

oversee nearly 3,000 civil servants and contractors involved in developing and testing of the vehicle, the most powerful rocket ever built. In November 2022, as Marshall's center director, Singer led the team through the successful launch of SLS. The historic Artemis I mission restored America's capability to send humans to the Moon, a feat we have not undertaken since 1972.

Singer was appointed in September 2018 as the 14th Director of Marshall Space Flight Center and first female Director. She manages one of NASA's largest field installations, with nearly 7,000 on- and near-site civil service and contractor employees. Prior to being named to the position, Singer served as Marshall's Acting Director starting in July 2018 and was Deputy Director from February 2016 to July 2018, assisting the Director with the daily management of the Center's workforce and operations.

Her awards and commendations throughout her service to NASA are a testament to her dedication to this Nation. She has received multiple NASA Outstanding Leadership Medals and two Presidential Rank of Meritorious Executive Awards, the highest honor for career Federal employees. She received the Space Flight Awareness Leadership Award in 2005 for inspiring the Shuttle Propulsion Office to strive for excellence and continuous improvement; and the NASA Exceptional Service Medal in 1993 while managing the External Tank Project's business office. For her unwavering commitment to excellence and achievement in support of the human space program, she received the Silver Snoopy Award from the NASA astronaut corps and was named a Space Flight Awareness Launch Honoree.

Singer has also received numerous external awards and recognitions. This includes the Rotary National Award for Space Achievement, Stellar Award; Alabama Engineering Hall of Fame; Distinguished Fellow by the University of Alabama College of Engineering; Federal Asian Pacific American Council—FAPAC—Outstanding SES Leadership Award; Women in Leadership; and Morgan County Hall of Fame; Gardner Award (2020); 2022 AIAA Associate Fellow and 2022 Engineer of the Year. Singer was named in Alabama Magazine's "Top 40 Over 40!" and Business Alabama's "20 Who Make Alabama Business Tick." She serves as a board member for Leadership Alabama and is a member of the University of Alabama President's Cabinet.

On behalf of the people of Alabama and our Nation, I offer Director Singer my heartfelt thanks and a long and happy retirement with her husband Chris, their three children, and five grandchildren. Her career is defined by remarkable innovation and unwavering devotion to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. We owe her a debt of gratitude for her exemplary service to her community, the Marshall Space Flight Center, and her country.

#### TRIBUTE TO WILL AIKEN

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Will for his hard work as an intern in the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Will is a native of Virginia. He attends the University of Florida, where he studies business administration. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Will for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his journey.

#### TRIBUTE TO BROOKS ANDERSON

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Brooks for his hard work as an intern in the Senate Republican Conference. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Brooks is a native of New York. He attends Harvard University, where he studies government. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Brooks for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his journey.

#### TRIBUTE TO BRITTANY BARTON

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Brittany for her hard work as an intern in the Senate Republican Conference. I recognize her efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Brittany is a native of Evanston. She attends Brigham Young University, where she studies business. She has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made her an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of her work is reflected in her great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Brittany for the dedication she has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have her as part of our team. I know she will have continued success with all of her future endeavors. I wish her all my best on her journey.

#### TRIBUTE TO NOAH BELL

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Noah for his hard work as an intern in the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Noah is a native of Cheyenne. He recently graduated from the University of Wyoming, where he obtained a bachelor's degree in political science. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Noah for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his journey.

#### TRIBUTE TO GREG FORNSTROM

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Greg for his hard work as an intern in the Senate Republican Conference. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Greg is a native of Pine Bluffs. He attends the University of Wyoming, where he studies political science. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Greg for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his journey.

#### TRIBUTE TO McKENNA KAIL

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to McKenna for her hard work as an intern in my Washington, DC, office. I recognize her efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

McKenna is a native of Lander. She attends the University of Wyoming, where she studies marketing. She has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made her an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of her work is reflected in her great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank McKenna for the dedication she has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have her as part of our team. I know she will have continued success with all of her future endeavors. I wish her all my best on her journey.

#### TRIBUTE TO JACKSON MARCOTTE

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Jackson for his hard work as an intern in the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Jackson is a native of Illinois. He attends the University of Wyoming College of Law. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Jackson for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his journey.

#### TRIBUTE TO ROBERT MORTON

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Robert for his hard work as an intern in my Washington, DC, office. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Robert is a native of Big Horn. He attends Sewanee University, where he studies psychology. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Robert for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his journey.

#### TRIBUTE TO HENRY PEACOCK

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Henry for his hard work as an intern in the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Henry is a native of Virginia. He attends Trinity School at Meadowview. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Henry for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his journey.

#### TRIBUTE TO ETHAN WALTON

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to

express my appreciation to Ethan for his hard work as an intern in my Washington, DC, office. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Ethan is a native of Cody. He attends Brigham Young University, where he studies American studies. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Ethan for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his journey.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### RECOGNIZING BLOOM FLORAL

• Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Bloom Floral of Algona, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Driven by her passion for designing floral arrangements, Kelsey Thompson founded Bloom Floral in 2011 to serve customers in Algona and the surrounding communities in North Iowa. Bloom Floral is a full-service floral and gift shop that offers a one-stop shop for fresh flowers. In addition, the shop offers permanent botanicals, live plants, and home decor. Bloom Floral specializes in weddings and events with a passion for creating floral designs personalized for each customer. Kelsey and her staff travel all over north Iowa to provide wedding flowers, event setup, and rental items for wedding customers. Bloom Floral's design team has over 60 years of combined experience and is dedicated to providing the freshest flowers and top-level community service.

In addition to teaching hands-on courses and mentoring other florists, Kelsey runs "Petals & Profits," an online resource and content membership to help florists with business and marketing. Additionally, she produces a podcast called "The Retail Florist" that promotes her business and floral expertise. Kelsey is a nationally accredited designer and member of the Iowa Florists' Association. In addition to running Bloom Floral, Kelsey also serves as the president of the Algona Chamber of Commerce and sits on the Algona Retail Revolving Loan Fund committee. In September 2022, Kelsey won the first place award in the Sylvia Cup Design Competition at the annual Society of American Florists convention.

Bloom Floral's continual commitment to supplying floral arrangements

in Algona is outstanding. I want to congratulate Kelsey Thompson and the entire team at Bloom Floral for the passion and care they put into each and every arrangement, wedding, and workshop. I look forward to seeing their continued growth and success in Iowa.●

##### RECOGNIZING THE ALASKA RAILROAD CORPORATION'S CENTENNIAL

• Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, this past weekend, on July 15, 2023, Alaskans marked a milestone as we recognized a century of operations for the Alaska Railroad Corporation.

The Railroad, as we call it, along with all of its builders, operators, and leaders, has been a critical catalyst for our still-young State's growth and development. For 100 years now, the Railroad has transported passengers between Alaska's largest cities, bolstered tourism and commerce across hundreds of miles of terrain, helped build some of our State's most critical infrastructure, and supported our Nation's wartime efforts.

It took decades for the Alaska Railroad Corporation to become the entity we recognize today. The Alaska Central Railway, later renamed the Alaska Railroad, laid its first track in Alaska in 1903. It started in Seward and extended 50 miles north. The Alaska Central Railway reorganized in 1910 as the Alaska Northern Railway Co., later extending the railroad to Kern Creek, 71 miles from Seward.

In 1914, the U.S. Congress, understanding the intrinsic value in the Railroad's expansion, funded the construction and operation of a railroad from Seward to Fairbanks. On July 15, 1923, President Warren G. Harding drove a golden spike to unite the track at Nenana, marking the completion of the Alaska Railroad as we know it today. From 1940 to 1943, the Railroad was integral to our Nation's efforts in World War II, hauling military and civilian supplies across the State.

In 1962, the Railroad established its first car-barge service in Whittier, followed by train-ship service in June 1964, which revolutionized the State by enabling rail cars from the lower 48 to be shipped to any point along its route. In the early to mid-1970s, the Railroad supported construction of the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System by shipping and storing pipe and construction materials between Valdez, Seward, and Fairbanks, where it was then trucked to the North Slope. In 1981, the Alaska Railroad entered into agreements with Fairbanks and Anchorage school district career centers to create a tour-guide program to train high school students to serve as hosts onboard summer passenger trains. In 1983, President Ronald Reagan signed into law the authorization of the transfer of the Alaska Railroad to the State of Alaska. In 1985, the railroad became the property of the State of Alaska, and the Alaska