

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM "PAT"
PATTON GETTY III

• Mr. MANCHIN. Mr. President, today I wish to honor William Patton Getty III for his decades of service to the people of my home State of West Virginia and the surrounding region.

A native of Pittsburgh, PA, Pat has always showcased a passion for giving back to the communities and the people of this special region, and my wife, Gayle, and I are so very proud to call him a dear friend. He has been a part of the Claude Worthington Benedum Foundation for more than 24 years, serving as president since 1998 and a trustee since 1994. The foundation serves the people of West Virginia, southwestern Pennsylvania, and the multistate economic region centered on Pittsburgh.

In addition to his role with the foundation, he serves on numerous boards and committees that range from efforts in economic and community development, to policy research, to attracting and retaining diverse talent, to the statewide economic development initiative in West Virginia, called Vision Shared. He was a founding member and past chair of the Fund for the Advancement of Minorities through Education, a past board member of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Western Pennsylvania, a past member of the West Virginia Jobs Cabinet, and served on the advisory board for the West Virginia Teacher Quality Initiative. He also serves on the implementation committee of the Tri-State Shale Coalition, which is a collaborative effort by the Governors of West Virginia, Ohio, and Pennsylvania seeking to optimize downstream economic development pertaining to shale gas and especially modern manufacturing. Since 2006, he has been a leader of Power of 32, a 32-county, four-State economic development project in the Pittsburgh region.

Prior to beginning his role as president of the foundation in 1999, Pat had practiced law with Pittsburgh's firm, Meyer, Unkovic, and Scott for nearly 30 years. In addition to his work at the foundation, Pat has had an unparalleled commitment to advancing educational opportunities for young people and enhancing the quality of life in the region. Countless families have felt the impact of his outstanding efforts and leadership, and he has had a hand in preparing the future leaders of our region to be well-prepared, inspired, and unafraid of creativity, no matter their circumstances.

The people of the region Pat and I share have an exceptional can-do spirit, a neighborly love that is unrelenting, and are grounded by the same core principle: to help others be the best they can be. That is Pat's legacy as a public servant and as a leader, and there is no greater achievement than to be in a position to give back to the communities you love.

While he is retiring and everyone is certain to miss his strong leadership, Pat's dedication and commitment to

excellence will leave a lasting legacy with the countless lives he has touched. Again, I congratulate Pat for his remarkable years of service, and I am honored to wish good health and much happiness to him and his family in the days and years ahead.●

TRIBUTE TO KEILAN MCWHORTER

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I am pleased to recognize Keilan McWhorter, the Franklin County Teacher of the Year from Franklin County School in Eastpoint, FL.

Keilan grew up in a small agricultural community in Albany, KY. After graduating from Clinton County High School in 1987, he started college at Gulf Coast Community College, later transferring to Florida State University, graduating in 1992. When at FSU, he completed his teacher training requirements while working on his plant physiology research. Shortly after, Keilan moved to Rickards High School in Tallahassee and completed his student teaching requirements.

Keilan began his first full-time teaching opportunity teaching biology and chemistry at Shanks High School in Quincy. He also served as department chair for 3 years and coached baseball for the Shanks Tigers.

Keilan then moved to Panama City and began a job at Rutherford High School, teaching higher level biology for the International Baccalaureate Program, where he later served as department chair. He taught within the IB program for 16 years before coming to the Franklin County School, where he has been a valued faculty member for nearly 4 years.

I extend my best wishes to Keilan for his dedication to teaching students. I look forward to hearing of his continued success in his future endeavors.●

TRIBUTE TO JOY PRESCOTT

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Joy Prescott, the Glades County Teacher of the Year from Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School in Okeechobee, FL.

Joy employs a simple teaching philosophy that creates a fun learning environment that is welcoming and, most importantly, safe. In her classroom, her students know it is okay to make mistakes.

Joy indeed has a record of excellence as demonstrated in 2005 when her students made the most writing gains in Florida and in 2006 when she was named New Endeavor High School's Teacher of the Year.

Joy is a lifelong resident of Okeechobee County and spent the first 13 years of her teaching career giving back to the students in her hometown. She has been with Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School for the past 4 years, where she and her colleagues work to help preserve the Seminole Tribe of Florida's cultures and traditions. She currently teaches fourth-grade math.

I offer my best wishes to Joy and I look forward to learning of her continued success in the years ahead.●

TRIBUTE TO ES SWIHART

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I am pleased to honor Es Swihart, the Sarasota County Teacher of the Year from Riverview High School in Sarasota, FL.

After Es was presented with the Teacher of the Year award, she was asked what inspires her. She stated it was her fellow teachers that offer inspiration, through the long hours and their desire to teach lessons in new ways, plus the creative veracity with which educators make space for students as they learn to navigate the world and allow students to value their own voice serves as inspiration.

Es notes the desire for students to come to class each day while shouldering the weight of what they carry, sometimes gracefully and sometimes with awkward honesty, inspires her the most. Their optimistic view of the world and wanting others to see them for who they truly are serve as her motivation as their teacher.

As an English teacher, Es teaches her students to analyze everything, whether it be books or movies that are recent or decades old. She knows her students are understanding and experiencing educational growth when they realize books from the 1500s through 1600s can still be relevant today. Her colleagues note she opens up pathways to language with her content and is focused on the learning process for all of her students.

I am thankful to learn of Es's commitment to teaching. I extend my best wishes to her on receiving this important award and look forward to hearing of her continued success in her future endeavors.●

90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
EMBASSY THEATRE

• Mr. YOUNG. Mr. President, I wish to rise today to formally recognize the 90th anniversary of the Embassy Theatre in Fort Wayne, IN. Since its founding on May 14 1928, the Embassy has remained Indiana's leading self-sustaining historic theatre, welcoming more than 130,000 patrons each year. Originally built as a movie palace and vaudeville house, the theatre featured regal entertainment with a complete Page theatre pipe organ. At the height of its popularity, the Embassy frequently hosted decorated artists, including musician Tony Bennett and comedian Victor Borge. It wasn't until the evolution of television that the theater's popularity began to fade.

In 1972, the Embassy was threatened to be demolished, but several Hoosiers in the Fort Wayne community formed the Embassy Theatre Foundation to preserve its historical significance. Now in its 90th year, the Embassy Theatre continues to feature national