

TRIBUTE TO ORVILLE VON EHWEGEN

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, this month brims with milestones for students across America.

In Iowa, more than 34,000 students are among the class of 2025. I congratulate our graduates and encourage you to keep working hard. The sky is the limit. You get to define your future because you live in the land of the free.

That is because we have extraordinary patriots who have answered the call to serve and defend our cherished freedoms. One of these extraordinary patriots is a member of the class of 2025. His name is Orville Von Ehwegen.

Orville's journey to East Sac County High School's commencement ceremony this past weekend took an unusual detour and extended timeline. He missed out on the pomp and circumstance as a teenager because he answered history's call to serve. You see, Orville is 107 years old. He was born in 1917 and dropped out of school at age 14 to help on the family farm during the Great Depression.

Later, he enlisted in the U.S. Army and fought in the South Pacific during World War II. When he returned, he opened an appliance store and was a successful small business owner alongside his wife.

On Sunday, this remarkable World War II veteran received an honorary diploma from East Sac County High School, 93 years after his last day as a student. Orville's inspiring life story is an example of sacrifice and service, which his fellow graduates can emulate.

I congratulate Orville and thank you for your service. I would be honored to have you share your story as part of my annual Veterans History Project so that future generations don't ever take freedom and liberty for granted and understand what it takes to preserve them.

Orville's advice to the class of 2025 is a lesson for us all: Be kind and work hard.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. President, on May 14, 2025, I was unfortunately unable to cast my vote on rollcall vote No. 256, the confirmation of Eric M. Ueland to be Deputy Director for Management at the Office of Management and Budget. If I had been present, I would have voted nay.

TRIBUTE TO TINA CAPPETTA

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a tremendous public servant Tina Cappetta, superintendent of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park. Ms. Cappetta has served our National Park Service for over 35 years. She has dedicated herself to preserving our Nation's natural beauty and history at parks around the country for generations of families to enjoy.

In 2020, Ms. Cappetta returned as superintendent of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park, where she served earlier in her career as the chief of resources management. During her tenure as superintendent, she has overseen the celebration of the park's 50th anniversary, managed the relocation of the Park's headquarters to Williamsport, MD, and renewed the Great Falls Canal Boat Program. Her thoughtful stewardship of one of our Nation's most cherished historical and recreational resources has inspired scores of visitors from around the world.

Ms. Cappetta's work to preserve the C&O Canal's history and breathtaking scenery is truly remarkable. The park is home to the largest collection of 19th-century canal features and buildings and is one of the most biologically diverse natural areas in our national park system. It provides recreational and educational activities in rural and urban settings, spanning from Washington, DC, to Cumberland, MD. Ms. Cappetta's tireless commitment to the park has touched countless lives, from visitors experiencing the canal for the first time, to locals enjoying a weekend bike trip or walk on the towpath.

I commend Ms. Cappetta for her extraordinary devotion to our National Park Service here in Maryland and around the country. Her legacy is one of leadership and unwavering dedication to the preservation of one of our region's gems and one of our Nation's most historically significant landscapes. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking her and wishing her a well-earned, enjoyable, and fulfilling retirement.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING BENTONVILLE STUDENTS' STEM COMPETITION PERFORMANCE

• Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize three exceptional students from Bentonville West High School: Ronak Pai, LalitAditya Kameshwaran, and Veera Sai Joshik Unnam for winning the Samsung Solve for Tomorrow national competition.

The students, identifying a lack of affordable, nonintensive oral cancer screenings across the Natural State, dedicated their time and efforts to crafting a solution. Inspired by the direct experiences of their close family, friends, and loved ones who struggled to receive oral health care in both Arkansas and around the world, the trio conducted research and met with local dentists, as well as health providers, computer scientists, and cancer experts in hopes of making a difference.

They quickly discovered that oral cancer is one of the deadliest forms of cancer, as it can be difficult to diagnose and treat. That led them to compile thousands of images of mouth cancers and subsequently train an artificial

intelligence model to develop an application that can detect and classify stages of oral cancer.

In February, their Oral Care app secured a statewide win, delivering a \$12,000 technology prize package that included new computers for their school community, as well as the opportunity to showcase their work and compete on the national stage.

Ronak, LalitAditya, and Veera presented Oral Care to a panel of judges in Washington, DC, in April and earned the Community Choice Award against nine other teams.

As national winners, the students secured another prize package of \$100,000 for Bentonville West, including more technology and classroom resources.

I am proud to celebrate these three exceptional students whose efforts have benefited their communities and have the potential to better the lives of people around the world. It is exciting to see young Arkansans recognized on the national stage. Ronak, LalitAditya, and Veera have showed not only their unique entrepreneurial and technological skills but a desire to create a brighter, healthier future. •

REMEMBERING OFFICER MICHAEL T. HORAN

• Mr. BUDD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of Greensboro Police Officer Michael T. Horan.

Officer Horan served our Nation in uniform for 18 years as an Active Reservist in the U.S. Coast Guard and joined the Greensboro Police Department in 2017, where he served on the department's violent crime reduction team, crimes against persons unit, patrol districts two and four, special events team, and as a rapid deployment and active shooter instructor. Officer Horan was known by his colleagues for always being willing to mentor the younger officers in his department and, oftentimes, took the rookies under his wing.

For Officer Horan, the call of duty had no boundaries, and in 2019, he received a lifesaving award for rescuing a father and son from rip currents while on vacation with his family in Emerald Isle, NC.

On Monday morning, December 23, 2024—just 2 days before Christmas—the Greensboro Police Department received a report about a suspect with a handgun inside a grocery store on Lawndale Drive. Like he always did, Officer Horan responded to the call. When he arrived on the scene, he encountered the suspect who, without warning, pulled out his weapon and took Officer Horan's life in an instant.

This year, on January 9, members of Officer Horan's family, as well as many members of the public, gathered inside Greensboro's Westover Church to say their final goodbyes. The service concluded with a 21-gun salute to memorialize Officer Horan's last watch.

Michael was devoted to his family and his community. Throughout his career, he was always committed to public safety. He will forever be remembered as a leader who put his city's most vulnerable first, and may his commitment to selfless service be an example to us all.

Now, I ask that you join me in a moment of silence to honor the memory of Greensboro Police Officer Michael T. Horan.●

REMEMBERING KAREN ALEXANDER

● Mr. BUDD. Mr. President, I rise today to memorialize a servant leader of the great State of North Carolina. Mayor Karen Alexander of Salisbury went to her heavenly home far too soon on Sunday, December 29, 2024, at the age of 73 years young. Her colleagues and I will remember her as a loving, caring, and kind leader, always putting the needs of her city and the people she served above herself. She lived her life by the teachings of the Apostle Paul to Timothy: "And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth," 2 Timothy 2:24-25.

As an architect by trade, she founded her firm in 1989, where she led numerous renovation and design projects across the city. She was first elected to the city council in 2013. Not long after, she began serving as the mayor of Salisbury from 2015 to 2017 and later returned to the office in 2019. And she served as the president and board member of the North Carolina League of Municipalities.

Her initiatives as mayor brought new life to Salisbury's historic downtown area, improved public safety, and made life better for the city's residents. Throughout her career in public service, she was known for building consensus with class and grace.

Her relationships with her colleagues are described as being genuinely invested in the success of others. Her loving family will remember her as nurturing and supportive. As her daughter-in-law, Christy Mason Almazan, shared, "Karen had a way of making you feel like the very center of her attention. Her love was immense, and her presence was radiant."

The motto for the State of North Carolina is "Esse Quam Videri," Latin for "to be rather than to seem." I believe that Mayor Karen Alexander of Salisbury truly lived up to that standard and set the bar even higher.

Now, I ask that you join me in a moment of silence to honor the memory of Mayor Karen Alexander, a great North Carolinian who dedicated her life to public service.●

RECOGNIZING THE ROWAN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

● Mr. BUDD. Mr. President, on March 19, 1925, the Rowan County Chamber of Commerce held its first annual meeting. For 100 years, the chamber has played a vital role in the growth and development of Rowan County, serving over 800 members and representing 60,000 employees.

Rowan County has a strong history of entrepreneurship and innovation, serving as the birthplace of some of North Carolina's most iconic businesses. In 1917, during a nationwide sugar shortage, the popular cherry soda Cheerwine was first crafted here. By the 1920s, it has become a favorite soft drink across the region, cementing its place as a symbol of Southern culture for over a century now. Likewise, in 1957, a modest local grocery store called Food Town opened its doors in Rowan County. Just a few decades later, it rebranded as Food Lion, and now is a household name with over 1,100 stores across 10 States, serving millions of families across the Southeast.

Since its founding, the Rowan Chamber has been a driving force behind the county's economic growth and business success. As a hub for collaboration, the chamber brings together businesses and community leaders, harnessing their collective expertise to tackle local challenges and advance economic development throughout the region.

From the beginning, the Rowan Chamber has been at the forefront of prioritizing community development. In their first annual report, in 1925, the chamber celebrated its efforts that brought Catawba College to Salisbury, promoted a new creamery for farmers to produce dairy products, and advocated for better roads. In more recent accomplishments, the chamber has been at the forefront of business advocacy, workforce and leadership development, and funding for transportation and education. The Rowan Chamber has also successfully advocated for infrastructure projects that have led to increased economic development across the county. The Yadkin River Bridge Project, I-85 four-lane expansion, the Old Beatty Ford Road exit, the Rowan County Airport expansion, and the development of the Paul E. Fisher Gateway Building are just some of the accomplishments that have been made possible by the chamber's concentrated efforts.

As a small business owner, myself, and a member of the Senate Commerce and Small Business Committees, I appreciate the efforts of President Elaine Spalding, the board of directors, and everyone at the Rowan Chamber of Commerce for their work to support business leaders and keep North Carolina an attractive place to live and work.●

RECOGNIZING AMAZING GLAZE

● Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, Idaho small businesses are the backbone of

our economy and our communities. These small businesses not only employ our friends and neighbors, but provide invaluable goods and services that showcase shared Idaho values. They are an intrinsic element of the Gem State and deserve to be celebrated.

I am proud to relaunch my successful statewide initiative Support Local Gems this year on June 6 to encourage Idahoans to support the small businesses that make our State thrive. As a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I am pleased to honor Amazing Glaze during Support Local Gems as one of Idaho's Small Businesses of the Month for June 2025.

Amazing Glaze opened in 2017 when Dean and Katie Giesbrecht purchased Double Shot Donuts from Bob and Heather Ross. The Rosses initially aimed to start a local coffee shop featuring a small bakery with pastries and donuts. In hopes of replicating a family donut recipe, the Rosses underwent 2 weeks of trial and error to create the well-known potato donut, using mashed potatoes in the dough.

Since the owners of Double Shot never planned to run a donut shop, they approached Dean and Katie to see if they were interested in purchasing the business. Dean, who had always wanted to own a business, and his wife Katie jumped at the opportunity. Together, the Giesbrechts learned everything they could about making donuts and running the shop.

After renaming the company to Amazing Glaze, Dean and Katie continued to serve the beloved potato donuts—growing the treat's popularity to new heights. In just 2 years, Dean and Katie partnered with Idaho State University in Pocatello to open an Amazing Glaze kiosk in the Student Union Building on campus. The kiosk has been a great success, inspiring the couple to open a third Amazing Glaze location in Idaho Falls in 2024. The pair hopes to launch more locations and expand the business to the Treasure Valley in the years to come.

Congratulations to Dean and Katie Giesbrecht and all of the employees at Amazing Glaze for being selected as an Idaho Small Business of the Month for June 2025. You are an outstanding example of what it means to be one of Idaho's Local Gems. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to your continued growth and success.●

RECOGNIZING BLUETICK COFFEE

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