

but I am especially lucky—my summer camp on Cold Stream Pond is just down the road from theirs. As much as I cherish our time together, having dinner, playing cards, and enjoying the beautiful Maine summer evenings, I cherish even more being in the presence of those who give so much to others and who see the act of giving as the greatest reward. I am delighted to extend my congratulations to the Cyr family in their business's centennial year and to thank them for their contributions to the State of Maine.●

TRIBUTE TO TOM MCSWAIN

● Mrs. HAGAN. Mr. President, Leadership North Carolina is an organization committed to engaging and informing leaders from across my home State. Today I wish to recognize a constituent who is a leader of Leadership North Carolina. Tom McSwain's service to our citizens may be recognized during his term as chairman of the American Traffic Safety Services Association from 2004 to 2006, but his leadership skills were forged many years before this term and he continues to lead in many ways. Tom is a native of Macon, GA, and a proud alumnus of the University of Georgia, who has a deep love for and commitment to his adopted home State of North Carolina. Two sources of strength for Tom are his wife Shawn Scott, an alumna of Leadership North Carolina Class IX, and his son, Jack.

Currently, Tom serves as eastern region director with responsibility for company sales and activities in the Eastern United States, Latin and South America with Ennis-Flint. Ennis-Flint is the world's largest supplier of pavement marking materials and is headquartered in Dallas, TX.

Tom has served in many professional capacities within the highway safety industry. Most prominently, he was chairman of the American Traffic Safety Services Association—ATSSA—from 2004–2006. ATSSA is an international trade association with 1,600 members who manufacture and install roadway safety devices such as signs, striping, guardrails, crash cushions, and lighting. In this role, he served as the chair of the past chairman's advisory council and as the president-elect of the ATSSA Foundation, which provides scholarships to children of individuals killed while working on our nation's highways. He is also a board member of the Road Information Program—TRIP.

Our State has benefitted from the migration of citizens from all over the country, bringing their creativity and skills to North Carolina. Tom moved to his newly adopted home of North Carolina in 1997. Following his service as Chairman of ATSSA, Tom sought to transition his engagement and focus from the national arena to North Carolina.

In 2006, Mr. McSwain graduated from Leadership North Carolina as a member of Class XIII, receiving the pres-

tigious Stanley Frank Class Award. This award is presented annually in honor of the late Stanley Frank, chair of the LNC Founding Committee, who gave his time, talents, and resources to make our State a better place to live and to work. Mr. Frank was a Greensboro businessman and a civic giant who was one of the earliest, and one of the strongest supporters of LNC. Each recipient of this award exemplifies the spirit of Stanley Frank as selected by their fellow participants. Tom was the Class XIII recipient, recognized for his demonstrated leadership, which has made a significant improvement in the quality of life, economic well-being, and sense of community in our State. Upon graduation, Mr. McSwain expanded his commitment to Leadership North Carolina, serving as program chair for Class XIV and joining the Leadership North Carolina Board of Directors.

Elected as chair of Leadership North Carolina in 2010, Tom has brought his considerable leadership experience to strengthen the organization during his 2-year tenure. His work has positioned the program for sustainability for years to come and strengthened its reputation among leaders in business, government, education, and nonprofits. The measure of a good leader is the legacy he or she leaves behind. Tom McSwain leaves North Carolina with 900 informed and engaged leaders to take the baton and help craft our State's future.

On June 30 of this year, Tom McSwain will complete his tenure as chair of Leadership North Carolina. We need strong, effective leaders now more than ever. Tom's service to Leadership North Carolina has been focused on engaging, challenging, and informing future leaders. I join the Board of Directors of Leadership North Carolina in recognizing Tom for his leadership, vision, and determination.

Tom embodies our State's motto *Esse Quam Videri*, to be rather than to seem, and I ask all my colleagues to join me in thanking Tom McSwain for his service to North Carolina.●

TRIBUTE TO DAN LYONS

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I am proud to recognize one of Nevada's veterans whose overwhelming sacrifice on behalf of those who served our great Nation is inspiring. As I speak, Mr. Lyons is traveling on foot from his hometown of Reno, NV to our Nation's capital to encourage legislators to assist our homeless veterans.

This is a serious issue that I have worked on since I was elected to Congress. Today, over 100,000 veterans are on America's streets. Many have serious problems and need support. That is why I stand with Mr. Lyons as he completes his 2,600 mile journey.

The brave men and women who served our country and fought to protect our freedom are coming back to a struggling economy with few job pros-

pects, leaving them unable to afford housing. Our Nation's servicemembers have made great sacrifices for our country, and they deserve our gratitude and support. We must welcome them home and help them transition to civilian life. Assisting our Nation's veterans and families is of the utmost importance.

I am also grateful that Mr. Lyons is raising awareness for an issue that I am personally involved with. Having a family member who serves in the Armed Forces, I have always been an advocate for our troops. That is why I proudly cosponsored and voted in support of bipartisan legislation, the VOW to Hire Heroes Act, which was signed into law by President Obama. This legislation provides a tax credit to employers who hire veterans while also offering education and funding to provide on-the-job training and employment assistance to veterans. Ensuring our returning soldiers come home to good paying jobs is the least we can do and the VOW to Hire Heroes Act helps put our Nation's veterans back to work.

Mr. Lyons' selfless efforts to honor and acknowledge our Nation's veterans epitomize service over self. I commend Mr. Lyons for his steadfast determination in raising awareness for those who keep us safe. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Lyons for his service to our country and commitment to helping veterans in need.●

RECOGNIZING HOOSIER ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS

● Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, I wish to take the opportunity to express my congratulations to the winners of the 2011–2012 Dick Lugar/Indiana Farm Bureau/Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance Companies Youth Essay Contest.

In 1985, I joined with the Indiana Farm Bureau to sponsor an essay contest for 8th grade students in my home State. The purpose of this contest is to encourage young Hoosiers to recognize and appreciate the importance of Indiana agriculture in their lives and subsequently craft an essay responding to the assigned theme. The theme chosen for this year was "The Role of the Farm in a Healthy Diet."

Along with my friends at the Indiana Farm Bureau and Indiana Farm Bureau Insurance Companies, I am pleased with the annual response to this contest and the quality of the essays received over the years. I applaud each of this year's participants on their thoughtful work and wish, especially, to highlight the submissions of the 2011–2012 contest winners—Travis Koester of Wadesville, IN, and Andrea Ledgerwood of Angola, IN. I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the complete text of Travis' and Andrea's respective essays and I am pleased, also, to include the names of the many district and county winners of the contest.