

staff member and a Senate institution in his own right. It is my firmly held opinion that Richard only allowed himself to begin his retirement because he was leaving Zach to handle his portfolio. I am also quite certain that Zach is the only staff member during Richard's 35 year tenure that he would have felt comfortable leaving in charge.

That is because not only does Zach possess a keen intelligence, a work ethic second to none and an innate ability to translate arcane tax and budget data into understandable prose—but he has the heart of a true progressive. Zach cares deeply about the people of Iowa, about the future of the middle class in this country and about making sure that every American has a fair shot at economic security.

It has been a pleasure to watch Zach grow personally and professionally over the past 6 years—as he transformed from a headstrong intern to one of the most skilled and able staffers in the Senate, from a new college graduate to a senior advisor newly married to Sarah this past summer.

This week I am concluding my 40 years in public office. It has been an amazing ride. One of the things that makes it easier to say goodbye is that I am leaving behind talented people like Zach from whom I know I can expect great things in the future.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN S. PISTOLE

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Madam President, it is my great privilege to recognize the distinguished career of John S. Pistole, on the occasion of his retirement as the Administrator of the Transportation Security Administration. He has been a dedicated public servant and leader for the past 31 years. Next year, John will take on an exciting new leadership role when he returns to his alma mater, Anderson University, as its president.

I am privileged to have worked with John and received his counsel on important issues like addressing the terrorist threats facing our Nation in the post-9/11 era, and helping to guide the FBI and TSA to successfully meet the challenges brought on by those threats.

Throughout his career, John has taken on many of the most challenging roles in law enforcement. He's fought against organized crime in the FBI and led frontline counterterrorism efforts as head of the TSA. However, for a person who has had to maintain a tough exterior in these roles, John has remained thoughtful, compassionate, and courteous—important traits which he demonstrated in his appearances before the Commerce Committee.

After earning his law degree at Indiana University in 1981 and spending 2 years in private law practice, John decided to enter public service by joining the FBI. John rose through the ranks as a special agent in Minneapolis and New York. He worked hard—first becoming a supervisor at FBI Head-

quarters, where he was recognized as a role model for new FBI agents, and then chosen to be an instructor at the FBI Academy. A few years later, John was recognized for his capabilities with an opportunity to teach the first sessions at a new International Law Enforcement Academy in Budapest.

In the late 1990s, John got involved with the FBI's efforts to fight white-collar crime. In Indianapolis, he created task forces fighting fraud and public corruption, and was promoted to Assistant Special Agent in Charge at the Boston Field Office. When Egypt Air Flight 990 crashed off the coast of Rhode Island, John investigated this aviation attack that would serve as a prelude to his post-9/11 roles.

When our Nation was attacked on September 11, 2001, John had just been assigned to the Inspections Division at FBI Headquarters though he was quickly reassigned to help build FBI's Counterterrorism Division. He rose steadily through the ranks, eventually serving as the FBI's Deputy Director for more than 5 years. John's exemplary service in that role, combined with his experience in counterterrorism and excellent management of and care for the FBI workforce, culminated in 2010 when he was nominated to be the TSA Administrator.

John assumed the leadership of TSA at a time when the agency had been without a confirmed administrator for a year and a half. During this time, the agency had been grappling with the fallout from the Christmas Day attack of 2009, and had become a political and media punching bag. TSA needed a strong leader to take on the formidable task of improving the agency's stature. TSA needed to be effective in its duty to protect our Nation, while also finding a way to respond to the public outcry over onerous and invasive search procedures. TSA needed to deal with dissatisfaction within its own ranks, while navigating a tough fiscal environment. We were fortunate when John accepted the President's nomination and was confirmed by the Senate unanimously to this important role.

Under John's exceptional leadership, the TSA has maintained a compelling track record in preventing terrorist attacks against our Nation's transportation networks. The agency has taken a more risk-based approach to security so as to lessen the burden on the average American traveler. Many people point to the TSA's successful PreCheck program, which I signed up for last week, as an example of John's great work. PreCheck is popular because it makes airport security more convenient and predictable, while freeing up TSA resources so the agency can be more focused on high-risk areas.

While John was improving both TSA's effectiveness and the security experience for the traveling public, he was simultaneously focusing on improving the TSA workforce. By exemplifying the traits he expected of his officers, and by taking the time to meet

with his workforce and address their concerns, he earned their loyalty.

John took important steps to implement policies that would hold TSA staff accountable, and he also demonstrated that security interests can be safeguarded while allowing officers to unionize. This was a great step forward for officers' labor rights, and has provided a constructive way to handle officers' concerns.

Appointed from outside the organization, John quickly earned the respect of TSA employees, who then supported him in reforming outdated policies. When TSA moved away from its one-size-fits-all approach, his workforce overcame many challenges to implement a more complex risk-based security process. Without the support John earned from TSA employees, that shift would not have been possible. We will always want better security and more convenience for less cost, and John has done better than anyone yet at striking the right balance.

John Pistole has long shone as a beacon of integrity in government service. Today it gives me great pleasure to commend him—and thank him—for his enormous contributions to improving the Nation's security. I am grateful for his service to this country and it is an honor to call him a friend. I wish John and his family the best as he embarks on a new chapter in his distinguished career.

TRIBUTE TO DANIELLE HANSON

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I recognize Danielle Hanson, a legislative aide in my Washington, DC, office, for the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Danielle is a native of Rapid City, SD, and is a graduate of Benedictine College. Upon graduation from Benedictine, Dani moved from Atchison, NE, to Washington, DC, to become a member of my personal office staff. In her 2½ years on my staff, Dani has worked as a staff assistant, legislative correspondent, and legislative aide.

I extend my sincere appreciation to Dani for her hard work and dedication and wish her continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO DEVEN SCOTT

Mr. THUNE. Madam President, today I recognize Deven Scott, the deputy scheduler in my Washington, DC, office, for the hard work she has done for me, my staff, and the State of South Dakota.

Deven is a native of Aberdeen, SD, and is a graduate of the University of South Dakota. Upon graduation from USD, Deven moved from Vermillion, SD, to Washington, DC, to become a member of my personal office staff. In her 1½ years on my staff, Deven has worked as a staff assistant, legislative correspondent, and deputy scheduler.

I extend my sincere appreciation to Deven for her hard work and dedication

and wish her continued success in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM "BILL" LOVELADY JR.

Mr. WICKER. Madam President, I wish to recognize Mr. William "Bill" Lovelady, Jr., for his 34 years of service in the U.S. Army. Bill has worked on behalf of our Nation as a civil servant, rising to chief counsel for the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, or ERDC. Throughout his career, he has displayed leadership, professionalism, initiative, and dedication. His accomplishments will have a significant and lasting impact on the Corps of Engineers' laboratory community, the Army, and our Nation. Today, in recognition of his retirement, I offer thanks and congratulations.

Prior to Bill's 22 years as counsel to the ERDC and Waterways Experiment Station, he served as assistant division counsel to the Lower Mississippi Valley Division and Corps of Engineers. He also worked for the Vicksburg District of the Corps as a trial attorney. In these capacities, Bill played an instrumental role in the successful execution of the command's missions, particularly regarding research and development. In fact, he is acknowledged as the Corps' leading legal authority in this mission area.

Bill's accomplishments do not end there. He has been recognized by chief counsels as an example for other legal managers in the command, including his selection as a charter member of the Chief Counsel's Managing Partners Group, board of directors. This group, comprised of senior Corps attorneys, is responsible for recommendations to improve the delivery of legal services. Bill's exceptional legal advice, acumen, and sound judgment were no doubt of immense value to this group.

Bill has also served as an advisor to the ERDC Installation Planning Board, ERDC Program Budget Advisory Committee, ERDC-Vicksburg Site Partnership Council, ERDC Special Recognition Committee, and ERDC Senior Anti-Terrorism Steering Committee. He is a member of the Federal Laboratory Consortium Legal Support Subcommittee and an active participant in the Department of Defense, DOD, Technology Transfer Integrated Project Team.

In 1999, Bill worked tirelessly in the reorganization of the Corps' laboratories to establish the ERDC. He helped develop plans, worked to implement them, and solved numerous leadership, administrative, labor-management, and legal challenges. In reviewing all aspects of the reorganization plans, he ensured that R&D leadership was advised of potential legal concerns and solutions through the process. Moreover, he effectively assumed leadership over the geographically dispersed and formerly independent legal assets of the Corps' laboratory system. Because of the legal team's substantial con-

tributions, ERDC's structure and operating mode have served as a model for delivery of legal services across the Corps.

Bill has always been a proven manager and adviser. In 1998, a new human resources system was instituted under one of nine congressionally authorized science and technology laboratory personnel management demonstration projects. Bill applied his leadership and legal experience to identifying the distinctions between the features of the project and the basic Federal personnel system. His advice was critical to implementation strategies and problem-solving during the transition.

Bill is the coauthor of the "Research & Development Partnering Handbook," a comprehensive guide that collected all R&D partnering authorities, pursuant to the Technology Transfer Act. He has assisted in the negotiation and resolution of complicated legal issues involving the licensing of ERDC-developed technologies. He also has played a key role in supporting ERDC's laboratories with the drafting and negotiating of domestic and international patent licenses, cooperative research and development agreements, education and interagency partnership agreements, and service agreements. These instruments have seen ERDC partner with State and local governments, other Federal agencies, colleges, universities, and private companies.

Since the early 1990s, Bill has also provided legal advice and assistance for the Department of Defense's High Performance Supercomputing Modernization Plan. He was essential to the establishment of DOD's first High Performance Computing Resource Center and recently addressed issues involving access to DOD's high performance supercomputing facilities.

In short, Bill has been vital to the Engineer Research and Development Center management team and its success. His friendly, outgoing personality only adds to his professionalism. On a personal note, I would add that he has been a close friend of mine for over four decades and his wife Dianne has been a lifelong friend. I wish them both the best in this new chapter of their lives.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING SUN WOO PARK

• Ms. AYOTTE. Madam President, today I wish to recognize Portsmouth resident grand master Sun Woo Park—an exceptional New Hampshire citizen who has devoted his life to teaching martial arts and serving his community.

Sun Woo Park immigrated to the United States from Korea in 1985. Shortly after settling in Portsmouth, he opened Park's Taekwondo School, a world-class taekwondo training center. In fact, Park's is one of the only

taekwondo schools in the world to have eight practicing Masters who learned under the same grand master.

During his nearly three decades of teaching taekwondo, thousands of seacoast area students have developed self-esteem, self-control, confidence, and fitness through studying the key elements of martial arts. Sun Woo Park even brought taekwondo to the University of New Hampshire, founding a taekwondo club there in 1995.

On June 16, 2000, Sun Woo Park proudly became a U.S. citizen. True citizenship means serving your country, your community, and your fellow citizens, and Sun Woo Park has done just that.

He is a founding member and the current president of the Korean American Society of New Hampshire. Every year since 1987, he has organized an event to honor the brave service and sacrifice of New Hampshire's Korean War veterans. He has even been honored by the President of the Republic of Korea, Noh Moo Hyun, for his service on behalf of Korean war veterans.

Sun Woo Park has also been quietly helping his local community in many other ways. He is held numerous fundraisers in support of the Saint Charles Children's Home in Rochester, NH, as well as many other local schools and nonprofits.

I am pleased to join the citizens of New Hampshire and all of grand master Sun Woo Park's students in wishing him all the best in his future endeavors. We thank him for his many years of teaching and service to the State of New Hampshire.●

TRIBUTE TO GARY FROST

• Ms. AYOTTE. Madam President, today I wish to recognize an outstanding New Hampshire citizen, Mr. Gary Frost. Gary will retire at the end of this year after serving as the CEO of the Boys and Girls Club of Manchester for 26 years.

Gary grew up in Keene and graduated from the University of New Hampshire. He has devoted his life to improving the lives of children and New Hampshire citizens in need. In his 37-year tenure at the Boys and Girls Club of Manchester, it has become a safe and welcoming place for Manchester's youth to study, play and find a hot meal.

When Gary first joined the organization, the club was housed in one building on the corner of Union and Lowell Streets in Manchester. One of his greatest accomplishments was spearheading the \$7.2 million dollar capital campaign to renovate and expand the Union Street Club House so that the organization could serve more children. Today, under Gary's capable leadership and steady hand, the Boys and Girls Club now extends across an entire city block and serves over 600 children a day.