

aging sidewalks, as well as other beautification and community development projects including the Meadow River Trail. Even now, in her final days in office, Mayor Andy continues her tireless work for Rainelle and its recovery.

Mayor Andy and the people of Rainelle inspire me. I am incredibly appreciative of the selfless leadership that Mayor Andy exhibits with her actions, and I hope that it further inspires young women in her community and across our State to rise up and be leaders and influential voices in their community. The town of Rainelle's motto has never been so fitting and true, largely in part to Mayor Andy: "A Town Built to Carry On." On behalf of the people of the great State of West Virginia, I thank Mayor Andy Pendleton for her service to Rainelle. It is truly an honor to call her a colleague and a friend.●

TRIBUTE TO JOHN SCHMIDT

● Mrs. CAPITO. Madam President, I wish to recognize a dedicated public servant and proud West Virginian, John Schmidt, on the occasion of his retirement from the West Virginia Ecological Services Field Office, WVFO, of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, located in Elkins. I would especially like to recognize his leadership and contributions to fish and wildlife conservation. Innumerable West Virginians have benefited from his tireless efforts to improve wildlife conditions in our great State. John has been a vocal champion for creating a conservation legacy through collaboration and strong working partnerships with local stakeholders.

John has been working as a biologist for 32 years. For 25 of those, he has served the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, working with landowners and State and Federal agencies. Currently, he helps nongovernmental organizations as a project leader to help restore, enhance, and protect fish and wildlife throughout our state.

Due to his leadership, contributions, and dedication to his community, John is being awarded the Superior Service Award by the U.S. Department of Interior. John has highlighted the need for providing restoring wildlife and recreational safety for West Virginians.

Beyond the critical assistance that the WVFO provides to the wildlife in West Virginia, it also has a positive effect on the economy. John and his staff volunteered numerous hours on a project to remove three legacy dams, leading to savings of nearly \$60,000 per year for the municipal water system and its ratepayers. This work helped connect over 47 miles of formerly segmented river and drastically improved the water quality in the West Fork River.

Outside of his work for the WVFO, John has played an active role in giving back to his community. Some of his volunteer work has included time spent helping community leadership

and conservation organizations such as the Tygart Valley Lions Club, Ducks Unlimited, Trout Unlimited, and the Virginia Tech Monogram Club. He has also served as a swim coach and official for 30 years at all primary school levels. John has shown that he is dedicated to help all West Virginians in numerous efforts.

I would like to thank John for all his insight and advice over the years. My office has relied upon him countless times for guidance and input. On a personal level, he was kind and helpful not only to me, but to my staff as well. They often spoke highly of how attentive, patient, and kind he was to everyone with whom he worked. I wish John the very best during his well-deserved retirement, and I hope he can enjoy more time with loved ones. West Virginia owes John our gratitude, and I thank him for all his excellent work over his decades-long career.●

REMEMBERING JAMES A. "BUD" CODY

● Mr. ISAKSON. Madam President, today, I am honored to recognize in the RECORD the life of James A. "Bud" Cody, who selflessly served Georgians for decades and recently passed away in Ocean Springs, MS.

Bud Cody was born in Willachoochee, GA., on November 27, 1938. From an early age, he loved being active, finding friends, and making a difference. He played on the legendary Valdosta High School football team under his mentor, Coach Wright Bazemore. He was part of the State winning 4x4 track relay team.

Bud started his career at a young age, working full time at the Boys Club in Valdosta, GA, at the age of 18. He attended college at night over the next several years while helping his wife care for their children.

After graduating and establishing Boys Club facilities from Louisiana to Texas, Bud was hired by the Georgia Sheriffs' Association as their first executive director and returned home to Georgia in 1966. His career with the sheriffs' association also included his becoming director of the Georgia Sheriffs' Youth Homes located at the Boys Ranch in Hahira, GA. Bud continued to serve in these roles for the next 46 years. As executive director, he also assumed control of the Sheriffs' Retirement Fund of Georgia, leading the organization's assets from \$9 million in 1982 to more than \$97 million to take care of Georgia's retired sheriffs.

Bud retired in September 2012 with many lasting accomplishments thanks to his principled leadership and values. He expanded the Georgia Sheriffs' Youth Homes to provide a safe haven and education opportunities for thousands of Georgia's abused, abandoned, and neglected children. He also led the initiative to establish the Georgia Sheriffs' Youth Homes Foundation, which provides ongoing funds for its youth homes.

Our public safety officers also have Bud to thank for the excellent training they receive to help keep them safe while protecting Georgians. Bud believed that every officer should receive the best training possible, so he helped found the Georgia Public Safety Training Center in Forsyth, GA, working with State leaders, criminal justice practitioners, and sheriffs to establish a world-class public safety training facility that trains more than 2,000 students daily. Over the course of his career, nine Georgia Governors routinely sought his advice and counsel.

Bud's reach went beyond Georgia, too. He helped establish the National Sheriff's Association Committee of Presidents and Executive Directors in 1980 to ensure the office of sheriff had a professional code and standards.

Bud joined his friend and business partner Claude Grizzard to form the company CFR. In all, they provided assistance to more than 30 States from New York to Texas to California, raising tens of millions of dollars for the purpose of helping officers and youth homes nationwide. If you ever see a car tag from a State sheriff's association, this is thanks to the efforts of Bud and Claude.

Bud was beloved by his family. He was preceded in life by his father, Homer Cody, mother, Mellie Cody, and daughter, Celena Cody, and survived by his children, James A. "Buddy" Cody, Jr., Derek Marchman, daughter-in-law Kel Marchman, Camille Hormell, son-in-law Rodger Hormell, and Amy Asbell. His grandchildren include Wesley Leverett, Sara Cody, Laura Cody, Bryan Cronan, Austin Hormell, Quaid Hormell, Cody Kitchens, Seth Kitchens, Sara Marchman, Jamie Cody, Maggie Cody, and Wyatt Asbell. Great-grandchildren include Abigail Kitchens, Maddox Kitchens, Lucas Kitchens, and Grayson Kitchens.

Most fittingly, a public memorial will be held at the Public Safety Training Center in Forsyth, GA, on July 13 before his ashes are spread by his family on his beloved St. Simons Island. As we remember the life and work of Bud Cody, we send prayers to his family and all those whose lives were touched by his mission.●

TRIBUTE TO SUMMER HOLTZHOWER

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I honor Summer Holtzower, the Sumter County Teacher of the Year from Wildwood Elementary School in Wildwood, FL.

Summer, a 4th grade math and science teacher, just completed her second year and designs her classroom activities to challenge her students. She has a teaching activity called the Density Lab, where students experiment with placing certain liquids in measuring cups and hypothesize where they think the liquids will settle. Students then test to see if their hypotheses are correct and answer Summer's