

months ago, when she graciously took me on a tour of Taipei's iconic Dadaocheng neighborhood. It is now my pleasure to return the favor this weekend when she visits my home State.

Welcome, President Tsai, to the Centennial State, and may we continue to strengthen the bonds of friendship between our nations and our peoples.

#### TRIBUTE TO PHIL AND JODY SCHMIDT

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I rise today in celebration of Phil and Jody Schmidt, the Boys and Girls Club of Central Wyoming's 2019 honorees.

Since 1978, the Boys and Girls Club of Central Wyoming has committed itself to making a positive difference in the lives of children. Their mission is to inspire all youth, especially those who need them most. The goal is to help these children to reach their full potential as productive, responsible, and caring citizens. Their activities provide the children in our community a sense of dedication, purpose, and belonging.

The Boys and Girls Club will host its annual awards and recognition breakfast on August 28, 2019. This event celebrates the outstanding efforts by individuals who have made remarkable and significant contributions to the Boys and Girls Club mission and to the City of Casper.

Phil and Jody Schmidt will be honored at this year's breakfast. Their lifelong commitment toward bettering the lives of youth in the Casper community is remarkable. Their dedication to Wyoming's young people embodies the Boys and Girls Club of Central Wyoming's charge to better the lives of children in Casper.

Phil is a devoted family man, successful businessman, and selfless community member. After graduating from high school, Phil attended Black Hills State University, earning a bachelor's degree in business administration with an emphasis in accounting. Phil and Jody moved to Casper in 1982, immersing themselves in the community. Phil began his career as a CPA. In 1988, he became the president and owner of Greiner Motor Companies. Under his guidance, Greiner Motors grew from one dealership to three, employing almost 300 people. Phil received the Ford Motor Company's "Salute to Dealers" award in 2009. The award commends dealers "exhibiting unparalleled dedication to their communities." Phil was one of six recipients, selected from almost 6,000 dealers.

Remarkably, Phil's hard work and contributions to the Casper community extend far beyond his business successes. Phil and the employees of Greiner Motor Companies led a cleanup effort of Casper Skate Park in 2004. Phil recognized a clean, safe park would give Casper youth an area where they could safely socialize and develop athletic skills. Greiner Motor Companies also helped to host the "Fill-A-

Ford" food drive, parking Ford pickups at various bank branches to collect canned good and donations for food banks. They raised \$26,000 and collected enough canned goods to fill up three pickup trucks.

Phil also devotes much of his time and energy serving on the boards of many outstanding organizations. Any group lucky enough to have Phil on its board is destined for success. The Boys and Girls Club of Central Wyoming, Casper Family YMCA, Wyoming Medical Center, Wyoming Auto Dealers, the Natrona County Library Foundation, and the Wyoming Transportation Commission have all benefited from his servant leadership. Phil credits Jody for his great success. Her support and strength during times of both hardship and good fortune allowed Phil to thrive with his ventures.

Jody is a dedicated mother and caring wife. Raised in Fruitdale, SD, alongside five siblings, Jody learned the values of hard work and community involvement from her parents. They ran the family's beekeeping business, McIntire Honey. Her father, Russell, served on the board of directors for their local hospital, delivered Meals on Wheels to his neighbors in need, and served as a member and Grand Knight in their local council of the Knights of Columbus. Her mother, Betty, served in the local community club and was honored for her work as a hospital auxiliary volunteer. Their values of kindness and generosity were instilled in Jody, who then brought them to the Casper community.

Jody also supports their neighbors and community with volunteer work and service efforts. She serves on the boards of the National Alliance on Mental Issues and Interfaith of Natrona County. She volunteers at Holy Cross Center with the food bank ministry and helps St. Anthony Tri-Parish School in countless areas, including coordinating charity runs and auction galas. Like my wife Bobbi, Jody is a strong, resilient breast cancer survivor. She is a pillar of courage and perseverance.

Phil and Jody have been married 37 years and were blessed with six children: Allyson, Madelyn, Reid, Evan, James, and Nathan. The family persevered through tremendous pain; their sons Evan and Reid passed away at the ages of 11 and 29, respectively. In the wake of this tremendous personal challenge, Phil and Jody chose to continue their commitment to others. They looked past their pain, turning tough times into a means to assist and help care for those in need. They believe their difficult experiences give them the ability to come alongside others who face similar challenges. This mindset of perseverance demonstrates just how deserving they are of this award.

There is no doubt the work and endless hours given by Phil and Jody will continue to shape and improve countless lives for years to come. Together,

the couple represent Wyoming's characteristic strength, resilience and determination. Their generosity is exceptional. In the midst of enormous challenges the pair find the courage to not only push on, but to help others do the same.

It is with great honor that I recognize these exceptional members of our Wyoming community. My wife, Bobbi, joins me in extending our congratulations to Phil and Jody Schmidt for this special acknowledgement.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL MARK BERRY

• Mr. BOOZMAN. President, today I wish to pay tribute to MG Mark Berry for his exemplary dedication to duty and service as the adjutant general for the Arkansas National Guard. General Berry is retiring from his position on August 10, 2019.

A Texas native, General Berry enlisted in the Air Force in August 1974. He also furthered his education while serving, receiving a bachelor of aeronautics from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and earning a masters of public administration from Golden Gate University.

Major General Berry has served the United States in a broad capacity during his 45-year career with the Armed Forces. Upon completion of basic training, he began technical training as an air traffic controller. In 1985, he attended officer training school with follow-on training as an air traffic control officer. General Berry separated from his Active-Duty role in September 1992 to join the Arkansas Air National Guard as a public affairs officer.

During his time in the National Guard, he served as a communication flight commander, mission support group commander, and maintenance group commander. In the State of Arkansas, Berry served as the vice-chairman of the Air National Guard A-10 Aircraft Maintenance Council until receiving the honor of becoming the president of the National Guard Association of Arkansas. In 2015, General Berry was given his most distinguished assignment when he was appointed adjutant general for the Arkansas National Guard.

Throughout his time in Arkansas, I have worked closely with General Berry to ensure our National Guard not only meets but exceeds the standards needed to protect our State and country. During times of crisis or disaster in the State, General Berry made certain the National Guard was prepared and able to respond quickly and effectively. He has represented himself, the Arkansas Guard, and our Armed Forces with consistent professionalism, diligence, and commitment. I have nothing but respect and gratitude for the job he has done as the leader of our State's National Guard.

Major General Berry has received numerous awards and recognitions for his service to the United States during his career, including the Legion of Merit for exceptional conduct in the performance of his services to our Nation, and has had a positive impact on the lives of many servicemembers, peers, and superiors. His accomplishments reflect highly not only on himself, but also on the men and women of our Nation's military. As his time in uniform comes to an end, we honor his dedication to our country and his invaluable service to the U.S. Air Force and Arkansas National Guard.

It was a genuine pleasure to have worked with MG Mark Berry throughout his years serving his country and our State. I commend General Berry for his exceptional service and decorated career and greatly appreciate his friendship of many years. We wish him all the best as he begins his retirement from the U.S. Armed Forces.●

#### RECOGNIZING LEVATAS

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, as chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, it is my honor to recognize a small business that exemplifies innovation, entrepreneurship, and hard work. This week, it is my privilege to name Levatas of Palm Beach Gardens, FL, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Levatas is a strategic marketing and consulting firm that uses artificial intelligence—AI—and machine learning technologies to develop solutions for their clients. They utilize AI technology to help the manufacturing industry and other companies better understand their customers. Levatas was started 13 years ago by Chris Nielsen in his Jupiter, FL, garage. Nielsen and his team have since expanded to become one of south Florida's leader in AI solutions.

Moving from Jupiter, FL, Levatas expanded to their current office in Palm Beach Gardens and recently announced a second expansion, headquartered in Rosemary Square, where an additional 50 new jobs will be created.

A large part of their success lies in Levatas's excellent company culture. In fact, Levatas was recently honored by Entrepreneur magazine in the "2018 Top Company Cultures" for the "Small Companies" category. They have also been recognized by the Florida community as well. In 2018, Palm Beach Tech Association awarded Chris Nielsen, Ryan Gay, CEO of Levatas, and Levatas Golden Palm awards for excellence. In addition to numerous accolades, Levatas has made significant contributions to their community. Through Levatas's GenerosiTeam initiative, employees have supported local philanthropic organizations including the Big Heart Brigade, Sheridan House, One Blood Organization Blood Drive, Children's Miracle Network donation drive, and other nonprofits.

Levatas has cemented themselves as a local hub for innovation in the Palm

Beach community. Levatas's extensive clientele spans many industries and includes companies such as Royal Caribbean Cruise Line, Orangetheory Fitness, SunTrust Bank, HSBC, Dell, IBM, Discover the Palm Beaches, Duffy's Sports Grill, and more. Renowned for their phenomenal quality of service, Levatas's innovative solutions for digital transformation showcase their significant experience in building technology and bringing products to market.

Levatas has remained true to their core values by focusing on quality service with an expert ability to provide innovative, creative, and experienced solutions to shape brands and build technology. Furthermore, Levatas is a phenomenal example of how hard work can lead to success. It is with great pleasure that I extend my congratulations to Chris Nielsen and all of the members of the Levatas community. Levatas has an exciting future ahead, and I look forward to watching your continued success.●

#### MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

#### EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As 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:

H.R. 1327. To extend authorization for the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund of 2001 through fiscal year 2092, and for other purposes.

#### 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-1992. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Mid-Session Review of the Budget of the U.S. Government for Fiscal Year 2020"; to the Committees on Appropriations; and the Budget.

EC-1993. A communication from the Senior Official performing the duties of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting the report of three (3) officers authorized to wear the insignia of the grade of major general in accordance with title 10, United States Code, section 777, this

will not cause the Department to exceed the number of frocked officers authorized; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-1994. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Removal of Transferred OTS Regulations Regarding Lending and Investment; and Conforming Amendments to Other Regulation" (RIN3064-AE22) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2019; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-1995. A communication from the General Counsel, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to the Filing Process for Commission Forms" ((RIN1902-AF58) (Docket No. RM19-12-000)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 15, 2019; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-1996. A communication from the Secretary of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act: 2018 Report to Congress"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1997. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the hurricane storm surge damage risk reduction and ecosystem restoration in Calcasieu, Cameron, and Vermillion Parishes in southwest Louisiana; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-1998. A communication from the Deputy Assistant General Counsel, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Final Priorities, Requirements, Definitions, and Selection Criteria—Expanding Opportunity Through Quality Charter Schools Program; Grants to Charter School Developers for the Opening of New Charter Schools and for the Republication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools" (RIN1855-AA14) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2019; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1999. A communication from the Deputy Assistant General Counsel for Regulatory Services, Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Program Integrity: Gainful Employment" (RIN1840-AD31) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 12, 2019; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2000. A communication from the Director of Regulations and Policy Management Staff, Food and Drug Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "New Animal Drugs; Updating Tolerances for Residues of New Animal Drugs in Food" ((RIN1910-AG17) (Docket No. FDA-2012-N-1067)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 15, 2019; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-2001. A communication from the Secretary of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Uniform Resource Locator (URL) for the Department's 2017 FAIR Act Inventory of Inherently Governmental Activities and Inventory of Commercial Activities; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-2002. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report