

the president of the national union, director of government affairs, and senior vice president. Then-Governor Parris Glendening tapped Ken to serve as assistant secretary and commissioner of labor and industry at the Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation. After that, he cochaired Senator John Kerry's 2004 Presidential campaign in Maryland with Heather Mizeur, who went on to serve as a member of the Maryland House of Delegates from 2007 to 2015, representing the 20th District in Montgomery County.

Given Ken's extensive knowledge of the issues, politics, and people of Montgomery County and beyond, my campaign contacted him and convinced him to serve as my metropolitan Washington-area representative when I first ran for the Senate in 2006. Ken has been with me ever since, and I am so grateful. He has met with countless constituents, businessowners, and elected officials; joined or represented me at field events; served as my liaison to organized labor; and handled special assignments. He has done it all with grace and insight and a quiet competence.

Ken married Sandra Lee Wiley on February 23, 1964, in Rockville, MD. Ken, now widowed, has three children: Cassie, Eric, and Paula; seven grandchildren: Lindsay, Caitlyn, Sampson, Tyler, Amanda, Sydney, and Drew; and two great-granddaughters: Maya and Stella. Ken was a member of Crusader Lutheran Church for a number of years and held several positions on the church counsel. Over the years, Ken has enjoyed volunteering for political campaigns and serving on several boards within Montgomery County, traveling in his motorhome, camping, building and fixing anything for the home, tending to an orchard of fruit trees, and appreciating classic cars.

There are few Marylanders—and even fewer Montgomery County residents—who have not benefited in one way or another from Ken's lifelong service to others. Ken has lived up to Douglas Adams's—author of "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy"—maxim, "To give real service you must add something which cannot be bought or measured with money, and that is sincerity and integrity." I want to thank Ken's family for "sharing" him with the people of Montgomery County and all Marylanders. Above all, I want to thank Ken himself for his wise counsel and friendship over the years. While he no longer works for me in an official capacity, I will continue to rely on him unofficially in the weeks and months ahead while hoping that he spends more time with his family and friends and recreational pursuits.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF LACONIA MOTORCYCLE WEEK

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, today it is my pleasure to recognize the 100th anniversary of Laconia, New Hampshire's Motorcycle Week. Over the last century, riders from New Hampshire and across the country have gathered in Laconia—the heart of New Hampshire's beautiful Lakes Region—to gather with friends, celebrate their shared passion for motorcycles, and ride together.

Many consider Laconia's Bike Week to be the oldest national motorcycle rally in the country. For decades, it was the largest motorcycle rally in the United States, and it still draws more than 300,000 people a year, which helps support the economy of the Lakes Region and the rest of New Hampshire as Bike Week participants patronize our small businesses. Laconia Bike Week is a well-known and beloved tradition for countless Granite Staters and bikers near and far. For many, just the name Bike Week evokes fond memories of Laconia rallies from past years, from cruising New Hampshire's highways and scenic byways, to spending time with friends, old and new.

Bike Week, of course, does not happen without effort; it takes time and dedication from the event organizers, who each summer come together to make this week possible. Nor is it by chance that this event takes place in New Hampshire; Bike Week is a part of the very fabric of the Granite State. Bike Week shows off our State's natural beauty; a ride through Laconia, with an open road ahead and a breeze from Lake Winnepesaukee blowing by, reminds us of why Granite Staters are always proud to call New Hampshire home. For bikers and nonbikers alike, the roar and thunder of engines, the thrill of zooming down a highway, the dazzling tricks and stunts performed at rallies—summon up our State's spirit.

One of the many pieces that makes Bike Week special is that riders have also regularly used the event as a means to raise awareness and support for critical issues facing New Hampshire and our country. In 1957, riders raised money to help fund polio research and support families who were grappling with that disease. This year also marks the 35th anniversary of the Meredith POW/MIA Awareness Vigil and the 30th anniversary of the Freedom Ride to honor American POW/MIA servicemembers, spearheaded by the Northeast POW/MIA Network. Over the past few years, more than 2,000 motorcyclists have joined the Freedom Ride to commemorate the sacrifice of POW/MIA servicemembers and raise awareness for the missing servicemembers who have not been found. The Freedom Ride reminds servicemembers, their families, and all Americans that POW/MIA servicemembers—both those who have returned and those who remain missing—will never be forgotten.

These acts of recognition and service have helped make Bike Week into a New Hampshire and American institution. For 100 years in Laconia, Americans from all backgrounds and walks of life have come together—united by their shared enthusiasm and their deep love for our beautiful country—and worked to make our community and our country a better place. One does not have to be a biker to appreciate that this spirit of enthusiasm, service, and love of country embodies New Hampshire—and America—at our best.

On behalf of Congress and all Granite Staters, I offer my congratulations to the event organizers for 100 years of Laconia Motorcycle Week. I have no doubt that Granite Staters and Americans across the country can look forward to it for generations to come.●

##### RECOGNIZING LOVE AT FIRST BITE MERCANTILE

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, Idaho small businesses are the backbone of our economy and our communities. These small businesses not only employ friends and neighbors, but they showcase Idaho's creativity and values. Idaho small businesses provide invaluable goods and services and are an intrinsic element of the Gem State. These small businesses deserve to be celebrated for the integral role they play in our communities. I am proud to relaunch Support Local Gems, a statewide initiative, on June 9, to encourage Idahoans to support the small businesses that make the Gem State special. As a member and former chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I am pleased to honor Love at First Bite Mercantile as one of Idaho's Small Businesses of the Month for June 2023.

Love at First Bite opened its doors in Idaho Falls in 2009. Despite the recession, Juli and Mike Richards took the opportunity to make their dream a reality. By 2012, they had doubled in size and, in 2019, were able to expand again. Love at First Bite began when Juli and her daughter combined their chocolate and cupcake businesses but has since grown to offer a wide variety of products. In addition to gourmet food items, Love at First Bite is known for their line of specialty oils and vinegars, specialty drinks, home decor, beauty products, and jewelry.

The Richards are active members of the community and regularly contribute their sweet treats to community fundraisers and school events. Each summer, Love at First Bite donates products to local libraries as a tasty incentive for youth reading programs.

Congratulations to Juli and Mike Richards and all of the employees at Love at First Bite Mercantile for being selected as an Idaho Small Business of the Month for June 2023. You are an outstanding example of what it means to be one of Idaho's Local Gems. You make our great State proud, and I look

forward to your continued growth and success.●

#### TRIBUTE TO ANNA BABCOCK

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Anna Babcock, the St. Lucie County Teacher of the Year, from Fairlawn Elementary Magnet School in Fort Pierce, FL.

Anna treats each day as if she is teaching future businessowners, employers, and politicians. She works to leave a lasting impact on their lives, which often causes her to remember those who helped her become the teacher she is today.

Anna credits receiving this honor to the many women who positively influenced her. She hopes her successful teaching career reflects on those who dedicated much time and effort in making her an educator and a parent.

Anna is a third generation Fort Pierce local who has taught in St. Lucie County for the past 15 years. She teaches gifted students and focuses on lesson plans that detail contributions made by women to our Nation.

I offer my deepest gratitude and best wishes to Anna for her commitment to her students. I look forward to hearing about her continued good work in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO ASHLEY BANGERT

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Ashley Bangert, the Indian River County Teacher of the Year, from Sebastian Elementary School of the Arts in Sebastian, FL.

Ashley works closely with each of her students as she is committed to supporting their academic growth. She knows building a relationship with each child is imperative in nurturing them to be successful.

Ashley also works with her fellow educators in connecting with students and their parents. This helps ensure that lessons taught in her classroom are also applied at a student's home.

Ashley is in her 17th year as an educator and is a member of her school's PTA board. She began teaching fourth grade in 2005 before becoming a fifth grade teacher and a Title-1 Reading Interventionist. She is in her second year as the math instructional coach at Sebastian Elementary School of the Arts.

I extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to Ashley for her dedication to her students. I look forward to hearing about her continued success in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO LINDSAY BEAM

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Lindsay Beam, the Calhoun County Teacher of the Year, from Blountstown High School in Blountstown, FL.

Lindsay records her classroom lessons so her students can listen to them

at home while doing their homework. She does this in the event one may be struggling with a topic. During the COVID pandemic, Lindsay would go to a student's home to help with a lesson and gives one-on-one tutoring during her free time. She wants her students to know she is always there for them and does her best for their success.

Lindsay currently teaches grades sixth and eighth grade mathematics at Blountstown High School. She graduated from Chipola College in 2008, earning her associate of arts degree in general education. She began her career in Calhoun County, teaching first grade at Blountstown Elementary School in 2010. Two years later, Lindsay moved to fifth grade, teaching reading, language arts, and social studies. She then moved to Blountstown Middle School as a sixth-grade math teacher and added eighth grade pre-algebra.

I offer my deepest gratitude and best wishes to Lindsay for her commitment to her students. I look forward to hearing about her continued good work in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO TARA KLINK

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Tara Klink, the Franklin County Teacher of the Year, from Franklin County School in Eastpoint, FL.

Teaching was different from Tara's original career plan. She initially wanted to be a biologist, but coaching volleyball at Franklin County High School made her want to be involved with students. She felt she was making more of an impact on the lives of others and decided to change careers. Tara finds teaching to be a fulfilling job and allows her to serve her community. She has worked with students in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade science. At the high school level, she taught marine science, biology, environmental science, and math for college readiness. She is currently in her 9th year of teaching and teaches forensic science.

Tara graduated as valedictorian at Apalachicola High School in 2006. She earned her bachelor's degree in environmental science from the University of West Florida in 2011. She worked 5 years for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. Since becoming a teacher, she has sat on the homecoming and graduation committees and is president of the Franklin County Teachers Association.

I offer my deepest gratitude and best wishes to Tara for her commitment to her students. I look forward to hearing about her continued success as she enters working in school administration and completes her master's degree in educational leadership from the University of West Florida.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JOSELYN LEON

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Joselyn Leon, the Palm Beach

County Teacher of the Year, from Belle Glade Elementary School in Belle Glade, FL.

Joselyn's students serve as her biggest inspiration. She believes she is making a positive impact in the world through her work with them. She is known for her in-depth planner that details each activity. Joselyn knew she wanted to be a teacher because of her passion for working with kids. She prayed for guidance in her career and found teaching to be the answer. While teaching is her official job, Joselyn does not consider it a job because she loves what she does.

Joselyn became a fifth-grade teacher at Belle Glade Elementary School because she wanted to give back to her community. In 2017, she joined the School District of Palm Beach County and, shortly after, was named the school's Beginning Teacher of the Year.

I convey my sincere gratitude and best wishes to Jocelyn for her devotion to her students. I look forward to hearing about her continued good work in the years to come.●

#### TRIBUTE TO RICHARD LoSARDO

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Richard LoSardo, the Martin County Teacher of the Year, from Martin County High School in Stuart, FL.

Richie's colleagues believe he encapsulates what it means to be a Martin County High School Tiger. He is a dedicated and passionate educator committed to seeing his students and colleagues succeed. He leads various professional learning sessions and shares engagement strategies with others with a high level of success.

Throughout Richie's career in teaching, he has taken on various Advancement Placement and Advanced International Certificate of Education Programs that furthered his learning and pushed him professionally. This earned his students' appreciation as they saw Richie continue to further his education after he graduated from Martin County High School.

Richie is the school's debate coach, leading the program and traveling with students nationwide for championship competitions. He earned recognition from the National Speech and Debate Association as a Diamond Coach. He also has taken on leadership roles and officer positions in the debate community while hosting tournaments at Martin County High School.

I am grateful for Richie's commitment to his students and work across the Martin County community. I look forward to learning more about his good work in the classroom in the years ahead.●

#### TRIBUTE TO KASEY MCKANE-BROWN

● Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Kasey McKane-Brown, the Okeechobee County Teacher of the Year,