

DHS, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the major wireless telecommunications providers.

Previously, weather emergency alerts from one of the 122 weather service offices around the country were emailed to the Washington, D.C. office and then forwarded to FEMA, which sent the alert to affected counties using television and radio broadcast technology. Cellular companies could independently text the warning information to their cell phone customers in the affected county, but the system was slow and too broadly targeted. The new weather alert system structures the information into concise messages—90 or fewer characters—and uses geo-targeted data to broadcast the messages rapidly over cell phones only in the affected areas.

The team worked with six of the largest cell phone companies to build the sophisticated technology needed to make the system work. They developed the infrastructure and protocol for the alerts, facilitated the decision-making for the weather alerts to be transmitted, and conducted extensive public awareness and educational programs. Mr. Bunge led the technical team, overseeing the software development, the data specialists, the coding, the host servers and other information technology needs, and helped create a system that targets the cell phone alerts to specific geographic locations. Mr. Gerber is a meteorologist and a specialist in how the weather service information is disseminated, and he played a critical role in making sure the right kind of weather alerts would be available and properly transmitted. He also is credited with convincing the wireless carriers to participate and make the needed investments. Mr. Paese handled many of the complicated management issues while Mr. Zwicker was involved in training some 2,000 weather forecasters in more than 122 offices around the country to use the system in coordination with Federal emergency management officials.

Here's an example of how effective the new system is: on July 1, 2013, a tornado obliterated a dome in East Windsor, CT, where 29 children had been playing soccer. Seconds before the tornado struck, a cell phone alert prompted the camp manager to rush the children out of the dome and into an adjacent building, preventing injuries and quite possibly fatalities.

DR. HYUN LILLEHOJ

The Agricultural Research Service—ARS—is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's USDA chief scientific in-house research agency, with headquarters colocated here in Washington, DC and in Beltsville, MD. The agency's job is “to find solutions to agricultural problems that affect Americans every day from field to table”. ARS conducts research to develop and transfer solutions to agricultural problems of high national priority and provide information access and dissemination to: ensure high-quality, safe food, and other

agricultural products; assess the nutritional needs of Americans; sustain a competitive agricultural economy; enhance the natural resource base and the environment; and provide economic opportunities for rural citizens, communities, and society as a whole.

Dr. Hyun Lillehoj, a senior research molecular biologist at ARS in Beltsville, is a finalist for the 2015 Career Achievement Medal. This medal recognizes a Federal employee for significant accomplishments throughout a lifetime of achievement in public service. Dr. Lillehoj has pioneered industry-leading research to improve the health of commercial poultry without the use of antibiotics, protecting consumers and making the U.S. poultry industry more competitive by saving it billions of dollars.

There is growing concern over the widespread use of antibiotics in poultry and other food industries, which health experts say contributes to the development of drug-resistant bacteria. These so-called “superbugs” infect hundreds of thousands and kill tens of thousands of Americans each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

During three decades as a molecular biologist at ARS, Dr. Lillehoj has helped mitigate the use of antibiotics in poultry, finding that certain food supplements, probiotics, and nutrients can replace antibiotics as an effective means of enhancing the immune system and fighting common parasitic diseases and bacterial infections. The USDA estimates that the poultry diseases Dr. Lillehoj is working to combat cause more than \$600 million in losses in the United States and \$3.2 billion worldwide.

Dr. Lillehoj has developed novel diagnostic and therapeutic products and discovered DNA markers for the genetic selection of disease-resistant chickens, paving the way for breeding healthier chickens that will benefit both consumers and the Nation's \$45 billion poultry industry. She has done this by creating one of the first gene libraries from commercial chickens and depositing more than 55,000 individual gene sequences from this database into the public domain, providing other researchers with information that could lead to breeding poultry with superior resistance to parasites. She also has identified natural antimicrobial molecules that have anti-cancer properties and kill infectious parasites; discovered a second-generation parasite vaccine with an improved protection profile over current vaccines; developed therapeutic antibodies that boost immunity for poultry; formulated health-promoting probiotics for veterinary use; and discovered organic, plant-derived herbal extracts and essential oils that fight infectious diseases affecting animals and humans. She is recognized as a world leader in understanding host-pathogen interactions of an avian parasite closely related to human malaria that is a major cause of disease

affecting poultry and livestock. She also has done original research on a bacterium that is one of the most common causes of food-borne illness in the U.S. Her scientific breakthroughs are documented in 10 U.S. and international patents, more than 350 peer-reviewed scientific papers, 14 book chapters, and 230 worldwide collaborations with academia, foreign governments and private industry. She has mentored more than 120 young scientists.

Dr. Lillehoj embodies the American Dream. She is from South Korea. She came to the United States in 1969 after her father died, when she was just out of high school, and with just \$200 in her pocket. At first, she wanted to be a cancer researcher, but her focus soon turned to immunology and she received a government scholarship. After she received her Ph.D., she went to work at the National Institutes of Health. USDA successfully recruited her in 1984, and she has been at ARS ever since. The government's investment in her has paid enormous dividends.

These are just a few of the Nation's talented, creative, dedicated, and hard-working Federal employees. I ask my colleagues and all Americans to join me in congratulating them on their successes and thanking them for their public service. We are a strong and prosperous Nation, in part, because of our Federal workforce. We cannot take it for granted.●

REMEMBERING BILL GALLAGHER

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, William “Bill” Gallagher Jr., was an incredible father, teacher, farmer, husband, and public servant who was called home on May 22 at the age of 55. I am also honored to have also called him a friend.

Bill earned his bachelor's degree from Western Montana College, which led him to Plains, MT as the high school's new history teacher. He later moved to Polson, where he worked in the insurance business. His career then led him to Helena, where he learned how to farm before going on to earn his law degree from the University of Montana Law School.

Bill was an accomplished attorney in Helena, but his heart for our State eventually led him to public service. As the former chairman of the Montana Public Service Commission, Bill worked tirelessly for the people of Montana. Because of his efforts, he helped Montana reacquire hydroelectric dams to bring good-paying jobs back to our State.

He has left an incredible mark on our State and will be truly missed by all who knew him. His wife Jennifer, and children David and Catrina, as well as his five grandchildren, are in my thoughts and prayers.●

CONGRATULATING LIEUTENANT COLONEL KEVIN KNUF

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today, I wish to congratulate Lt. Col. Kevin

Knuf on his retirement after nearly 32 years of service to the Nevada Air National Guard. It gives me great pleasure to recognize his years of dedication to protecting the United States of America and Nevada.

Lt. Col. Knuf enlisted on July 11, 1983, and was commissioned from the Academy of Military Science in Knoxville, TN. He most recently earned a degree from the School of Aerospace Medicine as a bioenvironmental engineer. He has been a great asset to the Nevada Air National Guard throughout his years, serving as deputy base civil engineer, base civil engineer, civil engineering squadron commander, and most recently as the officer in charge of the Bioenvironmental Engineering Flight and as the base environmental manager in the 152nd Medical Group of the Nevada Air National Guard. Throughout his service, Lieutenant Colonel Knuf deployed to Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and to Saudi Arabia in support of Operation Southern Watch. His selfless contribution to this country is invaluable.

Lieutenant Colonel Knuf's service to the United States of America earns him a place among the heroes who have so valiantly defended our Nation. I offer my greatest appreciation to Lieutenant Colonel Knuf for his courageous contributions to defending our freedom. Words could never fully express my deep appreciation for his sacrifice or for the sacrifices of all veterans and active military members across the country.

As a member of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, I recognize that Congress has a responsibility not only to honor these brave individuals who serve our Nation, but also to ensure they are cared for when they return home. I remain committed to upholding this promise for our veterans and servicemembers in Nevada and throughout the Nation. Lieutenant Colonel Knuf's sacrifice warrants only the greatest respect and care in return.

Lieutenant Colonel Knuf has demonstrated professionalism, commitment to excellence, and dedication to the highest standards of the Nevada Air National Guard. I am proud to call him a fellow Nevadan, and today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Lt. Col. Kevin Knuf for his years of service. I wish him well in all of his future endeavors.●

RECOGNIZING JUNE AND ROBERT SEBO

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize June and Robert Sebo for their generous contribution to Honor Flight Nevada, honoring their best friend, Ray Parks. Mr. Parks was a World War II veteran who served in the U.S. Coast Guard for well over 30 years. Mr. and Mrs. Sebos' contribution to this amazing organization is not only a grand gesture in memory of Mr. Park's service to our country, but also

a great gift to Nevada's heroes. The \$37,000 will send more than 30 veterans to visit our Nation's capital, giving them an opportunity to visit their memorials.

I would also like to recognize both Mayor Gino Martini and the City of Sparks for accommodating the Third Annual Honor Flight Pancake Breakfast, a great event that helps make Honor Flight Nevada possible. The annual pancake breakfast provides Nevadans with an opportunity to support their local veterans and help Honor Flight Nevada succeed. The generous donation of Mayor Martini and his wife, Ruth Martini, as well as their commitment to helping Honor Flight Nevada, are shining examples of the strength of our Nevada community. The breakfast could also not take place without the hard work of Teri Bath, who coordinates the entire event. I have had the privilege of attending this pancake breakfast, and I can say first hand her work with this organization is invaluable.

Honor Flight Nevada is a nonprofit organization committed to honoring the brave men and women who so valiantly defended our freedom. The organization sets up trips from Nevada to Washington, DC, providing our Nation's veterans with an incredible opportunity to visit the memorials honoring their service. From the National World War II Memorial, to the Korean War Veterans Memorial, to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, all the way to Arlington Cemetery, every veteran has the chance to see the memorials that stand as a testimony to the great sacrifice they have made.

The organization is led by Jon Yuspa, an individual who has truly impacted the lives of heroes across the State. Honor Flight Nevada offered its first trip to 30 World War II veterans in 2012 and now does as many as four trips per year. I have personally been at the Reno-Tahoe International Airport to send off the veterans as they prepare to depart from Nevada and have also met them in our Nation's capital as they observed the World War II Memorial. I can attest to the positive impact that accompanies their journey. This truly is a life-changing experience for those who deserve only the greatest gratitude for their service.

Honor Flight Nevada's mission is noble, and I thank everyone who contributed for their commitment and compassion to Nevada's veterans. Today, I ask my colleagues and all Nevadans to join me in recognizing the many Nevadans who make these trips possible, especially Mr. and Mrs. Sebo for their donation. I wish Honor Flight Nevada the best of luck in all of its future endeavors.●

TRIBUTE TO TELLIS JEROME CHAPMAN

● Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, I wish to recognize Rev. Dr. Tellis Jerome Chapman of Galilee Missionary Baptist

Church in Detroit, MI as the congregation and the broader community celebrate his 30th pastoral anniversary.

Born and raised in the State of Mississippi, Reverend Chapman is a graduate of Jackson State University and has received honorary doctoral degrees from Natchez College and Dallas Baptist College. Reverend Chapman has served as pastor in churches across the South. On March 31, 1985, Reverend Chapman was called to the pastorate of Galilee Missionary Baptist Church where he has been devoted to serving for the past 30 years. Through his charismatic and dynamic leadership he has left a permanent mark on the congregation and Greater Detroit community.

The congregation has steadily grown under Pastor Chapman's leadership. His original vision of a church with classrooms, a daycare, and a senior citizen building came to fruition in 1997. The purchase of the property located on East Outer Drive included 7 acres of land and a building that provided seating capacity for 1,000, with facilities to accommodate all of the church's ministries. The new edifice was inaugurated on Sunday May 31, 1998. Seven years later the church acquired adjacent property and a new building with a new edifice.

Reverend Chapman has been called many times to serve in a leadership capacity among his ministerial peers and with Christian associations. He was an advisor on the Faith-Based Advisory Board of Governor Jennifer Granholm, and currently works as a president of the Baptist Missionary and Educational State Convention of Michigan. He has served as vice moderator and vice president of the Michigan District Baptist Association and Congress of Michigan. Respected for his knowledge, he is well versed in parliamentary procedure and served as parliamentarian for the Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention of the State of Michigan.

Reverend Chapman has been involved in Detroit's recent growth and the development of mass transit through his work as a board member on the city of Detroit Department of Transportation Commission for several years. Reverend Chapman's community service is not without energetic and influential involvement. He is the founder and president of the Chapel Vision Community Development Corporation, serving greater southeast Detroit. He is also Founder and President of the Mid-West Community Development Corporation, serving greater southeastern Michigan.

Reverend Chapman's efforts, both at the pulpit and beyond, have been strengthened by the love and support of his wife Eunice, and their four children, Cecil, Brandie, Candace, and Brannon.

It is an honor to recognize the profound impact that Rev. Dr. Tellis Jerome Chapman has made on the congregation of Galilee Missionary Baptist Church for the last 30 years and the