

to try something new, Ashley embraced the opportunity wholeheartedly.

Ashley has achieved several impressive titles as a result of her hard work. Ashley is a three-time first place North Regional Champion, as well as the North Regional Most Outstanding Lifter on the light-weight platform. Additionally, Ashley broke the bench and deadlift records at North Regionals. Moreover, Ashley is a three-time first place Louisiana State Champion. Ashley has earned the Billy Jack Talton Award for Best Lifter in the State of Louisiana and has placed second at both the national meet in Killeen, TX, for 2013-2014 and the national meet in Milwaukee, WI, for 2014-2015.

On May 15, 2015, Ashley earned first place at the Men's and Women's Powerlifting National Meet in San Antonio, TX; Ashley's first place award qualified her to join TEAM USA and to compete at the International Powerlifting Federation, IPF, Championship held in Prague, Czech Republic, on August 28-September 6, 2015.

Talented competitors from 28 nations competed at the IPF Championship. Ashley rose to the challenge, receiving the gold medal in the 94.5 pound weight class for the Sub-Junior and Junior USA Team. Ashley earned the second place silver medal for squatting 275 pounds, the first place gold medal for benching 159.5 pounds, and the first place gold medal for deadlifting 326.5 pounds. Each lift event included three attempts. On Ashley's second attempt for the deadlift, she broke the world record by lifting 309.1 pounds; Ashley immediately broke this record on her third attempt by lifting 326.5 pounds, now the new world record. Ashley also set the new world record for total weight lifted, by lifting a combined 761 pounds during the squat, bench, and deadlift events.

Powerlifting is both physically and mentally demanding, but not insurmountable for Ashley, who finds support in God, her family, her coach, and her powerlifting team. Through blood, sweat, and tears, Ashley welcomes the challenges and celebrates how the sport teaches her about how to overcome life's obstacles.

Ashley Mitchell makes our community, State, and country very proud. Today I join my colleagues in honoring this young woman's tremendous effort and dedication.●

#### RECOGNIZING THE 366TH FIGHTER WING

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I wish to honor Mountain Home Air Force Base's 366th Fighter Wing, which recently earned the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. Congratulations to the skilled and dedicated men and women who serve in the 366th Fighter Wing for their outstanding service to our Nation.

The Outstanding Unit Award was created 61 years ago. According to the Air

Force Personnel Center, it is awarded by the Secretary of the Air Force to units that "distinguished themselves by exceptionally meritorious service or outstanding achievement."

The 366th FW earned the award for the period of June 1, 2014, to May 31, 2015, and is credited with 9,200 hours spent in the air. When making the nomination, U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Mark C. Nowland cited the fighter wing's "determination and relentless pursuit of excellence." He noted a number of the wing's accomplishments: the successful use of airpower during Republic of Korea theater security package operations; the Gunfighters expanded their airspace by 25 percent, supporting seven military branches from five countries during five major exercises; and the achievement of an impeccable personal training pass rate. Lieutenant General Nowland wrote, "Whether at home training for current and future contingencies or sending Airmen downrange to complete combat operations, the Gunfighters exemplify the Fly, Fight and Win ethos."

The more than 4,680 military and civilian members and approximately 4,590 family members of the 366th FW have a long history of excellence. It has been awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award 17 times, dating back to its accomplishments in 1966 and as recent as 2012. The work of the wing's servicemembers also earned Meritorious Unit Awards in both 2008 and 2009. These are just a few of its recognitions.

Various divisions of the wing have also received numerous awards. The wing's maintenance group was acknowledged as "Outstanding Maintenance Unit" for their efforts during a massive aerial combat training exercise at Nellis Air Force Base in Nevada. The 366th Security Forces Squadron was also named "Most Outstanding Security Forces Medium Unit in Air Combat Command." The 366th Force Support Squadron was selected as the best force support squadron in Air Combat Command, ACC, and the base's medical group is the top rated in ACC.

The commitment and dedication of the thousands of courageous and accomplished Americans who call Idaho home is beyond impressive. We are blessed to have many knowledgeable and brave individuals and their families protecting our Nation. I congratulate the 366th Fighter Wing on its many successes.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. DONALD WILLIAMSON

● Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure and the highest regard that I speak on the accomplishments of my valued constituent and friend, Dr. Donald Williamson. On October 31, 2015, Dr. Williamson concluded 23 years as Alabama's State health officer and 29 years of service in the Department of Public Health.

Dr. Williamson has served the public health community for more than 30

years, first in his home State of Mississippi and in Alabama since 1986. He began his career in Alabama as the director of the Division of Disease Control from 1986 to 1988. He then served as the director of the Bureau of Preventative Health Services from 1988 to 1992, when he was appointed as the State health officer and director of the Alabama Department of Public Health.

Dr. Williamson received his medical degree, cum laude, from the University of Mississippi School of Medicine and completed a residency in internal medicine at the University of Virginia Hospital.

His devotion to health and public service has been recognized on numerous occasions. He received the 2011 Nathan Davis Award from the AMA for outstanding public service by a career public servant at the State level; the 2009 Wallace Alexander Clyde Award from Children's Hospital; the 2000 Arthur T. McCormack Award from the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials for dedication and excellence in public health; the 1999 Theodore R. Ervin Award from the Public Health Foundation; and the 1999 Child Health Advocate Award from the American Academy of Pediatrics. He also was the recipient of the 1997 D.G. Gill Award from the Alabama Public Health Association for outstanding contribution to public health in Alabama and the 1998 Internist of the Year Award from the Alabama Society of Internal Medicine. In addition, he has held leadership roles in several national and State organizations, including the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials.

For the last 3 years, Dr. Williamson has held two of the largest jobs in State government, serving both as health officer and chairman of the Alabama Medicaid Transition Taskforce. Governor Robert Bentley appointed Dr. Williamson to serve as chairman of the transition taskforce at a time when the Medicaid Program was on the brink of failing.

During his tenure, All Kids, Alabama's public health insurance for children, was recognized nationally for its success in reducing the number of uninsured children. As the chairman of the Medicaid transition taskforce, he helped rescue the Alabama Medicaid Agency and restructured the Medicaid Program. Under his direction, the Medicaid Program will be transformed into Regional Care Organizations and Patient Care Networks. This new structure represents a shift from treating an illness or injury to focusing on overall health and well-being and will lead to improved health outcomes for many Alabamians.

Dr. Williamson has demonstrated the ability to find solutions for seemingly insurmountable challenges and has been a calm, strong voice of reason and common sense in the most difficult of times. Throughout his career, he continued to find new ways of making Medicaid work for its patients and the physicians who treat them.

However, it is good to note that this is not the end of Dr. Williamson's healthcare service. He will become the CEO and president of the Alabama Hospital Association in November. His tremendous knowledge of health care will continue to be a valuable resource to Alabama and to this critically important organization.

I have known this able, energetic leader for many years. I share the views of the great majority of health professionals that he is a treasure for Alabama and the Nation. No one was surprised and all were pleased when Governor Bentley asked him to take over as chairman of the Medicaid transition taskforce at a truly critical time. His reputation throughout the State, the awards he has received, and the sustained effort he has given for the betterment of the health of all Alabamians, especially the poor, truly sets him apart and makes him worthy of the highest accolades.

In light of these and all of his many accomplishments, I want to congratulate him on his outstanding career and to wish him the very best in his next important and challenging endeavor.●

#### RECOGNIZING DONG PHUONG BAKERY & RESTAURANT

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, Louisianians share a long history of triumph and resilience over hardship, and as a result, folks from all backgrounds pursue the American Dream with dedication and commitment. This is particularly true of the Vietnamese community and local small businesses in southeast Louisiana who came together to rebuild New Orleans East after Hurricane Katrina. In honor of National Women's Small Business Month, I am proud to recognize Dong Phuong Bakery & Restaurant of New Orleans, LA, as this week's Small Business of the Week.

Amidst an intense postwar political climate following the end of the Vietnam war, De and Huong Tran immigrated to the United States in 1980 in search of a more peaceful life and greater opportunities for their young family. The Trans and their three young children settled in an area with a fast-growing Vietnamese presence, the Versailles neighborhood of New Orleans. Shortly after settling into their new community, De enrolled at the University of New Orleans and found work at a local grocery store. Given De's busy class and work schedule, Huong cared for the young Tran children as they adjusted to their new home and culture. Searching for ways to reconnect with her beloved Vietnamese culture and provide extra income for her young family, Huong drew from her past working in her father's bakery in Vietnam and began baking a variety of Vietnamese delicacies, selling them to friends, family, and local shops in her community. Realizing they had a hit, Huong and De opened the Dong Phuong Oriental Bakery in

1981, selling traditional Vietnamese pastries and items with a French flair.

During the rebuilding process after Hurricane Katrina, De and Huong Tran provided support and hope to their community, and today the Dong Phuong Bakery & Restaurant remains in their original location in the Vietnamese neighborhood of Versailles, operating out of a 4,000-square-foot restaurant space. Now under the ownership of Huong Tran and Linh Tran Garza, the bakery continues to prepare and sell traditional French-Vietnamese cuisine, as well as their beloved fresh French bread to restaurants and customers across south Louisiana.

Congratulations again to Dong Phuong Bakery & Restaurant for being Small Business of The Week and to Huong and Linh for their praiseworthy entrepreneurial spirit and for setting an example for women entrepreneurs across the Nation.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH J. COX

● Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Mr. President, it is with gratitude and appreciation that I congratulate Joseph J. Cox of Virginia on his retirement as president and chief executive officer of the Chamber of Shipping of America.

Upon graduating from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy in 1967, Mr. Cox served honorably as a deck officer on commercial ships in the Vietnam war. He worked for 8 years at the U.S. Department of Labor in the Marine Standards Office. In 1981, he joined the Chamber of Shipping of America, the association of American ship owners, operators, and charterers. He rose to president and CEO and led the organization from 1997 until his retirement earlier this year.

Mr. Cox is widely respected as a valued representative of the American maritime community. He has actively advocated for domestic legislation and regulation to advance the interests of the shipping and maritime industry. He has participated in the development of transnational treaties at the International Maritime Organization and the International Labor Organization.

At the helm of the Chamber of Shipping of America, he elevated the nearly 100-year-old association to its respected status in the global maritime community. He will continue to serve as an adviser to the organization.

I thank Joe Cox for his decades of service to his country and to the maritime trades, and I wish him and his family smooth sailing on the next leg of their voyage.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Mrs. Neimann, one of his secretaries.

#### PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

NOTIFICATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S INTENT TO TERMINATE THE DESIGNATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF BURUNDI AS A BENEFICIARY SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN COUNTRY UNDER THE AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT (AGOA), RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE ON OCTOBER 30, 2015—PM 31

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message from the President of the United States which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

In accordance with section 506A(a)(3)(B) of the African Growth and Opportunity Act, as amended (AGOA) (19 U.S.C. 2466a(a)(3)(B)), I am providing notification of my intent to terminate the designation of the Republic of Burundi (Burundi) as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country under AGOA.

I am taking this step because I have determined that the Government of Burundi has not established or is not making continual progress toward establishing the rule of law and political pluralism, as required by the AGOA eligibility requirements outlined in section 104 of the AGOA (19 U.S.C. 3703). In particular, the continuing crackdown on opposition members, which has included assassinations, extra-judicial killings, arbitrary arrests, and torture, have worsened significantly during the election campaign that returned President Nkurunziza to power earlier this year. In addition, the Government of Burundi has blocked opposing parties from holding organizational meetings and campaigning throughout the electoral process. Police and armed youth militias with links to the ruling party have intimidated the opposition, contributing to nearly 200,000 refugees fleeing the country since April 2015. Accordingly, I intend to terminate the designation of Burundi as a beneficiary sub-Saharan African country under AGOA as of January 1, 2016.

BARACK OBAMA.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, October 30, 2015.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

##### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 6, 2015, the Secretary of the Senate, on November 2, 2015, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MESSER) had signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 623. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Department of Homeland Security to establish a social media working group, and for other purposes.