

the Gila River Indian Community. I have had the privilege of working with Governor Lewis for many years—and I am grateful for his strong partnership in delivering results on behalf of the Arizonans we serve.

While writing and negotiating the bipartisan infrastructure law, I worked closely with Governor Lewis to secure never-before-seen water and transportation infrastructure investments in communities across Arizona.

Thanks to Governor Lewis' partnership, I was proud to lead into law the Blackwater Trading Post Land Transfer Act, increasing land rights and economic opportunities for the Gila River Indian Community.

Both Governor Lewis and I understand that Arizona's water future requires working together to meet the drought challenge. As a trusted member of my Water Advisory Council, Governor Lewis is an advocate for the Community's interests and needs and fights for the well-being of our entire State.

Governor Lewis takes innovative approaches to conserve and replace supplies from the Colorado River by working collaboratively with others in Arizona and in the Basin. In 2022, during one of my Water Advisory Council meetings, Governor Lewis announced that the Community would be able to offer 250,000-acre-feet of water a year, totaling 750,000 over 3 years, for conservation and to increase the assured water supplies of Arizona municipalities—a decision that takes real leadership.

Arizona's water crisis requires leaders who are willing and committed to working around the clock to deliver solutions. Time and time again, Governor Lewis has demonstrated a deep commitment to strengthening our water future in the face of historic drought. I am confident that, with leaders like Governor Lewis at the table, we will continue delivering lasting solutions and giving Arizonans peace of mind that our water supply is safe and secure for generations to come.

Governor Lewis is a valuable voice, not just for Tribal sovereignty and his community, but for Arizona and the entire Southwest. He is a cheerful warrior who knows how to get things done—and I am proud to call him my friend.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO ROGER S. CHRISTENSEN

• Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, with my colleagues Senator JIM RISCH and Representative MIKE SIMPSON, we join in honoring Roger Christensen for his decades of service to Idahoans as Bonneville County Commissioner.

Roger Christensen of Idaho Falls has been a steady, experienced hand at the helm of Bonneville County for the past 30 years. He became commissioner in

January 1995 and has served faithfully until his upcoming retirement in January 2025, giving him the distinction of being the longest serving Bonneville County commissioner. Roger has led the Bonneville County Board of Commissioners as its chairman for the majority of his time as commissioner. He has dedicated those years meaningfully, as he has been influential in strengthening the fiscal health of the county. This financial discipline has helped the county provide for necessities and plan for the future, setting it on a more secure economic path.

Throughout, he has lent his experience in accounting, business, and as a college professor to advancing local priorities in the county that has grown considerably over his tenure. Some of the many efforts he moved forward and resolved over the years include relocating the Bonneville County Fairgrounds and selecting judges, to name just a couple. When facing considerable challenges, he kept a perceptive focus on completing the task at hand. His work has been marked by principles of transparency, treading lightly, forging partnerships, aiming for a smooth and simple government, and well-reasoned decision-making.

In addition to his service as commissioner, Roger has pursued his passion for community service through many other capacities. He served in leadership roles for the Idaho Association of Counties, including his service as the association's president in 2009. He dedicated 14 years to service on the Catastrophic Health Care Cost, CAT, Program Board; 4 years to the Supreme Court Drug Court Oversight Committee; 2 years to the Board of Directors for the National Association of Counties; 21 years to the Magistrates Commission; and 16 years to the Eastern Idaho Regional Sewer District.

Thank you, Roger, for your unwavering leadership of Bonneville County. You can retire knowing you have made a lasting, positive impact. And you have, undoubtedly, etched a clear example of outstanding governance in the minds and hearts of all those who have been fortunate enough to know you and benefit from your service. We wish you all the best for a retirement filled with more time with your wife, grandchildren, and many other loved ones.●

##### RECOGNIZING ELLIOTT ART STUDIO

• 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 Elliott Art Studio of Jefferson, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 2023, Chad and Alyssa Elliott opened Elliott Art Studio in Jefferson. Chad Elliott, a lifelong artist and painter, started creating art as early as

5 years old. His skills and passion for art grew after graduating with a degree in ceramics from Graceland University. While honing his skills, Chad also discovered a new passion for music, teaching himself guitar and integrating this creative outlet into his life as an artist. Today, Chad tours the country as a musician, both as a solo artist and as one-half of a duo named the Weary Ramblers. The Iowa duo was even considered for seven Grammy nominations this year.

Chad created all of his art in a home studio before his family moved to Jefferson in 2023. Inspired by the community's vibrant support for the arts, the Elliotts decided to open a brick-and-mortar location to create, sell, and teach art to aspiring artists. The studio is sectioned into a gallery in the front that displays finished pieces and a workshop in the back to develop art. The Elliotts also purchased a pottery wheel and kiln to create ceramics pieces in the studio. The studio has grown to become more than an art space, hosting concerts with local artists, open mic nights, and song circles.

Chad and Alyssa manage Elliott Art Studio, with their children contributing their own artwork to the gallery. Recently, the couple expanded their products to offer hoodies and home decor featuring Chad's designs. They also plan to launch painting and pottery classes, as well as artistic workshops.

To give back to the community that helped inspire the studio, the Elliotts are active in the Jefferson community through their involvement on the downtown Jefferson business promotions team, which helps support small businesses in the community. Chad also shares his talents throughout Iowa, painting murals in Coon Rapids, Spencer, and his hometown of Guthrie Center. The business looks forward to celebrating their second anniversary in Jefferson in May 2025.

Elliott Art Studio's commitment to inspire the next generation of Iowa artists is commendable. I want to congratulate the Elliotts for their creativity and dedication to growing the art community, and I look forward to seeing their continued growth and success in Iowa.●

##### TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL COURTNEY

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, with my colleagues Senator MIKE CRAPO and Congressman MIKE SIMPSON, we congratulate and honor the retirement of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Twin Falls District Manager Michael "Mike" Courtney after 33 years of faithful service.

Mike grew up in Twin Falls and attended the University of Idaho, where he received a bachelor's degree in rangeland resource management. His Federal career started in 1991 as a rangeland management specialist and wild horse and burro specialist in the BLM Salmon District Office. He then

served in the Jarbidge Field Office in Twin Falls as the rangeland management specialist, Burley field office manager, and the Twin Falls acting district manager. For the last decade, Mike has proudly served as the BLM Twin Falls District Manager. During his career, Mike has held many roles, including temporary details as the Shoshone field manager, Twin Falls associate district manager, deputy State director for resources in the Idaho State BLM Office, and as the Nevada BLM State director.

Mike has managed many issues and policies in the Magic Valley and Idaho, including the Murphy Complex Fire, the Sage Grouse Initiative, innovative grazing management, gun range development, fire rehabilitation and reseeding, and more. Throughout his career, Mike has been a calm, levelheaded leader who works to find solutions.

After the Murphy Complex Fire, one of Idaho's largest rangeland fires, Mike was instrumental in establishing and developing Rangeland Fire Protection Associations (RFPAs) in Idaho. Through the program, the BLM trains farmers, ranchers, and local communities how to fight fires to better equip them to be the first line of defense on rangeland fires. RFPAs have had a positive and substantial impact in helping to minimize and control rangeland fires, which threaten people and property in Idaho and throughout the West.

Mike has received numerous awards for his work in the BLM, including Outstanding Rangeland Management Specialist, Outstanding Service and Leadership as Deputy State Director, Exemplary Contributions to the Sage Grouse Initiative, Director's Excellence through Team Accomplishment, and the Director's Excellence in Leadership. He has also been recognized as the Idaho Cattle Association Friend of the Industry.

Mike is a dedicated public servant, helping with the Kimberly School District's athletic programs and becoming an integral part of Kimberly, Twin Falls, and the Magic Valley communities.

Congratulations, Mike Courtney, on your well-earned retirement. Your deep roots, extensive knowledge, and experience in Idaho have been a great benefit to our State and the Nation. Thank you for your outstanding and distinguished service to the BLM and the people of Idaho. We wish you the best in your future endeavors.●

#### REMEMBERING JIM JOHNSTON

● Mr. RISC. Mr. President, I rise today, along with my colleagues Senator MIKE CRAPO and Congressman MIKE SIMPSON, to honor the life and legacy of Jim Johnston, who passed away on November 26, 2024. Jim was not just a resident of Pocatello; he was its biggest and most enthusiastic supporter, a presence felt at every grand opening, community event, and local initiative.

Jim's impact on Pocatello cannot be overstated. He was a dedicated public servant who served multiple terms on the Pocatello City Council and was a friend to many. His unwavering support for Idaho State University and its initiatives—such as the Welcome Back Orange and Black and Celebrate Idaho State events—highlighted his passion for uplifting our community.

Beyond his numerous accolades, including the Distinguished Citizen and Lifetime Achievement Award from the Pocatello-Chubbuck Chamber of Commerce, Jim was a man of action. As a founding member of Citizens Community Bank, a board trustee for the Idaho State Historical Society, and a significant contributor to Habitat for Humanity and the Chief Pocatello statue project, Jim's life was a testament to public service. His selflessness is illustrated in a story shared by his son Greg about how Jim won a dream vacation for himself and his wife Karen but chose instead to donate the \$10,000 prize to Habitat for Humanity. This act of generosity encapsulated Jim's character and desire to improve the lives of others.

A devoted member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Jim held several leadership positions. Jim and Karen, his wife of nearly 60 years, took pride in instilling their values of faith and service to their children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. We thank them for their commitment, which has undoubtedly bettered the lives of countless Idahoans and members of the Pocatello community.

As we reflect on Jim Johnston's remarkable life, we remember a man who embodied the spirit of Pocatello—a successful businessman, realtor, volunteer, and above all, a loving father and grandfather. His contributions to the city, our State, and the people of Idaho will resonate for generations to come.

Today, we honor Jim Johnston's memory by continuing his legacy of service, kindness, and community spirit. He will be dearly missed, but his impact will endure in the hearts of those who had the privilege of knowing him.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DANIELA BECERRA

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Daniela Becerra, a fall 2024 intern with my Orlando office, for the good work she did for my office and the people of Florida.

Daniela is currently a student at the University of Central Florida, where she is majoring in legal studies and finance. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who was devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my deepest gratitude to Daniela, and I look forward to hearing of her good work in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO BRENNAN MICHAEL BORALLY

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Brennan Michael Borally, a fall

2024 intern with my Orlando office, for the good work he did for my office and the people of Florida.

Brennan is currently a student at Stetson University, where he is majoring in political science. He is a dedicated and diligent worker who was devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience.

I extend my deepest gratitude to Brennan, and I look forward to hearing of his good work in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JULIA ROSE GIBBS

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Julia Rose Gibbs, a fall 2024 intern with my Orlando office, for the good work she did for my office and the people of Florida.

Julia is currently a student at the University of Central Florida, where she is majoring in political science and pursuing an intelligence and national security minor. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who was devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my deepest gratitude to Julia, and I look forward to hearing of her good work in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DALEZKA ASTRID DE LA MATA GOGNY

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Dalezka Astrid De La Mata Gogny, a fall 2024 intern with my Orlando office, for the good work she did for my office and the people of Florida.

Dalezka is currently a student at Seminole State College, where she is majoring in finance. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who was devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my deepest gratitude to Dalezka, and I look forward to hearing of her good work in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO MIAH JAZMINE PEREZ

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Miah Jazmine Perez, a fall 2024 intern with my Orlando office, for the good work she did for my office and the people of Florida.

Miah is currently a student at the University of Florida and Valencia College, where she is majoring in political science and psychology. She is a dedicated and diligent worker who was devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience.

I extend my deepest gratitude to Miah, and I look forward to hearing of her good work in the years to come.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

##### ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

At 2:15 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills: