

necessary to excel on the gridiron. Mark grew up and played high school football in Flint, MI, and is, simply the latest athlete from this talent rich area of Michigan to excel in collegiate or professional competition.

After winning this award, Mark went on to lead his football team to a 37 to 21 victory in the BCS Championship Game, which was played in the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, CA, on January 7. In that game, Mark scored a late touchdown that sealed his team's victory. He rushed for 116 yards in 22 carries, which helped his team secure a hard fought victory and earned him recognition as the offensive player of the game.

While his exceptional athletic qualities are now well known to many, I am equally delighted to know that Mark also has distinguished himself in the classroom. This, to me, speaks volumes about his character, focus, and determination. His future appears to be bright both on and off of the football field. I know my colleagues join me in congratulating Mark Ingram, Jr. on this most impressive achievement. I wish him the best for a long and rewarding career, both on and off of the gridiron.●

#### 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE CITY OF LANSING

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I recognize an important milestone for the city of Lansing, the 150th anniversary of its founding. This is a moment worthy of celebration, and I am delighted to have this opportunity to share the pride of the residents of Lansing with my colleagues. The city and its citizens have been an integral part of Michigan's rich history, contributing much to the progress of the State and to its citizens. In the past 150 years, the city of Lansing has grown into a thriving community, and it is affectionately referred to by its residents as "the small city with the big city feel."

The city of Lansing had a rather humble beginning. In fact, Lansing's tenure as the capital of Michigan exceeds its history as a city. Lansing has served as Michigan's capital since 1847, when it was moved from Detroit. Chosen largely for its central location and its equal distance from some of Michigan's larger cities, the small township with fewer than 100 residents located 40 miles from the nearest railroad was designated the capital of Michigan. On February 15, 1859, the town of Lansing officially became a city. In the 1870s, Elijah E. Myers began to design the capitol structure that has endured as Michigan's center of government. The capitol building was completed in 1879.

Events in Lansing's early history helped to shape the city's rich culture and heritage. Transportation vastly improved in 1865 when Lansing was connected to the State railroad system. With this advance in infrastructure, business and industry in Lansing grew steadily throughout the 1870s. In 1887, R.E. Olds produced the first horse-

less carriage in Lansing, and in 1903, Olds Motor Works was the first car company to use an assembly line and interchangeable parts in the production of automobiles. A thriving business community attracted many new residents to Lansing, which included a major migration of African Americans and other workers from the South, as well as returning soldiers from WWI and WWII. This hardworking and diverse population helped to shape Lansing's distinct character.

Lansing also is home to many nationally recognized institutions. Among them is the Ingham Medical Center, which opened its doors in 1980 as the world's first arthroscopic surgery center. Just next door, in East Lansing, is home to one of our country's leading universities, Michigan State University. Originally named the Michigan Agricultural College, MSU has educated many throughout the State and from across the Nation since 1855. In 1969, Dr. Clifton R. Wharton, Jr., became the first African American to head a major research university when he was appointed president of Michigan State University. Another impressive landmark is the Michigan Library and Historical Center, which is just a short walk from the Michigan State capitol. It opened on March 6, 1989, and became the second largest State library in the Nation.

The city has endured its share of challenges through the years, from natural disasters, such as earthquakes and floods, to epidemics and economic downturns. We once again find ourselves in a defining moment in our State's history, as we continue to navigate one of the deepest economic recessions in decades. It will be in Lansing where our Governor and State legislators will work to craft policies that will steer Michigan toward a more prosperous future.

I am proud to recognize Lansing's history and to honor all who have made significant contributions over the years. It is Lansing's legacy of policymaking and its rich history that has created a diverse and thriving community, one that will continue to grow and prosper for generations.●

#### TRIBUTE TO BUDD LYNCH

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, 65 years ago, a young Canadian serving his nation was struck by German artillery fire on a Normandy battlefield. The blast tore away his right arm and shoulder, and at a field hospital, a chaplain performed last rites on young Joseph James Lynch.

It is the good fortune of the Detroit Red Wings hockey club and thousands of fans in Michigan and across the United States and Canada that "Budd" Lynch survived the loss of his right arm with his life, his talent, and his sense of humor intact. Now 92 years old, Budd remains a leading citizen of Hockeytown after 60 years as a radio and television broadcaster, publicity and community affairs executive and public address announcer.

His broadcasting skills have been widely honored: He is a member of the Michigan Sports Hall of Fame and a winner of the Ty Tyson Award for Excellence in Sports Broadcasting from the Detroit Sports Broadcasters Association. In 1985, he received the Foster Hewitt Memorial Award, the highest honor in hockey broadcasting, and was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame.

As much as his talent at the microphone, it is Budd Lynch's unstoppable good humor that has endeared him to generations of hockey fans. Only someone with Budd's upbeat personality could refer to himself as "the one-armed bandit."

But even many of Budd's many fans don't know of all he has done for his community. For 20 years, he has hosted an annual charity golf tournament, with proceeds benefitting the Guidance Center, a Wayne County nonprofit organization that provides services including substance abuse and mental health counseling, parenting skills training, literacy promotion and educational programs for metro Detroit families. And he has spent countless hours providing guidance to fellow amputees, providing a living, breathing example that the loss of a limb does not stand in the way of a life lived joyfully.

The city of Wyandotte, which Budd has long called home, has planned a salute for him later this month, with the proceeds going to the Guidance Center. He will be presented with a key to the city, but Budd Lynch already has the key to the hearts of hockey fans in Detroit and around the NHL. I salute him for his years of service and sacrifice—to Canada, to the Red Wings, to hockey, and to the community and to our State that have for so many decades been proud to claim him as one of our own.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. CLAUD YOUNG

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, it is a pleasure to pay tribute to Dr. Claud Young, the founder of the Michigan Chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and a tireless and dedicated advocate for civil rights and social and economic justice. His significant contributions as a physician and as an advocate for social and economic justice have impacted many across Michigan and the Nation.

Dr. Young's more than four decades of service will be recognized by the Michigan SCLC at a dinner in his honor. This is a fitting tribute to a man who has spent his career engaged in the noble fight for justice for all. In 1970, Dr. Young, a noted physician, founded the Michigan Chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference with the mission to continue the noble efforts of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to achieve social, economic, and political justice through non-violence and the strength of love.

Under his leadership, the Michigan SCLC has waged numerous successful battles and has had an enduring impact on the lives of many. I guess one could say, it is in his genes, having come from a family historically noted for its commitment to public service and community empowerment.

Once again, I am delighted to congratulate Dr. Young, a community leader and my good friend. I wish him and the SCLC the best as they continue their important work.●

#### TRIBUTE TO THE BRANDON BAUMAN FAMILY

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I congratulate the Brandon Bauman Family for being named the 2009 Northern Arkansas County Farm Family. The recognition comes in honor of the Baumans' efficiency of production, conservation of energy and resources, leadership in agriculture and community affairs, home and farm improvement, and home and farm management.

Brandon and his wife Amy have two daughters, Caroline and Abigail. They farm 2,200 acres with rice, soybeans, wheat, and oats. I was pleased to help recognize the Baumans earlier this month during the 70th Annual Stuttgart Chamber of Commerce Membership Meeting and Banquet in Stuttgart.

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 farm families. 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.

Our farm families are critical to our Nation's economic stability. Agriculture leads all U.S. product groupings with the largest trade surplus at \$23 billion in fiscal year 2009, almost triple the next largest category of transportation products. We must work to continue the farm family tradition, so families such as the Baumans are able to maintain their livelihoods and continue to help provide the safe, abundant, and affordable food supply that feeds our own country and the world and that is essential to our own economic stability.

I salute the Baumans and all Arkansas farm families for their hard work and dedication.●

#### TRIBUTE TO NORMA STRABALA AND DEBBIE AHRENS

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I congratulate Norma Strabala as "Citizen of the Year" and Debbie Ahrens as "Volunteer of the Year" for Stuttgart, AR.

I was pleased to be on-hand as Norma and Debbie were recognized earlier this

month during the 70th Annual Stuttgart Chamber of Commerce Membership Meeting and Banquet in Stuttgart. I have felt a long kinship to Stuttgart, one of our delta communities not far from and very similar to my hometown of Helena. Stuttgart always feels like home, and I am grateful for the friendships I have made there. As members of a community with such a great spirit of volunteerism and caring, Norma and Debbie should be particularly proud of their recognitions.

According to those who know her best, Norma always strives to help other people through her attitude and actions. She has consistently worked to establish programs that help those less fortunate. She was a key figure in coordinating volunteer efforts during and after the 2008 tornado and 2009 straight-line winds that damaged much of the city, and during each holiday season.

Similarly, Debbie is known throughout Stuttgart for her volunteer efforts. Through the years, she has been active on many local Chamber of Commerce committees and is a deserving recipient of the designation of "Volunteer of the Year."

We should all embrace the spirit of service and volunteerism on display by these deserving individuals. I send my heartfelt congratulations to both Norma and Debbie.●

#### RECOGNIZING THE WYNNE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I would like to congratulate Wynne Intermediate School, in Wynne, AR, on achieving the designation as a "Program of the Month" from the national "Reading Is Fundamental," or "RIF," program for the month of December 2009. RIF prepares and motivates children to read by delivering free books and literacy resources to children and families who need them most.

Located in the Arkansas Delta, not far from where I attended public school myself, the Wynne Intermediate School RIF program serves 462 children in the 4th and 5th grades. For the past 16 years, Wynne Intermediate School has held engaging motivational activities for both students and parents. With the closest bookstore 50 miles away, families depend on the RIF program to enjoy reading together.

I believe that education is the key to success for our young people. The knowledge and training that students receive today are the tools that carry them for the rest of their lives.

That is why I am so proud to help recognize Kaley Boeckmann, RIF coordinator, and the entire faculty and staff at Wynne Intermediate School for their dedication in helping increase opportunities for students to read and learn. Through their leadership and good example, countless students have been motivated to expand their horizons through the written word.

Most important, I would also like to congratulate all of the students in

Wynne who have discovered the joy of reading. I encourage them to make the most of their education and opportunities.●

#### TRIBUTE TO ALBERT D. ROSELLINI

● Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I would like to take a moment to recognize a very special advocate and former Governor of my home State of Washington who is celebrating his 100th birthday on Thursday.

Albert D. Rosellini served two terms as Governor of Washington State, first being elected in 1956. Before he was elected Governor, he served as the deputy prosecutor of King County and 18 consecutive years in the State senate.

Throughout his career, Governor Rosellini has been a dedicated public servant and an inspiration to generations of public servants. I know that Governor Rosellini's knowledge, drive and passion for service has made my home state a better place to live and work. It is an honor to have had the opportunity to earn the support and advice of such an extraordinary figure in my State's history.

In the State senate, Albert was a champion for labor, small business and equality, introducing an unfair practice bill to ensure small businesses receive decent prices, a fair employment practices bill, and an equal wage bill for women.

He strived to improve the quality of education in Washington State by supporting measures to improve retirement programs and raise salaries for teachers. He also promoted improvements to schools for the mentally disabled, deaf and blind. As a sponsor of the Youth Protection Act, Albert promoted progressive correctional programs for delinquents and revitalized penal institutions and juvenile institutions that are still in use today.

In 1951, he introduced a bill that created a teaching hospital on the campus of the University of Washington, continuing his goal to improve education and medical facilities across the State. That hospital is the basis of the acclaimed medical center we have there today.

As Governor, Albert worked to diversify Washington State's industry by creating the Department of Commerce and Economic Development which brought international trade to Washington. This department helped launch the high tech industry in this area and developed Overlake Park in Bellevue where Microsoft and other high tech companies are currently established.

The leadership abilities displayed by Governor Rosellini were quickly noticed by his colleagues and he was elected chairman of the National Governors Association during his second term as Governor.

Since leaving office, Governor Rosellini has continued his commitment to better Washington State. In 1979 he helped our State's athletes attend and compete on the world's stage