and Scott County Sheriff Cody Don Carpenter.

We can never thank our law enforcement officials enough for all they have done for us and our families, but we will always remember them and their loved ones in our thoughts and prayers.

To the families of Michael McGary, Terry Wayne Johnson, Larry D. Johnson, Hans J. Fifer, Joel Lee Campora, and Cody Don Carpenter, thank you for sharing these heroes with the world. To the Conway Police Department, Sebastian County Sheriff's Department, Fifth Judicial Drug Task Force, Faulkner County Sheriff's Department, Arkansas Department of Game and Fish, and Scott County Sheriff's Office, thank you for ensuring their legacies live on.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RINGGOLD COUNTY, IOWA

• Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, the strength of my State of Iowa lies in its vibrant local communities, where citizens come together to foster economic development, make smart investments to expand opportunity, and take the initiative to improve the health and well-being of residents. Over the decades, I have witnessed the growth and revitalization of so many communities across my State, and it has been deeply gratifying to see how my work in Congress has supported these local efforts.

I have always believed in accountability for public officials, and this, my final year in the Senate, is an appropriate time to give an accounting of

my work across four decades representing Iowa in Congress. I take pride in accomplishments that have been national in scope—for instance, passing the Americans with Disabilities Act and spearheading successful farm bills. But I take a very special pride in projects that have made a big difference in local communities across my State.

Today, I would like to give an accounting of my work with leaders and residents of Ringgold County to build a legacy of a stronger local economy, better schools and educational opportunities, and a healthier, safer community.

Between 2001 and 2013, the creative leadership in your community has worked with me to secure funding in Ringgold County worth over \$448,000 and successfully acquired financial assistance from programs I have fought hard to support, which have provided more than \$6.3 million to the local economy.

Of course my favorite memory of working together has to be working to secure \$264,000 for community wellness activities to improve nutrition, physical activity, workplace wellness and smoking cessation.

Among the highlights:

Wellness and health care: Improving the health and wellness of all Americans has been something I have been passionate about for decades. That is why I fought to dramatically increase funding for disease prevention, innovative medical research, and a whole range of initiatives to improve the health of individuals and families not only at the doctor's office but also in our communities, schools, and workplaces. I am so proud that Americans have better access to clinical preventive services, nutritious food, smoke-free environments, safe places to engage in physical activity, and information to make healthy decisions for themselves and their families. These efforts not only save lives, they will also save money for generations to come thanks to the prevention of costly chronic diseases, which account for a whopping 75 percent of annual health care costs. I am pleased that Ringgold County has recognized this important issue by securing \$264,000 for community wellness activities.

School grants: Every child in Iowa deserves to be educated in a classroom that is safe, accessible, and modern. That is why, for the past decade and a half, I have secured funding for the innovative Iowa Demonstration Construction Grant Program—better known among educators in Iowa as Harkin grants for public schools construction and renovation. Across 15 years, Harkin grants worth more than \$132 million have helped school districts to fund a range of renovation and repair efforts—everything from updating fire safety systems to building new schools. In many cases, these Federal dollars have served as the needed incentive to leverage local public and

private dollars, so it often has a tremendous multiplier effect within a school district. Over the years, Ringgold County has received \$412,742 in Harkin grants. Similarly, schools in Ringgold County have received funds that I designated for Iowa Star Schools for technology totaling \$25,000.

Agricultural and rural development: Because I grew up in a small town in rural Iowa, I have always been a loyal friend and fierce advocate for family farmers and rural communities. I have been a member of the House or Senate Agriculture Committee for 40 years—including more than 10 years as chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee. Across the decades, I have championed farm policies for Iowans that include effective farm income protection and commodity programs; strong, progressive conservation assistance for agricultural producers; renewable energy opportunities; and robust economic development in our rural communities. Since 1991, through various programs authorized through the farm bill, Ringgold County has received more than \$1.4 million from a variety of farm bill programs.

Disability Rights: Growing up, I loved and admired my brother Frank, who was deaf, but I was deeply disturbed by the discrimination and obstacles he faced every day. That is why I have always been a passionate advocate for full equality for people with disabilities. As the primary author of the Americans with Disabilities Act, ADA, and the ADA Amendments Act, I have had four guiding goals for our fellow citizens with disabilities: equal opportunity, full participation, independent living and economic self-sufficiency. Nearly one-quarter century since passage of the ADA, I see remarkable changes in communities everywhere I go in Iowa—not just in curb cuts or closed-captioned television, but in the full participation of people with disabilities in our society and economy, folks who at long last have the opportunity to contribute their talents and to be fully included. These changes have increased economic opportunities for all citizens of Ringgold County, both those with and without disabilities, and they make us proud to be a part of a community and country that respects the worth and civil rights of all of our citizens.

This is at least a partial accounting of my work on behalf of Iowa, and specifically Ringgold County, during my time in Congress. In every case, this work has been about partnerships, cooperation, and empowering folks at the State and local level, including in Ringgold County, to fulfill their own dreams and initiatives. And, of course, this work is never complete. Even after I retire from the Senate, I have no intention of retiring from the fight for a better, fairer, richer Iowa. I will always be profoundly grateful for the opportunity to serve the people of Iowa as their Senator.●

LINN COUNTY, IOWA

● Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, the strength of my State of Iowa lies in its vibrant local communities, where citizens come together to foster economic development, make smart investments to expand opportunity, and take the initiative to improve the health and well-being of residents. Over the decades, I have witnessed the growth and revitalization of so many communities across my State, and it has been deeply gratifying to see how my work in Congress has supported these local efforts.

I have always believed in accountability for public officials, and this, my final year in the Senate, is an appropriate time to give an accounting of my work across four decades representing Iowa in Congress. I take pride in accomplishments that have been national in scope for instance, passing the Americans with Disabilities Act and spearheading successful farm bills. But I take a very special pride in projects that have made a big difference in local communities across my State.

Today, I would like to give an accounting of my work with leaders and residents of Linn County to build a legacy of a stronger local economy, better schools and educational opportunities, and a healthier, safer community.

Between 2001 and 2013, the creative leadership in your community has worked with me to secure funding in Linn County worth over \$400 million and successfully acquired financial assistance from programs I have fought hard to support, which have provided more than \$600 million to the local economy.

Of course my favorite memories of working together have to include our work together to build a community health center, working to rebuild after disastrous flooding in 2008, funding and relocating the Cedar Rapids Courthouse, improving the Eastern Iowa Airport, improving Edgewood Road, building a major intermodal facility, and funding job creating national defense projects at Rockwell Collins, PMX, and Intermec.

Among the highlights:

Investing in Iowa's economic development through targeted community projects: In Eastern Iowa, we have worked together to grow the economy by making targeted investments in important economic development projects including improved roads and bridges, modernized sewer and water systems, and better housing options for residents of Linn County. In many cases, I have secured Federal funding that has leveraged local investments and served as a catalyst for a whole ripple effect of positive, creative changes. For example, working with mayors, city council members, and local economic development officials in Linn County, I have fought for \$182 million to rebuild the courthouse, \$60 million to improve the Eastern Iowa Airport, \$4 million for improvements to Edgewood Road, almost \$5 million for the Cedar Rapids

intermodal facility, and \$170 million for creating national defense projects in Cedar Rapids at Rockwell Collins, PMX, and Intermec, helping to create jobs and expand economic opportunities.

Main Street Iowa: One of the greatest challenges we face—in Iowa and all across America—is preserving the character and vitality of our small towns and rural communities. This isn't just about economics. It is also about maintaining our identity as Iowans.

Main Street Iowa helps preserve Iowa's heart and soul by providing funds to revitalize downtown business districts. This program has allowed towns like Central City, Mount Vernon, and Cedar Rapids to use that money to leverage other investments to jumpstart change and renewal. I am so pleased that Linn County has earned \$256,000 through this program. These grants build much more than buildings. They build up the spirit and morale of people in our small towns and local communities.

School grants: Every child in Iowa deserves to be educated in a classroom that is safe, accessible, and modern. That is why, for the past decade and a half, I have secured funding for the innovative Iowa Demonstration Construction Grant Program—better known among educators in Iowa as Harkin grants for public schools construction and renovation. Across 15 years, Harkin grants worth more than \$132 million have helped school districts to fund a range of renovation and repair efforts—everything from updating fire safety systems to building new schools. In many cases, these Federal dollars have served as the needed incentive to leverage local public and private dollars, so it often has a tremendous multiplier effect within a school district. Over the years, Linn County has received \$11,840,759 in Harkin grants. Similarly, schools in Linn County have received funds that I designated for Iowa Star Schools for technology totaling \$627,432.

Disaster mitigation and prevention: In 1993, when historic floods ripped through Iowa, it became clear to me that the national emergency response infrastructure was woefully inadequate to meet the needs of Iowans in flood-ravaged communities. I went to work dramatically expanding the Federal Emergency Management Agency's hazard mitigation program, which helps communities reduce the loss of life and property due to natural disasters and enables mitigation measures to be implemented during the immediate recovery period. Disaster relief means more than helping people and businesses get back on their feet after a disaster, it means doing our best to prevent the same predictable flood or other catastrophe from recurring in the future. The hazard mitigation program that I helped create in 1993 provided critical support to Iowa communities impacted by the devastating floods of 2008. Linn County has received over \$12 billion to