

on to work at Marshall Space Flight Center in 1960. She continued her work there until retiring in 2012.

Mrs. Ann McNair has earned many recognitions and made history throughout her career, among them being the first female supervisor in engineering at Marshall. She was awarded the Team Redstone Women's History Award and the Technology Award for Women Honoring Women from the Women's Economic Development Council. Ann received the Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Executives in 2009, which is the highest honor a Federal employee can receive. The Alabama Senate also commended her in 2009 for her outstanding professional achievement during her 50 years of NASA service. Other noteworthy recognitions include the Outstanding Leadership Medal for leading the Mission Operations Laboratory, the NASA Exception Achievement Medal, and two NASA Exceptional Service Medals.

Ann's contributions to NASA and Marshall Space Flight Center are truly exceptional. I am proud to take this time to recognize her service to the State, as well as to the Nation. Her achievements and dedication to advancing the industry have made a lasting impact. I join Ann McNair's friends, family, and former colleagues in recognizing her wonderful career, and I thank her for her commitment to Alabama.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO LOIS BOUTON

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Lois Bouton, a WWII veteran who honorably served her country and has inspired generations of members of the U.S. Coast Guard with her letters. I am pleased to recognize this remarkable Arkansan as she celebrates her 100th birthday.

Lois has spent her life serving among and connecting with members of the Coast Guard—first, as a member of the SPARs, the Woman's Reserve of the U.S. Coast Guard, and then as a visitor to patients—especially members of the Coast Guard at Naval Station Great Lakes Hospital—and now through the letters she diligently writes to USCG members across the country which earned her the nickname the Coast Guard Lady.

"I like to write letters," Lois said during an interview my staff conducted with her for the Veterans History Project. In the decades since she started outreach to coasties through the mail, she has written nearly 50,000 letters.

In the early 1970s, the Boutons retired to northwest Arkansas. That is when her outreach to coasties began to take off. She started writing to Coast Guard units in Alaska, and soon, she had the directory with addresses of units across the country.

While far from the coast, her Rogers, AR, home is a museum of Coast Guard

memorabilia. Her collection includes the Meritorious Public Service Award she received from the Commandant of the Coast Guard, the second highest civilian award issued by the Coast Guard. In 2013, she was named an honorary chief petty officer.

Her love and appreciation for the Coast Guard is unmatched as demonstrated by her decades-long practice of correspondence to show her support for the men and women who wear the Coast Guard uniform. She is well-known among members of the Coast Guard and receives hundreds of letters and cards from them in return. She continues to serve as an inspiration for others and is widely admired for her service to our country, the men and women of the Coast Guard, and veterans across the Nation.

I want to thank the Coast Guard Lady, Lois Bouton, for her service and continued support of the U.S. Coast Guard and wish her a very happy 100th birthday.●

TRIBUTE TO ANNELIESE SATZ

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I congratulate U.S. Marine Capt. Anneliese Satz, of Boise, ID, on her many achievements, including being the first woman to fly the F-35 fighter jet for the U.S. Marine Corps. Above all, I thank Captain Satz for her service to our Nation.

In June, Captain Satz became the first female marine to complete the F-35B basic course. Before she joined the Marines, she earned her commercial pilots license flying helicopters. I understand Captain Satz has been assigned to her first operational unit: The Green Knights of Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 121 in Iwakuni, Japan.

My home State of Idaho is full of trailblazers. Among them are the women who are leaders, innovators and architects of a new reality where the "first woman to . . ." is rightfully becoming a descriptor of the past. Captain Satz is a courageous marine fighter jet pilot. She is also a groundbreaker who worked hard to complete her training and prepare for her service ahead.

Thank you, Anneliese, for your service to our country and for your hard work and great leadership. Your preparation and diligence are commendable. You are showing young Americans and adults alike through your example of dedication and proficiency that high goals are achievable.●

TRIBUTE TO JANE WITTMAYER

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I congratulate Jane Wittmeyer, who is retiring after a more than 40-year career in Federal, State, agricultural, and natural resources policy work.

Jane has provided knowledgeable, helpful, and insightful counsel to many throughout her decades of dedicated service. Jane managed my Washington, DC, office, for 4 years during my time

serving in the U.S. House of Representatives. She brought with her the experience she gained working previously for two former U.S. Senators for Idaho, Senators Steve Symms and James McClure, and serving in positions at the U.S. Department of Agriculture, USDA. Her work at USDA included serving as Deputy Manager for USDA's Federal Crop Insurance Corporation. Jane was invaluable in helping me get started in Congress. She came aboard to run my DC office at the beginning of my tenure in the U.S. House of Representatives. Her knowledge and understanding of the procedures, policies, and politics in Congress were useful, as I, as a freshman in the minority, worked to best represent Idaho. She had a deep understanding of Idaho through her previous work for Senators McClure and Symms, and I always knew I could count on her advice and opinions to help me make good decisions on legislation and other matters. Jane left my office to return to Idaho and join the Intermountain Forest Association.

Most recently, for the past 15 years, Jane has operated her own government affairs firm, Wittmeyer and Associates, assisting many in the timber, agricultural, and other related industries. Jane is direct and personable. She recognizes the great value in and makes use of bringing multiple perspectives to the table to advance a common cause. She has lent her energy and expertise into getting countless things done for Idahoans and others. I have been one of the lucky people to benefit greatly from having Jane on my team. Her thoughtful guidance is a true asset.

I understand that in retirement, Jane plans to find something she can do to help people in addition to traveling and spending time with family and friends. That does not surprise me. Jane has dedicated much of her time to helping others, through identifying solutions, providing experienced advocacy on their behalf, assisting with navigating State and Federal policies, and more. Thank you, Jane, for your outstanding work and friendship all these years. Congratulations on an exemplary career. I wish you all the best for a retirement filled with great happiness you so deeply deserve.●

TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN MIKE VITALI

• Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay special tribute to an exceptional officer of the U.S. Navy, CAPT Mike Vitali. Captain Vitali currently serves as the senior military adviser for the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense Integration and Defense Support for Civil Authorities and will be released from Active Duty after more than 24 years of active military service on October 1, 2019. As a native of Maple Heights, OH, it is my distinct privilege to recognize his storied career.

CAPT Mike Vitali began his naval career as a midshipman in the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps at Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN. Captain Vitali was commissioned as an ensign upon his graduation from Purdue in 1994 and then went to the Pensacola, FL, where he earned his naval flight officer wings of gold on August 16, 1996.

As a newly minted naval flight officer, Mike earned his initial qualifications in the S-3B Viking at Sea Control Squadron Forty-One, VS-41, and then joined the VS-35 Blue Wolves at Naval Air Station North Island in San Diego, CA. Captain Vitali went on to complete two deployments aboard the USS *Abraham Lincoln* in support of Operations SOUTHERN WATCH and DESERT FOX in the skies over Iraq. In October 2000, he returned to VS-41 as an instructor where he trained replacement pilots and navigators in S-3B operations and tactics. As a result of the Viking Sundown program, Captain Vitali led the fleet's transition program and completed training in the P-3C Orion at Patrol Squadron Thirty, VP-30, in Jacksonville, FL. He completed tours with the VP-16 War Eagles in Jacksonville and VP-4 Skinny Dragons in Kaneohe Bay, HI, where he conducted antisubmarine, maritime interdiction, counterdrug, and counterterrorism operations while deployed to Sicily, Djibouti, El Salvador, the Philippines, and Okinawa.

From 2008-2010, he served at the U.S. Special Operations Command, where he coordinated the update of SOCOMs memorandums of agreement with the military departments. On May 25, 2012, he assumed command of the VP-45 Pelicans in Jacksonville, FL, and successfully led the squadron through a rigorous work-up cycle and SEVENTH Fleet Deployment to Okinawa where the squadron supported 17 detachments and logged over 3,200 flight hours.

After command, Captain Vitali reported to the Navy Office of Legislative Affairs, serving as Deputy Director of the Senate Liaison Office, where he supported several of my colleagues and their staffs on congressional delegations around the world. In May 2015, Captain Vitali reported to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs, serving as the Director of Senate Affairs advising the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs on all matters pertaining to the U.S. Senate, especially the confirmation process. He was directly responsible for the Senate confirmation of 68 Presidentially appointed civilian positions within the Department of Defense across two administrations to include the Secretary of Defense, Deputy Secretary of Defense, three Service Secretaries, four Under Secretaries to the Office of the Secretary of Defense, three Service Under Secretaries, and numerous Assistant Secretaries of Defense. His solid relationships and unmatched credibility with senior officials were indis-

pensable in maintaining a high level of support and dialogue with Senators and their staffs.

Throughout his career, Captain Vitali has logged over 2,570 flight hours and 267 carrier landings.

I ask that you join me, our colleagues, and CAPT Mike Vitali's family and friends in saluting this distinguished officer's many contributions and sacrifices in defense of our great Nation. It is fitting that the Senate today publicly recognizes his service and wishes him, his wife Tracy, and their children Gabrielle, Isabella, and Michael health, happiness, and success in the years to come. Congratulations, Captain Vitali, on completing an exceptional and exemplary career.●

RECOGNIZING BIOLOGIQ

● Mr. RISC. Mr. President, It is easy for me to brag about Idaho's small businesses because they are consistently making national news for their innovative ideas. Just last month, the Office of Advocacy announced Idaho ranked third in the Nation for the fastest growth of small businesses, creating jobs and economic opportunity across the State in 2018. Globally, Idaho is renowned for our "Famous Idaho Potatoes," and recently, Idahoans have begun using their vast knowledge of the potato to innovate. As a result, new market-altering products are emerging, such as BioLogiQ, Inc.'s sustainable bioplastic resin. As a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, it is my pleasure to recognize BioLogiQ, Inc., as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for September 2019.

BioLogiQ of Idaho Falls was founded in 2011 by an Idaho native, Brad LaPray. Like so many Idahoans, LaPray spent a lot of his youth playing and working outdoors and developed a passion for nature and the agriculture industry. He moved away for a while and developed an interest in bioplastics, but eventually came back home to Idaho where he saw an opportunity to use his interest in bioplastics and his passion for the agriculture industry to create a business. LaPray understood that a percentage of all potatoes is turned into starch and not used for human consumption. His company, BioLogiQ, uses excess potato starch to create a sustainable bioplastic resin.

LaPray created BioLogiQ to provide people with environmentally friendly plastic products made from renewable resources and reduce plastic waste globally. As stated on their company's website, "BioLogiQ, Inc. is a plant-based manufacturer focused on bringing sustainable packaging solutions to brand owners, retailers, and the plastics industry. Using its proprietary process, BioLogiQ's makes a low moisture content plasticized starch resin pellet called NuPlastiQ. We make NuPlastiQ in pellet form so plastic product manufacturers can use them

like other traditional plastic resin pellets using their standard production equipment. BioLogiQ's NuPlastiQ pellets are designed to be blended with conventional petroleum-resin pellets to make BioBlends that increase the sustainability of all plastic products." NuPlastiQ technology makes it possible to reduce the thickness of plastic bags and is most widely seen in TaterMade Bags at retailers such as Walmart and Sam's Club.

Through their hard work, expertise, and desire to make a difference, BioLogiQ is now an industry-leading sustainable bioplastic resin provider. BioLogiQ is reshaping the bioplastic market, and I have full faith they will continue to be successful. I would like to extend my sincerest congratulations to Brad LaPray and all of the employees at BioLogiQ, Inc., for being selected as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for September 2019. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to watching your continued growth and success.●

REMEMBERING DR. THOMAS MOSS

● Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina. Mr. President, today I would like to take a moment to recognize and honor the life of Dr. Thomas Moss, a great South Carolinian who touched the hearts and minds of countless people across our State. While Dr. Moss passed away in 2004, his legacy lives on today in many ways and deserves to be honored still.

Dr. Moss was an Orangeburg, S.C., native and attended Morris College in Sumter before being drafted into the U.S. Army to serve in the Korean war. He was a lifelong advocate for education and civil rights and devoted his life to the betterment of his community and State. He was truly a servant leader, and in every capacity he held, he worked tirelessly to make life better for everyone around him.

At the age of 41, Dr. Moss became the first African-American staffer in the South Carolina congressional delegation and one of the few in Congress as a whole. He served as a field representative for U.S. Sen. Strom Thurmond for 30 years, during which he was a strong voice for education, civil right, and social justice.

Dr. Moss has been recognized through countless awards and honors, including the NAACP Freedom Fighter Award, the United States Senate Loyal Service Award, and the Order of the Palmetto. His legacy lives on today through the Thomas Moss Civic Leadership Award, through the portion of Highway 301 in Orangeburg that bears his name, and through the hearts of every South Carolinian whose life he helped improve.

Dr. Moss's integrity, dedication, and commitment should serve to inspire us all, even today. He will not soon be forgotten, and I am certain our State will benefit from his labors and accomplishments for years to come.●