

## TRIBUTE TO PAYTON SMITH

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Payton Smith for his hard work as an intern in my office in Cheyenne, WY. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office, as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Payton is a native of Cheyenne. He graduated in 2024 from Central High School. He is a senior at Rutgers University, where he is a member of the Rutgers Pre-Law Society and the Conservation Club. After he graduates with a major in political science, along with minors in environmental science and creative writing, he hopes to attend law school and eventually practice environmental law. He has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Payton for the dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his journey.

## TRIBUTE TO ZACH THUROW

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my deep appreciation to Zach for his hard work and dedication as an intern in my Sheridan, WY, office. I recognize his efforts and contributions to my office, as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Zach is from Sheridan, WY. He recently completed his freshman year at George Mason University where he studied political science. He is currently working with a Navy recruiter for enlistment in the reserves. After completing training, he will serve as a reservist while enrolled at Purdue, studying international affairs and participating in ROTC. His end goal is serving as an officer while on active duty with the U.S. Navy. He has demonstrated an exceptionally strong work ethic, which has made him an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of his work is reflected in his great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Zach for the resolute dedication he has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have him as part of our team. I know he will have continued success with all of his future endeavors. I wish him all my best on his journey.

## TRIBUTE TO ELLA WALLACE

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take the opportunity to express my appreciation to Ella for her hard work as an intern in my Washington, DC, office. I recognize her efforts and contributions to my office, as well as to the State of Wyoming.

Ella is a native of Jackson, WY. Ella is currently enrolled at the University of Southern California, where she is pursuing a bachelor's degree in journalism with a minor in law and social justice. She has demonstrated a strong work ethic, which has made her an invaluable asset to our office. The quality of her work is reflected in her great efforts over the last several months.

I want to thank Ella for the dedication she has shown while working for me and my staff. It is a pleasure to have her as part of our team. I know she will have continued success with all of her future endeavors. I wish her all my best on her journey.

## RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CRUM ELECTRIC

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Wyoming's Crum Electric on its 50th anniversary. This outstanding Wyoming-based business has spent five decades helping power American communities, industries, and economic growth.

David H. Crum founded Crum Electric Supply in 1976 in Casper, WY. He grew it into one of the largest independent electrical distributors in the Rocky Mountain region. Since its founding in 1976, Crum Electric has grown from a single location electrical distributor into a trusted partner serving customers at 10 locations across Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and South Dakota. Throughout that journey, the company has remained committed to the values that define American business: hard work, innovation, integrity, and exceptional customer service.

David has been a longtime leader in the industry. He served as the National Association of Electrical Distributors Chairman in 1996. He also received the Arthur W. Hooper Award in 2005. It is the association's highest individual honor for service and leadership. In 1999, the University of Wyoming recognized David with its Distinguished Alumni award.

In 2024, David announced his retirement after leading the company for nearly 50 years. David's legacy continues with his son Dave, who is now at the helm of Crum Electric as its CEO.

Electrical distributors like Crum Electric are often the unsung heroes of our economy. They ensure contractors, manufacturers, utilities, and businesses have the products and expertise needed to build schools, hospitals, factories, energy infrastructure, and the technologies that keep Wyoming and our country moving ahead.

As America modernizes its electric grid, expands domestic manufacturing, and invests in new energy technologies, Crum Electric will continue to play an indispensable role in strengthening our Nation's infrastructure and supply chains.

Congratulations to the entire Crum Electric team, past and present, on 50 years of excellence. I wish them continued success for many years to come.

## VOTE EXPLANATION

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent, but had I been present, I would have voted yes on rollcall vote No. 50, On the Cloture Motion (Motion to Invoke Cloture Re: Amdt. No. 4308).

I was necessarily absent, but had I been present, I would have voted yes on rollcall vote No. 52, On the Cloture Motion (Motion to Invoke Cloture: H.R. 6644 as amended).

I was necessarily absent, but had I been present, I would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 54, On Cloture on the Motion to Proceed (Motion to Invoke Cloture Re: Motion to Proceed to H.R. 7147).

I was necessarily absent, but had I been present, I would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 59, On Cloture on the Motion to Proceed (Upon Reconsideration, Motion to Invoke Cloture on the Motion to Proceed to H.R. 7147).

I was necessarily absent, but had I been present, I would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 60, On the Cloture Motion (Motion to Invoke Cloture: Tuberville Amdt. No. 4421 to the Motion to Concur in the House Amendment to S. 1383 with Amendment).

I was necessarily absent, but had I been present, I would have voted yes on rollcall vote No. 61, On the Cloture Motion (Motion to Invoke Cloture: Schumer Motion to Suspend the Rules re: TSA Funding).

I was necessarily absent, but had I been present, I would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 62, On the Cloture Motion (Motion to Invoke Cloture: Markwayne Mullin to be Secretary of Homeland Security).

I was necessarily absent, but had I been present, I would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 168, On the Nomination (Confirmation: Anthony J. Powell, of Kansas, to be U.S. District Judge for the District of Kansas).

I was necessarily absent, but had I been present, I would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 171, On the Cloture Motion (Motion to Invoke Cloture: Justin D. Smith to be U.S. Circuit Judge for the Eighth Circuit).

I was necessarily absent, but had I been present, I would have voted no on rollcall vote No. 189, On the Cloture Motion (Motion to Invoke Cloture: Arthur Roberts Jones to be U.S. District Judge for the Southern District of Texas).

I was necessarily absent, but had I been present, I would have voted yes on rollcall vote No. 190, On the Motion to Proceed (Motion to Proceed to S.J. Res. 196).

## TRIBUTE TO CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT MEGAN W. PARROTT

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and congratulate CMSgt Megan W. Parrott on her retirement from the U.S. Air Force after more than 27 years of distinguished service in uniform to our Nation.

Throughout her accomplished career, Chief Master Sergeant Parrott has exemplified the professionalism, leadership, and commitment to excellence that define the very best of the U.S. Air Force. She currently serves as the strategic communications advisor to the Chief of the Air Force Reserve, where she oversees the development and coordination of strategic communications that advance the Reserve's priorities and strengthen engagement with Congress, community partners, and other key stakeholders.

Chief Parrott began her military service in 1999 as an aircraft maintenance guidance and control technician on the KC-10A Extender. Following her transition to the Air Force Reserve, she held numerous leadership roles within the maintenance community before being selected to serve as the operations noncommissioned officer in charge for the Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Her exceptional performance, sound judgment, and steadfast dedication earned her some of the Air Force Reserve's most significant leadership opportunities.

I had the privilege of getting to know Megan when she served in my office as my Defense fellow in 2018. As the first enlisted legislative fellow selected from the Air Force Reserve, she brought invaluable insight and expertise to my staff, advising on defense, national security, and veterans' affairs policy. Those who had the opportunity to work with her appreciated the professionalism, integrity, and dedication to public service she demonstrated to benefit Arkansans and the military and veteran community across our Nation.

Chief Parrott's career reflects an unwavering devotion to duty and a steadfast commitment to serving both the Air Force Reserve and our country. We are tremendously proud of her selfless service, exemplary leadership, and commitment to the men and women of our Armed Forces.

On behalf of the U.S. Senate, the Senate Air Force Caucus, and a grateful nation, I extend my sincere appreciation to Chief Parrott and her family for their many years of sacrifice and dedication. I congratulate her on an extraordinary career and wish her continued success in the years ahead.

#### TRIBUTE TO CADE EDWARDS

Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I recognize Cade Edwards, an intern in my Washington, DC, office, for all the hard work he has done on behalf of my office and the State of South Dakota. Mr. Edwards is a graduate of O'Gorman High School in Sioux Falls, SD. He is currently attending the University of Iowa, where he studies political science and economics. Mr. Edwards is a dedicated and diligent individual who has been devoted to getting the most out of his internship experience. He has been a true asset to my office. I extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to Mr.

Edwards for all of the work he has done and wish him continued success in the years to come.

#### TRIBUTE TO BAILEY FEISTNER

Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I recognize Bailey Feistner, 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. Feistner is a graduate of Woonsocket High School in Woonsocket, SD. She recently graduated from the University of South Dakota, where she studied legal studies and political science. Ms. Feistner 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. Feistner for all of the work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

#### TRIBUTE TO BAYLIE SOMSEN

Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I recognize Baylie Somsen, 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. Somsen is a graduate of Webster High School in Webster, SD. She is currently attending South Dakota State University, where she studies business economics. Ms. Somsen 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. Somsen for all of the work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

#### TRIBUTE TO OLIVIA WENDLAND

Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I recognize Olivia Wendland, 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. Wendland is a graduate of Milbank High School in Milbank, SD. She is currently attending Clemson University, where she studies economics. Ms. Wendland 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. Wendland for all of the work she has done and wish her continued success in the years to come.

#### RECOGNIZING THE APPALACHIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the Appalachian Mountain Club and recognize its 150 years of dedicated service in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions of our country. As the Nation's oldest

continuously operating outdoor recreation and conservation organization, the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC) has encouraged generations of Americans to venture outside and protect the region's most beautiful and prized mountain landscapes.

AMC began with a call from Professor Edward Charles Pickering for "those interested in mountain exploration" to attend a meeting in early January 1876 at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. According to news reports at the time, the meeting drew interest from 30 to 40 people. They gathered in an era when more Americans were beginning to appreciate mountains for their unparalleled beauty, their open space for recreation, and their considerable value for scientific study of the natural world. In the early years of the organization, members set their sights on New Hampshire's White Mountains to visit, create accurate maps, build accessible trails, and collect data in a variety of fields from botany to geology to meteorology. They published the first edition of *Appalachia* in 1876, which grew into the Nation's leading and longest running journal on outdoor exploration and conservation. In 1888, AMC opened its first backcountry hut in the Presidential Range and dramatically reshaped the culture of hiking in the region. The Madison Spring Hut has not only offered overnight shelter to exhausted hikers, but also contributed to scientific research, supported trail stewardship and visitor safety, and helped protect a fragile alpine environment. AMC still operates a network of eight huts in New Hampshire's White Mountains, and they epitomize the organization's founding philosophy of making mountain experiences more accessible while also promoting stewardship of the landscape.

AMC's advocacy for the passage of the Weeks Act in 1911 is another example of its work at the intersection of conservation and recreation. Known as one of the most important conservation laws in American history, the Weeks Act authorized the Federal Government to purchase private land for the purpose of restoring and protecting forests and watersheds. It led directly to the establishment of the White Mountain National Forest in New Hampshire and later dozens of other national forests in the eastern United States. Today, nearly 20 million acres of forestland have been permanently protected through the Weeks Act. Thanks in large part to the public support AMC generated for its passage, Americans will enjoy the many environmental, economic and recreational benefits of these lands for generations to come.

The Weeks Act was a defining public policy achievement for AMC, but it was far from its last. Throughout the next century, its members and volunteers would continue to advocate for smart,