

funding authorizations and legislation. His fingerprints lay throughout the NDAA in the form of legislation and report language. Mike was my lead expert on matters of blast overpressure and military suicide prevention resulting in at least six provisions becoming law. He also served as the subject matter expert on cybersecurity certification requirements, ensuring important oversight matters were included in the NDAA. Furthermore, he helped secure important funding for advanced research impacting Maine from Aroostook to York County. In addition, he became my go-to lead for monitoring the horrific war in Ukraine and Israel where he provided clear-headed and thoughtful analysis and liaised with representatives from the White House, State Department, and Department of Defense to convey my positions and concerns. His candor and honest assessments provided critical insights during this fraught time in U.S. history, and our Nation is better because of it.

On behalf of my colleagues and the U.S. Congress, I thank Mike for his dedicated service to my staff, the State of Maine, the U.S. Army, and the Nation. Part of what makes the U.S. military the greatest in the history of the world is that servicemembers like Mike dedicate their lives to service and sacrifice for their country. Major Marfut does not do it alone, so I also acknowledge the support of his family—his wife Alexandria and his children, Maria, Audrey, Grace, and George. I wish them all the best in what I know is a bright future.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO STEVE CLARK

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I rise to honor the achievements of Steve Clark of Fayetteville, AR, whose work as the executive director of the Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce has contributed to the tremendous growth and success of the city and greater northwest Arkansas.

Mr. Clark recently retired after 16 years at the chamber, but his hard work and stewardship will continue to impact the area's direction for generations to come.

Fayetteville is best known as the home of the University of Arkansas, which is a critical economic engine for the city. However, the university is only part of the community's success. It also features approximately 4,000 businesses and a population estimated to grow by six people per day.

During his tenure at the chamber of commerce, Clark worked to grow economic opportunities in research, technology, and healthcare, while also supporting the city's existing business community. In addition, his commitment to inspiring the next generation of leaders created new opportunities for young people. He expanded the chamber's leadership program to in-

clude schools throughout the county and deserves tremendous credit for more than 1,000 people having participated in the Leadership Fayetteville Program. In addition, Clark led establishment of the Northwest Arkansas Fab Lab, where high school students can become certified robotics technicians.

Clark is a native Arkansan, born and raised in Leachville. Before his chamber career, he was the longest serving attorney general in Arkansas, chief of staff for Gov. David Pryor, and worked as an assistant dean of the University of Arkansas School of Law. He was also a municipal judge in Brinkley and founded InnerCare, a national behavioral health company.

I am grateful for Clark's dedication to our State and his many contributions to the continuing growth of Fayetteville, the region, and the Natural State. I wish him the very best in his retirement.●

TRIBUTE TO THE HENDERSON FAMILY

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I rise today to honor the achievements of Murry and Dee Henderson of Keiser, AR, who have been recognized as the 2024 Arkansas Farm Family of the Year.

This award is a proud reflection of the Henderson family's hard work and dedication to Arkansas' farming community and their many contributions to our State's top industry for over 23 years. They have demonstrated a commitment to excellence in agriculture that encompasses community leadership and engagement, resource and energy conservation, and efficiency of production.

The Hendersons' farm stretches across 4,000 acres, yielding diverse crops including cotton, rice, and soybeans. In addition to their farm, the family owns and operates Lepanto Crop Service, providing aerial application to 50 farmers across four counties.

As participants in the USDA's Conservation Stewardship Program, the Hendersons have actively incorporated a conservation-oriented focus, including utilizing soil moisture sensors to conserve water resources and cover crops to help prevent soil erosion.

Since 1947, the Arkansas Farm Bureau's Arkansas Farm Family of the Year Program has highlighted the first-class agriculture producers our State is blessed to host. The Hendersons' contributions to their community and Arkansas' farm industry are no exception.

Murry and Dee, as well as their two children Bryce and Macy, are incredibly hard-working and represent our State well, while embodying the tenets of the Farm Family of the Year Program.

As Arkansas Farm Family of the Year, the Henderson family will be competing with nine other State winners to vie for the Sunbelt Ag Expo

Southeastern Farmer of the Year title in Moultrie, GA. I join my fellow Arkansans in wishing them the best of luck.

Congratulations again to the Hendersons for their accomplishments, and I wish the family continued success in the years to come.●

RECOGNIZING 50 YEARS OF ARKANSAS NUCLEAR ENERGY

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam President, I rise today to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Entergy's Arkansas Nuclear One powerplant in Russellville. Since 1974, Arkansas Nuclear One has served as our State's only nuclear powerplant, providing communities and businesses with electricity for over half a century.

Arkansas Nuclear One has a proven history of delivering safe, reliable, and affordable nuclear energy for the Natural State. With an estimated 1,800 megawatts of combined capacity between the two units located on Lake Dardanelle, it provides enough energy to the electric grid to power 1 million households and businesses.

As our State experiences continued industrial and commercial growth, we can expect our energy sector to increasingly develop and support increased demand statewide.

Arkansas Nuclear One's operations employ over 1,000 full-time workers and hundreds of additional contractors who contribute to the region by supporting local businesses, restaurants, and more. Further, Entergy supports over 175 Arkansas companies through the exchange of materials and services, totaling an estimated \$12 million in annual expenditures, which has a significant impact on our businesses and communities, with Arkansas Nuclear One contributing over \$190 million to Arkansas's gross State product and generating \$21 million in State and local tax revenue.

Plant employees have become integral members of the community through their involvement with volunteer work. Entergy has awarded over \$100,000 to nonprofits in the area, and Arkansas Nuclear One employees partnering with Entergy have donated over \$230,000 to the Arkansas River Valley United Way to bolster the financial stability, health, and education of vulnerable communities. Entergy also participates in other local nonprofits, such as the Salvation Army's Angel Tree Program that provides Christmas gifts for children across the country, Summer Food for Kids, and other educational initiatives.

Our State is fortunate to have access to nuclear energy in this capacity, and the region particularly enjoys substantial benefits because of Arkansas Nuclear One.

As a member of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, I am pleased to highlight Arkansas Nuclear One as a strong component of an all-of-the-above energy agenda. As we celebrate the reactor's 50th anniversary, our State and local communities

will continue to value its role in the production of safe, affordable, and reliable American energy for many years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL
(RETIRED) WILLIAM D. COBETTO

● Ms. DUCKWORTH. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute to the remarkable career of Major General (Retired) William D. Cobetto, the former Commander and Assistant Adjutant General—Air, Illinois National Guard, who will retire on January 31, 2025. After retiring from the Illinois Air National Guard in 2015, Major General Cobetto returned to the Illinois Department of Military Affairs in 2019, as a legislative liaison and currently serves as the Chief of Staff—Illinois Department of Military Affairs.

As the assistant adjutant general, Major General Cobetto was responsible for the command, control, and operations of plans and programs affecting more than 3,000 Illinois Air National Guard personnel located at the 126th Air Refueling Wing at Scott Air Force Base, the 182nd Airlift Wing at Peoria, and the 183rd Wing at Springfield, IL. His broad range of responsibilities included insuring combat readiness and mission capability of the three major air bases comprised of flying wings, command and control facilities, logistics, and mission support units. Throughout his entire career, Major General Cobetto led by example, providing a steady hand through some of the most tumultuous times in the history of our State and our Nation. The Illinois National Guard is better because of General Cobetto's service.

Major General Cobetto received his commission in 1985 from the Academy of Military Science, Knoxville, TN. During his career, he has served in several key positions. As commander, 183rd Fighter Wing Mission Support Group, he directed and monitored support activities and units ensuring cohesive integration of functions and resources. Prior to that, he provided sound fiscal guidance as comptroller, 183rd Fighter Wing. Of special note, General Cobetto was mobilized in 2003 and served at the Pentagon assisting the Air Force Crisis Action Team and the Secretary of the Air Force Financial Management. During his time as chief of staff for the Illinois Department of Military Affairs/Illinois National Guard, he coordinated the efforts and resources of Illinois Department of Military Affairs to support the State and Federal missions given the ILNG. He further serves as the agency's main point of contact with the Governor's office and other State and Federal Agencies that work with the ILNG. General Cobetto was previously assigned as the legislative liaison.

Major General Cobetto's leadership, determination, and commitment have no doubt changed lives and helped to make our country safer. As his service career ends, may he continue to be

“Always Ready, Always There!” and forever take pride in knowing that his exemplary efforts and unwavering professionalism contributed greatly to the success of the Air Force, the Illinois National Guard, and the National Guard mission.●

RECOGNIZING IOWA SPRING
MANUFACTURING

● Ms. ERNST. Madam 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 Iowa Spring Manufacturing of Adel, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 1976, James Bianco founded Iowa Spring Manufacturing to create and deliver large, heavy-duty metal springs for agricultural and mechanical equipment and overhead garage door industries. Before starting the business, James lived in Des Moines and worked as a salesman for an Indiana-based mechanical spring company. He leveraged his experience and long-standing relationships to start his own spring manufacturing business.

James and his wife Kathy began with a single machine and consulted an engineer to bring their vision to life. By 1979, the company relocated its headquarters to Adel to accommodate its growing operations. James managed Iowa Spring Manufacturing for more than 25 years and stepped down as CEO in 2002, handing over the reins to his son Tim Bianco, who joined the business full-time in 1989.

Iowa Spring Manufacturing continues to expand its products to manufacture and deliver metal springs for agriculture, construction, and recreational industries. In 2007, the business launched a garage door spring division named Southern Atlantic Spring in North Carolina. With operations in three States, the company maintains over 450,000 square feet of manufacturing space, including their new 60,000-square-foot facility in Adel, which opened in April 2023. Under Tim's leadership over the last 20 years, Iowa Spring Manufacturing has grown from 30 employees to more than 200 employees, taking American-made springs across the Western Hemisphere.

Iowa Spring Manufacturing is a member of the Adel Partners Chamber of Commerce, as well as the Farm Equipment Manufacturing Association. Additionally, Tim sits on the executive board of the Iowa Association of Business and Industry (ABI), as well as the board of the Spring Manufacturing Institute. In 2021, ABI awarded Tim with the Legend in Manufacturing Award. Locally, Iowa Spring Manufacturing is a dedicated supporter of the Adel Public Library and Adel High School. Across its locations in Iowa, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania, the company also works to support the local

fire and emergency services. Next November, Iowa Spring Manufacturing looks forward to celebrating its 49th anniversary in Iowa.

Iowa Spring Manufacturing's commitment to providing the country with reliable, American-made equipment is clear. I want to congratulate this family and the team for their dedication to keeping American-made metal springs available across the United States. I look forward to seeing their continued success.●

RECOGNIZING LAKEFRONT LIVING

● Ms. ERNST. Madam 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 Lakefront Living of Pleasantville, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 2018, Stacy Rowson started Lakefront Living after working as an embryologist for 13 years. She initially focused on selling custom sand and engraved vases for weddings and unity ceremonies, she expanded her business over time and moved it out of her home and into a rented space in Pleasantville, IA. In 2019, Stacy purchased and transformed an old grocery store into the brick-and-mortar storefront where Lakefront Living remains today.

While sand creations were the foundation of the business, Stacy's entrepreneurial spirit drove her to explore new possibilities. A suggestion from a community member sparked the idea to invest in a direct-to-film printer, opening the door to designing and printing custom products.

Today, Lakefront Living specializes in customizable apparel, accessories, and gifts—all crafted in-house. The business has six community-based employees who assist Stacy with the design process. From custom tumblers to soaps and bags, Lakefront Living also plays a key role in creating much of the merchandise for the local high school. The company collaborates with small businesses across the Midwest to bring unique gifts and decor to the store. Lakefront Living also hosts parties, painting workshops, and charcuterie-making classes.

Lakefront Living's dedication and impact on the community has not gone unnoticed. The business is an alumnus of the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses Program and has won several awards, including the 2021 Pleasantville Business of the Year and placing second in the Red Rock Startup Pitch Contest. This year, the Marion County Economic Development Commission also recognized Lakefront Living as the Best Small-Town Retail Store and the Best Hobby and Special Interest Store in Marion County. Stacy also plays an active role in the Pleasantville community through her involvement with the Pleasantville FFA