

He's also happy that they've stayed true to his "main pitch" about cross-country skiing, as outlined in page 7 of the third edition of his "bible":

"Cross-country skiing should be fun for everyone," Caldwell wrote. "The range of possibilities for enjoyment is unlimited. You can ski anywhere there's snow, you can use a wide variety of equipment, you can ski alone or with a group, you can use the very best technique while wearing the clothes you just picked up from the local rummage sale, or you can wear the latest styles and invent your own technique. So pick out and use anything you want from this book—but most of all, have fun skiing x-c. Make it be your thing."

It certainly has been Caldwell's—and his family's—"thing" for nearly a century.

RECOGNIZING HENRY'S DINER

Mr. WELCH. Madam President, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of an iconic Vermont institution, Henry's Diner. Henry's Diner has provided delicious food, welcoming ambience, and classic consistency to the Burlington, VT, community since 1925.

Henry's Diner was founded in 1925 by Henry Couture, a beloved Burlingtonian and entrepreneur. At the time, diners were perceived as lower-class, and women hardly ever ate at them. But Mr. Couture dedicated himself to building an institution that was welcoming to everyone. He included special touches to attract female patrons, and the diner grew into a place frequented by all. Today, you can find anyone from day laborers to college students to politicians enjoying a meal under the original railroad cart ceiling.

Henry's 100-year tenure has not been without its challenges. A fire in 1969 necessitated a months-long closure and heavy renovations to the business. Still, care was taken to preserve as much of the original diner as possible, and Henry's successfully reopened the following year.

In the early 90s, a McDonald's opened directly across the street from Henry's. Some feared this signaled a cultural shift and could spell the end of the historic diner. However, the McDonald's closed years ago while Henry's remains standing proudly on Bank Street. During COVID-19, like many other Vermont businesses, the diner weathered staffing shortages and temporary closures.

In the face of all these difficulties, Henry's has persevered. For a century now, Henry's has remained a place where people from all walks of life can gather over hearty food and a hot cup of coffee. The values that characterize Henry's—community, kindness, and acceptance—are Vermont values, and our state would not be the same without Henry's sitting in the heart of Burlington.

Henry's has changed ownership multiple times across its history and was most recently bought by Patricio Ortiz in 2024. Despite changing hands, each owner has carried on the quality service that has made Henry's so beloved. I wish the Ortiz family nothing but suc-

cess in continuing Henry's legacy and look forward to another 100 years of good food and great company.

Thank you, Henry's Diner, for feeding the hearts and souls of so many Vermonters.

RECOGNIZING DAN & WHIT'S GENERAL STORE

Mr. WELCH. Madam President, I rise today to celebrate the 70th anniversary of one of Vermont's most iconic general stores. Dan & Whit's has been the beating heart of the Norwich community for 70 years.

Dan & Whit's is a third-generation Vermont family business, nestled on Main Street in Norwich, VT—my hometown. The store is so integral to the people of Norwich, it is often used as a landmark: "Turn right at Dan & Whit's." The building itself is historic, too, having served as a townhall and post office before being converted into a general store. Dan Fraser and Whit Hicks, longtime friends, bought the store from its previous owners in 1955 and renamed it Dan & Whit's. The store has been run by the Fraser family ever since.

Dan & Whit's is known for their huge inventory. The store is deceptively large inside, and endless aisles are lined with a vast selection of goods, rumored to number into the hundreds of thousands. They stock everything from general store necessities, like cold beer and sandwiches; to Vermont necessities, like maple sugaring equipment; to the downright unexpected, like chicken feed and sushi. Their slogan, "If we don't have it, you don't need it," is stamped on their custom merchandise and attested to by anyone who visits.

The business is an anchor in the Norwich community. Generations of high schoolers can trace their first job back to Dan & Whit's. Customers stop by for milk and end up chatting with so many familiar faces they forget what they came in for. The store is also a leading participant in charitable giving around town. They were a pioneer of 19 Days of Norwich, an annual holiday drive where businesses donate a portion of their December sales to the local food shelf. During the rest of the year, they put on numerous fundraisers—selling creemees, pizza, and wine tastings, all to benefit local nonprofits.

The store prides itself on the Vermont values of respect and acceptance. They have made a point to be inclusive in their hiring, giving second chances to Vermonters who are exiting homelessness or incarceration. A sign hanging outside, surrounded by community notices and posters, proudly reads "Hate Does Not Grow In the Rocky Soil of Norwich, Vermont."

When faced with staffing shortages during COVID-19, it seemed likely Dan & Whit's would have to close its doors for the first time in history. The store put out a cry for help, and the call did not go unanswered. Dozens of commu-

nity members offered to pick up a shift or two. The new workers were often older Vermonters who had been retired for years, but they stocked shelves, checked out customers, and prepared sandwiches with enthusiasm. They pitched in not because they had to—many donated their salaries to charity—but because they felt the store's survival was essential to their community.

Despite the challenges they face as a small business—staffing shortages, supply chain issues, competition from online retailers—Dan & Whit's endures. The store represents the best that Vermont has to offer: a place where the person ringing up your groceries knows your name and where those running the store care more about their community than their bottom line.

I extend my deepest thanks to the Fraser family and every Dan & Whit's employee for their service to Norwich. I wish Dan & Whit's nothing but success and another 70 years of business.

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER RICHARD DUCHAINE

Mr. SCHMITT. Madam President, I rise today to commend the lifesaving service and unwavering dedication of Officer Richard DuChaine of Kansas City, MO.

While on duty for the Kansas City Police Department, Officer DuChaine swiftly responded to a critical emergency call on Highway 71. Rushing to the scene, Officer DuChaine quickly assessed the situation alongside Detective Jacob Shroyer and helped diagnosed the urgent need for CPR, actions that played a key role in preserving a woman's life until advanced medical support could arrive.

This was not the first time Officer DuChaine's decisiveness saved an American life. Two years earlier, he received a distress call regarding a 1-month-old infant. Without hesitation, he sprinted from his patrol car, bursting through the door and taking the small child into his arms. His quick and effective actions resuscitated the infant and saved her life. He celebrated the girl's second birthday with her grateful parents, a testament to Officer DuChaine's service and impact in his community.

Officer Richard DuChaine is truly a Champion of Missouri. His actions embody dedication to the protection of the public. His consistent commitment and ability to save lives has left an indelible mark on the Kansas City community, and I wish him the best in his career.

TRIBUTE TO RAY ELDER

Mr. SCHMITT. Madam President, I rise today to honor Captain Ray Elder of Kansas City, MO, for his dedication to recognizing and honoring all fallen KCPD firefighters on the city's firefighter memorial.

Captain Ray Elder served with the Kansas City Fire Department for 35

years, including 16 years as a captain. Once Ray retired, he became the official historian for the Kansas City Fire Historical Society. His 23 books on the department's history start with the first volunteer bucket brigades in 1858. His core mission is to register the deaths of all firefighters who died in the line of duty and ensure they are honored on the city's State memorial to fallen firefighters. Once Ray discovers a forgotten firefighter, their name is laser-cut into the tall metal panels at the Firefighters Fountain and Memorial in Penn Valley Park. Currently, 119 firefighters' names are honored, with Captain Ray Elder being responsible for over a dozen of them. Because of his hard work and dedication to the city's forgotten servicemembers, Ray has been awarded the Lifetime Contribution Award.

Captain Ray Elder is truly a Champion of Missouri. His dedication to honoring fallen firefighters reflects his unwavering sense of duty and commitment to his community. I commend Captain Elder for his service to his fellow Missourians and wish him all the best in his noble mission.

TRIBUTE TO KACK HASLAG

Mr. SCHMITT. Madam President, I rise today to honor Mrs. Kack Haslag of Jefferson City, MO, for her service to the State of Missouri.

When I was first elected to the Missouri State Senate in 2008, knew I needed to surround myself with talented and organized staff who would help me serve the people of Missouri. Kack Haslag's impressive record made her a clear choice. Kack diligently served as an attentive public servant. As I reviewed a host of legislation, Kack was able to keep my office focused, and together, we authored tax cuts, advocated for those with special needs, and fought to end taxation by citation.

Kack provided invaluable guidance with such a kind and caring disposition to me, my wife, and my children, and we still think of her fondly as a member of our family. She served as a capable liaison for my office and allowed me to focus on being a lawmaker. Her deep knowledge of the State legislature was of tremendous help to me, and I greatly relied on her advice. She contributed so much to my early success as a legislator, and the knowledge she imparted to me continues to serve me well as I represent Missouri in the U.S. Senate.

Kack is truly a Champion of Missouri. I am indebted to Kack for the time and attention she dedicated to our success during the early years of my service to the great State of Missouri. I wish her all the best in her retirement and hope she enjoys well-deserved time with her family.

TRIBUTE TO JIM MEYER

Mr. SCHMITT. Madam President, I rise today to honor Jim Meyer, man-

ager of the Grain Valley Community Center, for his timely and heroic act of service to save the life of a community member.

On the morning of April 7, 2025, a senior citizen collapsed and became unresponsive while using the fitness center. Fellow patrons immediately alerted the staff, and Jim Meyer, the center's manager, sprang into action. Without hesitation, he retrieved the Automated External Defibrillator, AED, and administered it to the man, delivering a shock that restored his heartbeat. This swift and decisive intervention was crucial in saving the man's life and was made possible by the frequent emergency training, including AED instruction, that the center's staff undergo. Thanks to Jim's timely response, paramedics arrived shortly after and transported the man to the hospital, where he made a full recovery. In this crisis, Meyer remained calm and focused, prioritizing the well-being of a community member over all else. Jim's heroic actions not only saved a life but also reinforced the sense of safety and community within the Grain Valley Community Center.

Jim Meyer is truly a Champion of Missouri. His decisive leadership and quick thinking kept a man alive and ensured safety in the community. I commend Jim for his service to his fellow Missourians and wish him all the best with the Grain Valley Community Center.

TRIBUTE TO CORPORAL KYLE SEABAUGH

Mr. SCHMITT. Madam President, I rise today to honor Corporal Kyle Seabaugh of the Missouri State Highway Patrol Special Victims Unit for his outstanding investigative work and leadership that saved four young children from extreme, ongoing sexual abuse.

Corporal Seabaugh was assigned to be the lead investigator in a child pornography distribution case in March of 2021. He began by organizing a team of experienced investigators to conduct two searches that helped him dig deeper and locate incriminating evidence of child sex abuse hidden in the suspect's cell phone. This led to the arrest and charging of the suspect as well as another perpetrator with multiple counts of sex trafficking, statutory sodomy, and rape. None of this would have been possible without Corporal Seabaugh's tireless efforts that spanned over 3 years. During this time, he built a strong case and collaborated with many individuals, including officers from the Clinton and Henry County Police Departments, as well as a forensic pediatrician and an FBI expert who helped to accurately identify the child victims. All this ensured that four children would not have to endure any continued abuse. The first suspect has already received 23 life sentences, and the other is currently awaiting trial.

Kyle Seabaugh is truly a Champion of Missouri. His leadership and strong

determination were critical in bringing these criminals to justice and an end to their horrific crimes. I commend Corporal Seabaugh for his service to his fellow Missourians and wish him all the best in his future efforts with the highway patrol special victim's unit.

TRIBUTE TO JACOB SHROYER

Mr. SCHMITT. Madam President, I rise today to honor Detective Jacob Shroyer of Kansas City, MO, for his lifesaving response that went above and beyond the call of duty.

While heading home, Detective Shroyer chose to keep his radio on and noticed a vehicle with flashing lights on the far side of the highway. Shortly thereafter, he overheard a dispatch call go out. Without hesitation, Officer Shroyer made a U-turn and rushed to aid a distressed couple. Arriving at the scene, he quickly helped a woman experiencing a medical emergency be lowered to the ground. Aided by Officer Richard DuChaine, they noticed purple and blue creeping into her lips, a sign of impeded breathing. Detective Shroyer immediately administered rapid chest compressions and lifesaving CPR to the suffocating victim. His actions kept her alive until the Kansas City Fire Department arrived with emergency medical equipment.

Detective Jacob Shroyer is truly a Champion of Missouri. He exemplifies the best of Missouri law enforcement. His decisive response while off-duty and the effective execution of his training demonstrate his commitment to protecting the public—even while off the clock. Officer Shroyer received profuse thanks from the couple as they recovered in a nearby hospital. I commend Detective Shroyer for his extraordinary service and his continued excellence with the Kansas City Police Department.

TRIBUTE TO COMMANDER STEPHEN SZACHTA, JR.

Mr. SCHMITT. Madam President, I rise today to honor CDR Stephen Szachta, Jr., of St. Charles, MO, a leader to service personnel who have served alongside him, a companion to our Japanese allies, and a true frontline warrior in our ensuing fight for global competitiveness against the Chinese Communist Party.

Commander Szachta began his career in the U.S. Navy, heeding the call to service following the attacks on September 11 and, after graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy in 2006, would later attend the Naval Postgraduate School, graduating with distinction and earning a master of science in systems engineering. In his distinguished naval career, he has deployed in support of counternarcotics and counterpiracy operations, as well as in key engineering roles aboard such vessels as the USS *Preble* and USS *Cape St. George*. Commander Szachta held the privilege of commanding the patrol