

Langley's Lunar Landing Research Facility, now known as the Landing and Impact Research Facility.

Langley led the first successful robotic landing on Mars with the Viking 1 mission, which gave humanity its first glimpse of the landscape of another world. The center's technical expertise in a field called Entry, Descent and Landing—the study of how a spacecraft can safely move through a planet's atmosphere and reach the surface—has been a key to every fully successful robotic landing on the surface of Mars.

Those are just a few highlights among many, many accomplishments.

Over the decades, NASA Langley has contributed technologies that have improved people's lives around the globe.

For example, the grooved pavement that makes our highways safer evolved from research into runway surfaces at Langley. The winglets—the upturned tips of wings seen on commercial aircraft—have saved fuel and reduced pollution for years. Their use is a result of research done by Richard Whitcomb, one of Langley's legendary aerodynamics experts.

Based on what we have seen when visiting the center, we predict this legacy of excellence and innovation will continue—even accelerate—over the next 100 years.

We have been proud to work closely with the center on improving the safe use of unmanned aerial vehicles, better known as drones.

We have also proudly partnered with the center's efforts on groundbreaking materials research, including the Advanced Composites Initiative, to work toward developing lighter, safer, and more fuel-efficient vehicles for air and space.

We have seen Langley's critical involvement in development of the Orion crew module, which was tested at Langley's Landing and Impact Research Facility to ensure that astronauts can safely splashdown in the ocean after future missions.

Langley's test facilities are being used by companies who have partnered with NASA through its Commercial Crew Program. By working with Boeing and Space X, Langley is helping to boost our Nation's growing space industry.

Other current projects include new aircraft designs intended to change the sonic boom to a sonic thud, opening the way for a revolutionary new generation of faster aircraft that will bring vast improvements for the traveling public.

When it comes to serving the public's interest, Langley's work studying the Earth's atmosphere and how it absorbs and radiates heat tops the list. It is critical that NASA's work in earth science research continues. Wise policy decisions rely on high-quality data. Without solid data, we are essentially flying blind in the area of environmental policy.

Coincidentally, the Hampton Roads area of Virginia—where Langley is lo-

cated—is second only to New Orleans in susceptibility to sea-level rise. NASA Langley is one of many national assets—including military, industrial, and academic institutions—located there. It is an important region of our Nation and Langley's work to study earth's atmosphere will safeguard Hampton Roads, as well as our planet as a whole.

When you consider exciting new capabilities offered by the center's Measurement Systems Laboratory, now under construction, and its Katherine G. Johnson Computational Research Facility, which is set to open later this year, it is clear that we can expect to see more improvements and discoveries from NASA Langley.

As Virginia's Senators, we take great pride in the fact that NASA's original field lab—sometimes called the agency "Mother Center"—resides in the great Commonwealth of Virginia. We firmly believe that the boundary-pushing spirit it displayed over the last 100 years represents some of the best traits of our national character: innovation, exploration, hard work, and the quest to make life better for us all.

We look forward to seeing more amazing innovations from Langley and NASA as our Nation continues its push to solve the great problems of our age and as we extend humanity's reach ever deeper into the universe.

NASA Langley is a remarkable place—and has been for 100 years. As a center for aerospace innovation, technological discovery, and scientific inquiry, Langley continues to lead the way.

We should all cheer them on as they pass this big milestone and rocket ahead into a bold, new century.

DRY EYE AWARENESS MONTH

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, in the spirit of the "Decade of Vision," I am pleased to recognize July as Dry Eye Awareness Month. In 2009, while serving in the House of Representatives, I was proud to sponsor the successfully passed H. Res. 366, which recognized the 40th anniversary of the National Eye Institute and designated 2010–2020 as the "Decade of Vision." This resolution sought to bring awareness to our Nation's challenges in vision health, especially as our population ages and the incidence of chronic diseases that may cause vision impairment grows.

Dry eye is one of these growing vision health challenges that affects more than 30 million people in the United States. It occurs when the eye does not produce tears properly or they are not of the correct consistency and evaporate too quickly. It can range from discomfort to a painful chronic and progressive condition that leads to blurred vision or even vision loss. Dry eye is one of the most frequent causes of patient visits to eyecare providers. It is a particularly burdensome issue for our brave soldiers who were engaged in Operation Enduring Freedom

and Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Veterans Administration reports that upwards of 70 percent of traumatic brain injury-exposed veterans have dry eye symptoms.

Research supported by the National Institutes of Health and its National Eye Institute has improved our understanding of this condition. Dry eye can have many causes, including environmental exposure, side-effects from medications, eye surgery, eyelid disorders, immune system disorders, contact lens wear, cosmetic use, aesthetic procedures, and an increasingly common cause: staring at computer or video screens for too long without blinking, which may have a disproportionate impact on our younger generations.

I want to recognize an important educational opportunity during Dry Eye Awareness Month this year. The Tear Film & Ocular Surface Society's "Dry Eye Workshop II Report" will be published in "The Ocular Surface Journal," updating the definition of dry eye and addressing its greater impact on vision health—the first such reexamination since 2007. Report highlights were presented at a July 12, 2017, congressional briefing, accompanied by a "Test Your Tears" screening and presentation of research posters.

The vision community and its coalition partners are uniting to recognize this growing vision health problem, and I stand in support of these awareness and educational efforts.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO EMMETT CHASSANIOL, JR.

• Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to commend Emmett Chassaniol, Jr., and the Chassaniol family of Greenwood, MS, for 100 years of service and contributions to the U.S. cotton industry.

Mr. Chassaniol and his family are the subject of a profile published recently by the Delta Business Journal. The profile not only reviews a century of influence by an agricultural family in the Mississippi Delta but also the changes in the cotton industry over the decades. Mississippi remains one of the leading cotton-producing States in the country. Farmers in my State produced more than 1 million bales of cotton in 2016.

Since its founding in 1917, the Chassaniol and Company has helped producers move cotton from the farm to the marketplace. Three generations of the Chassaniol family have engaged in the business of buying, shipping, or selling cotton. I am pleased to recognize their continuous role in meeting the needs of cotton farmers in this important and challenging industry.

Today Emmett Chassaniol, Jr., continues the family cotton business established by his grandfather. Since 1996, he has expanded Chassaniol and