

and finally served as director for intelligence, J2, for the Joint Chiefs of Staff from June 2003 to July 2005.

In 2005, General Burgess reported to the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, where he served consecutively as the Deputy Director of National Intelligence for Customer Outcomes, Director of the Intelligence Staff, and Acting Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence. On March 18, 2009, General Burgess became the 17th Director of the Defense Intelligence Agency until his official retirement from the U.S. Army on September 1, 2012.

After his illustrious 38-year military career, General Burgess returned to Auburn University in December 2012 to serve as senior counsel for National Security, Cyber Programs and Military Affairs, before being appointed as Auburn's chief operating officer in May 2018. He was named executive vice president of Auburn University in June 2019.

His awards and commendations throughout his career speak for themselves. They include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal; Defense Superior Service Medal, (two oakleaf clusters); Legion of Merit; Meritorious Service Medal, (four oakleaf clusters); Joint Service Commendation Medal; Army Commendation Medal; Army Achievement Medal; NATO Medal—former Republic of Yugoslavia; Parachutist Badge; Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge; and Army Staff Identification Badge.

In 2013, General Burgess was awarded the Auburn Alumni Association's Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2015, he was inducted into the U.S. Army Military Intelligence Hall of Fame and, in 2016, was inducted into the Army ROTC National Hall of Fame.

On behalf of the people of Alabama and our Nation, I offer him my heartfelt thanks and a long and happy retirement with his wife Marta, their five children, Lee, Regina, Julia, Mary, and John, and their 16 grandchildren. General Burgess's career is defined by remarkable devotion and patriotism to his country. We owe him a debt of gratitude for his dedicated and exemplary service.

“War Eagle!”●

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR ROBERT BOURGEOU

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today I have the distinct honor of recognizing U.S. Army MAJ Robert Bourgeau of Missoula County for his heroism on and off the battlefield.

Since graduating high school, Robert committed his life to military service. Growing up in Missoula, the uniform and the duty that came with wearing it inspired him. We all know being a member of the U.S. Armed Forces is more than a job; it is a noble calling to serve that translates beyond one's time spent in uniform.

On October 3, 2022, at Torii Station in Okinawa, Japan, Robert demonstrated

his steadfast commitment to putting others before himself. Around 2 p.m. that day, Robert and some of the students he instructed in scuba diving were at Mermaid's Grotto, a diving spot in Okinawa, when they noticed a Japanese woman calling for help with her 11-year-old daughter and a U.S. soldier who were trapped in a rip current 100 yards off shore. As 6-foot waves came crashing in on the endangered snorkelers, Robert made his way to the young girl as well as her mother who became engulfed in the waves in the process. He grabbed them both and swam as hard as he could until he reached the shore and brought them both to safety. His strength and energy were depleting, yet he made his way back out to the dangerous waves for the soldier and was able to direct him safely to shore.

Robert's commitment to his oath to protect and serve sets him apart from his peers. Being willing to lay down his life for others is more than a choice; it is his duty. Robert is a proud husband, father, and grandfather, and I know his leadership and bravery are inspiring not only to his family, but people around the world.

It is my distinct honor to recognize U.S. Army MAJ Robert Bourgeau for his commitment to putting service over self. The Treasure State's rich legacy of military service is carried on for generations because of brave men like Robert. Thank you for your service. You make Montana proud.●

RECOGNIZING HY-CAPACITY

● Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Hy-Capacity of Humboldt, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Hy-Capacity was founded by James “Scratch” Olson in 1978 in Pocahontas, IA, as a remanufacturer of agricultural farming equipment. In 1980, the business was relocated to Humboldt and focused on clutches, water pumps, and torque amplifier modifications. The company's name refers to Scratch's ability to take existing tractor parts and modify them for “higher capacity” uses for farmers. Hy-Capacity has evolved over the years and expanded to offer a wide range of agricultural equipment, including cab kits, radiators, and engine overhaul kits. They have grown their products globally and currently export their parts to Canada and Mexico.

Hy-Capacity is an exemplary family business. Scratch's sons Jeff and Steve work at Hy-Capacity. Steve became the president in the 1990s after working there since the company's inception. Steve currently serves as CEO, and his daughter Molly Varangkounh served as president from 2001 until 2022. Steve's

son David now runs the day-to-day business operations. A fourth generation of the Olson family, Molly's daughter Claire, joined the family business as an intern from 2017 until 2021. Scratch Olson's legacy includes a multigenerational workforce and a thriving business committed to hard work, community involvement, and dedication to farmers. In 2023, Hy-Capacity celebrated its 45th business anniversary.

The Hy-Capacity team does not only work hard, but they also give back. In 2009, they won the Iowa Governor's Environmental Excellence Award and the Recycling Project/Facility of the Year by the Iowa Recycling Association. Hy-Capacity is involved with the Iowa Future Farmers of America, where they became the official sponsor for tractor seats at events in 2014. Another important partnership for Hy-Capacity is the Humboldt County Memorial Hospital. During the COVID-19 pandemic, Hy-Capacity shifted gears and started manufacturing masks and gowns for the hospital. In addition to the masks and gowns Hy-Capacity provided, they were able to assemble a group of volunteers that helped produce almost 200 additional masks.

Hy-Capacity's commitment to providing high-quality tractor parts to farmers throughout North America while maintaining their Humboldt roots is clear. I want to congratulate the Olson family and the entire team at Hy-Capacity for their continued dedication to providing affordable and high-quality parts to Iowans. I look forward to seeing their continued growth and success in Iowa.●

RECOGNIZING NORTHWESTERN STEAKHOUSE

● Ms. ERNST. Mr. President, as ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, each week I recognize an outstanding Iowa small business that exemplifies the American entrepreneurial spirit. This week, it is my privilege to recognize Northwestern Steakhouse of Mason City, IA, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Greek immigrants Pete Maduras and Tony Papouchis founded the restaurant in 1920 under the name “Pete's Place.” The original location was in the Northwestern Row neighborhood of Mason City. During the early 20th century, Mason City was experiencing an increase in business development due to the opening of the Northwestern State Portland Cement Plant in 1906 and the Lehigh Portland Cement Company in 1910. Many of the workers moving to Mason City were European immigrants like Pete and Tony. During the early history of the restaurant, Pete handled the business side, while Tony was the head chef. Tony spent 3 years in the Greek Army and used the recipes he learned from his service to inspire the menu. Pete's Place moved to its second location on North Federal Avenue in