

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

Railroad Corporation, or ARRC, was born.

Today, the Alaska Railroad Corporation operates regularly scheduled public transportation service that connects roughly half a million Alaskans and visitors to communities from Seward to Fairbanks each year. Passengers can access remote regions of our State, including areas off the road system. Some of the most popular Alaskan treasures that local residents and tourists alike can visit include the Chugach National Forest, Kenai Fjords National Park, and Denali National Park and Preserve.

The Railroad is also a vital part of our supply chains, linking the Alaskan interior to Seward, Whittier, and the Port of Alaska in Anchorage. The Railroad hauled 3.7 million tons of freight last year, including natural resources, industrial goods, and more.

As we reach this 100th anniversary, I join Alaskans in recognizing that our Railroad is a lot more than locomotives and rails. Many talented men and women have dedicated their lives to its safe operation and to carrying passengers and freight across wide expanses, rivers, and mountains, showcasing our State and contributing to our economy.

I join the rest of the Alaska delegation in congratulating the Alaska Railroad Corporation on 100 years of operation and look forward to a new century of investment, expansion, and service ahead to meet the continued needs of our State and Nation.●

TRIBUTE TO SARA HOFER

● Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I recognize Sara Hofer, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all the hard work she has done on behalf of my office and the State of South Dakota. Ms. Hofer is a graduate of Bridgewater-Emery High School in Emery, SD. Currently, she is attending Dordt University, where she studies biology and political science. Ms. Hofer is a dedicated and diligent individual who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience. Ms. Hofer has been a true asset to my office. I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Ms. Hofer for all of the work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO TYLER RASMUSSEN

● Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I recognize Tyler Rasmussen, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all the hard work he has done on behalf of my office and the State of South Dakota. Mr. Rasmussen is a graduate of Brookings High School in Brookings, SD. Currently, he is attending South Dakota State University, where he studies agricultural business and legal studies. Mr. Rasmussen is a dedicated and diligent individual who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience. Mr. Rasmussen

has been a true asset to my office. I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Mr. Rasmussen for all of the work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO TAYLORANN WOOLEY

● Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I recognize TaylorAnn Wooley, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all the hard work she has done on behalf of my office and the State of South Dakota. Ms. Wooley is a graduate of Wright Junior Senior High School in Wright, WY. Currently, she is attending Black Hills State University, where she studies political science and international studies. Ms. Wooley is a dedicated and diligent individual who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience. Ms. Wooley has been a true asset to my office. I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Ms. Wooley for all of the work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:02 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 111. An act to require each agency, in providing notice of a rulemaking, to include a link to a 100-word plain language summary of the proposed rule.

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

H.R. 813. An act to direct the Secretary of Commerce, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, to conduct an interagency review of and report to Congress on ways to increase the global competitiveness of the United States in attracting foreign direct investment.

H.R. 1418. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to reauthorize user fee programs relating to new animal drugs and generic new animal drugs.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 813. An act to direct the Secretary of Commerce, in coordination with the heads of other relevant Federal departments and agencies, to conduct an interagency review of and report to Congress on ways to increase the global competitiveness of the United States in attracting foreign direct investment; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-1681. A communication from the Associate General Counsel, Department of Agri-

culture, transmitting, pursuant to law, three (3) reports relative to vacancies in the Department of Agriculture, received during adjournment of Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-1682. A communication from the Senior Bureau Official, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a legislative proposal relative to the Compact of Free Association; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1683. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting a legislative proposal to repeal the requirement for an annual report to Congress on the status report to Congress on the status of the construction of the Mixed Oxide (MOX) Fuel Fabrication Facility (MFF) at the Savannah River Site near Aiken, South Carolina; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1684. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for Faucets and Showerheads" (RIN1904-AE75) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1685. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Energy Conservation Standards for Air Cooled, Three-Phase, Small Commercial Air Conditioners and Heat Pumps With a Cooling Capacity of Less Than 65,000 Btu/h and Air-Cooled, Three-Phase, Variable Refrigerant Flow Air Conditioners and Heat Pumps With a Cooling Capacity of Less Than 65,000 Btu/h" (RIN1904-AF32) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1686. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Credit-Related Information Sharing in Organized Wholesale Electric Markets" ((RIN1902-0325) (Docket No. RM22-13-000)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1687. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Transmission System Planning Performance Requirements for Extreme Weather" ((RIN1902-AG01) (Docket No. RM22-10-000)) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1688. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "One-Time Informational Reports on Extreme Weather Vulnerability Assessments" (Docket No. RM22-16-000) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 7, 2023; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1689. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Legislation, Regulation and Energy Efficiency, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Energy Conservation Program: Test Procedure for Commercial Warm Air Furnaces" (RIN1904-AE57) received during adjournment of the Senate in