

Mario's handiwork on display. Giants of the Senate, including the late Senator John McCain, not only trusted Mario with their hair, they considered him a personal confidante and friend. Generations of Senators and staffers have relied on Mario's steady hand and extraordinary willingness to stay after hours to accommodate last-minute appointments. And in a place increasingly divided by tense partisan politics, Mario's genuine warmth and care provides a bridge of human connection for all who visit his chair. We honor and thank Mario for his 50 years of service and care.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### REMEMBERING MARILYN McGUIRE

• Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, late last year, I had the pleasure of meeting with family caregivers from Illinois. These heroes selflessly take care of their loved ones when they are in a time of need, even at the expense of their own goals or plans. I heard the story of Brittany Hogan, one of the 2.2 million family caregivers in Illinois, on the anniversary of her mother's passing. Brittany had been her mother's caregiver and kindly shared more about her mother's life. It is on Brittany's behalf that I am speaking today.

Marilyn McGuire spent 35 years as a public servant, working as a timekeeper for the Chicago Police Department. Marilyn brought generosity and a sense of humor to everything she did, and her coworkers loved Marilyn, treating her with great affection and even nicknaming her "Beautiful." Marilyn was spirited and thoughtful, even with the complex health challenges she faced.

As Marilyn battled scleroderma, lung disease, and many infections, Brittany became her full-time caregiver and advocate. Throughout these challenges, Marilyn was a fighter, never giving up or letting her spirit grow weak. Her passion for bringing people together and notoriety as the longtime host of family holiday events shone through, even from a hospital room, where she often played music and made guests comfortable as they came to comfort her.

Even after her passing, Marilyn continued to give to others, requesting her body be donated to science in the hopes that her struggles could help someone else down the road. Marilyn was a generous and compassionate Illinoisan, and her legacy lives on in her daughter Brittany and her advocacy work for family caregivers.●

##### RECOGNIZING PORT NEAL WELDING COMPANY

• Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as chair 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 honor Port Neal Welding Company of Woodbury County, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 1994, Dan Lee created a welding business out of his home, specializing in industrial fabrication of stairs, catwalks, and agricultural products. As Port Neal Welding undertook more regional projects, Lee moved the business into a new facility in 2011. The team also began to create custom artwork and sculptures using their steel products. With a team of 17 employees, including four of Dan's sons, the company takes pride in their high-quality craftsmanship and ability to fix any issue, whether something is bent, broken, or cracked.

Dan Lee and Port Neal Welding are active in various community initiatives. Lee currently serves on the Westwood Community School District Board, as well as his church board. The business is a member of the Siouland Chamber of Commerce and played a key part in constructing a replica of the Korean War Memorial at Siouland Freedom Park. In their charitable endeavors, they support the Woodbury County Sheriff's Office and local fire departments and schools. The business is also involved in charity auctions where they offer fabricated items. Their role as a central figure in the community was reflected in 2023, when multiple candidates for the Republican Presidential nomination visited the business. Their work on various fronts highlights the role of small businesses in American towns, both economically and socially.

It is my honor to recognize Dan Lee and the whole team at Port Neal Welding Company for their outstanding contributions and presence in their community. I look forward to their continued success and wish them the very best in the years to come.●

##### TRIBUTE TO ABBEY ALLEN

• Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I recognize Abbey Allen, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all the hard work she has done on behalf of my office and the State of South Dakota. Ms. Allen is a graduate of Madison High School in Madison, SD. She is currently attending Augustana University, where she studies government/international affairs and international studies. Ms. Allen is a dedicated and diligent individual who has been devoted to getting the most out of her internship experience. She has been a true asset to my office. I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Ms. Allen for all of the work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

##### TRIBUTE TO BELLA BAKER

• Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Bella Baker of Atlanta, MO. Her commitment to academic and

personal excellence is nothing short of remarkable, as she has balanced roles as State president of Missouri FCCLA, served as a State officer with Missouri 4-H and as an area officer of Missouri FFA, while maintaining a remarkable 3.7 GPA.

Over the last 9 months, she has served as a member of the inaugural class of my youth council, a program developed to connect promising Missouri high schoolers with unique opportunities to gain hands-on experience with government, work on engaging civics projects, and meet with various local and State leaders across Missouri. Recently, each member of the council was asked to prepare an essay exploring the foundations of American law and government and detail a current issue on the national stage. While each councilor's work showed an understanding of our Constitution, Ms. Baker's essay demonstrated a clear passion and keen insight into American law as she analyzed disability programs under the lens of the Equal Protection Clause. I have no doubt that she has a bright future ahead of her and shows great promise of being among the next generation of the Show-Me State's leaders.

Ms. Bella Baker has been an outstanding member of my office's youth council, and I am proud to call her a fellow Missourian. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.●

##### TRIBUTE TO SPIRO GEORGES

• Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Spiro Georges of Chesterfield, MO. While only a junior in high school, Mr. Georges has already proven to be an exceptional community servant and student-leader, having volunteered with various youth camps, mentoring younger students and helping them learn to make responsible choices, and serving with his school's student government.

For the last 9 months, Spiro has served with 11 other Missouri high schoolers as part of the inaugural class of my office's youth council, a program launched to connect promising Missouri high schoolers with unique opportunities to gain hands-on experience with government, work on engaging civics projects, and foster a deeper interest in the Show-Me State's history. Each member of the council was asked to create an essay exploring our Constitution and representative government in the context of a modern-day issue. While each essay showed insight, Mr. Georges' work demonstrated that he had a clear passion for the project and had done careful research, outlining how social media algorithms have influenced democracy and voter education. With his clear passion for civics and service, it is already clear that he has a bright future ahead of him and has the potential to shine as one of the next generation of Missouri leaders.

I am proud to call Mr. Spiro Georges a fellow Missourian and represent him

in the U.S. Senate. He has been an exceptional member of my office's youth council, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.●

#### TRIBUTE TO KATERINA PRUITT

● Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Katerina Pruitt of Webb City, MO. While still a junior in high school, Ms. Pruitt is already an accomplished young woman, having earned a bronze medal in a statewide speech and debate tournament, serving as captain on her school's swim team, and earning the prestigious magna cum laude honor in completing the National Latin Exam, all while maintaining an impressive 4.0 GPA.

Over the last 9 months, Katerina has served with 11 other outstanding Missourians as part of the inaugural class of my youth council, a program launched to connect promising Missouri high schoolers with unique hands-on opportunities to learn about our representative form of government, work on engaging civics projects, and develop a deeper interest in Missouri history. Recently, each youth councilor was asked to draft an essay exploring the foundations of American society and government in the context of a modern-day issue facing our great Republic. Ms. Pruitt's writing showed exceptional insight into the unique privilege and challenges we face as we serve our fellow Americans, putting the good of the Nation before all else.

Ms. Katerina Pruitt doubtless has a bright future ahead of her and already demonstrates great promise of becoming one of the Show-Me State's future leaders. She has been an outstanding member of my office's youth council, and I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.●

#### TRIBUTE TO GANNON SEYER

● Mr. SCHMITT. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Gannon Seyer of Ashland, MO. Despite still being enrolled in high school, he has already pursued multiple opportunities to develop his leadership and civic skills, serving as FFA chapter treasurer and as president of his high school's Beta Club, and has shown an impressive dedication to helping others, receiving the President's Volunteer Service Award in 2025 for his volunteer work.

Over the past 9 months, Gannon has served with the inaugural class of my youth council, a program launched to connect promising Missouri high schoolers with unique opportunities to gain hands-on experience with government, work on engaging civics projects, develop interest in State history, and meet with various leaders across Missouri. Recently, each member of the council was invited to create an essay exploring the foundations of the American Constitution in the context of a modern-day issue. While each councilor's work showed understanding of our Nation's laws, Mr. Seyer's essay

demonstrated that he had put careful thought and research into this project, discussing the Great Compromise and potential avenues to ensuring all Americans are properly represented in Congress.

With his passion for service and dedication to personal growth, he has a bright future ahead of him, and I am proud to call him a fellow Missourian. Gannon Seyer has been an outstanding member of my office's youth council, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.●

#### TRIBUTE TO PAUL GRENIER

● Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Paul Grenier and recognize his decades of public service to the city of Berlin, NH. Paul recently wrapped up his final term in public office and walked out of city hall in January as a private citizen after 18 years on the city council and 14 years as mayor. He leaves a legacy of resilience, steady management, creative problem solving, and genuine care for the constituents of his hometown.

A native of Berlin, Paul grew up in a vibrant city anchored by a paper mill system that employed thousands of people and buoyed other local industries. Like many of his high school classmates, he found a stable job in the mills and even became a trustee for the local paper union. Yet Berlin was not immune to the dynamics of a changing economy that pulled manufacturing jobs from small mill towns and forced mill workers to find employment elsewhere. These changes left a clear mark on a community known as "The City That Trees Built." Paul heard a call to public service when he was concerned that his children and the next generation would not have the same opportunities that he enjoyed. As he would do throughout his career, he rolled up his sleeves and looked for ways to help his neighbors and his struggling hometown. He put his name on the ballot and campaigned for a seat on the city council in 1991. It would be the first of many election day victories for Paul Grenier.

Paul learned a lot about municipal management throughout his many years as city councilor and mayor of Berlin. Paul faced incredible challenges early in his tenure as mayor, including the shuttering of three large regional employers. He tapped into relationships throughout Berlin and New Hampshire not only to manage the impacts of these closures, but also to reimagine the local economy in the years ahead and develop new avenues for growth. Mayor Grenier successfully lobbied for a Massachusetts-based steel company to open a fabrication facility in Berlin and take advantage of the city's skilled fabricators. He pushed for the expansion of Jericho Mountain State Park, a small window into his broader efforts to promote Berlin and northern New Hampshire as a four-sea-

son destination for outdoor enthusiasts. He upgraded equipment for the city's first responders and public works. He improved the city's athletic fields, and he even donated his salary to worthy local causes like Berlin Youth Hockey. He focused his final years on securing Federal investments to revitalize the city's Main Street and boost its appeal to prospective businesses and tourists. Throughout his seven terms as mayor, Paul Grenier worked tirelessly for Berlin in ways big and small. He embodies the core values of the community he so skillfully led: resilient, resourceful, innovative, collaborative, friendly, and respectful.

Paul concluded his decades of public service right where it began, in the Berlin City Council chambers. After finishing his seventh term as mayor, he spent 2 months as a private citizen before receiving an appointment to finish the term of a departing city council member. His wealth of experience and deep knowledge of city hall made him a natural fit. Now a private citizen again, Paul likes to spend his time at Berlin's Notre Dame Arena teaching local kids to skate in a community known as Hockey Town USA.

Paul Grenier has made an unforgettable mark on the city of Berlin. Hearing him speak about the potential of his hometown is truly inspiring, and he has turned that passion and advocacy into concrete actions that vastly improved his community. Paul passed the most crucial test of public leadership: "To leave a place better than you found it." Berlin is better and its future is brighter because of Paul Grenier.

Paul will be honored by his neighbors and peers this month at the annual meeting of the Androscoggin Valley Chamber of Commerce. I join them in spirit for this celebration of a humble and hard-working public servant, and I ask my colleagues and all Americans to join me in thanking Paul for his longstanding service.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Hanley, one of his secretaries.

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

In executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar: