

Letters began pouring in. Within a year, Dr. Heimlich received some 200 from people around the country who had successfully used the Heimlich maneuver to save a life and the American Medical Association had endorsed it. Within 2 years, the American Red Cross recommended it.

The Heimlich maneuver is estimated by some to have saved as many as 50,000 or even 100,000 lives just in America—not to mention countless others around the world.

To put a face to these numbers, consider that the Heimlich maneuver has saved the lives of future-President Ronald Reagan in 1976. It has saved the lives of New York City Mayor Ed Koch, basketball commentator Dick Vitale, news anchorman John Chancellor, television personality Simon Cowell, as well as actors Walter Matthau, Elizabeth Taylor, Marlene Dietrich, Carrie Fisher, Goldie Hawn, Nicole Kidman, and Halle Berry, and so many other people who have touched our lives. The maneuver has been used by Cincinnati Reds third basemen Todd Frazier, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak at Camp David, and an 83-year-old Clint Eastwood.

We have all benefited from this innovative technique.

This discovery, I think, really sums up Dr. Heimlich's life, because he used to say that his focus was to find "simple, creative solutions to seemingly insurmountable health and medical problems." Time and again, he did just that, authoring more than 100 scientific papers and presenting more than 250 medical lectures over his lifetime.

In 1980, he invented the MicroTrach, a more efficient portable oxygen system that, because of its smaller size, gave patients more mobility. In 1981, Dr. Heimlich received the "Distinguished Service Award" from his colleagues with the American Society of Abdominal Surgeons, and he received the 1984 "Arthur Lasker Award for Public Service" for his "simple, practical, cost-free solution to a life-threatening emergency, requiring neither great strength, [nor] special equipment [nor] elaborate training."

In 1985, Surgeon General C. Everett Koop declared that the Heimlich maneuver was the best method to be used when someone is choking. From 1986 to 2005, the American Red Cross and the American Heart Association issued the same recommendation.

Dr. Heimlich's medical career lasted some 70 years. In his final years, he remained active, swimming and exercising regularly. Living at a retirement home run by Episcopal Retirement Services in Cincinnati, he saved the life of an 87-year-old fellow resident named Patty Ris this past May using his famous maneuver.

Dr. Heimlich passed away on December 17 at age 96 at Christ Hospital in Cincinnati. He was married to his wonderful wife, Jane, for 61 years, and he is survived by his four children and three grandchildren.

His son Phil is a good friend of mine and a former Cincinnati city councilman and Hamilton County commissioner.

Jane and I send our condolences to our friends in the Heimlich family. We are grateful for Dr. Heimlich's work and for his life. We will miss him, but even in his absence, his ideas will live on and continue to save lives.

Thank you.

TRIBUTE TO LAYNE BANGERTER

Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the outstanding work of a longtime member of my Senate staff, Layne Bangerter, who has been appointed as special assistant to President Donald Trump.

Layne has been a valued member of my staff for more than 13 years. Serving as director of agriculture and natural resources, he has provided sound counsel on critical issues for our State. For example, Layne dedicated countless hours to crafting the Owyhee Public Land Management Act and has worked to ensure sound implementation of the agreement. His well-honed ability to build relationships has been key to the success of this and many other efforts.

As a rancher and farmer, Layne has unique on-the-ground experience with how Federal policies affect land, water, and people. He also has significant understanding from his work for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Wildlife Services and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. He has used this experience to inform a number of critical agricultural and natural resources issues, including wildlife, conservation, forestry, water, and agricultural programs. He knows the right balance needs to be struck between conservation and responsible natural resources practices and that the one-size-fits-all approach never works in real America. Layne is the kind of guy that you want in your corner—he listens, uses common sense, and then works to come up with the best possible solutions.

Layne is positive, encouraging, and affable while also having a pragmatism shaped by extensive experience. His insight will no doubt be extremely valuable to the Trump administration. While I will miss having Layne as a member of my staff, I wish him all the best in this new endeavor and look forward to our continued friendship. Thank you, Layne, for your hard work on behalf of Idahoans and our country, and congratulations on this next step in your career. I wish you, Betsy, and your wonderful family continued success.

TRIBUTE TO ADELE GRIFFIN

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I want to recognize Adele Griffin, a longtime Senate staffer in my Jacksonville office, for her years of hard work; for me, my staff, and the people of the State of Florida.

A fifth-generation Floridian, Adele previously worked under Senator Mel Martinez and Senator George LeMieux before her time in my office. Adele has been a dedicated and diligent leader who took special pride in addressing the many issues facing northeast Florida over the years.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Adele for all the great work she has done and wish her a happy retirement.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO RON CHASTAIN

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize MG Ron Chastain for his four decades of service to the State of Arkansas and to our Nation. For 32 years, he worked at the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency and served for the last 6 years as my Agricultural Liaison in Arkansas. He has also enjoyed a distinguished military career in the Arkansas National Guard that spanned nearly four decades.

Ron was born and raised in Arkansas and graduated from Arkansas Tech University with a degree in biology in 1972. In 1974, he began his career with the USDA. He was the supervisory program specialist in Arkansas and dealt with Federal farm programs at the county, district, and State levels. He is a recipient of the USDA Service to Agriculture Award and also received recognition for his suggestions that improved the administration of Federal farm programs.

At the same time, Major General Chastain was a dedicated member of the Army National Guard serving our State and Nation on weekends, evenings, and multiple overseas deployments. While in uniform, he honorably served as deputy commanding general for the Arkansas Army National Guard at the U.S. Army Forces Command, the adjutant general of the Arkansas National Guard, as Chief of Staff, wartime, of U.S. Forces Korea, commander of the 39th Brigade Combat Team in Iraq, and commander of the 25th Rear Operations Center during Operation Desert Storm. A veteran of two wars, Major General Chastain was awarded the Army Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, and two Bronze Star medals. He has also been inducted into the distinguished Arkansas Military Veterans' Hall of Fame.

In 2010, "the General" retired from the Arkansas Army National Guard. Shortly thereafter, I called to congratulate him on his impressive military career, and during our conversation, he said he would be happy to help me in any way he could. I knew that he could bring his unique experience and expertise to help me represent the agriculture community in Arkansas, so I asked him to join my staff.

As a member of my team, Major General Chastain has been a professional

and tireless advocate on behalf of Arkansas' farmers and ranchers. The Arkansas Farm Bureau recently recognized his hard work and contribution to our State's agriculture community. Ron also educated thousands of young Arkansans about the history and proper care of the U.S. and Arkansas flags during his time with my office.

MG Ron Chastain dedicated his career to leading and serving others. I want to thank him for all that he has done on behalf of Arkansas, and I wish him well on his retirement. I know he will enjoy spending more time with his family and working on his farm. As a model public servant for so many years, his retirement and all the recognition he has garnered are well deserved.●

RECOGNIZING xCRAFT ENTERPRISES, LLC

● Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, my home State of Idaho has long been known for its incredible natural resources and vibrant agricultural economy. What some may not know, though, is that Idaho is also home to a burgeoning technology industry, thanks to a number of impressive innovators who bring their entrepreneurial spirit and innovations to our State. As chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, it is my pleasure to recognize one of these great innovators, xCraft Enterprises, LLC in Coeur d'Alene, as the Senate Small Business of the Month for January 2017. xCraft has made Idaho proud with their considerable success and continuous innovation in and contribution to the unmanned aerial vehicle, UAV, or drone, industry.

Cofounder and CEO JD Claridge has always had a passion for flight. He built numerous flying toys as a child, and at the age of just 7, he constructed a hang glider and even convinced a friend to test it. JD harnessed this lifelong love of flying and started xCraft Enterprises, LLC, along with fellow aviation enthusiast, Charles Manning. Their vision for the company was to develop small, powerful, long-range drones that serve the needs of both hobbyists and commercial customers. With the expertise and skills of their team of highly educated engineers and business people, they have turned their aviation dream into a successful small business endeavor.

xCraft's patent-pending drones are built with lightweight materials that allow for long-range flight and are also capable of flying preprogrammed GPS-enabled flight paths. Notably, the company has designed a drone which has the ability to carry and utilize a smartphone, making it possible to link advanced smartphone technology to an economically priced small drone. In addition, xCraft has been recognized as a leader in the UAV and technology industries for producing one of the fastest racing drones available on the market today, exceeding speeds of 100

miles per hour. This continuous innovation and reinvention adds an immense value to the numerous and diverse industries that drones play a major role in, helping to drive the entire American economy forward.

Today xCraft offers seven drones of varying sizes and capabilities. There is no telling what their next innovation will be, but I know it will be another great contribution to their industry and the many others that depend upon it. It is my honor to recognize JD, Charles, and all of the employees at xCraft Enterprises, LLC in Coeur d'Alene. Thank you for your commitment to innovation and for carrying on the entrepreneurial spirit that is so valued in our great State of Idaho. I look forward to following your continued growth and success.●

REMEMBERING ELIZABETH HOWARD SWAIN

● Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, today I wish to honor Elizabeth Howard Swain. Elizabeth was a lifelong champion of community health care centers, as well as the people they serve, and a wonderful colleague, mother, and friend.

After graduating from Boston University with a B.A. in sociology and a master's degree in political economics, Elizabeth moved with her family to Seattle, WA. In 1981, she began working at Seattle's 45th Street Clinic, a Federally Qualified Health Center, FQHC, and eventually became the executive director, a position she held for 10 years. Elizabeth founded the Community Health Plan of Washington and worked as the regional health officer at Public Health of Seattle and King County, as well as the assistant vice president for public policy for the Community Health Network of Washington.

In 2005, Elizabeth was recruited to be CEO of the Community Health Care Association of New York State, an advocacy organization that supports more than 65 FQHCs. In Albany, she was a strong advocate for community-based primary care and was known for her ability to bring rival forces together and create partners out of adversaries.

Elizabeth also championed FQHC's and the importance of community-based primary care in the American health system in regular meetings with members and staff of the U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pension Committee. While Elizabeth was grateful that I secured significant funding for FQHCs through the Affordable Care Act, as a strong supporter of universal health care, she was disappointed that neither the "public option" provision, much less a single-payer Medicare for all plan, were part of the ACA. Elizabeth remained true to her commitment to provide quality health care for all Americans, and she did all of this with tremendous energy and compassion for the most vulnerable and medically underserved populations.

Elizabeth understood the need to move health care dollars into the front

end of the system, where they could be used more efficiently to prevent illness, through patient care management, case management and nutrition, and by keeping people out of expensive hospital settings. She also recognized the critical need for all-inclusive and integrated health care, including dental care and mental health services, in both urban and rural communities served by FQHC's.

Elizabeth will be sorely missed. She is survived by her sisters Julia, Cynthia, and Judith and children Kalil, Carmen, and Alexis.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committee.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 12:01 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 58. An act to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to submit a study on the circumstances which may impact the effectiveness and availability of first responders before, during, or after a terrorist threat or event, and for other purposes.

H.R. 276. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to ensure reliable air service in American Samoa.

H.R. 347. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to provide for requirements relating to documentation for major acquisition programs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 366. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to direct the Under Secretary for Management of the Department of Homeland Security to make certain improvements in managing the Department's vehicle fleet, and for other purposes.

H.R. 437. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to codify authority under existing grant guidance authorizing use of Urban Area Security Initiative and State Homeland Security Grant Program funding for enhancing medical preparedness, medical surge capacity, and mass prophylaxis capabilities.

H.R. 505. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to strengthen accountability for deployment of border security technology at the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

H.R. 526. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish in the Department of Homeland Security a board to coordinate and integrate departmental intelligence, activities, and policy related to counterterrorism, and for other purposes.