

Washingtonian, Mr. Shannon McDaniel, on his well-deserved retirement on October 29, 2010, after 30 years of dedicated service to Washington State agriculture.

As the manager of the South Columbia Basin Irrigation District, Mr. McDaniel has overseen the provision of water to 4,000 landowners and farm operators on 230,000 acres of farm and ranch lands in eastern Washington. Through his leadership and extensive knowledge of irrigated agriculture, Mr. McDaniel has brought certainty to many farmers in the South Columbia Basin Irrigation District by closely and responsibly managing important water delivery infrastructure.

Mr. McDaniel has assisted me and my colleagues in Congress with the drafting and passage of legislation important to Washington State farmers. He worked closely with both the State and Federal Government to foster strong working relationships with organizations such as the Bureau of Reclamation and the Bonneville Power Administration, as well as with numerous water resource and industry associations to ensure the highest quality of service to farmers and ranchers. Shannon also served as an invaluable resource to the Grand Coulee Project Hydroelectric Authority, the Columbia Basin Development League and the Columbia Basin Project.

The abundance of awards and honors that Mr. McDaniel has received demonstrate his hard work and commitment to Washington State. He has received many prestigious awards including, the National Water Resources Association President's Award, the Washington State Water Resources Association Water Resources Leadership Award and the Bonneville Power Administration's Administrator's Excellence Award for Exceptional Public Service.

On behalf of all Washingtonians, I commend Shannon for his many years of dedicated service to our State. His knowledge, experience, and commitment to dependable irrigation will be sorely missed. I congratulate Shannon and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.●

NEW HAMPSHIRE 2010 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL AWARD WINNERS

●Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate the Bath Village School and the Hollis/Brookline High School, respectively, for being recognized for their commitment to quality education and the outstanding educational achievements of their students. The Bath Village School and the Hollis/Brookline High School have been designated as 2010 National Blue Ribbon schools, one of the most prestigious honors bestowed upon our Nation's elementary, middle, and high schools.

Each year the Blue Ribbon Schools Program acknowledges exceptional public and private schools whose stu-

dents either perform at a high level or achieve significant improvements in performance having come from disadvantaged backgrounds. Blue Ribbon schools stand out among their peers as examples of excellence in K-12 education. By setting high academic goals and enabling students to attain them, the Bath Village School and the Hollis/Brookline High School have opened up a world of academic and professional opportunities for the next generation of young people.

It is important that we celebrate the efforts of teachers and administrators at schools such as the Bath Village School and the Hollis/Brookline High School and recognize the invaluable contribution they have made to the lives of New Hampshire's children. I am extremely proud that the Bath Village School and the Hollis/Brookline High School have each been honored with this prestigious award.●

RECOGNIZING DARLING'S AUTO

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, our Nation's 27.5 million small businesses all have their own unique characteristics and touching stories. Today, I rise to recognize the contributions of one of those small businesses from my home State of Maine—Darling's Auto that not only has provided exceptional service to greater Bangor but has also invested its time and heart into the community itself.

Darling's Auto has been ingrained in Bangor since 1903, when it first began selling cars, trucks, and bicycles. Over a century later, through hard work and care for the customer, Darling's Auto has become one of Maine's largest auto dealership groups, with additional locations in Brewer, Ellsworth, and Augusta. For over 100 years, Darling's Auto has provided Mainers with the vehicles they use every day to go to work, visit their loved ones, and embark on new journeys. Over the years, Darling's has employed hundreds of Mainers and has earned a reputation of excellence and integrity throughout eastern and central Maine.

Darling's Auto's rich history of perseverance and innovation alone would merit distinction. Yet, today, I honor Darling's Auto for an exemplary and magnanimous gesture that is truly inspirational. Maine is among the States with the highest percentage of military servicemembers per capita. When our servicemembers are deployed, the effects reverberate throughout families, businesses, and communities. Fortunately, Mainers have a reputation for taking care of one another in difficult times, and Darling's Auto certainly has fit that mold.

One of Darling's Auto's valued employees, Susan Maiden, is the mother of PFC Andrew "Andy" Chic. Susan typifies Maine's famed work ethic and independent spirit, values which she instilled in her son. Andy volunteered to join the National Guard and most recently was deployed to Afghanistan

with Bravo Company, Third Battalion of the 172nd Infantry Division with the Maine National Guard. During his heroic service in Afghanistan, Andy's company was ambushed by insurgents.

On May 22, 2010, Bravo Company was conducting convoy operations with Private First Class Chic in the "gunner" position in the lead vehicle of a convoy—a Mine Resistant, Ambush Protected—MRAP—vehicle. Private First Class Chic's MRAP sustained two direct hits from rocket-propelled grenades, or RPGs, and other small arms weapons. While he was knocked down when the first RPG hit, he resumed his gunner position and returned fire against insurgents despite continuing RPG and small arms fire against his MRAP and the convoy. The vehicle was also carrying satchels of mail and care packages from family members in Maine, which absorbed some of the shrapnel and mitigated the injuries to Private First Class Chic and his fellow soldiers.

Following the barbaric attack, Andy was taken to Walter Reed Medical Center to address his wounds and for rehabilitation. Knowing the concern and anxiousness any mother would have in Susan's situation, Darling's Auto stood up and gave assistance to Susan. The company has provided tremendous support to Susan during her time of need by giving her extra time off to see Andy and even purchasing an EZ Pass to help with Susan's expenses when she would drive all the way to Washington, DC, to visit her son. In light of Darling's Auto's understanding and assistance, the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve will soon be presenting Darling's Auto with its "Above and Beyond Award," honoring those who help Guard members and Reservists, and their families, in times of need. Given the tremendous care and compassion extended for Susan and Andy's well-being, I can think of no business more deserving of this tremendous recognition than Darling's.

Darling's Auto has been a consistent presence in the Bangor community for over a century, and the company has thrived over that time because it operates in a manner consistent with Maine values. Darling's has treated its customers and employees with honesty, respect, and compassion, building a legacy of trust. I am so often reminded of the empathy that Mainers demonstrate, and it always reaffirms my belief in the exceptional nature of our State and our Nation. I am proud of the incredible example that Darling's Auto has set by its notable acts of kindness, and I wish the company another 100 years of success in all of its endeavors.●

RECOGNIZING 3RD RECON ASSOCIATION

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 3rd Recon Association. The 3rd Recon Association is a nonprofit veteran's organization made

up of marines and Navy corpsmen who served in the 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, in dedication to their involvement in the Republic of Vietnam from 1961 through 1971. The 3rd Recon Association was formed to honor the brotherhood they forged in Vietnam and to remember those who gave the ultimate sacrifice.

Today I not only honor the dedication and sacrifice of these noble Americans, but also commemorate their association's 2010 Reunion, to be held October 13-17, in Lead/Deadwood, SD. "Swift, Silent, and Deadwood" is an event properly named after the reconnaissance motto "Celer-Silens-Mortalis": "Swift-Silent-Deadly." This 4 day event will feature memorial services and social events, along with company and auxiliary meetings.

I voice my most heartfelt and sincere thanks to the members of the 3rd Recon Association for their sacrifice and service to our country. I would like to welcome them to the great State of South Dakota, and wish them the best for their 2010 reunion and in all future endeavors.●

SOUTH DAKOTA AIR NATIONAL GUARD'S 114TH FIGHTER WING

● Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the South Dakota Air National Guard's 114th Fighter Wing. This elite group has been awarded the National Guard Bureau's Maj. Gen. Winston P. Wilson trophy, honoring them as the best Air National Guard fighter unit in the Nation. I am proud that the 114th "Fightin' Lobos" have brought this great honor back to South Dakota, having also won it in 1981, 1983, and 2007.

The National Bureau's Maj. Gen. Winston P. Wilson trophy is given to the most outstanding unit equipped with jet fighter or reconnaissance aircraft. The award is named for a former chief of the National Guard Bureau credited with ensuring readiness of Guard units to join regular forces on overseas missions.

The squadron was formed in 1946, when Joseph J. "Joe" Foss, a Medal of Honor winner and Marine Ace, was appointed to form a South Dakota Air National Guard squadron to help recruit and train flight crews. Since then, the unit has served as part of the Air Expeditionary Force, and actively supported Operation Noble Eagle, Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom, and the global war on terrorism.

In times of local crisis, the squadron has lent its men and women to respond to blizzards, floods, fires, and tornados, remaining "Proud, Prepared, and Professional" in its committed service to state and country.

Today I give great thanks to the men and women of the 114th "Fightin' Lobos" for being named the top fighter unit in the nation and for their outstanding service to the great State of South Dakota and the United States of America.

UNIVERSITY CORPORATION FOR ATMOSPHERIC RESEARCH

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, today I congratulate the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research—UCAR—on the 50th anniversary of its founding in Boulder, CO. As the world's premier atmospheric science hub, UCAR has been on the cutting edge of research and innovation for half a century. They have made invaluable contributions to our knowledge and understanding of the world's atmosphere and weather and climate systems.

At its inception, UCAR was a consortium of 14 universities dedicated to the simple hypothesis that university atmospheric science could be more effective through collaborative efforts. UCAR set about improving national coordination, funding, and basic support for the then burgeoning field of atmospheric research.

Since then, with invaluable Federal support from the National Science Foundation, UCAR has grown to a consortium of 75 universities, including the University of Colorado, Colorado State University, and the University of Denver. Similarly, the National Center for Atmospheric Research, NCAR, which is the research institute operated by UCAR, has grown from five full-time scientists to 220 Ph.D. researchers today.

UCAR established three main goals for itself in order to understand the behavior of the atmosphere and related physical, biological and social systems. These goals remain at the heart of their efforts today.

First, NCAR was to be an intellectual center cultivating world-class basic science in-house and through cooperative work with scientists from other institutions in the United States, Canada, and abroad.

Second, UCAR was to become a planning center where the world's leading atmospheric science experts could gather to discuss and determine the most promising strategies for understanding the major problems of atmospheric science.

Lastly, UCAR would provide and operate the research facilities needed for atmospheric science when those facilities were too large, expensive, or complicated for a single university or research institution to manage by itself.

By meeting these goals every day, UCAR has made itself an undeniable global leader in climate science.

As you drive west on U.S. Highway 36 near Louisville, CO, you start to climb Davidson Mesa. Just as you crest the mesa, you come upon an extraordinary scene: the foothills of the Rocky Mountains stretched out on the horizon before you with the city of Boulder below. Off to your left, perched on a hilltop beneath the majestic Flatirons, is UCAR's Mesa lab, housed in a pink sandstone, I.M. Pei-designed building. This sight never ceases to impress. That you are looking at the world's leading atmospheric research center is even more astounding.

I am proud to represent a State with such a talented and dedicated organization. They have helped make Colorado a leader in science and technology. They have been instrumental in educating the public on the science of climate change and informing our response to it. And they are helping create and inspire the next generations of scientists and engineers to tackle the unanswered questions of their time.

Again, I offer my sincere congratulations to UCAR and look forward to the next 50 years of discovery.●

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4673. Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. TESTER, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. GOODWIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3454, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2011 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4674. Mr. INOUE proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 3081, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2011, and for other purposes.

SA 4675. Mr. LEMIEUX (for himself and Mr. NELSON of Florida) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 3081, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4676. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4674 proposed by Mr. INOUE to the bill H.R. 3081, *supra*.

SA 4677. Mr. DEMINT proposed an amendment to amendment SA 4674 proposed by Mr. INOUE to the bill H.R. 3081, *supra*.

SA 4678. Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3663, to promote clean energy jobs and oil company accountability, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4679. Mr. WYDEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3663, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4680. Mr. WYDEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3454, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2011 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4681. Mr. WYDEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3813, to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to establish a Federal renewable electricity standard, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4682. Mr. INOUE proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 3081, making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2011, and for other purposes.

SA 4683. Mr. REID (for Mr. DEMINT) proposed an amendment to the resolution of ratification for Treaty Doc. 110-21, Hague Convention on the International Recovery of Child Support and Other Forms of Family Maintenance, adopted at The Hague on November 23, 2007, and signed by the United States on that same date.