

Sugars for 30 years. Russ exemplifies a work ethic that defines Montana, and it is my great honor to honor his successes today.

Russ received his bachelor's of science in geology from the University of Wyoming and has since built a successful professional career. Russ worked for Holly Sugar for 7 years, taking his skills across the country to California, Wyoming, and Montana.

When Holly Sugar changed ownership in 2002, he continued to loyally serve as the agricultural manager. With his leadership, Sidney Sugars has found much success and produced a record high of 30.4 tons per acre in 2014.

On behalf of all Montanans, we are sad to see him go but so thankful and inspired by his decades of loyal service and hard work.●

CONGRATULATING CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER 2 ROGER CAPPS

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate CW2 Roger Capps on receiving the Defense of Freedom Medal, honoring his service and sacrifice while working in Afghanistan. It gives me great pleasure to see a member of the Nevada family being recognized with this prestigious medal.

In April of 2013, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Capps, then a traditional lieutenant colonel, was transporting military equipment across Afghanistan for Columbia Helicopters. During the trip, he was struck by an insurgent-shot bullet that had entered the helicopter by a rare opening in the bulletproof flooring, ultimately shattering his femur and pelvis. Though he will not receive a Purple Heart because he was working as a civilian that day, he will receive this unique Defense of Freedom Medal presented to civilian employees who are killed or wounded while working in support of the Department of Defense. His service remains invaluable to this great Nation.

Even after this difficult day, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Capps maintained a positive spirit. While recovering from his injuries, he reassessed his military future, ultimately opting to utilize his piloting skills. In May, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Capps resigned his commission and transferred to the warrant officer corps. He now serves our Nation flying Chinook helicopters for the Army Guard.

I extend my deepest gratitude to Chief Warrant Officer 2 Capps for his bravery in serving the United States of America. His unwavering commitment to serving our Nation demonstrates his genuine selfless character and love for his country. His actions represent only the greatest of Nevada's values, including dedication, courage, and a spirit to persevere in the most difficult times.

As a member of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, I recognize that Congress has a responsibility not only to honor these brave individuals who serve our Nation but also to ensure they are cared for when they return

home. I remain committed to upholding this promise for our veterans and servicemembers in Nevada and throughout the Nation. Chief Warrant Officer 2 Capps' sacrifice warrants only the greatest respect and care in return.

Throughout his tenure, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Capps has demonstrated unparalleled bravery and positivity. I am both humbled and honored by his service and am proud to call him a fellow Nevadan. Today I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Chief Warrant Officer 2 Capps on his much-deserved accolade and wish him well in all of his future endeavors.●

REMEMBERING WALDO DE CASTROVERDE

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the life of Waldo De Castroverde, a prominent Nevadan whose legacy lives on through the work of his sons. I send my gratitude to Mr. De Castroverde's family as they continue to serve Las Vegas' Hispanic community.

Mr. De Castroverde was a true patriot of Cuba, fighting to bring his country some of our Nation's most important values—freedom and democracy. In 1961, he was a paratrooper and one of 1,400 Cuban exiles who participated in the Bay of Pigs invasion in an attempt to bring greater sovereignty to Cuba, which ultimately led to his imprisonment. After being captured, Mr. De Castroverde was selected on multiple occasions to serve on a commission sent to the United States to negotiate the release of those who participated in the invasion. Two years later, Mr. De Castroverde was freed and moved to the United States with his wife.

Upon arriving to the United States, Mr. De Castroverde and his wife moved to Miami where he taught history at a local high school. In 1978, he moved with his family to Reno, where he worked rigorously to shape a bright future for himself and his family of four children. He worked as a blackjack dealer during the day and he attended law school at night.

Fifteen years later, he moved to Las Vegas and started his own practice in immigration and criminal law. In 2005, he was joined by his two sons, Alex and Orlando, forming the De Castroverde Law Group, which has served as an incredible resource to Las Vegas's Hispanic community.

While we were saddened by the passing of this great Nevadan in 2014, he will always be remembered as an inspiring advocate of liberty and as a role model to Las Vegas's Hispanic community.

I am honored to commend him and his family for their work throughout Las Vegas. Today, I join citizens across our State in celebrating the life of an extraordinary Nevadan, Waldo De Castroverde.●

RECOGNIZING ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ASU PUBLIC SERVICE ACADEMY

● Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I want to acknowledge and commend the leadership at Arizona State University, ASU, for the establishment of the ASU Public Service Academy, which this fall opened its doors to student leaders who aspire to effect a positive change within our country and around the globe through public service. I am pleased to see ASU's recognition of the importance of civilian and military national service in the development of a sense of citizenship among our country's future leaders. I also want to acknowledge the benevolence of ASU president Michael Crow and his wife Sybil Francis whose contributions will help transform the vision of the Public Service Academy into a reality.

In closing, Mr. President, I again want to commend the leadership at ASU for their commitment to public service and to the State of Arizona, and I look forward to witnessing the future contributions of the Public Service Academy. Thank you.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:30 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House agrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 719) to require the Transportation Security Administration to conform to existing Federal law and regulations regarding criminal investigator positions, and for other purposes, with an amendment, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-2959. A communication from the Chief of the Planning and Regulatory Affairs Branch, Food and Nutrition Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP): Agricultural Act of 2014 Nondiscretionary Provisions" (RIN0584-AE48) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 18, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2960. A communication from the Associate Administrator of the Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Apricots Grown in Designated Counties in Washington; Decreased Assessment Rate" (Docket No. AMS-FV-15-0033) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 18, 2015; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2961. A communication from the Associate Administrator of the Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Agricultural Marketing