

provide no money and no staff but a lot of obstruction." The bicentennial commission was tasked with commemorating a significant moment in both U.S. and Louisiana history. Under Henson Moore's leadership, that mission was achieved.

I would like to honor and congratulate Henson for his work on both the bicentennial commission and for his service to our country and the State of Louisiana.

TRIBUTE TO DR. GEORGE E. KELLER II

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. President, it is my honor today to recognize Dr. George E. Keller II for his outstanding achievements in the areas of engineering, innovation, and leadership. Dr. Keller was born and raised in Charleston, WV, and has a bachelor's degree from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and a master's degree and Ph.D. in chemical engineering from Pennsylvania State University. Dr. Keller's wisdom is evidenced in his personal life as he has been married to his wife, Judy Keller, for decades, allowing for his legacy to live on through his many children and grandchildren.

Dr. Keller served as a lecturer in President Eisenhower's "Atoms for Peace Program" in Chemical and Nuclear Engineering from 1958 to 1959. He went on to have an illustrious and highly accomplished 36-year career at the Union Carbide Corporation in research and development at the South Charleston Technical Center and achieved national and international accolades for pioneering contribution in separation science, reaction engineering, catalysis, and novel process technology development.

After retiring from the Union Carbide Corporation, Dr. Keller became the cofounder and vice president of New Carbon, LLC, with the purpose of commercializing various aspects of the WVU Chemical Engineering Department's coal to advanced carbon products programs. Dr. Keller also inspired leadership under the BIDCO organization for local economic development, which ultimately led to the birth of the Mid-Atlantic Technology Research & Innovation Center, MATRIC, Inc., in 2003. Dr. Keller served as MATRIC vice chairman until 2014, as well as MATRIC's chief engineer. He currently serves on the MATRIC board of directors and continues service as the company's chief engineer.

In 1988, Dr. Keller was elected to the National Academy of Engineering, NARE, for his invention and insightful analysis of novel separation processes. Recently, Dr. Keller was recognized as "one of the nation's top 100 chemical engineers of the modern era" by the premier industry association, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, AIChE.

He is a recipient of many prestigious awards including the Chemical Pioneer Award by the American Institute of

Chemists for his breakthrough work in long-range hydrocarbon technology, as well as the Institute Lecture Award, the Clarence Gerhold Award, and the Institute Award for Excellence in Industrial Gases Technology, all awarded by the AIChE. The Chemical Engineering Magazine awarded Dr. Keller's team with the Kirkpatrick Honor Award for the most innovative chemical technology successfully commercialized in the world: development of highly efficient pressure-swing parametric pumping for gas-gas separations. Pennsylvania State University also awarded Dr. Keller with the Outstanding Engineering Alumnus Award in 1989.

Dr. George Keller has coauthored and edited more than 35 publications in refereed journals and is the coauthor of two major books in the area of industrial separations. He also holds 21 U.S. patents in key technologies. Dr. Keller has lectured at more than 30 universities around the world and has served as chairman for many prestigious international conferences. At West Virginia University, Dr. Keller serves as chair of the visiting committee of the College of Engineering and Mineral Resources, as well as a longtime member of the visiting committees of several chemical engineering departments at WVU, Virginia Tech, Penn State, University of Wisconsin, University of Texas, and University of Virginia. He has also served on the National Research Council's board on chemical science and technology, BCST, and as an adjunct professor of chemical engineering at WVU and Virginia Tech.

In addition to Dr. George Keller's many awards, honors, and service, he also has an abundance of major technical accomplishments. Dr. Keller was a pioneer in discovering ways for converting methane to hydrocarbon feedstock for the chemical industry and was awarded by the American Institute of Chemists for doing so.

When Dr. Keller joined Union Carbide in 1961, he was a trailblazer in implementing amongst the first computer-controlled pilot plants in the industry worldwide. Under his leadership, the separations and process fundamentals skill center developed such disparate processes as the most advanced technology for producing oxygen via miniature adsorption units in the homes of people with severe lung problems in the 1970s, creating a better and longer life for countless millions around the world, and the world's largest commercial pervaporation facility in the 1990s.

Dr. Keller's personal expertise in membranes, adsorption, distillation, and extraction operations has resulted in reducing the generation of process wastes, developing more cost-effective ways to treat industrial waste streams, and, in some cases, resulted in recovery of valuable coproducts from traditional waste streams. In addition to his Carbide contributions, Dr. Keller has also worked on several next-generation technologies for carbon capture from

fossil fuel combustion. His work in this area will be impactful for years to come, especially in industries touched by the development of shale gas in the United States.

Dr. Keller has recruited exceptional, diverse talent to WV and to Union Carbide, including over 100 of the world's premier doctoral-level engineers and scientists. He has served and continues to serve as an excellent mentor to countless individuals. In turn, this aspect of Dr. Keller's efforts paid exceptionally rich dividends to Union Carbide and West Virginia in developing and sustaining a world-class, market-driven, R&D technical center at South Charleston for many decades. This culture still lives on today at MATRIC. The company is a growing multidivisional company with long-term strategy leveraging both market opportunity and its own internal expertise. It is noteworthy that MATRIC has delivered more than \$95 million to the West Virginia economy that would never have existed without exceptional leaders like George Keller.

It is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. Senate to recognize the accomplishments and dedication of Dr. George E. Keller II. Dr. Keller is an excellent example of perseverance and commitment to innovation, enhancing the lives of others and inspiring the next generation of scientists and engineers.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO DAVID HOLT

● Mr. KING. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize David Holt, who has been a town manager in Maine since 1976, serving four communities.

In 1999, David received the Linc Stackpole Manager of the Year Award, chosen by his peers in the Maine Town and City Managers Association in recognition of his exemplary leadership qualities, professional ethics, and commitment to public service. Over the past 40 years, David has been a mentor, trusted adviser, and role model to many younger managers.

David was raised in rural western Maine, the son of a farmer. This upbringing instilled a strong work ethic in him at a young age and an appreciation for preserving the natural environment, as well as empathy for the hard-working people of Maine. He has a strong intellect, a keen sense of humor, and is gifted writer, chronicling his life and times in his book of autobiographical short stories "Man about Town."

He got involved in local government early by being elected as the youngest member of the board of selectmen in his hometown of Greenwood at the age of 18. His interest in public service was kindled by this experience, and he later attended the University of Maine where he received a degree in public management.

David served as the first town manager of the town of Princeton. While