

generation of our State's and our Nation's leaders. I commend Kenneth W. Montfort College of Business at the University of Northern Colorado for their efforts to promote excellence in higher education. Undoubtedly, their success serves as an example of excellence to colleges and universities around the country.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Kenneth W. Montfort College of Business at the University of Northern Colorado for being recognized for their efforts and success.●

A TRIBUTE TO COLONEL RAY ALEXANDER

● Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I rise today to offer my thanks and appreciation, and those of all North Carolinians, to Colonel Charles "Ray" Alexander, Jr., Commander of the Army Corps of Engineers Wilmington, NC district. Today is Colonel Alexander's last day as commanding officer of the district. While we celebrate his retirement with his family, we will miss the impact he has had on North Carolina and the Nation.

Colonel Alexander has distinguished himself with exceptionally meritorious service as district commander since 2002. Under his command, the district continued construction of the Wilmington Harbor deepening project and met the target for delivering deep water to the State port docks in January 2004 despite numerous fiscal challenges. The Wilmington Harbor deepening is the largest civil works project in the district's history and a very important navigation project, providing economic benefit to the State. Additionally, the deeper channel has been an asset to the local military installations in support of the global war on terror.

Under Colonel Alexander's direction, the district has been involved and successful in protecting the Nation's environment. Numerous environmental enhancement projects, including the Roanoke Island Festival Park aquatic habitat restoration and protection project, are testament to this highly successful program.

This and many other projects earned the district the 2004 Coastal America Partnership Award and North Carolina Coast Federal Pelican Award, the 2003 Chief of Engineers' Environmental Award for product delivery team design and construction of an island estuarine habitat, and nomination and subsequent recognition as the North Carolina Conservationist Partner of 2003 by the North Carolina Land Trust Council. A district project delivery team under Colonel Alexander's command also earned an environmental award from the Environmental Protection Agency for its work cleaning up EPA facilities in the Research Triangle Park.

Colonel Alexander also executed a systematic plan to improve relation-

ships with local, State, and Federal entities. Locally, we completed re-nourishment of Kure, Carolina, and Bald Head Island Beaches and a project to reinstitute the use of dredged materials on Bogue Banks. Additionally, the district created a water management committee to meet the needs of over 40 agencies and many private citizens.

Colonel Alexander also led the efforts in 2003 to provide exceptionally responsive emergency management services during Hurricane Isabel in North Carolina, including the highly successful reconstruction of vital road infrastructure for the Cape Hatteras breach. He also led the Wilmington effort in aiding the recovery from the record-breaking 2004 hurricane storm season.

I would also like to commend Colonel Alexander for his support of the Army Corps outside his district and in the war on terror. His selflessness was exhibited by his leadership for the \$84 million recovery effort in 2004 after Hurricane Ivan devastated Alabama. This highly complex operation included providing emergency power, ice, water, housing, debris collection and reduction, roofing, and technical assistance to the citizens of Alabama following the storm, which made landfall 700 miles from the district headquarters. Hundreds of Corps of Engineers employees from all over the Nation were brought in to this well executed operation.

Colonel Alexander's leadership and commitment in the global war on terror is evident in his ability to motivate more than 20 team members to volunteer to serve abroad as members of South Atlantic Division's Forward Engineer Support Teams, Task Force Restore Iraqi Electricity, the Gulf Region Division, and the Afghanistan District. The number continues to grow and several members have served on multiple deployments.

In closing, generations of North Carolinians who have never met Colonel Alexander will benefit from the results of his work. At this special time in his career, I wish him all the best and thank him for a job well done.●

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER ELIZABETH J. FRENCH

● Mr. BURR. Mr. President, the Naval Hospital at Camp Lejeune, NC, has selected LCDR Elizabeth J. French to be the hospital's Officer of the Year for 2004. She serves as the department head for the inpatient obstetrics department at the hospital. U.S. Navy Captain Richard C. Welton presented Commander French with a Letter of Commendation for her "dedication to this Command and continual support of superb family centered maternal and childcare services in the Obstetric Department sets the standard."

I am proud of Elizabeth French's outstanding service and I ask unanimous consent that Captain Welton's Letter of Commendation be printed in the RECORD.

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

LETTER OF COMMENDATION

The Commanding Officer, Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune takes pleasure in commending Lieutenant Commander Elizabeth J. French for service as set forth in the following citation: Upon the occasion of her selection as the Officer of the Year, Calendar Year 2004, Commander French is commended for her dedicated and outstanding performance of duty while serving as the Department Head, Inpatient Obstetrics Department, Naval Hospital, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina from 1 January 2004 to 31 December 2004. Commander French's dedication to this Command and continual pursuit of superb family centered maternal and childcare services in the Obstetric Department sets the standard. She expertly led 70 military, civilians, and contract personnel in providing quality and safe care for 1,500 births and 4,800 outpatient visits. She chaired the Lactation Council and coordinated lactation services. Commander French implemented a lactation consult call schedule to provide 24/7 lactation services for 300 beneficiaries, which reduced infant readmissions for hyperbilirubinemia and dehydration by 80 percent. Clinically proficient, Commander French provides daily hands-on care to patients in addition to covering critical staffing shortages during off-duty hours. She coordinated the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery's, Family Centered Care training for more than 40 medical and nursing personnel. Commander French saved the Command \$5,000 in Temporary Additional Duty costs when she established a regional testing site for the Maternal Newborn and Inpatient Obstetric Nursing National Certification exam, allowing 10 military and civilian nurses to locally obtain certification. She coordinated the \$5 Million Labor and Delivery, Recovery, and Postpartum renovation project, continuously interacting with Facilities Department personnel, contractors, news media and multiple hospital departments to ensure the project remained within contractual agreements and maintained patient safety and workload. Commander French's professionalism, initiative, and total devotion to duty reflected great credit upon herself and were in keeping with the highest tradition of the United States Naval Service. On behalf of the entire staff, she is extended the traditional Navy "Well Done."

RICHARD C. WELTON,
Captain, Medical Corps,
United States Navy.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FORDVILLE, NORTH DAKOTA

● Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a community in North Dakota that is celebrating its 100th anniversary. On July 1-3, 2005, the residents of Fordville, ND, past and present, gathered to celebrate the community's centennial.

Fordville is a city in the north-eastern part of my great State with about 266 residents. Although its population is small, Fordville holds an important place in the history of North Dakota. Medford was founded in 1905 and was an important stop along the Soo Railroad line. Because of confusion caused as a result of other stations along the Soo line with the name Medford, it was decided to combine its name with the rural post office of

Belleville. The combination of Medford and Belleville resulted in the now familiar name of Fordville.

The people of Fordville are proud of their local public schools and the railroad system, which helps to sustain the city. Additionally, the city has a strong farming co-operative system featuring a new grain elevator. Their lively centennial celebration included a parade, street dance, musicals and a fireworks display.

I ask the Senate to join me in congratulating Fordville, ND, and its residents on their first 100 years and in wishing them well through the next century. By honoring Fordville and all the other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the pioneering tradition alive for future generations. It is places such as Fordville that shaped this country into what it is today, which is why this fine community deserves our recognition.

Fordville has a proud past and a bright future.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF TURTLE LAKE, NORTH DAKOTA

● Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor a community in North Dakota that is celebrating its 100th anniversary. From July 15 to 17, the residents of Turtle Lake, ND, will celebrate their history and the town's founding.

Turtle Lake is a small town in north-central North Dakota with a population of 580. Despite its small size, Turtle Lake holds an important place in North Dakota's history. The founder of Turtle Lake was Peter Miller, the earliest homesteader in the region. Mr. Miller established the Turtle Lake post office in his farmhouse on January 25, 1886, and subsequently formed the first Turtle Lake business by setting up a shop under a lean-to. As other businesses spread throughout the area, the Miller town site was formed. Over the next decade, the post office moved to Wanamaker town site and then finally to the current location of Turtle Lake, north of the lake itself. The communities of the area came together and were incorporated as the village of Turtle Lake in 1907. Turtle Lake is a thriving community today, with a rapidly growing tourist industry that brings visitors to the turtle shaped lake for which the town is named.

I ask the Senate to join me in congratulating Turtle Lake, ND, and its residents on their first 100 years and in wishing them well through the next century. I believe that by honoring Turtle Lake and all the other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the pioneering, frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Turtle Lake that have helped to shape this country into what it is today. I believe that the community of Turtle Lake is deserving of our recognition.

Turtle Lake has a proud past and a bright future.●

IDAHO'S VERY OWN GUNFIGHTERS

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I would like to recognize a nontraditional Idaho community that although a Federal installation, is as much a part of our State as any other community. The Mountain Home Air Force Base Gunfighters support and execute our military air mission worldwide while devoting time and energy to improve the quality of life on base and off.

In the 1940s, Mountain Home Air Force Base was established and over the next few decades took on many different Air Force missions including bombers, fighters, tankers, and even intercontinental ballistic missiles for a short time. As the needs and overall mission of the Air Force has evolved over the years, Mountain Home has followed suit, proven to be a site of flexibility and superior support, operations, and training. Wings based at Mountain Home have provided air support all around the world and, in times of need like September 11, here at home. The capabilities of the personnel, facilities, resources and organizations at Mountain Home have always been characterized by flexibility, readiness and immediate and forceful global deployment in a tightly controlled and effective command and control environment. Exercising their skills and military professionalism, Gunfighters have not only fought the battles but participated in reconstruction and humanitarian missions in the current conflict in the Middle East as well as other places around the globe where innocent people are suffering from the evils of poverty, economic oppression, and the tragedies of natural disasters.

In a similar way, Gunfighters have proven to be able to "deploy" to the community on base and off at a moment's notice when duty calls. Last year alone, volunteers worked on base more than 100,000 hours valued at \$1.5 million. Many of these individuals already have more than full-time work in the military but have found the time to make a difference to others expecting no compensation. Stories abound of emergency assistance given by members of the military to civilians in Idaho. Recently, two jet fighters escorted a disabled civilian aircraft to safety, averting a possible crash and fatality. Another form of giving that is particularly important to the troops who are deployed is donating blood. I am proud to say that in the recent Armed Forces blood drive, Mountain Home Air Force Base more than doubled its goal and donated a total of 265 units of blood that was shipped directly to Iraq. In addition, the base sent 60 units of a special blood product designed to promote quick clotting to our mobile medical units. What a terrific example of fellow soldiers and families lending aid and comfort to our military men and women across the world.

I offer my sincere thanks and gratitude to our very own Idaho Gunfighters, both at Mountain Home and deployed. You make Idaho proud.●

HONORING THE CITY OF CHAMBERLAIN, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I wish to honor and publicly acknowledge the 125th anniversary of Chamberlain, SD, a small city nestled on the eastern bluffs of the Missouri River marking the divide between eastern and western South Dakota.

Chamberlain, located in Brule County in central South Dakota, was founded in 1880. The land on which the town is located was obtained from the Federal Government by means of Civil War script. Once the property was acquired, a small group of men, for whom the streets of the city are now named, established the town. Soon thereafter, it was announced that the railroad would pass through the area, thus bringing a flood of pioneers to the city in search of a new home on the frontier.

The town of Chamberlain grew rapidly. Within weeks, it was home to the Merchant's Hotel, the Brule County Bank and the Dakota Fire and Marine Insurance Company. Chamberlain's post office was established in May of 1881, and the Dakota Register, the town's first newspaper, was founded later that year.

The first church in Chamberlain was the Congregational Church, established under the leadership of Reverend W.H. Thrall. Built in 1881, the structure was donated by Selah Chamberlain, an officer of the Milwaukee railroad and the man for whom Chamberlain was named. The church still stands today as a symbol of unity in this small city. Other denominations, including the Methodists, Catholics, Episcopalians, Lutherans, and Seventh Day Adventists, also established their respective churches in Chamberlain's early years.

Ask any of its residents about the history of Chamberlain and they will probably recount the story of Theodore Roosevelt's campaign visit. Roosevelt and his band of Rough Riders arrived from the west on a very windy day when the air was so full of dust that people could barely see each other as they made their way around the town. Consequently, two cowboys collided on the street and one of the horses was killed in the accident. Roosevelt asked Mr. Lockwood, marshal of the day, if a local cowboy would lend him a horse. The request was overheard by a nearby rancher who promptly offered up one of his. Roosevelt, proud of his new acquisition, rode the horse around town with local boys until he left to continue his campaign elsewhere.

Chamberlain is also known as one of the many places the Louis and Clark Expedition passed through. In mid-September of 1804, the team was greeted by exotic animals, such as jackrabbits, antelopes, mule deer and black-billed magpies, as well as the enormous herds of buffalo, deer, elk and antelope. The path the expedition traveled is now a popular hiking destination for outdoorsmen and history buffs alike.

Like most young communities in the Dakotas, Chamberlain was not without