

nicknamed “Spiderbot,” which competed against other robots, doing tasks like maneuvering under bridges and stacking blocks on a plate.

This progressive small town of less than 500 residents is preparing its students for 21st century careers by offering robotics as a career and technical education course for credit at the school. The success of this program is due in large part to the support and encouragement from many, including school administrators, teachers, volunteers, and parents.

To the students on the Alexander Robotics Team, their adviser Cathy White, and all who support them, I send my congratulations on becoming State champions. They are an inspiration to so many with their knowledge and passion. North Dakota will be watching as they compete in the world championships in Detroit in late April. I have a feeling we will be hearing much more from all of them in future careers as successful engineers and entrepreneurs.●

#### RECOGNIZING THE GATHERING PLACE

● Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, as a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each month I recognize and celebrate the American entrepreneurial spirit by highlighting the success of a small business in my home State of Idaho. Today I am pleased to honor The Gathering Place located in Bonners Ferry as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for March 2020.

In 2006, Norv and Sharon Skrivseth founded Sharon’s Country Store as a side business in the basement of their home. The store was an immediate success, and it soon burgeoned into a thriving storefront providing local jobs and opportunities to the Bonners Ferry community. Eventually, Sharon’s Country Store expanded to include the Bread Basket Bakery in 2014 and the 3-Mile Produce Stand in 2016. As the business grew, friends and customers started referring to the stores as “The Gathering Place,” and the Skrivseths happily embraced the new title.

Today, The Gathering Place continues to be run Norv, Sharon, and their six children. With the motto “Come, Sit, and Stay Awhile,” the businesses continues to attract locals and travelers alike with its wide array of homemade products, fresh food, and produce. The Skrivseths’ warm hospitality and a commitment to service translates not only into a superior experience for their customers, but also into strong community engagement. Norv and Sharon are considered pillars in the Bonners Ferry community, often donating to various charitable causes and school events throughout the area. Success stories like that of The Gathering Place demonstrate why Idaho is consistently ranked one of the best places in the country to do business.

Congratulations to Norv, Sharon, and all of the employees of The Gathering

Place on being selected as the Idaho Small Business of the Month for March 2020. You make our great State proud, and I look forward to your continued growth and 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 and a withdrawal which were referred to the appropriate committees.

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

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 3:04 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 2339. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the sale and marketing of tobacco products, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2819. An act to extend the authority for the establishment of a commemorative work in honor of Gold Star Mothers Families, and for other purposes.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 2339. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the sale and marketing of tobacco products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. 2819. An act to extend the authority for the establishment of a commemorative work in honor of Gold Star Mothers Families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

#### 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-4097. A communication from the Farm Production and Conservation Business Center Analyst, Commodity Credit Corporation, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) Interim Rule” ((7 CFR Part 1464) (RIN0578-AA70)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 25, 2020; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-4098. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Paul A. Ostrowski, United States Army,

and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4099. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Temporary General License: Extension of Validity” (RIN0694-AH97) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4100. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Amendments to Country Groups for Russia and Yemen under the Export Administration Regulations” (RIN0694-AH93) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 25, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4101. A communication from the Director of Legislative Affairs, Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Regulatory Capital Rule: Revisions to the Supplementary Leverage Ratio To Exclude Certain Central Bank Deposits of Banking Organizations Predominantly Engaged in Custody, Safekeeping, and Asset Servicing Activities” (RIN3064-AE81) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 25, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4102. A communication from the Executive Director, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Annual Update of Filing Fees” ((RIN1902-AF68) (Docket No. RM20-3-000)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 25, 2020; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4103. A communication from the Chief of Policy, Regulation and Analysis, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Department of the Interior, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “2020 Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustments for Oil, Gas, and Sulfur Operations in the Outer Continental Shelf” (RIN1010-AD99) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 21, 2020; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4104. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “District of Columbia: Negative Declaration for the Oil and Gas Industry 2015 Control Technique Guideline” (FRL No. 10005-75-Region 3) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 24, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4105. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Procedures for Review of CBI Claims for the Identity of Chemicals on the TSCA Inventory” (FRL No. 10005-48-OCSP) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on February 24, 2020; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4106. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Revenue Procedure for farmers changing election out of 263A from 263A(d) (3) to 263A(i)” (Rev. Proc. 2020-13) received in the Office of the President of