

Major Puro knows her commitment runs in the family. All five of the Puro sisters serve in America's military, whether in the Air Force, Army, or Navy. Major Puro is the oldest of the five, and she has led each of her sisters in this direction. Major Puro even administered the oath of office to commission one of her sisters as an officer. The service-oriented siblings have become known as "sisters in arms."

Major Puro is an outstanding, experienced officer who has spent years serving our country with diligence and excellence. She is an officer of strong character, displaying kindness, integrity, and dedication wherever she goes. She has served our Nation well in the Air Force, and she has served Nebraska well as a legislative fellow in my office.

On behalf of the State of Nebraska, the U.S. Senate, and a grateful nation, I join my colleagues today in recognizing and commending Major Puro for her service. We wish Tiara all the best as she continues her journey in the U.S. Air Force.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO WES COLLINS

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, with my colleagues Senator JIM RISCH and Representative MIKE SIMPSON, we congratulate Wes Collins as he retires from serving as Butte County Commissioner.

Wes Collins has served the people of Butte County in multiple positions spanning over 33 years. He began his career in Butte County as a deputy sheriff in 1991 and served in the capacity until he was appointed sheriff on September 8, 2003. During his tenure as sheriff, he ably took on many responsibilities. He was the Butte County emergency manager for 10 years, a member of the Idaho Sheriffs Association's Marketing Committee, played an instrumental role in Safe & Drug Free Schools from 2005 to 2018, served as president of the Butte County Sheriff's Christmas for the Children Wish Upon a Star Program from 2003 to 2018, and served on the Butte County Board of Guardians and the Pretty City Committee.

Wes has always been willing to step up and ensure the individuals of his community received the care they needed. Wes played a notable role in the region's search and rescue efforts, especially involving mountain climbing accidents. He contributed to public safety by responding to incidents in challenging terrains like Mount Borah, where climbers often encountered difficulties. Collins was also recognized for his involvement in documenting mountaineering history, including a significant traverse of the Lost River Range, which highlighted his personal climbing achievements and contributions to Idaho's climbing community. Wes served as Butte County sheriff until his retirement from law enforce-

ment in 2018. Following his retirement from law enforcement, Wes believed he still had something to offer the community, so he ran for the open commissioner's seat and won.

Wes took office as a Butte County commissioner on January 14, 2019, and continued his work to improve the communities of Butte County. As commissioner, Wes has played a key role in ensuring local tax dollars are being spent thoughtfully. He has served on various board positions, including the Moore Community RV Park Project, Rural Development Association, and the 3B Juvenile Corrections Facility Board. Wes has been an institution in Butte County, and his leadership will be missed.

Beyond his service to the communities, Wes is an avid outdoorsman, never missing an opportunity to hike to a mountain lake to fish, downhill ski, hunt, and practice photography. Many of his prints are hanging in the county buildings.

Wes, thank you for your decades of service to Idahoans. We congratulate you on a career well spent and express our heartfelt gratitude for keeping Idahoans safe and strengthening the communities and landscapes we hold dear.●

RECOGNIZING 40 YEARS OF METRA

• Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, Metra is celebrating 40 years of connecting travelers across Chicago and northeastern Illinois.

Chicago has long been a major rail hub. To this day, the city has more tracks radiating in more directions than any other city in North America. For most of its history, commuter service in Chicagoland was operated by various private rail companies. By the 1970s, however, commuter service was struggling, and rail companies were threatening to discontinue it. In 1974, voters in northeast Illinois approved creation of the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), and in 1984, RTA established a special commuter rail division which soon became known as Metra.

That upstart wasted no time growing. In 1987, Metra acquired Illinois Central Gulf's electric line to University Park, took over the route to Joliet, and acquired two Milwaukee District lines and all their assets in 1989. Further growth followed.

Today, Metra operates 11 lines and is the Nation's fourth busiest commuter rail by trips and the largest by route miles. When it comes to beating rush hour congestion on Chicago's expressways, Metra truly is "the way to really fly."

Metra is also embracing the future of clean transportation with battery-powered trainsets. By 2028, its riders will be among the first in the Nation to experience battery-powered zero-emission trainsets.

I congratulate Metra on a remarkable 40 years, and look forward to more reliable, affordable, and accessible

commuter rail service in the years to come.●

RECOGNIZING THE BAKERY UNLIMITED

• 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 the Bakery Unlimited of Winterset, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 1984, Jim and Marcia Sparks opened The Bakery Unlimited on Main Street in Winterset. Jim was working in insurance when an unusual opportunity presented itself in the form of a pizza oven, a bread rounder, and mixer. Initially, the couple purchased the equipment with hopes of reselling it, but they changed their plans when a historic 1883 building on Winterset's Main Street was looking for a new owner and recognized the community's need for a warm and welcoming gathering place; the Sparks decided to transform the historic building into a bakery. Leaning on Marcia's background as a food nutritional research graduate from Iowa State University and her collection of crafted recipes, the couple brought The Bakery Unlimited to life.

From the beginning, The Bakery Unlimited delighted the community with old-fashioned baked goods made from scratch. While the bakery features a wide variety of offerings from breads and bagels to pies and cakes, its signature items are doughnuts and apple fritters. These fritters are made using Red Delicious apples grown from the Sparks' own orchard, a tribute to Madison County, the birthplace of the iconic apple.

In November 2020, Winterset lost a beloved community figure when Marcia Sparks passed away. It was my honor to meet Marcia in August of 2019, to bake alongside her, and learn how to make her famous apple fritters. Marcia was incredibly kind, greeting everyone who entered the bakery with a friendly smile and warm welcome. After she passed away in November 2020, her legacy lives on through the impact she had on the community, as well as through her daughter Katie Sparks, who grew up immersed in the bakery. Katie learned her mother's many baking traditions and recipes. Today, Katie manages all the baking and oversees the business' day-to-day operations. Marcia was a member of the National Federation of Independent Businesses, as well as the president of the Retail Bakers Association, providing knowledge and expertise to aspiring bakers across the country. At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Marcia baked and donated 250 loaves of bread for members of the Winterset Community. The bakery has continued

this tradition as Katie bakes and donates 250 loaves of bread each Memorial Day to honor her mother. While the bakery doesn't ask or require donations, funds collected during these events are directed to causes in the community, such as helping the Winterset Fire Department, as well as helping a family purchase a stove after their home was destroyed by a tornado.

Today, The Bakery Unlimited is thriving with a team of eight community members and has continued to grow while gaining notoriety across Iowa and the country. In June 2024, USA Today named The Bakery Unlimited one of the top 10 doughnut shops in the United States. In addition, Sara Broers included the bakery in her book, "100 Things to Do in Iowa Before You Die." Deeply rooted in the community, The Bakery Unlimited actively supports local events for schools and the Iowa 4-H program. The bakery is also a proud member of the Madison County Chamber of Commerce and the National Federation of Independent Businesses and recently celebrated its 40th anniversary in October.

The Bakery Unlimited's commitment to baking one-of-a-kind treats and bringing the Madison County community together is clear. I want to congratulate the Sparks family and the rest of The Bakery Unlimited team for their dedication to creating outstanding baked goods for everyone to enjoy. I look forward to seeing their continued success.●

TRIBUTE TO DAVE KLEIS

● Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, today I rise to honor Dave Kleis, the mayor of St. Cloud, MN, who is retiring on January 13, 2025, after more than 30 years of public service.

St. Cloud has flourished with Dave at the helm. Under his leadership, the growing city has improved its infrastructure, made critical investments in higher education, and opened its 100th city park, all while keeping a balanced budget. St. Cloud has received national and international awards and recognition for its livability, including Most Livable City in the World, the Healthiest Hometown, and Top Ten Mississippi River Corridor Metro.

And Dave himself has earned plenty of accolades, too. He was selected by the St. Cloud Times' readers as the most influential person of the last decade and is a recipient of the League of Minnesota Cities C.C. Ludwig Leadership Award. On top of that, he was recognized as one of Twin Cities Business' 100 People to Know.

As a founding member and cochair of the Mississippi River Cities and Towns Initiative, Dave has also been committed to protecting and developing the Mississippi River, which flows through downtown St. Cloud.

Dave made St. Cloud a better place by listening to residents and reaching them where they are, whether it is at his famous chili cookouts, through his

weekly video messages, at his town-halls—all 1,000-plus of them—or even dressed up as Santa at the annual Christmas tree lighting. Not to mention, he is also a 9-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force and Air Force Reserve and a small business owner. For 11 years, he served in the Minnesota State Senate, where he continued to be a champion for working families and veterans.

Simply put, Dave is a great leader because he is a great neighbor. As he has said, "Love everybody, respect everyone, and it'll be just fine." St. Cloud and Minnesota are better because of him.

Dave, thank you for your friendship and leadership, and congratulations on your retirement. You have earned it.●

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BUDD (for himself and Mr. KAINE):

S. 5409. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income gain from the sale of qualified real property interests acquired under the authority of the Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) program administered by the Department of Defense pursuant to section 2684a of title 10, United States Code, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COTTON:

S. 5410. A bill to impose sanctions with respect to police departments in the People's Republic of China and other persons seeking to establish a Chinese police presence in the United States; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. DAINES):

S. 5411. A bill to reauthorize the National Quantum Initiative Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 5412. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the amount excludable for dependent care assistance programs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. FETTERMAN:

S. 5413. A bill to amend the Justice for United States Victims of State Sponsored Terrorism Act to provide rules for payments to Havlish Settling Judgment Creditors; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MORAN:

S. 5414. A bill to require the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network to meet certain conditions before funds are made available for the enforcement of beneficial ownership information reporting, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. WARREN:

S. 5415. A bill to amend title 11, United States Code, to prohibit nonconsensual release of a nondebtor entity's liability to an entity other than the debtor, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CARDIN:

S. 5416. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to address the disclosure of payments by resource extraction issuers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. TLLIS):

S. 5417. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to add a Medicaid State plan requirement with respect to the determination of residency of certain individuals serving in the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. CASEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. REED, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BENNET, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 5418. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants for training and support services for families and caregivers of people living with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. WELCH):

S. Res. 919. A resolution recognizing the 40th year since the 1984 Bhopal chemical disaster and helping to ensure that no other community suffers another chemical disaster, by designating December 3 as National Chemical Disaster Awareness Day; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. REED, Mr. COONS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. Res. 920. A resolution designating November 2024 as "National Homeless Children and Youth Awareness Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. OSSOFF, and Mrs. BRITT):

S. Res. 921. A resolution remembering the December 6, 2019, terrorist attack at Naval Air Station Pensacola and commemorating those who lost their lives, and those who were injured, in the line of duty; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 1201

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1201, a bill to reform the labor laws of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1235

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1235, a bill to establish an awareness campaign related to the lethality of fentanyl and fentanyl-contaminated drugs, to establish a Federal Interagency Work Group on Fentanyl Contamination of Illegal Drugs, and to provide community based coalition enhancement grants to mitigate the effects of drug misuse.

S. 1349

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of