

Leanne came to Idaho from Illinois in the early 1990s and helped manage a complex and very public transition with one of the Idaho National Laboratory's facilities, INL, the Idaho Chemical Processing Plant. She has spent 30 years working to improve the working environment of the companies who have employed her. And she has succeeded admirably. She has a personable manner that makes everyone feel comfortable, and she has an unerring sense of how best to resolve conflicts and address other challenges.

Most recently, Leanne worked as the protocol officer at the INL, which was a terrific fit. She always handled herself well and dealt with tough situations without ever losing her poise.

INL's reputation has increased nationally and internationally, and Leanne's efforts have been essential to the process. She always goes above and beyond to make sure each visitor to INL feels like they are a special guest.

We have particularly appreciated Leanne's relationship with our own Senate offices. Her professionalism was always top notch, her knowledge of the INL is superb and her ability to communicate and work easily with others is among the finest we have seen. When schedules are tight and people were stressed, Leanne had the ability to rise above it all and navigate the pitfalls with style, grace and ease.

We would be remiss if we didn't mention Leanne and her family and their involvement in the local community. She was an active volunteer with the Idaho Falls Chamber of Commerce serving as co-chair on the Legislative Committee and always did an outstanding job in each of her assignments.

As she nears retirement, we join many others in thanking her for her service to her community and the state of Idaho. She has done an outstanding job at the INL, one that will be hard for others to fill. We wish her the best in her retirement, knowing that she isn't one to stay still for long. Thank you, Leanne, and enjoy your future endeavors.●

TRIBUTE TO PASTOR WILLIAM L. ROBINSON

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I congratulate William L. Robinson as he celebrates 28 years as pastor of First Baptist Church in North Little Rock. First Baptist is the oldest Black church in North Little Rock, and under Pastor Robinson's leadership, the congregation has thrived for nearly 30 years.

From a young age, Pastor Robinson knew his calling. At the age of 12, he was licensed by Dr. T. M. Chambers, then Pastor of Gaines Street Baptist Church in Little Rock. In 1977, at the age of 17, Pastor Robinson became an ordained minister.

An Arkansas native, Pastor Robinson graduated from historic Little Rock

Central High School and earned a bachelor of arts degree in social sciences from Arkansas Baptist College in Little Rock. He is a graduate of Jackson Theological Seminary of Shorter College in North Little Rock.

Recognized as a pillar of the North Little Rock community, Pastor Robinson has been asked to serve in a variety of statewide commissions and leadership roles, including the Martin Luther King Jr. Commission, the Board of Trustees of the William F. Laman Library Commission, and the Executive Board of the Union Rescue Mission and Salvation Army. Pastor Robinson is an Honorary Deputy Sheriff of Pulaski County and a Chaplain of the North Little Rock Police and Sheriff's Office.

Pastor Robinson has also been invited to take part in numerous inaugurations and official events in Arkansas and Washington, DC. He is the visionary of the recently reestablished "4" Church Fellowship and serves currently as president. This fellowship consists of local churches coming together to uplift our Savior and the community through quarterly worship services. Most recently, Pastor Robinson served as cochairman of the First Interfaith Christian Conference, "The Arkansas Gathering," featuring nationally known pastors and more than 100 local pastors and their churches for a 4-day retreat.

Pastor Robinson is also a local radio personality in his own right. For more than 26 years, he has promoted First Baptist's "Sunday Morning at The First," a 1 hour broadcast that airs Sunday evening at 5 p.m., reaching all four corners of Arkansas.

I salute Pastor Robinson and the work he does for North Little Rock and the entire state of Arkansas. Along with all Arkansans, I congratulate him for his years of service, and wish him all the best for the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. FRED BOURLAND

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I congratulate Arkansas Dr. Fred Bourland, who was recently named the International Cotton Researcher of the Year by the International Cotton Advisory Committee. Dr. Bourland is a cotton breeder and director of the University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture's Northeast Research and Extension Center in Keiser. Dr. Bourland won the award for his innovative cotton breeding achievements.

The Cotton Researcher of the Year award was started in 2009 to help raise awareness of the importance of research to the improvement of the cotton industry and to provide international recognition of exceptional achievements. Dr. Bourland will receive a trophy and \$1,000 prize.

I commend Dr. Bourland for his research, which benefits Arkansas's entire cotton farming community. Through his efforts, he represents the best of our Arkansas values: hard work, dedication, and perseverance. He also

inspires the next generation of Arkansas leaders as a member of the UA team.

As an Arkansas farmer's daughter, and as chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee, I understand firsthand and appreciate the hard work and contributions of our Arkansas agriculture community. 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 Dr. Bourland and the entire Arkansas agriculture community for their hard work and dedication.●

ROGERS-LOWELL AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I congratulate the Rogers-Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce for receiving a five star re-accreditation from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the highest accreditation a chamber can receive.

Of the 6,936 chambers in the United States, only 249 of are accredited. Of these, only 66 are accredited with five stars, roughly equal to 1 percent of chambers nationwide. Rogers-Lowell is the only five-star chamber in the State of Arkansas.

The Rogers-Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1922 and is one of the largest chambers in Arkansas. Under the leadership of President and CEO Raymond Burns, members are committed to growing business and building community. I commend Chairman Tom Spillyards, Accreditation Chair Greg Spragg, the Board of Directors, and the entire Chamber membership for their outstanding efforts to better their community.

Located in the center of the booming Northwest Arkansas region and the beautiful Arkansas Ozarks, the Rogers-Lowell area offers quality, growth and opportunity to residents and visitors alike. As one of the most dynamic communities in the region, Rogers and Lowell offer upscale, urban amenities, along with a slower pace, beautiful scenery, and endless outdoor recreational opportunities.

I salute the Rogers-Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce and the entire Rogers community for their efforts to build and grow their community. As my fellow Arkansans know, our state is a beautiful one, and I am proud to see the Rogers-Lowell Chamber of Commerce receive this prestigious accreditation.●

RECOGNIZING THE ROGERS COMMUNITY

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I congratulate the residents of Rogers for being named in the "Top 10" list of U.S. small cities, as ranked by Money Magazine.

The community received this recognition for being one of the Nation's

best small cities in which to raise a family. The rankings were determined through criteria examining education, crime rate, housing affordability, jobs, diversity, health care, and arts and leisure.

I also commend Rogers' community leaders, including Raymond Burns, president and chief executive of the Rogers-Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce. The tireless efforts by these leaders to build and maintain a safe, desirable community helped make this top ranking a reality. They represent the best of our state, and I am proud of their accomplishments for their community.

I salute the entire Rogers community for their efforts to maintain the heritage, beauty, and history of their community. I join all Arkansans to express my pride in this jewel of Arkansas.●

TRIBUTE TO DAVID DANIEL

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, today I congratulate Mr. J. David Daniel, a resident of my home State, as he nears the end of his term as the 105th chairman of the Nation's largest insurance association, the Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America, IIBA. Mr. Daniel was elected to the IIBA's executive committee in 2004 and was installed as the association's chairman last September.

Founded in 1896, IIBA, or the Big "I" as it is better known, is the Nation's oldest and largest association of independent insurance agents and brokers, representing a network of more than 300,000 agents, brokers, and their employees. During his term as chairman of the Big "I," David Daniel has been a leader on a number of issues for the association including health care overhaul legislation and financial services regulatory reform. In a time of tectonic shifts in the financial services industry landscape, Mr. Daniel has proven to be a strong leader and a steady hand for the association and the insurance industry as a whole.

David Daniel is president of Daniel and Eustis Insurance in Baton Rouge, LA. Prior to his election to the IIBA Executive Committee in 2004, he served on the board of directors of the Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of Louisiana, IIBAL, for eight years before becoming president in 1997. Daniel served as Louisiana's national board director beginning in 1998 and has acted as the State association's representative to the Louisiana Insurance Rating Commission. Mr. Daniel is also the recipient of IIBAL's Lifetime Achievement Award and the Outstanding Committee Chairman Award. On the national level, Mr. Daniel has served on IIBA's Technical Affairs Committee and was chairman of the Governance and Communication Task Force.

David Daniel has long been praised for his work in Baton Rouge as well as the insurance industry. For 28 years he has been a member of the Capital City

Kiwanis and was once awarded the George R. Hixson award for community service. As a pioneering member of the Christmas on the River Committee, Daniel worked to revitalize the riverfront area in Baton Rouge. He has been a volunteer youth basketball coach for the YMCA and is a founding member of the Vision 21 Foundation, an organization that collects and distributes grant money to nonprofit groups in the Baton Rouge area.

I would like to sincerely thank David Daniel for his commitment to his profession, his community, and the state of Louisiana. His efforts are greatly appreciated, and I wish Mr. Daniel, his wife Janet, and their family all the best in their future endeavors.●

TRIBUTE TO JIM FUNK

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Mr. Jim Funk for his leadership and dedication to the Louisiana Restaurant Association. Mr. Funk has served as the president and chief executive officer of the Louisiana Restaurant Association for almost 30 years, and announced his retirement earlier this year. I would like to take some time to remark on his work and his contribution to the State of Louisiana.

First founded in 1946, the Louisiana Restaurant Association promotes, protects, and serves the interests of Louisiana's food service and hospitality industry. Now one of the premiere associations in the Nation, the Louisiana Restaurant Association has grown in membership and status with Jim Funk at the helm during the past three decades. Through recessions, hurricanes and the most recent oil spill, Mr. Funk has led the industry through a business climate that has challenged Louisiana's restaurants on many levels.

Mr. Funk has also been recognized nationally for his success in association management, for his clout in Louisiana's politics, and for his dedication to culinary education. In 2007, he received the industry's highest honor—induction into the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation College of Diplomats. Mr. Funk was also an impressive advocate for the employees of the hospitality industry. As the head of the Louisiana Restaurant Association, he created the LRA's Self Insurer's Fund for Worker's Compensation, which provides important and necessary insurance to Louisiana restaurants and their workers. The fund now ensures more than 2,300 restaurants and hotels in Louisiana.

Mr. Funk also fought to protect the integrity and reputation of Louisiana restaurants and food products. At the National Restaurant Association Show on May 22 of this year, he stressed the need to protect the wetlands and Louisiana's prominent fishing and seafood industry. Having guided the LRA through the devastating destruction of Hurricane Katrina and the current oil-spill threatening our shores, Mr. Funk has shown laudable leadership.

The profile of Louisiana's restaurants industry and culinary traditions has been significantly enhanced during Mr. Funk's tenure as president of the Louisiana Restaurant Association. Thus, today, I am proud to honor Jim Funk and thank him for his dedication to the Louisiana Restaurant Association and to the State of Louisiana.●

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL ALVIN B. LEE

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I wish to acknowledge the service of COL Alvin B. Lee as he relinquishes command of the New Orleans District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Colonel Lee, the New Orleans District's 60th commander and district engineer, took command on July 20, 2007, and has served in that position for the past 3 years.

The New Orleans District is the largest district within the Corps of Engineers. The complexity and magnitude of the issues dealt with in this command are staggering. In addition to the normal operating budget of \$550 million, this district includes the \$14 billion hurricane and storm damage risk reduction system, HSDRRS, program for the Greater New Orleans Metropolitan area. No other colonel in the Corps of Engineers is given responsibility even remotely close to this.

Previous to his service as commander, New Orleans District, Colonel Lee served in other key command and staff positions which include: Company Commander, 317th Engineer Battalion, 3rd Brigade, 24th Infantry Division, Mechanized; Commander, Alaska Projects Office, Cold Regions Research Laboratory; Battalion Executive Officer of the 10th Engineer Battalion, and the Engineer Brigade Operations Officer, Third Infantry Division, Mechanized. Colonel Lee also served in Afghanistan during Operation Enduring Freedom as the Deputy Commander for the Afghanistan Engineer District. This resume serves as a testament to the character of Colonel Lee.

While it is no secret that I do not see eye-to-eye with the Army Corps of Engineers as an organization, I can say that I greatly appreciate the efforts of Colonel Lee individually. Colonel Lee earned the respect of many within the local Louisiana communities over the past three years through his strong leadership and hard work. He is a fine officer who has given much in service to the Nation. I wish him well in future endeavors.●

TIMBER LAKE, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I recognize Timber Lake, SD. Founded in 1910, the town of Timber will celebrate its 100th anniversary this year.

Located in Dewey County, Timber Lake possesses the strong sense of community that makes South Dakota