

No Limits Cafe of Middletown, NJ, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

No Limits Cafe was created to help intellectually disabled individuals achieve their full potential. When their daughter, Katie, was born with Down syndrome, founders Stephanie and Mark Cartier began advocating for children with intellectual disabilities, ID. As Katie neared adulthood, Stephanie and Mark were concerned by the lack of meaningful employment and job training available for people with ID. They believed dignified work provided a sense of pride, purpose, and fulfillment. Employment was empowering. For adults with ID, it could be a life-changing opportunity. In 2017, they began planning a business that would enable adults like Katie to gain valuable work skills.

Over the next 3 years, the Middletown community rallied to support what would later become No Limits Cafe. After the Cartiers bought an old restaurant, local businesses and organizations donated money, materials, and labor to transform the building into a welcoming and accessible space. No Limits Cafe was chartered as a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, reflecting its commitment to “do good” in their community. Stephanie and Mark developed a two-phase program to fulfill their mission of helping adults with ID gain working skills and independence. First, employ 25–30 adults at the cafe with ID. Then, provide restaurant industry training workshops and place trainees within local restaurants. Near the end of 2019, more than 30 adults with ID were hired as the nonprofit enterprise prepared to launch.

On February 6, 2020, No Limits Cafe opened its doors to widespread acclaim. In addition to gaining marketable skills, employees formed friendships, developed independence, and expressed a sense of pride in their work. No Limits Cafe was profiled in outlets ranging from local news and radio to ABC World News Tonight. Their motto of “Eat Well—Do Good” was clearly reflected in their work.

Like many other nonprofits, No Limits Cafe experienced a sharp decline in revenue due to the coronavirus pandemic. Without enough money to pay their staff, Stephanie and Mark were forced to lay off all 36 employees. They donated the cafe’s perishable supplies to a local food bank, unsure of when they could afford to reopen.

When the U.S. Small Business Administration launched the Paycheck Protection Program—PPP—Stephanie and Mark immediately applied. The PPP provides forgivable loans to impacted small businesses and nonprofits who maintain their payroll during the COVID-19 pandemic. In early May, No Limits Cafe received a PPP loan. As a result, Stephanie and Mark have been able to rehire all 36 of their employees and will reopen No Limits Cafe for takeout starting Memorial Day weekend.

No Limits Cafe is an outstanding example of how purpose-driven businesses

can positively impact their communities. I commend their efforts to provide training and employment for adults with intellectual disabilities, a historically underserved population. Congratulations to Stephanie, Mark, and the entire team at No Limits Cafe. I look forward to watching 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

ENROLLED BILL AND JOINT RESOLUTION SIGNED

At 11:43 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill and joint resolution:

H.R. 943. An act to authorize the Director of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum to support Holocaust education programs, and for other purposes.

H.J. Res. 76. Joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to “Borrower Defense Institutional Accountability”.

The enrolled bill and joint resolution were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

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-4532. A communication from the Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Service by Members of the Armed Forces on State and Local Juries” (RIN0790-AK35) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 14, 2020; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4533. A communication from the Secretary, Division of Corporation Finance, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Temporary Amendments to Regulation Crowdfunding” (Release No. 33-10781) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 14, 2020; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4534. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, transmitting, pursuant to

law, the Council’s 2019 Annual Report to Congress; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4535. A communication from the Acting Director of the Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on discretionary appropriations legislation relative to sec. 251(a) (7) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-4536. A communication from the Secretary of Energy, transmitting a legislative proposal entitled “Amending the American Medical Isotopes Production Act of 2012 (AMIPA)” to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC-4537. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Employee Benefits Security Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Extension of Certain Timeframes for Employee Benefit Plans, Participants, and Beneficiaries Affected by the COVID-19 Outbreak” (29 CFR Parts 2560 and 2590) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 14, 2020; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4538. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office for Civil Rights, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled “Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs of Activities Receiving Federal Financial Assistance” (RIN1870-AA14) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 13, 2020; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4539. A communication from the Senior Advisor, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Director of the Indian Health Service, Department of Health and Human Services, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 14, 2020; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. INHOFE for the Committee on Armed Services.

*Kenneth J. Braithwaite, of Pennsylvania, to be Secretary of the Navy.

*Victor G. Mercado, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

*James H. Anderson, of Virginia, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of Defense.

*Air Force nomination of Gen. Charles Q. Brown, Jr., to be General.

Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Scott L. Pleus, to be Lieutenant General.

Air Force nomination of Col. Daniel D. Boyack, to be Brigadier General.

Air Force nomination of Lt. Gen. Joseph T. Guastella, Jr., to be Lieutenant General.

Air Force nomination of Maj. Gen. Gregory M. Guillot, to be Lieutenant General.

Air Force nominations beginning with Brig. Gen. Dagvin R. M. Anderson and ending with Brig. Gen. Edward W. Thomas, Jr., which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on May 4, 2020.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Dennis S. McKean, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. John S. Kolasheski, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Maj. Gen. Roger L. Cloutier, to be Lieutenant General.

Army nomination of Brig. Gen. Michael L. Place, to be Major General.