

that Senator GREGG and I will certainly miss working with her on critical issues that impact so many New Hampshire residents.

Claira may be retiring from her day job but in no way is she retiring from her community. Her knowledge of New Hampshire, her warm demeanor, and her strong leadership will continue to benefit the organizations she supports. Additionally, candidates—notably those seeking the highest office in the land—will turn to Claira for advice and counsel that only she can provide.

Claira is a good, true and loyal friend. A great citizen of New Hampshire, Senator GREGG and I extend our warm regards to Claira on the occasion of her retirement. We look forward to seeing her in the communities she has served and will serve.●

#### TRIBUTE TO PEARL D. WILLIAMS

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I wish to acknowledge Councilwoman-at-large Pearl D. Williams of Slidell for being named volunteer of the year by the United Way of St. Tammany Parish. I would like to take some time to make a few remarks on her success and her contributions to Louisiana.

Councilwoman Williams has long enjoyed volunteering with various organizations in order to assist the community, especially needy children, and this award recognizes the hard work and success she has constantly rendered.

Councilwoman Williams has shown tireless dedication to the United Way. Williams has served on the St. Tammany United Way Leadership Council as a progressive, active fundraiser who helped establish various committees and celebrations in order to benefit different charities. She also served on the board of directors for the Children's Wish Endowment and as past president of the Slidell Memorial Hospital Women's Health Alliance, among many other great accolades.

Councilwoman Pearl D. Williams passed away of heart failure at the age of 64 on Thursday, May 17, 2007, at her residence. She is survived by not only proud family members but also the grateful city of Slidell who will never forget Councilwoman Williams' selfless acts of generosity and charity.

Thus, today, I rise to honor Councilwoman Pearl D. Williams so that more people can understand the kind of sacrifices she gave for others.●

#### RECOGNIZING LAITRAM, LLC

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I wish to acknowledge Jay Lapeyre and Laitram, LLC, of New Orleans for receiving the Recognition of Excellence in Innovation certificate from the Louisiana Technology Council. I would also like to take a few moments to expand on Laitram, LLC, and their continued success.

The Louisiana Technology Council recently hosted their third annual

awards council and the first since Hurricane Katrina. This certificate awards local and regional leaders in new technology throughout the United States who have created a new industrial advance or service in the last 12 months, operated a new, original manufacturing process, or have received a patent from the U.S. Patent and Trademark office for a recent technological discovery. More than 60 nominations were submitted from public and private sectors, institutions, and individuals.

J. M. Lapeyre, the designer of the original shrimp-peeling machine in 1946, founded Laitram, LLC, and completely transformed the shrimping industry. Since its inception, his descendants have continued to carry on this tradition of improvement and modernization. Over the past 5 years, Laitram has patented more than 60 new inventions, including 16 in 2006, illustrating Laitram's commitment to innovation and the best quality for its customers and the State of Louisiana. Specifically, the Intralox Series 400 Angled Roller conveyor belt has revolutionized the industry, allowing the replacement of older technology and maintaining Louisiana's package handling applications not only in food but in other industries as well. Therefore, I congratulate Jay Lapeyre and Laitram LLC on being an inspiration to business owners everywhere, and I wish them success.●

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF BOSSIER CITY, LOUISIANA

● Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I wish to honor Bossier City, LA, which is celebrating its centennial anniversary, and I would like to take a few moments to publicly recognize their great history.

In the 1830s, the area of Bossier City originally encompassed the Elysian Groves Plantation of James Crane. Due to its proximity to the river, it quickly became a hotbed for trade and activity. By 1850, hundreds of wagons crossed through the vicinity on their way to the West; many settlers also stayed, realizing the land's fertile river valley and abundant farmland. Soon, interstate railway systems boomed, and Bossier became a growing metropolis. The farmers, realizing the area's potential, quickly began to sell plots of land as transportation flourished. Finally, in 1907, with its growing textile industry and expansive transportation system, Bossier City received official status as a city in Louisiana. Throughout its history, Bossier City has endured and survived many impediments, such as the great fire which consumed over half of the downtown area. In the late 1950s, Bossier was named the fastest growing city in Louisiana.

Bossier City began its centennial celebration on April 7 with the biggest birthday party that the city has ever witnessed on the banks of the city's foundation on the Red River. The initial festivities ranged from the opportunity to meet the city's oldest resi-

dent to a reception, with a 100-square-foot birthday cake. Throughout the year, the commemoration will continue with events from the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life to Barksdale Air Force Base. Over the year, residents and business owners in the city will be able to attend and plan activities that aid in representing the city's deep southern history and culture.

The centennial memorializes Bossier City's rise to one of the great cities of the State of Louisiana. Today, I want to congratulate Bossier City on the last 100 years, and I wish the residents luck and continued success and progress.●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:46 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that it has passed the act (S. 676) to provide that the Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank or the Alternative Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank may serve on the Board of Directors of the Inter-American Foundation, without amendment.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 65. An act to provide for the recognition of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1441. An act to strengthen controls on the export of surplus parts for F-14 fighter aircraft.

H.R. 2356. An act to amend title 4, United States Code, to encourage the display of the flag of the United States on Father's Day.

#### ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, June 12, 2007, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 5. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for human embryonic stem cell research.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 65. An act to provide for the recognition of the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R. 1441. An act to strengthen controls on the export of surplus parts for F-14 fighter aircraft; to the Committee on Armed Services.

H.R. 2356. An act to amend title 4, United States Code, to encourage the display of the flag of the United States on Father's Day; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with