

Air Medal with oakleaf cluster, three Bronze Stars, and China's Liberation Medal. After his tour of duty in the war overseas, he taught instructor pilots how to teach combat air tactics to pilots. He served in the Air Force Reserve and retired in 1964 as a lieutenant colonel.

On August 11, 1945, Wendell married Helen A. Brumbaugh at First United Methodist Church in Sioux Falls. Wendell met Helen when she was a teacher at Vermillion High School. In January of 1945, he flew to Sioux Falls from Texas and drove his father's car to Vermillion to recruit potential Air Force pilots. Prior to speaking with students, he spoke with Helen for a few minutes in a school hallway. A month later, without further communication, Wendell sent a letter to Helen asking her to marry him. Helen replied, "I do not even know you well enough to say no." After many months of letters, Helen said, "Yes." They lived near Waco, TX, while Wendell taught instructor pilots at Lackland Air Force Base, then moved to Ann Arbor, MI, for 2 years before finally returning to Sioux Falls.

Wendell and Helen had five children, Doug, Gail, Gary, Allen, and Martha, as well as eight grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren.

As a dedicated public servant, Wendell served in the South Dakota Senate from 1977–78 and from 1981–1982. In his spare time, he enjoys golf, international travel, pheasant hunting, fishing, and camping. He was an active member of Hope Lutheran Church, where he served as President of the congregation and Sunday school teacher. He was also a member of Peace Lutheran Church and currently attends Abiding Savior Lutheran.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Wendell Hanson for his service to our country and wish him a very happy 100th birthday, good health, and prosperity.●

TRIBUTE TO PHILIP JONES

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I am pleased to recognize Philip Jones, the Jackson County Teacher of the Year from Marianna High School in Marianna, FL.

To Philip, his job is to improve a student's reading and writing skills. He believes this is best achieved through an openness to dynamic academic and social changes. Philip designed his English class curriculum with structured plans, which builds trust in his students after the first 9 weeks of the school year and allows them to communicate with him during class and through written assignments clearly and without negative distractions.

Philip has taught 10th grade English at Marianna High School for 6 years and serves as the chairperson for the English Department. He has also received the Florida Department of Education's High Impact recognition 3 years in a row. Philip earned his bach-

elor's degree in political science from the University of Florida in 2000 and his master's degree in environmental law from Vermont Law School in 2004.

I extend my best wishes to Philip for his dedication to his English students and look forward to hearing of his continued success in the coming years.●

TRIBUTE TO TRACY KERBY

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I honor Tracy Kerby, the Lafayette County Teacher of the Year from Lafayette High School in Mayo, FL.

An eighth grade language arts teacher since 2006, Tracy's colleagues note that she is always looking for opportunities to grow as an educator. Tracy is a great leader for her students to follow because of her high moral character and her desire to set her students up for success later in life.

Tracy loves being a teacher in the Lafayette District Schools because she has the ability to watch her students learn and grow. She enjoys watching her students succeed in class, athletics, at local fairs, or with volunteer events at their church.

I express my best wishes and gratitude to Tracy and look forward to hearing of her continued success in the coming years.●

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES MEARSHEIMER

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Charles Mearsheimer, the Collier County Teacher of the Year from Oakridge Middle School in Naples, FL.

Charles has taught U.S. history at Oakridge Middle School for the past 16 years and has worked in education for 24 years.

Charles believes in his students' ability to achieve success and in the invaluable power of teaching to ignite the passion for learning that will follow them as they grow throughout their educational journey. He also serves as an unofficial mentor for new staff members, passing along his own passion for teaching. Both his colleagues and students feel the contagious effect of his enthusiasm and has led to Charles being one of the most requested teachers at his school.

I extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to Charles for his dedication to his students and look forward to hearing of his continued success in the years ahead.●

TRIBUTE TO JEANNINE MEIS

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Jeannine Meis, the Leon County Teacher of the Year from Leon High School in Tallahassee, FL.

A teacher in the Leon County School district for 16 years, Jeannine is an educator who is consistently modifying her curriculum to create lesson plans that help her to connect with her stu-

dents while creating an atmosphere that is encouraging. Before Jeannine started her tenure at Leon High School, she taught elementary school at the Apalachee Tapestry Magnet School of the Arts and middle school students at Cobb Middle School, where she had the privilege of teaching some of her students again.

I express my sincere thanks and appreciation to Jeannine for her work and look forward to learning of her continued success in her future endeavors.●

TRIBUTE TO LEIGH NORRIS

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I am pleased to honor Leigh Norris, the Hamilton County Teacher of the Year from Hamilton County Elementary School in Jasper, FL.

Peggy Sue Hasty, principal at Hamilton County Elementary School, described Leigh as a fine example of a dedicated teacher who works hard to ensure her students achieve academic success.

A sixth grade math teacher who has worked in the district for 21 years, Leigh considers teaching the profession she was born to do. She loves to inspire a passion for learning math, and shares the excitement with her students when they make gains or solve challenging problems on their own.

I offer my best wishes to Leigh for her work and look forward to hearing of her continued success in the coming years.●

TRIBUTE TO JUDITH PARIS

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I honor Judith Paris, the Wakulla County Teacher of the Year from Shadeville Elementary School in Shadeville, FL.

Judy's teaching philosophy guides her students to thrive in environments where they are encouraged to explain their thinking and also understand how their classmates think. She works to create a classroom that facilitates a love of learning and where students build self-confidence.

In her classes, groups of students often begin the school year at 40–50 percent proficiency in math and consistently improve their math scores to 90 percent or higher by the end of the school year. She credits their success to the instructional practices that she teaches to make students solve problems on their own and by working together.

Judy is a fifth grade math teacher and is also her school's math team leader and chair of the mathematics committee and coteaches faculty workshops on accelerated math. Judy earned her bachelor's degree in technical writing with a minor in mathematics from Louisiana State University and earned a post baccalaureate degree in mathematics education. She is certified in elementary education, middle school math, and high school math.

Judy has been recognized twice by the Florida Department of Education as a High Impact Teacher due to her students' learning gains and has earned the Best and Brightest Florida Department of Education award for 3 consecutive years. She was voted by her supplemental educational services colleagues as the September 2018 Teacher of the Month.

I extend my best wishes and gratitude to Judy for her dedication to helping her students succeed in mathematics. I look forward to learning of her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO KAYLA PATTON

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Kayla Patton, the DeSoto County Teacher of the Year from West Elementary School in Arcadia City, FL.

Kayla says that the most challenging part of teaching is finding creative ways to motivate the uninterested students. However, this can lead to the most rewarding part of her job: watching a student realize they are able to do the work. Kayla implements a unique technique in her fourth grade writing class. She asks her students to translate what they see into words and then compose the visual objects into an essay.

Maintaining perseverance, self-criticism, innovation, and orderliness in work are Kayla's keys to success. She says that channeling her student's energy is what takes them from average to great.

I extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to Kayla for her dedication to her students and look forward to hearing of her continued good work in the coming years.●

TRIBUTE TO DERITA PINKARD

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I honor Derita Pinkard, the Madison County Teacher of the Year from Madison County Central School in Madison, FL.

One of Derita's greatest joys as a teacher is the knowledge that she is helping to shape the next generation that will lead the Madison community, our State, Nation, and the world. By educating the youth, she hopes their decisions and dreams will positively affect communities in the future.

A seventh grade math teacher and math instructional coach, Derita has been a teacher for 32 years, and she does not plan to slow down. Derita is a patient educator, who likes to break down math problems for her students when they have trouble understanding the steps or formulas. She believes this approach is best suited to help them learn not only in her classroom, but also in their future classes.

Derita graduated from North Florida Junior College, earning an associate of arts degree before attending Valdosta State University, where she earned her bachelor's degree.

I offer my best wishes and gratitude to Derita for her dedication to teaching her students and look forward to hearing of her continued good work in the coming years.●

RECOGNIZING TWO PEAS CAFE

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, as chairman of the U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I have the opportunity to highlight a unique small business every week. Small businesses serve local communities and contribute to our Nation's economy. This week, it is my honor to recognize Two Peas Cafe of LaBelle, FL, as the Senate Small Business of the Week.

Two Peas Cafe was founded by childhood friends, Deborah Buchard Klemmer and Vicki Reynolds. Growing up together, Deborah and Vicki spent a number of years working at Deborah's grandmother Ella's restaurant. During that time, they saw firsthand the positive impact that the restaurant had on the community as well as its local and national fame, which included a feature on the Travel channel. After Ella's restaurant closed in March 2011, Deborah and Vicki were determined to carry on her legacy. In August 2013, the duo opened Two Peas Cafe, in honor of Ella's long-time description of them, with the goal of providing the next generation with the same quality service and community atmosphere they had grown up with.

Today, Two Peas Cafe not only continues to serve customers throughout southwest Florida, but also carries on the tradition of Ella's famous homemade pies and original southern-style recipes. With a reputation for good food and a friendly atmosphere, Two Peas Cafe is often packed with eager customers. Deborah and Vicki do not take sole credit for the success of the restaurant, however. They attribute their success to community support. When these two friends decided to open up their own cafe, their family, friends, and neighbors rallied behind them to get the restaurant up and running. By pooling their unique skills and resources, the LaBelle community not only contributed to the establishment of Two Peas Cafe, but also its success.

Considering their cafe a community establishment, Deborah and Vicki remain committed to fundraising, supporting, and participating in LaBelle area events. One example of this community commitment is Two Peas' annual support of Relay for Life and the American Cancer Society. Not only do Deborah and Vicki organize a yearly team to raise money and participate in the event, but for the past 3 years Vicki has been one of the program coordinators. In this role, Vicki has been able to motivate friends, family, and Two Peas staff to join together for a great cause. At LaBelle's Relay for Life this past March, the Two Peas Cafe team raised more than \$20,000 and placed second in the event. Clearly,

small businesses like Two Peas Cafe are just as much a force of community service as they are of economic growth.

Deborah and Vicki exemplify the dedication to service that we all as Americans share. As successful entrepreneurs, they recognized that they were uniquely positioned to bring their community together for a great cause. I am honored to recognize Deborah, Vicki, and the entire team at Two Peas Cafe as the Senate Small Business of the Week. Companies like Two Peas Cafe make me proud to represent Florida, and I look forward to watching their continued growth and success.●

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MOUNT WASHINGTON COG RAILWAY

● Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, today, on behalf of the New Hampshire congressional delegation, Senator MAGGIE HASSAN and Representatives ANN McLANE KUSTER and CHRIS PAPPAS, I wish to salute the Mount Washington Cog Railway on its 150th anniversary. Once hailed by famed showman P.T. Barnum as the "Second-Greatest Show on Earth," the Cog Railway remains an engineering marvel and a one-of-a-kind experience a full century and a half after its maiden voyage up New Hampshire's highest peak.

A railway summing 6,288-foot Mount Washington was first proposed by New Hampshire native Sylvester Marsh, a retired meatpacker who made a fortune working in Chicago. When he approached the New Hampshire State Legislature for a charter to build his cog-and-rack system, Marsh encountered some skepticism of his innovative design. Legend has it that one lawmaker remarked that Marsh "might as well build a railway to the moon." Marsh got his charter in 1858, and his system found a nickname, "The Railway to the Moon," that it proudly uses to this day.

Construction began in 1866 at the base of the mountain, and it took engineers and builders 3 years to complete the 3¼ mile track to the peak. It opened to fanfare on July 3, 1869, as the world's first mountain cog railway. One of its passengers that first summer was Ulysses S. Grant, who became the first U.S. President to visit Mount Washington. According to newspapers, the President was impressed with the safety and simplicity of the locomotive's air brake system.

The Cog Railway's locomotives embraced technology and ingenuity to push passenger cars up the track and slow their descent. The first locomotive, nicknamed "Old Peppersass" because of its likeness to a pepper sauce bottle, mounted a vertical boiler on twin trunnions in order to keep it upright as it climbed the steep grade. Old Peppersass was eventually replaced in the late 1800s by a fleet of more modern coal-powered steam locomotives, but it remains preserved and on display