

TRIBUTE TO RUSS COWLEY

• Mr. ROMNEY. Madam President, I wish to congratulate Mr. Russ Cowley, a man of remarkable achievement and character, on a career dedicated to public service for the great State of Utah. After three decades with the Six County Association of Governments, including 22 years of service as its executive director, Russ is passing the torch of leadership. He leaves behind a distinguished legacy and big boots to fill.

The Six County Association of Governments is instrumental in facilitating economic and community development in Juab, Millard, Piute, Sanpete, Sevier, and Wayne Counties. Six County AOG brings local voices to the table to oversee State and Federal programs as well as a wide range of services in an efficient and impactful manner for rural Utah.

As executive director, Russ has demonstrated an extraordinary ability to bring together the right people and resources to achieve results for the Six County region. His commitment to fostering development is evident in his hiring of staff who are dedicated to accessing resources for local governments.

Russ has advocated on behalf of rural Utahns by bringing together important stakeholders and decisionmakers. He pioneered an annual leadership summit, which focuses on rural Utah's economic growth, and the Natural Resource Summer Meeting, which highlights critical public lands and natural resource issues for the region. Additionally, the congressional briefing highlights specific pressing topics for Members of Congress and their staffs, and the Six County Legislative Day connects local elected officials and State legislators to set legislative goals on these critical issues.

The legacy of Russ Cowley will shape rural Utah for generations to come. Our great State owes him a debt of gratitude for three decades of selfless public service. We wish the cowboy from Venice the best in his next chapter.

Thank you, Russ, for your service to our State.●

REMEMBERING FRANKLYN G. VERLEY III

• Ms. ROSEN. Madam President, today I would like to honor the life and legacy of Franklyn G. Verley III, a radio host and community leader who passed away in Las Vegas, NV, in late September at the age of 59. Franklyn Verley will be remembered as the host of the "Like it is Radio" show on Las Vegas' Power 88.1 for the past 16 years, where he made the most of his role to highlight social, race, and economic issues that impact the Las Vegas community every day.

Franklyn was born and raised in New York, NY, where his parents immersed him in Black culture and the value of

his roots and cultural history. While living in New York, he was a lead sales representative for the School and College Department for the New York Times. Once he relocated to Las Vegas in the mid-2000s, Franklyn began his radio career, joining the team at KCEP Power 88.1, where he hosted the "Like it is Radio Show." As a host and executive producer, he brought on a wide range of guests, such as Senator Harry Reid, Armstrong Williams, and Angela Bassett. His show covered topics that ranged from political, judicial, and social issues that affected the Black community he advocated for on a daily basis. He also became a recipient of many awards, being inducted into the Nevada Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame in 2019 and receiving the Fountain of Hope Community Activism Award and the NAACP Legacy Builder Award.

Franklyn will be dearly missed by family members, friends, and the hundreds of people whose lives he touched every day through his advocacy and knowledge. I extend our sincerest condolences to Franklyn's wife and the entire extended community where he made a positive impact. His legacy lives on in each of us.●

RECOGNIZING MOTHER KOMBUCHA

• Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, as chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, it is my privilege to recognize a unique Florida small business for its valuable contributions to the local economy and its dedicated efforts towards sustainability and dignified work. Today, it is my distinct pleasure to name Mother Kombucha of St. Petersburg, FL as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

In 2014, Tonya Donati, a former occupational therapist, became Florida's first licensed kombucha brewer after noticing there were not many locally sourced options. Tonya and her business partner, Joshua Rumschlag, began brewing kombucha, a beverage of fermented, sweetened tea, in Tonya's small test kitchen to sell at local farmers markets. Eventually, Tonya and her husband, Victor Donati, secured a Small Business Administration 7(a) loan to move into a larger space, which enabled them to manufacture kombucha full time. Through hard work and a strategic vision, Mother Kombucha has grown from a 2-person operation into a full-scale business that now employs nearly 20 people and packages around 7,500 bottles a day. Over the last 5 years, Mother Kombucha has opened more than 600 accounts across Florida, and their products can be found in Publix, Whole Foods, and Winn-Dixie. Though the kombucha industry has expanded in recent years, Mother Kombucha's niche position provides a competitive edge in the expanding market.

Mother Kombucha sets itself apart in this industry as a brand committed to making a positive social and environ-

mental impact. As a woman-owned and operated company, Tonya's business is an inspiration for other women entrepreneurs. It has been certified by the Women's Business Enterprise National Council, one of the leading advocates for women business owners in the United States. Several of Mother Kombucha's flavors are based on a single-source green tea from a company that helps to raise women out of poverty in Bangladesh. Mother Kombucha makes community involvement a priority. In addition to providing competitive salaries to its employees, the company hosts an annual Mother's Day fundraiser to benefit women and children affected by domestic violence. Mother Kombucha has incorporated solar panels into each of their facilities, operates a robust recycling program, and is working to achieve B-Corp status. This certification is awarded to companies who uphold the highest environmental and labor standards, while also giving back to their respective communities.

Tonya has worked hard to expand her business throughout Florida, and her efforts have not gone unnoticed. Notably, Mother Kombucha was honored by GrowFlorida as one of Florida's 50 Companies to Watch in 2019. Tonya's love of kombucha, her hard work, and commitment to her community make this business an integral part of Florida's economic framework. This National Women's Small Business Month, it is my honor to congratulate the entire Mother Kombucha team for being named Senate Small Business of the Week. I look forward to watching their continued growth and success.●

TRIBUTE TO PERRY HAND

• Mr. SHELBY. Madam President, today I wish to honor the retirement of Perry Hand, an Alabama native, from Volkert, Inc. Perry is a recognized leader in the engineering field with nearly 50 years of experience in the industry. He has provided decades of service to improve the quality of life in his community and across the State of Alabama.

Mr. Perry Hand previously served as senior vice president and chief marketing officer at Volkert in Mobile, AL. He was appointed president, chief executive officer, and chairman of the board in 2011. In 2018, Mr. Hand appointed a new president and CEO to the company, and he retained the role of chairman. Prior to his work with Volkert, Perry served as Alabama's highway director, Alabama's secretary of state, and a two-term State senator. He also founded Perry Hand & Associates, Inc.

Perry has earned many recognitions throughout his career, among them are his induction into the Alabama Construction Hall of Fame, the Alabama Engineering Hall of Fame, earning the Chairman's Award at Volkert, multiple Auburn University awards, and many more. He earned his bachelor's degree

in civil engineering from Auburn University and holds an honorary doctorate from Lincoln Memorial University in Tennessee.

What is truly remarkable are Perry Hand's many accomplishments and contributions to the State. I am proud to take this time to recognize him for his service at Volkert, which has greatly benefitted the people of Alabama. His achievements and dedication to advancing the industry have not gone unnoticed. I join Perry's friends, family, and colleagues in wishing him the best of luck as he transitions into a new chapter of his life, and I thank him for his commitment to Alabama.●

REMEMBERING WILLIAM V.
"BILL" BIDWILL, SR.

● Ms. SINEMA. Madam President, today I wish to honor the life and legacy of William V. Bidwill, who passed away in Phoenix, AZ, on October 2, 2019, at the age of 88. As the owner of the National Football League's Arizona Cardinals, Mr. Bidwill loved his faith, his family, and football. He will be fondly remembered as a principled leader and generous steward of his community.

Bill began his career in football by joining the family business as a ball boy for the then-Chicago Cardinals. After graduating from Georgetown University, Bill returned to Chicago to assist his father with day-to-day management of the Cardinals. Bill oversaw the team's move to St. Louis in 1960 and took on full ownership of the team in 1972. In 1988, Bill moved the team to Arizona, where it has found a home among a dedicated and growing fan base. In his time as owner of the Cardinals, Bill took unprecedented steps to rearrange the team's front office to improve diversity across the organization, setting an example for other NFL franchises for years to come. Bill also founded Cardinals Charities in 1990 to support women, children, and minorities across Arizona. Cardinals Charities has donated more than \$9.1 million to support these groups and other causes over the years.

Bill is survived by his 5 children, 10 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild. He will be dearly missed by other family members, friends, the Arizona Cardinals organization, and hundreds of thousands of fans grateful for his work to bring the National Football League to Arizona. Please join me in honoring his memory.●

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL STEVEN D.
WEINTRAUB (RET.)

● Ms. SINEMA. Madam President, today I wish to honor the career Col. Steven D. Weintraub Retired, a veteran, community leader, and member of my Veterans Advisory Council. Colonel Weintraub began his service in August 1987 and continued to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps in various Active-Duty and Reserve roles until his retire-

ment in August of this year. He is highly regarded by his fellow marines as a devoted officer and proud Arizonan, eager to accept the call of duty.

Colonel Weintraub's career of more than 30 years is distinguished by his commitment to public service. Upon completion of his basic training in August 1987, then-Private First Class Weintraub returned to Arizona State University to complete his bachelor's degree in order to enter the Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Course and receive a commission as a second lieutenant. In April 1992, then-First Lieutenant Weintraub deployed to Mogadishu in support of various humanitarian aid missions. In February 2003, while in the Marine Corps Reserves, then-Major Weintraub deployed to Kuwait, where he was responsible for the implementation and operation of expeditionary hose reel fuel systems during Operation Iraqi Freedom. In November 2004, then Major Weintraub selflessly volunteered to mobilize to Active Duty in order to return to Iraq. For his work as a command inspector general and G-4 with the 1st Marine Expeditionary Brigade, then-Major Weintraub was promoted to lieutenant colonel in June 2005 and eventually colonel in December 2011. From the time of his promotion until his retirement in August 2019, Colonel Weintraub continued to serve in various esteemed logistical command roles, strategizing the practical implementation of new technologies and ensuring that Marine installations around the world had what they needed to get the job done.

For his courageous service, Colonel Weintraub has received the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, and various other campaign medals, ribbons, and unit awards. Colonel Weintraub continues to serve his fellow soldiers as chief strategy officer for the Veteran Tickets Foundation, Vet Tix, a national nonprofit organization that provides free event tickets to veterans and servicemembers to help them reduce stress, strengthen family bonds, and stay engaged with local communities and American life.

Please join me in honoring Colonel Weintraub's esteemed career and wishing him a joyful retirement.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF
KETTERING UNIVERSITY

● Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I rise today to pay special tribute to Kettering University in Flint, which this year is celebrating 100 years of educating the people of Michigan and advancing innovation.

Let's think back to 1919. The Treaty of Versailles was signed, bringing an end to the Great War. The 18th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution—also known as Prohibition—was ratified by Congress. In our State, the Michigan State Highway Department took over the State trunk line highway system and first began putting up numbered

signs. And in Flint—the center of the automotive world—a group of entrepreneurs launched a school to train homegrown talent for Michigan's auto industry.

A few things have changed since 1919. We fought an even greater war, Prohibition didn't last, and Michigan has a few more highways. Yet one thing remains the same: Kettering University is still training the next generation of leaders, for the auto industry and beyond.

Louis Chevrolet, David Dunbar Buick, Charles Stewart Mott, Alfred Sloan, and Charles Kettering understood that to succeed in manufacturing, it isn't enough for students to know what is in the books; instead, these leaders built a school based on the idea that knowledge must be both learned and applied. This model is still in use at Kettering University today. Kettering's curriculum doesn't just expose its students to the very latest in science, engineering, and business knowledge; it also helps its students to put that knowledge to work through experiential and cooperative educational opportunities that turn learners into leaders.

Your record of success speaks for itself. From being named first in the country by the Wall Street Journal for career preparation, fourth in the Nation in producing alumni who hold patents, and first in the Midwest for return on investments; to the Kettering University GM Mobility Research Center, which is keeping Flint and Michigan at the forefront of autonomous vehicle research and development; to counting among your alumni General Motors CEO Mary T. Barra, former chairman and CEO of Gibson Brands Henry Juskiewicz, inventor and businessman Dean Kamen, former CEO of Merrill Lynch Stanley O'Neal, and Old Navy CEO Sonia Syngal; to making a real difference in the Flint community through your \$1 million Department of Justice grant for neighborhood revitalization, your Employee Home Purchase and Renovation Assistance Program, the transformation of University Avenue, and your support for Flint's young people through your Young Innovators Fair, the Flint River Watershed Coalition Green Summit, and FIRST Robotics.

Charles Kettering once said this: "We are not at the end of our progress but at the beginning." And I have no doubt that our progress as a State and Nation will continue to be led by Kettering's students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

Since 1919, Kettering University has been preparing students for extraordinary futures, and I can't wait to see what your future holds. Congratulations to Kettering University on your first 100 years.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

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