

Thank you for considering these concerns. If I may be of further assistance in this matter, please contact me through the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, Office of Legislative Affairs.

Sincerely,

ANTHONY J. TRENKA,
Presiding Judge.

TRIBUTE TO TOM HARPER

Mr. LANKFORD. Madam President, I rise today to offer my sincere gratitude to Tom Harper, a lieutenant colonel in the Army National Guard. From his beginning as an infantryman in the Florida Army National Guard, he graduated—distinguished—from the Georgia Military College as an artillery officer who served five operational tours, across three continents.

A peerless expert in appropriations and military construction, Lieutenant Colonel Harper sought to increase the Army National Guard's contribution to the Nation's security. He recently served as a legislative liaison on Capitol Hill, dedicated to the relationship and understanding between our branches.

Throughout his military career, Lieutenant Colonel Harper remained principled—in combat and in counsel—offering his best wisdom and giving our Nation his unreserved courage. I have personally seen the excellence of his service to our Nation. I wish him the best in his next chapter of service to our Nation.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING ART MUSEUM

• Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, I rise today to recognize and honor the 50th anniversary of the Art Museum at the University of Wyoming—UW—in Laramie, WY. This important cultural icon will celebrate the occasion during its annual fundraising gala on May 18, 2024.

The University of Wyoming Art Museum prides itself on connecting people from all walks of life to experience the power of the arts and cultural heritage. It possesses over 11,000 art objects in its permanent collection. Regional, national, and international exhibits and local activities are designed to engage visitors in thoughtful dialogues regarding our collective humanity.

This well-esteemed museum had humble beginnings. In 1971, UW Art Department Chair James Boyle and Art History Professor James Forrest established the university's first museum dedicated to art. Both believed a university needed a tangible collection of all genres of art, media, and cultures in order to have a viable visual art program. Forrest became its first director.

The small museum was housed in the lower level of the fine arts building. Its two exhibition spaces occupied what are now dance studios in the Buchanan

Center for the Performing Arts. During this time, the museum focused on building its collections and conducting outreach around the State.

In 1988, Director Charles Guerin recognized the need for a larger space to display UW's collections. He applied for—and received—a \$400,000 Challenge Grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, NEA. This grant was the largest ever awarded by the NEA at that time. A robust capital fundraising campaign followed. Supporters, donors, and artists raised an astonishing \$7.5 million for the first phase of the new art museum facility.

The University of Wyoming broke ground on the project in October 1990. The 137,000-square-foot building took 3 years and cost \$19 million to complete. On September 10, 1993, then Wyoming Governor Mike Sullivan and UW president Terry Roark cut the ribbon to officially open the Centennial Complex. Today, it houses the art museum and the American Heritage Center.

Internationally acclaimed architect Antoine Predock designed the iconic Laramie landmark. His inspiration for the cone-shaped building was an “archival mountain,” mirroring neighboring Medicine Bow Peak to the west and Pilot Knob to the east. The galleries of the art museum represent the rendezvous sites of the pre-settled West, where people gathered to trade, socialize, and exchange ideas.

For 50 years, the UW Art Museum has placed art at the center of education. Its “Museum as Classroom” concept features innovative educational and public programs for all ages. The Ann Simpson Artmobile and the Touring Exhibition Service were created in 1982. These remarkable outreach programs share quality artwork with Wyoming communities that often have limited access to original art. The dedicated staff also create on-site programs for K–12 students, teenagers, and adults. These community-based activities enhance and expand our understanding of art, culture, and personal creativity.

Private contributions—through donations, endowments, and fundraising campaigns—account for over 60 percent of the museum's operating budget. It also receives Federal grants and funding from the State of Wyoming. This generosity allows the museum to continue its important mission of sharing the transformative power of art through exhibiting, preserving, and interpreting visual culture from around the world.

The success of the UW Art Museum comes from the dedication and hard work of its staff and many volunteers. Led by director and chief curator Nicole Crawford, the museum employs 10 full-time staff:

Nicole Crawford, Director and Chief Curator

Debra Littlesun, Assistant Director

Michelle Sunset, Curator

Emily Conner, Master Teacher (pre-K through 12 program)

Sarita Talusani Keller, Artmobile Educa-

tor Will Bowling, Education & Public Programs Manager

Molly Marcusse, Collections Manager
Sterling “Stoney” Smith, Chief Preparator
Anthony Teneralli, Collections Preparator
Jon Cabera, Marketing Coordinator

The museum's national advisory board provides guidance and direction to ensure its longevity. My late wife Bobbi served on the board with great commitment for many years. Current board members are:

President Lisa McElwee
Vice President Melissa Lyon
Secretary/Treasurer Susan Miller
Past President Sue Sommers
Student Representative Cierra Roberts
Yancy Bonner
Brenda Bland
Anne Brande
Nicole Choi
Alyson Hagy
Jody Levin
Kelly Milam
Katy Rinne
Nancy Schiffer
Sue Simpson-Gallagher
Jay Schneiders
Fred Von Ahrens
Kathryn Boswell, Emeritus Member
Mary Horton, Emeritus Member
Felicia Resor, Emeritus Member

On May 18, 2024, patrons and supporters of the UW Art Museum will gather for the annual UW Art Museum Gala: “A Hat Ball.” This year's gala mirrors the museum's special 50th anniversary exhibition, “The New West: University of Wyoming Art Museum at Fifty.” Open from July 2023 to May 2024, the exhibit explores the role of the museum and its place in the American West.

It is an honor to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the University of Wyoming's Art Museum. This wonderful place, which is Wyoming's only academic art museum, offers free general admission to more than 20,000 visitors annually. It is a great place to visit, explore, and engage with the art on display. I send my best wishes to the UW Art Museum for a prosperous future.●

REMEMBERING COACH BOB TYLER

• Mrs. HYDE-SMITH. Madam President, I wish to pay tribute to the life and service of a Mississippi coaching legend and close personal friend, Coach Bob Tyler, who passed away on April 28, 2024.

Born and raised in Water Valley, MS, Coach Tyler attended Water Valley High School and, later, the University of Mississippi.

Following his service in the U.S. Army, Coach Tyler began his remarkable 45-year career as a coach and teacher. This journey started at Water Valley High School, with stops at high schools in Okalona, Corinth, Senatobia and Meridian. After posting an impressive 91–19–6 record over 11 years at the high school level, Coach Tyler began coaching at the collegiate level, including years at Northwest Community College, North Texas State, Millsaps College, and on John Vaught's Ole Miss staff, Bear Bryant's Alabama staff, and

as head football coach and athletic director at Mississippi State University.

Induction into the Mississippi Association of Coaches Hall of Fame, the Mississippi State Athletics Hall of Fame, and the Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame, are among the numerous honors awarded to acknowledge Coach Tyler's achievements. In 2023, the North Mississippi Fish Hatchery was also renamed the "Bob Tyler Fish Hatchery," in his honor.

Coach Tyler's accomplishments and impact extended far beyond the football field. Following his retirement from coaching, he would go on to serve as deputy director of the Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks, help start the Archery in Mississippi Schools program, and support the Fallen Officers Memorial. He also served as the director of economic development for Yalobusha County for 15 years until 2022.

Coach Tyler, an active member of the First Baptist Church of Water Valley, MS, was a dedicated family man, married to his high school sweetheart and wife of 69 years, Dale. They raised three children—Breck, Cam, and Drew—and wholeheartedly welcomed eight-grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

For myself and all those who knew Coach Tyler, I honor his years of service and a life well lived. He will be remembered as a great Mississippian, who dedicated his life to the game that he loved and to the generations of players and people that he educated on the field and in life.

I pray his family and friends find solace in that legacy. My condolences go out to all of them.●

TRIBUTE TO TREY AND CASEY FILTER AND PAUL CONTRERAS

● Mr. SCHMITT. Madam President, today I rise in recognition of three great people: Trey Filter of Wichita, KS, Casey Filter of Wichita, KS, and Paul Contreras of Bellevue, NE. On February 14 of this year, the Kansas City Chiefs secured a Super Bowl victory for the second year in a row. And just like the parade from a year ago, Chiefs fans of all stripes descended onto Kansas City's Union Station to celebrate this great achievement. As this parade came and went and celebration boiled down, gunfire tragically rang out. Reports say these shots were followed by cries of "Get him, get him," and "Stop that guy, tackle him."

Enter Trey Filter and Paul Contreras. In that moment, neither hesitated to risk their safety. Trey bravely launched himself at the alleged shooter, swiftly bringing him down to the ground. Despite the suspect's attempts to flee, Contreras swiftly followed suit, subduing the suspect with Trey until help arrived. Trey's wife Casey secured the firearm, ensuring it posed no further threat until law enforcement arrived on the scene.

There were 22 people left with gunshot wounds, and one sadly died. The youngest victim was only 8 years old. Tragedies such as these, especially when conducted in a celebratory setting, speak to how precious life is and how brave it was that the Filters and Paul were willing to risk their lives for those around them.

Trey Filter, Casey Filter, and Paul Contreras are champions of Missouri. Heroes are remembered by the actions that define their best qualities, and the actions to step in and protect their community from an armed assailant is as heroic as it is selfless. I am proud to recognize their contribution to the Missouri community.●

TRIBUTE TO BRETT FORBES

● Mr. SCHMITT. Madam President, I rise today to honor Brett Forbes of Bonne Terre, MO, for his inspirational participation on Team USA's Paralympics powerlifting team.

Brett, an 18-year-old from St. Francois County, was born with spina bifida, but has never let his condition keep him from playing sports. Brett's siblings also share his love for athletics; his older brother Drew is an NFL offensive lineman for the Cleveland Browns, and his older sister Holly plays professional basketball overseas in Australia.

Since Brett was 6 years old he excelled at wheelchair basketball and committed to training to be a powerlifter. His hard work earned him the opportunity to compete on behalf of Team USA at the World Para Powerlifting American Open in St. Louis, MO. His performance was underscored by his 341-pound lift that broke the American rookie record. Brett did not even realize he was competing for the record, but told reporters that he was simply doing what he trained for. Brett was awarded gold and bronze medals, but his greatest achievement has been his moving story and lesson to all athletes to work hard in order to reach your goals.

Brett Forbes is truly a champion of Missouri. He demonstrates a resilient work ethic that encourages all of us to cultivate the skills and talents we possess to reach new heights. I am proud to recognize his work on the U.S. Paralympics powerlifting team and commend his parents for encouraging his and all of their children's athletic endeavors. Brett is a wonderful representative for Missouri and, more broadly, the United States on the world stage. I wish him continued success and am excited to see all this young man will accomplish in the future.●

TRIBUTE TO ERIN GOOCH

● Mr. SCHMITT. Madam President, I rise today to recognize and honor a model citizen, Erin Gooch. Erin's dedication to her family and community has earned her the title "Champion of Missouri."●

Inspired by her son Teddy and his difficulties accessing certain features with local playgrounds due to dwarfism, Erin set off on a mission to transform a local derelict park into a place that all children may enjoy regardless of ability. Alongside Unlimited Play, an organization that helps to plan, design, and build fully accessible playgrounds, Erin has fundraised over \$3 million for the Teddy & Friends Inclusive Playground. The new playground in Queeny Park will have specially made swings, ladders, and ramps so that kids of all ages and abilities may safely enjoy every part.

With this effort, Erin has become a community pillar. She serves as an exemplary individual, one who is willing to go above and beyond in service of others. Erin is passionate about educating others about people with different disabilities and helping other parents navigate the complexities of the medical and therapy world for their children. She is a dedicated mother of two kids—Chloe and Teddy—and wife to Craig Gooch.

Erin is truly a champion of Missouri.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As 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 committees.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:19 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Alli, 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. 6090. An act to provide for the consideration of a definition of antisemitism set forth by the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance for the enforcement of Federal antidiscrimination laws concerning education programs or activities, and for other purposes.

H.R. 6285. An act to ratify and approve all authorizations, permits, verifications, extensions, biological opinions, incidental take statements, and any other approvals or orders issued pursuant to Federal law necessary for the establishment and administration of the Coastal Plain oil and gas leasing program, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

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