

site. Under this bill, eligible projects would be expanded to include habitat restoration. Many Areas of Concern cannot be delisted until habitat restoration work is done. Also, the bill would give the EPA the discretion to provide Legacy Act funds to demonstration and pilot projects. Finally, the bill would clarify the role of polluters in participating in future projects.

We have been working for decades to try to clean up the Areas of Concern. This bill was drafted based on recommendations from a coalition of environmental and industry groups that are working to protect and restore the Great Lakes, and I want to thank them for their dedication. I hope that my colleagues will support this legislation to continue progress on cleaning up these sites and protecting our precious Great Lakes for the use and benefit of citizens throughout the Midwest and across Nation.

TRIBUTE TO PLACIDO DOMINGO

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, it is my pleasure to pay tribute to someone who has touched the lives of millions not just in this country but across the world. This week, tenor Placido Domingo sings the title role in the new Washington National Opera production of Handel's "Tamerlano." It is his 130th role, an unprecedented feat. He has made each of these parts into something alive and multidimensional. Tragic figures like Otello or Cavaradossi have come to life and, through their actions, have laid out time-honored truths about human emotions and how we live. Mr. Domingo's singing, marked by a clarion tone and natural sense of the shape of a musical phrase, can move us to great heights and the deepest depths. He is a positive force in the world and someone that everyone can celebrate.

Next year marks the 40th anniversary of his debuts at the Lyric Opera of Chicago and the country's premiere opera house, the Metropolitan Opera. He frequently sings across the globe, gracing stages of esteemed European opera houses like London's Royal Opera and Milan's La Scala. He might be most widely known as one of the "3 Tenors." His recording of grand productions and solo recitals fill store racks in my home State of Vermont, as well as the whole country. These are unheralded achievements for any tenor, undertakings that have led to numerous awards like several Grammy awards and his recent election by a respected British magazine as the "King of Singers."

Thankfully, his ego is not nearly as long or wide as that list of laurels. He is a deeply respectful individual, and he takes interest in others. He came be extremely kind. He paid me one of the nicest favors last year, when, at a special function, my wife Marcelle asked him to sing "Happy Birthday" to me. Rarely has the simple tune been heard

with such color and finesse. It was a moment that I will never forget.

Even in that straightforward, if always sweet, tune that amazing sense of the inner workings of music was there. There have been other great tenors but few who have shown such a strong musical sense. The word used most often to describe Mr. Domingo's approach to each score is "scrupulous," a word that means meticulous, fastidious, conscientious. That quality extends into his work from the podium as a conductor and from the boardroom as a general manager, not only of the Washington National Opera but also the Los Angeles Opera. He gets inside whatever he is doing—singing, conducting, administration—and makes it come out fresh, natural, and seemingly right.

He has literally lived and breathed opera throughout his life. As a child, he sang the popular Spanish operas known as zarzuela. The two companies that he directs have commissioned new operas, and it is new operas that make all the difference between a "has-been" and a living, breathing art form. Just 2 years ago, the Washington National Opera put on Scott Wheeler's "Democracy." Its themes of politics, love, and Washington still resonate today.

Mr. Domingo spends a great deal of time in the United States, which has received him like the hero he often sings on stage. He knows New York, Washington, and Los Angeles like a native. He undertakes tours to sing across the Nation, sometimes bringing music to communities that may not have a major opera house. He is not an American citizen, but he embraces some of the best qualities of what it means to be an American, energetic and open, alive to life's possibilities. He has forged a special bond with the country, and for that we are all grateful.

As Mr. Domingo takes on his role this week at the Washington National Opera, I know the entire Senate joins me in congratulating and thanking him for his relentless work and his spectacular ability to move us to tears, laughter, and sheer joy.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF NORAD

Mr. SALAZAR. Mr. President, I wish to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the signing of the North American Aerospace Defense Command Agreement between the United States and Canada. For Colorado, the home to the headquarters of the North American Aerospace Defense Command, NORAD, this is a proud and joyous 50th anniversary.

Since the May 12, 1958, signing of the first NORAD agreement, NORAD has been a model for international cooperation in defense planning, execution, training, information management, and technological innovation. For half a century, the command has helped detect, deter, and defend against threats to the North American Continent.

Today, we honor this legacy of success, but we also look ahead to the next half century of this partnership, so that NORAD can continue to provide for the security of our continent and our homeland.

Over the last 3 years, I have visited frequently with the commanders of NORAD and U.S. Northern Command in Colorado Springs. I am humbled by the work that the men and women of NORAD do day-in and day-out to carry out their mission. At all hours, NORAD executes its missions of aerospace warning, aerospace control, and maritime warning. If any aircraft, missiles, or space vehicles pose a threat to the North American Continent, NORAD provides accurate, unambiguous, and timely warning. The command works closely with its homeland defense, security, and law enforcement partners to prevent air attacks, to safeguard the sovereign airspaces of the United States and Canada, and to provide a capability to respond to unknown, unwanted, and unauthorized air activity approaching and operating within North American airspace. At sea, NORAD provides binational warning of any maritime threat that may be approaching the continent.

Over the last half century, NORAD has been a mechanism for collaboration between the United States and Canada in the interest of security. NORAD exercises command and control of military forces of both countries, so that we can respond to threats efficiently and jointly. NORAD has also allowed a growing level of information and intelligence sharing between the Canadian and American militaries, intelligence services, and other agencies and organizations. This is absolutely vital to our efforts to confront and defeat the threats of the 21st century.

NORAD brings together not only the Active-Duty components of the U.S. and Canadian militaries but also the capabilities of our nations' Reserve components and national, provincial, state, local, and tribal organizations. The product of NORAD's efforts is the broad, binational, multiagency cooperation that has been, and will continue to be, fundamental to our national defense.

Mr. President, today's milestone is an opportunity to reflect on the rewards of the NORAD partnership. These rewards are measured by the security of our citizens but also by the strength of the relationship between our two countries. NORAD's 50-year legacy of cooperation has helped build respect, trust, and confidence between Canadians and Americans. It is a relationship that is longstanding, stable, mutually beneficial, and absolutely essential in today's security environment, where the threats and challenges we face are always evolving.

We must always remember, though, that the success of NORAD is a product of the men and women who make it work. To the Americans and Canadians

who have stood shoulder to shoulder in the command over the past 50 years, I say thank you. We are proud of your professionalism, your commitment to your mission, and your tireless service to our countries. Congratulations on the 50th anniversary of NORAD, and congratulations on a job well done.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HONORING CHRISTINE BARON

• Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I wish to honor an incredible woman, someone who enjoys a prominent and demanding business career while continuously dedicating her time, energy, and expertise to helping those around her. Chris Baron, president of Verizon's Philadelphia Tri-state Region, is receiving a prestigious and well-deserved honor from the Philadelphia Police Athletic League for her tireless community service. It is my honor to add my well-wishes to the festivities.

Chris has been involved in many charities in our region, but I got to know her through her commitment to combating domestic violence. Chris led Verizon's HopeLine program in my home State of Delaware, which provides domestic violence victims with free wireless phones and airtime.

Victims of domestic violence use the phones to contact family, friends, and employers, and they can be crucial in time of emergency. During Chris' tenure heading the program, victims have received over 6,500 wireless phones and Verizon has given more than \$150,000 to local organizations, shelters, and law enforcement in the ongoing struggle to curb domestic violence.

Every day, in every State, countless Americans step forward in the face of unimaginable fear. Chris Baron, and those like her, provide safety options, critical support, and services that victims so desperately need.

Receiving this award puts Chris in rare company. Past honorees include Walter Annenberg; Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell; Philadelphia district attorney Lynne Abraham; and Julius "Dr. J" Erving.

I have said many times on this floor that the Violence Against Women Act is my proudest legislative accomplishment. But I will be the first to acknowledge that VAWA means nothing without the hard-working men and women who implement its ideas. Chris Baron exemplifies the true heroes in our fight against domestic violence.●

RECOGNIZING LOUIS CARNEY

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, today I recognize a longtime and dear friend of mine, Louis Carney, on the occasion of his recent Silver Beaver Award from the Boy Scouts of America. Louis has spent the better part of the last 50 years giving of himself not only to friends, neighbors and family members, but to the Boy Scouts as well. He

served as a cubmaster in 1964; den leader in 1965; Webelos leader in 1969; Boy Scout chairman in 1980; vanguard staff in 1987; District Cub Scout Committee in 1981; and District Eagle chairman from 2004 to today. Until very recently, Louis attended Scout Camp annually and is the recipient of countless Scout leadership awards including two Extra Mile awards, the Arrowhead honor, the District Award of Merit, the Eagle Feather award, the Wood Badge Training award, numerous leadership training awards, and an On My Honor award.

In addition to Louis's service to the Scouts, he is a Korean war veteran, worked in the U.S. Postal Service for 25 years and spent time as a potato farmer. During his adult life, he has volunteered at the Family Center, the food kitchen and the Museum of Idaho and served in many leadership positions in the LDS church all in my home town of Idaho Falls, ID. He also has spent thousands of hours volunteering in local schools. He has a reputation for reliability, and his selfless service has been demonstrated countless times and in countless ways when it comes to the youth and community in eastern Idaho. Many grown men who were Boy Scouts in their youth remember Louis's devotion to them and to Scouting, and his example of leadership through service has doubtless lived on in these individuals. When it comes to Scouting, Louis has said "I love Scouting; it's the one thing that can keep a family together."

His service went well beyond the Boy Scouts or his community volunteer activities—Louis and I served in our church together when we were both younger. His service was close to home as well. Many snowy mornings, we would wake up to find that Louis had plowed not only our driveway but those of our neighbors. He is the salt of the earth and made his community his neighborhood and made his community members, including me, his neighbors in the truest sense. My wife Susan and I offer Louis our heartfelt congratulations on his Silver Beaver Award and our gratitude for his kindness, generosity, and friendship over the years.●

RECOGNIZING SOUTH DAKOTA COMMUNITIES

• Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the community of Woonsocket, SD, on reaching the 125th anniversary of its founding. Woonsocket is a rural community located in Sanborn County, which is also celebrating the 100th anniversary of its courthouse.

The city of Woonsocket was founded in the summer of 1883 at the junction of the Chicago, Milwaukee, and Saint Paul Railroads, and it was given its name by the Superintendent of the railroad, C.H. Prior after his home town in Rhode Island. The city grew at a tremendous rate upon dedication as 50 lots were sold in the first day. The

first church service in the town was held just 3 days after the sale of the first lot. The population grew rapidly and the first business that opened was a saloon.

Woonsocket was named county seat of Sanborn County by the Territorial Legislature in 1884. In October 1906 the city of Woonsocket proposed a Sanborn courthouse. The proposal was accepted and a courthouse was built for \$50,000. It was dedicated May 22, 1908.

Today, Woonsocket is still a thriving community, with many restaurants, local businesses and churches all nestled around scenic Lake Prior. With excellent schools, Woonsocket school district boasts a 100-percent graduation rate.

The people of Woonsocket celebrate this momentous occasion on the Fourth of July and are marking the 100-year anniversary of the courthouse on May 22. One hundred and twenty-five years after its founding Woonsocket remains a vital community and a great asset to the wonderful State of South Dakota. I am proud to honor Woonsocket and Sanborn County on these historic milestones.●

CONGRATULATIONS TO FORT A.P. HILL

• Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I wish to congratulate the soldiers and civilian employees at Fort A.P. Hill for winning the Army Chief of Staff Communities of Excellence Award competition for fiscal year 2008. This prestigious annual award recognizes the tremendous effort made by Fort A.P. Hill to support soldiers, civilian employees, retirees, and their families. In addition, it highlights the superior business practices that have sparked innovation and enhanced efficiency at the installation.

Fort A.P. Hill, as one of the Army's premier installations, has also achieved high marks in this competition in the past, finishing in third place each of the last 3 years. This year, the post hosted a week long visit by a team of evaluators who reviewed every facet of Fort A.P. Hill's operations. Following a scoring assessment by a panel of judges, Fort A.P. Hill was named the competition winner and was awarded \$2 million to continue efforts to improve the post.

With nearly 76,000 acres, including a 27,000-acre live fire complex that hosts personnel from every service in the Armed Forces, Fort A.P. Hill is rightly known as "The Place Where America's Military Sharpens Its Combat Edge." I offer my congratulations for a job well done to Fort A.P. Hill's outstanding team.●

CONGRATULATIONS TO DEFENSE SUPPLY CENTER RICHMOND

• Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I wish to congratulate the 3,000 military and civilian employees at Defense Supply Center Richmond for winning the