

and promote economic growth in the Asian community. Today, they will install the first woman to be president of their esteemed organization. Vida Chan Lin steps into this role—respected by her peers and energized by her passion for furthering the goals of the Las Vegas Asian Chamber of Commerce.

While this leadership role is a new opportunity for Ms. Lin, her lifetime of experience has prepared her to take on this role. As a child, she was exposed to running a business as she saw firsthand the daily challenges and joys in the restaurants her family owned. She then found great satisfaction in the insurance industry where she continued to exceed expectations and eventually start her own company.

Ms. Lin has always balanced her business drive and success with her commitment to community service. She has been an instrumental force behind the Las Vegas Asian Chamber of Commerce for many years. Her ability to bring people together, develop innovative programming, and mentor young leaders has helped ensure the long-term success of the Asian Chamber well beyond just her tenure.

She has been recognized by countless organizations for her business acumen and her heartfelt commitment to public service. I am proud to congratulate Vida Lin on this special day, and I wish her great success in the coming term of her presidency.

49TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEACE CORPS

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate the Peace Corps on the occasion of its 49th anniversary.

Since the Peace Corps' inception in 1961, nearly 200,000 Americans have volunteered to live and work in developing countries around the globe in an effort to help provide stability and progress.

Through aiding in education, community development, business development, health awareness and food security, these volunteers are improving lives and communities and making them better places to live and thrive.

It is this selfless dedication to helping people and communities help themselves that has strengthened ties between America and the world.

I am proud to say that 155 Georgians are serving as volunteers with the Peace Corps, including a former staffer of mine, Rebecca Riccitello, who is working in Ghana.

My home State of Georgia has a long history with the Peace Corps. Former U.S. Senator Paul Coverdell of Georgia devoted much of his time to the Peace Corps, and served as its director in the late eighties. During his tenure, the World Wise Schools Program was founded, which connects students in the United States with Peace Corps volunteers around the world.

Peace Corps volunteers engage in real, meaningful work and truly make a difference in individual lives around

the world. I commend them for their efforts on our nation's behalf, and I am pleased to recognize the Peace Corps and all those who help the organization help others in America's name.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE WIDMAN

• Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, today I offer my congratulations and warm regards to George Widman, the "Candy Man" of Grand Forks, on the momentous occasion of his 90th birthday.

Throughout his life, George Widman has been an example of what it means to be a great North Dakotan and a great American. Growing up in the Great Depression taught George the value of hard work, something he has never forgotten. To this day, George and his wife Betty work 6 days a week at Widman's Candy Store in downtown Grand Forks.

George demonstrated his lifelong patriotism through his service in World War II. During that war, he served as a naval A1C aviation mechanic on the USS *Bunker Hill* aircraft carrier from 1942 until it was hit by kamikazes in 1945. The ship suffered the loss of 346 men, but, miraculously, George survived.

After the war, George returned home to work in the family business. Sixty years later, Widman's Candy Store is best known for its Chippers—Red River Valley potato chips covered in delicious Red River Valley chocolate. They are truly a treat. They have become famous not only in North Dakota but in Washington, DC, with fans at the White House, in the office of the Vice President, at the Pentagon, and here in the Senate.

To me, the story that best defines George and Betty is how they responded to the 1997 flood that devastated the city of Grand Forks. After their store was destroyed by the floodwaters that took out most of Grand Forks, George offered Betty the opportunity to rebuild anywhere in the world. They chose Grand Forks.

Ten years ago, George said his secret to longevity was "lots of candy." Today, it is my pleasure and honor to wish George a wonderful 90th birthday. He is representative of the best of North Dakota, and he has my respect and admiration. I can never forget George's birthday, because it is my birthday too. Happy 90th, George, and here's to many more! •

TRIBUTE TO DORIS THOM

• Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today I am very pleased to recognize the accomplishments of Doris Thom, a Wisconsinite from my hometown of Janesville who has blazed a trail for women's rights, and shown a tremendous commitment to public service, throughout her 90 years. I have known Doris for many years, and I greatly admire the

many contributions she has made to Janesville. She is a good friend who has shown outstanding leadership in her community. I am also grateful for the excellent work of her granddaughter Sara Thom-Agress, who worked in my Washington, DC, office.

Doris's life story is one of great determination and outstanding achievement. Working at Gilman Engineering in Janesville during World War II, she received the U.S. Army and Navy "E" for Excellence Award for her work to produce emergency landing gear for fighter planes, and served as the first woman on the Executive Committee for Machinists Local 1266.

Her life has been a series of firsts for women in Janesville, particularly during her years at the General Motors' Fisher Body Plant. There she served as the first woman committee member of United Auto Workers Local 95, and then the first woman to sit on the executive board of Local 95. She also opened doors for women at the plant when she filed a successful grievance after being denied a transfer from a traditionally female line at the plant to an all-male one. Her grievance resulted in all of the plant's jobs being open to women for the first time.

All the while, as Doris was breaking new ground for women in Janesville, she was raising a family and making countless other contributions to her community and her state. Among many other activities, Doris served on the Wisconsin Governor's Commission on the Status of Women from 1971 to 1975.

I am very pleased to recognize Doris's many achievements, and send her my warmest wishes as she celebrates her 90th birthday. I thank her for everything she has done for our shared hometown, and for women in Wisconsin and nationwide. •

RECOGNIZING THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

• Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to thank the director of the Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs and members of his staff for attending to the medical needs of MAJ James E. Gibson.

Back in January of this year, I received a letter from Mrs. Barbara-lea Gibson Wright of Bull Shoals, AR. Barbara wrote to me, soliciting help in extending her sincere gratitude to the Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs for tending to the medical needs of her father with unfailing diligence until his unfortunate passing. Major Gibson was wounded in Omaha Beach back in 1944, and passed away at the age of 90 in 2009. Although he lost the use of his right arm, Army doctors and nurses brought him back from the brink of death on multiple occasions. Major Gibson eventually retired and was able to live a long and prosperous life with his wife and children thanks to the superior medical attention he

received from the Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs.

In fiscal year 2009, there were more than 3 million Americans receiving VA disability compensation, with 41,000 of them receiving service in the State of Arkansas. The VA works tirelessly to address the needs of the American public, whether through times of peace, times of war, or times of grief.

It is important that we recognize the accomplishments and extend our sincere thanks to the Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs for not only a job well done, but for the men and women in desperate need of great service so evidently shown for Major Gibson. They make the State of Arkansas proud.●

TRIBUTE TO STEVE COLE AND FRANK ADAMS

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I congratulate Arkansas State Representative Steve Cole of Lockesburg for being named the new chancellor of Cossatot Community College. He replaces retiring Chancellor Frank Adams, both of whom have dedicated their careers to inspiring and training students to become our next generation of Arkansas leaders.

Cossatot Community College is a pillar of the communities it serves. With campuses in DeQueen, Ashdown and Nashville, the college serves nearly 1,500 students in western Arkansas. The college offers technical certificates in 7 programs, certificates of proficiency in 13 programs, and 5 associate's degree programs.

Both Representative Cole and Chancellor Adams have played an integral role in the development and success of Cossatot Community College.

Since 2007, Representative Cole has served as vice chancellor and dean of academics. He has also served as a faculty member and administrator for the past 13 years. Representative Cole is a dedicated public servant in the Arkansas State Legislature, representing Howard and Sevier Counties.

Chancellor Adams will retire on June 30 after 18 years at Cossatot. He led the college into the UA system in 2001 and spearheaded the development of satellite campuses in Ashdown and Nashville.

I salute Representative Cole and Chancellor Adams for their leadership, and for their efforts to inspire the next generation of leaders. The knowledge and training that the students at Cossatot Community College receive today are the tools that will carry them for the rest of their lives.●

RECOGNIZING THE 2010 ARKANSAS AGRICULTURE HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I congratulate the 2010 inductees to the Arkansas Agriculture Hall of Fame for their significant contributions to Arkansas agriculture, as well as commu-

nity and economic development. The Arkansas Agriculture Hall of Fame is sponsored by the Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce and Arkansas Farm Bureau.

This year's recipients are a distinguished group, comprised of Arkansas leaders in beef cattle, conservation, crop production, and extension efforts.

Philip Alford Jr. of Lewisville, Lafayette County, is a founding member of the Arkansas Cattlemen's Association. He introduced stocker cattle grazing operations and, by organizing drainage districts, helped convert thousands of acres of nonproductive bottomland into productive crop and pasture land.

Devoe Bollinger of Horatio, Sevier County, led the effort to eradicate brucellosis from cattle herds in the State. Bollinger's career has been devoted to improving the image of the cattle rancher. He served three terms on the Arkansas Livestock and Poultry Commission, two of those as chairman.

Mark Bryles of Blytheville, Mississippi County, led a significant increase of cotton acreage while serving as an extension agent in Mississippi County. His career as an agent with the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture Cooperative Extension Service spanned 35 years, 22 of those in Mississippi County. He has received numerous awards for his leadership, innovation and service.

Jack Jones of Pottsville, Pope County, helped create the LeadAR program in Arkansas. Jones is a second-generation farmer and rancher from Pope County and has given much of his adult life serving the State's largest industry. He spent 24 years on the Arkansas Farm Bureau board of directors, 17 of those as vice president.

Leonard Sitzler of Weiner, Poinsett County, developed one of the most successful rice farming operations in northeast Arkansas. Sitzler's life is a testament to hard work, dedication, and leadership. With only a 10th-grade education, he returned from duty in World War II to build one of the most successful rice farming operations in Poinsett County. He spent 33 years on the Riceland Foods board of directors.

Mr. President, as a seventh-generation Arkansan and farmer's daughter and as chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, I understand firsthand and appreciate the hard work and contributions of our Arkansas farmers. Agriculture is the backbone of Arkansas's economy, creating more than 270,000 jobs in the State and providing \$9.1 billion in wages and salaries. In total, agriculture contributes roughly \$15.9 billion to the Arkansas economy each year.

I salute this year's inductees to the Arkansas Agriculture Hall of Fame and all Arkansas farmers and ranchers for their hard work and dedication.●

RECOGNIZING KING'S HILL INN

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, today I wish to honor a Maine small business

that has patriotically devoted itself to giving members of our Nation's military a relaxing surprise by providing Maine soldiers home from the warfront with a comforting night's stay in the picturesque western Maine town of Paris. Opened by Janice and Glenn Davis in 1999, the King's Hill Inn is a beautiful Victorian inn surrounded by scenic mountains and lakes in historic and peaceful Oxford County. And for Maine soldiers who have just returned from a theater of war, the King's Hill Inn simply promises "... the best, quietest night's sleep with their loved one, far from the cold battlefield."

This historic inn got its start in 1998 when Janice and Glenn Davis bought and restored the farm property, which was the 1811 birthplace of Horatio King, who served as Postmaster General under President James Buchanan. The rural town of Paris, frequently known as the home of King and Hannibal Hamlin, President Abraham Lincoln's first Vice President and a prominent Maine political figure, is also recognized for its panoply of natural wonders, many of which are accessible from King's Hill Inn. From the inn, guests can experience much of Maine's serene landscape which includes the beautiful Oxford Hills region, the exciting Saco River, as well as area mines that celebrate Maine's gem and mineral concentrations. The inn offers guests six stunning suites, each with a unique and charming setting—perfect for a weekend getaway.

To give back to our Nation's bravest men and women who have served overseas, the King's Hill Inn offers a free overnight stay with a complimentary breakfast for each Maine soldier returning from the warfront and his or her significant other. In addition, the Davises offer a 28-percent discount to "all military personnel stationed around the world" in honor of their 28-year-old son CAPT Aaron Davis, a member of the U.S. Air Force who has served in Afghanistan. The Davises also work with various local business owners wishing to make donations of their own to the soldiers spending the night at the King's Hill Inn, including restaurants offering a free dinner and florists providing beautiful floral arrangements.

After experiencing firsthand how difficult it was to part with her son when he was leaving to serve a year in the war in Afghanistan, Janice realized how such departures would be even more heartbreaking for the spouses of active-duty military personnel. Her objective in offering this magnanimous promotion is to provide soldiers with "... that escape from the war front and that reunification with their spouse or loved one. My goal is that it will start a grassroots effort right here in Western Maine that will spread all the way to California, where my son is."

The King's Hill Inn has truly offered a noble gift to our servicemen and women who have sacrificed so much for