

I am filled with pride every time I meet the patriots who have served our country, and I am so pleased to welcome West Virginia's most courageous veterans, who are all heroes, to Washington, D.C. I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in saluting them. They truly inspire us all as we are reminded of their selfless service. It is because of their bravery that all Americans enjoy the greatest liberties and freedoms in the world.

God bless all our servicemembers and veterans, God bless the great State of West Virginia, and God bless the United States of America.●

RECOGNIZING SUNDANCE CONSULTING, INC.

● Mr. RISCH. Madam President, Idaho is known for its rolling foothills, crystal clear rivers and streams, and of course some exquisite mountains. Idahoans embrace these treasures across our State and are committed to keeping these natural resources pristine for the next generation. This commitment to maintaining our public lands contributes to an abundance of innovation and creativity in the natural resources space in my home State. As chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize Sundance Consulting, Inc., as the Small Business of the Month for May 2018. Sundance Consulting, Inc.'s work on important environmental and natural resource-related issues exemplifies Idaho's entrepreneurial spirit and stewardship of our environment.

After 19 years of working for the Native American Lands Environmental Mitigation Program as a consultant focused on addressing environmental problems related to previous Department of Defense activities, September Myres founded Sundance Consulting, Inc., in 2005. She founded Sundance with a vision to provide solutions to the environmental challenges faced by Native Americans and Native Alaskans alike. Raised on the Fort Hall Indian Reservation in Idaho, Ms. Myres has a keen understanding of the unique environmental issues that tribes face. With her background and experience in Tribal lands, Ms. Myres is uniquely positioned to implement innovative solutions to ongoing environmental problems in these communities. Among the solutions that September provides are general consulting services, environmental site assessments, site investigations, radioactive waste retrieval, process optimization, and soil and water sampling, all of which help clients understand the environment they are working in and ways to mitigate any potentially harmful activities.

Under Ms. Myres' exceptional leadership, Sundance Consulting has grown from a sole proprietorship to a firm of more than 50 employees. The company is headquartered in Pocatello, ID, with eight satellite offices across the Nation. From 2011 to 2016, Sundance in-

creased their revenue by \$10 million and hired an additional 50 employees. The firm's continued growth has been a product of its growing client base. From its original focus on tribal clients to today's diverse portfolio of Federal, State, and commercial clients, Sundance prides itself on delivering quality advice and planning services on-time and under budget, while protecting the environment. Over time, the company has expanded its offerings to include public outreach and liaison services that help to build consensus and increase public participation in the planning of client projects. Over its 13 years in business Sundance has earned a reputation of excellence in their field by bringing diverse organizations together to create environmental solutions.

In 2008, Sundance began utilizing the SBA 8(a) Business Development Program, a 9-year certification program that helps small, disadvantaged businesses compete for government contracts. The program provided Ms. Myres with the tools and knowledge required to grow her business. Sundance's success has allowed the company to give back to their local community in Idaho. Every year, the company provides school supplies and backpacks to children in need, through a charity drive in Chubbuck, ID. Additionally, Sundance provides scholarships to Native American students going in to the science, technology, engineering, or mathematics fields.

The company's high standards and good reputation have led to recognition from the environmental and small business communities. The Environmental Business Journal noted Sundance's incredible growth and economic success in environmental consulting. In 2016, the Journal awarded Sundance the 19th Annual Small Firms Award for Achievement. Due to her success as an entrepreneur and her commitment to environmental preservation, the Small Business Administration honored Ms. Myres as the 2018 Idaho Small Business Person of the Year during National Small Business Week for demonstrating growth, innovation, and perseverance in the face of adversity.

Innovation, growth, and commitment to quality are the hallmarks of Sundance Consulting's success. The company's continual commitment to helping communities exemplifies how small businesses are in a unique position to make a profit and make a difference. Sundance is a true inspiration to innovators and small businesses across the Nation for their incredible success. I would like to extend my sincerest congratulations to September Myres and all of the employees at Sundance Consulting, Inc., for being selected as the May 2018 Small Business of the Month. You make our great State of Idaho proud, and I look forward to watching your continued growth and success.●

TRIBUTE TO HEATHER ANDERSON

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I honor Heather Anderson, the Manatee County Teacher of the Year from Martha B. King Middle School in Bradenton, FL.

Heather credits her students as the reason why she was named Teacher of the Year. During the award ceremony, she noted that they keep her going every day and thanked them for giving her purpose and meaning. Everything she does is for her students, and she cannot wait to see what the future holds for them.

Heather wanted to be a teacher since she was a child and said this award is one of the most rewarding parts of her career. For students who enter her classroom, she has committed herself to positively contributing to their lives, promises to value and treat them with respect, hold the highest standard for herself and students, and monitor and adjust her work to ensure they are prepared for their educational future.

In her classroom, students are able to use tablets to learn and conduct research for their assignments. These tablets were not provided by the school, but through a fundraiser she put together. She is dedicated to seeing each and every one of her students succeed in school and in life.

Heather is an English I honors and language arts teacher at King Middle School. She serves as chair of the language arts department and has been a teacher for 18 years.

I extend my appreciation to Heather for her hard work and dedication to her students and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO CATELYN BOZE

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I honor Catelyn Boze, the Putnam County Teacher of the Year from Q.I. Roberts Junior-Senior High School in Florahome, FL.

Catelyn received this important recognition because of her ability to encourage students from all ranges. She challenges the gifted students and helps motivate those who struggle. This dedication to her students resulted in many striving to produce work that will make her proud.

Catelyn's success is built on three components. According to her, a large portion of teaching is relational. When students know their teacher cares about them, they are more open to learning. She demonstrates this to her students by setting high expectations and not allowing them to become unengaged. The second component is Catelyn's creativity and deep content knowledge. This allows her to create questions that challenge her students to think critically. The third component of her success are two initiatives she designed in the past 2 years: student choice and nonzero grading. Catelyn believes that a student who receives a zero for an assignment does

not give her the necessary feedback to determine what a student has learned and damages their motivation to school. Instead, her grading practices allow for end-point mastery, which she believes to help her students learn.

Catelyn has taught at Q.I. Roberts Junior-Senior High School for 3 years and is involved with several extracurricular activities. As yearbook sponsor, she doubled the size of the yearbook and increased sales to where more copies were needed to be ordered. She also cosponsors the Hi-Q team and attends school sporting events and performances of her students.

I express my best wishes to Catelyn for her commitment to her students and wish her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO HELENE HOTALING

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I honor Helene Hotaling, the Marion County Teacher of the Year from Madison Street Academy in Ocala, FL.

Helene believes what best describes her life as a child, parent, and as an educator can be attributed to a quote from Dr. Seuss: "To the world you may be one person, but to one person you may be the world."

Helene's parents were poor, had little education, and spoke broken English. As a result, her initial introduction to school in first grade was difficult. It was not until a retired teacher in her neighborhood guided her to where she is today. That retired teacher, Ms. Nuesell, saw she could make a difference in her life and taught her the joy of learning. This inspired Helene to become a teacher at a young age.

Ms. Nuesell took Helene to the library and sat with her as she struggled to read. This kindness and persistence paid off, and by the time Helene entered second grade, she could read and keep up with her classmates academically. Helene knows Ms. Nuesell did not have to do this; she did so because she enjoyed teaching. Ms. Nuesell has been her role model in life.

Helene is a graduate of the University of Georgia with bachelor of arts degree in elementary education and a master's degree in teaching reading from Barry University. She has been a teacher for 29 years, with all but 2 years in Marion County. Helene has taught fourth grade, third grade, second grade, and kindergarten. She is currently a third grade teacher at Madison Street Academy.

I thank Helene for her dedication to teaching countless students throughout her nearly three decades long career. I express my best wishes for her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO JASON LANCY

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I am honored to recognize Jason Lancy, the Lake County Teacher of the Year from Windy Hill Middle School in Clermont, FL.

Jason was not a math wizard when he was in school, originally struggling with the subject. It is fitting that he has been given this prestigious award while serving as the chair of the math department. Jason said it was hard to explain how it felt to receive this honor, though he felt it was definitely one of the greatest nights of his life.

Jason's students tell him how he explains math is different and easier for them to understand. He relates this trait to the fact that he can empathize when they feel lost and confused with math. He seeks to deepen his student's understanding and increase engagement by teaching passionately and with a sense of humor.

By all accounts, he has a close relationship with his students. Jason shared his feelings towards the night he received this honor by putting the trophy in his classroom and showed his students pictures from the event. They were ecstatic for him, noting it was a class atmosphere unlike any other he had experienced before.

Jason has been an eighth-grade Algebra 1 and Algebra 1 honors teacher at Windy Hill Middle School since 2007. He earned his bachelor of science degree from Indiana University of Pennsylvania in mathematics education and earned his master of education degree from the University of Central Florida in mathematics education.

I express my sincere thanks and appreciation to Jason for his hard work and look forward to hearing of his and his students' continued success.●

TRIBUTE TO ANGELA PERRY

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Angela Perry, the Lafayette County Teacher of the Year from Lafayette Elementary School in Mayo, FL.

The compassion Angela displays to her students and her demonstration of being a model teacher to her peers led to her being named Teacher of the Year. Angela credited her school's administration, colleagues, and friends who share her love of teaching for her receiving this honor by the district.

Angela's teaching philosophy is guided by a quote from Mother Teresa: "Not all of us can do great things, but we can do small things with great love." She abides by this quote when it comes to teaching her fifth grade students as they begin to transition from elementary to middle school.

Outside of the classroom, Angela is involved throughout her community by volunteering with her church youth's ministry. She has coached soccer, basketball, and softball for local youth programs. Angela has also been a board member for the Lafayette Babe Ruth Program for 14 years.

Angela graduated from Lafayette High School in 1992 and continued her educational career by earning an elementary education degree at Valdosta State University in 1997. She has taught at Lafayette Elementary

School since 2011, teaching fourth grade for 6 years and is currently teaching fifth grade math.

I express my sincere thanks and appreciation to Angela for the dedication she has provided to her students and community throughout the years.●

TRIBUTE TO AMY ROBERTS

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I recognize Amy Roberts, the Columbia County Teacher of the Year from Summers Elementary School in Lake City, FL.

Amy's colleagues describe her as an organized, structured professional with proven teaching, motivating, and leadership skills. These abilities undoubtedly contributed to Amy becoming her school district's Teacher of the Year.

Her administrator noted that Amy works to ensure all students are able to experience success during their academic career. One of her former students remembers that Amy always did whatever she could to help them succeed in school.

Amy is a firm believer in fostering a growth mindset and developing lasting relationships with her students and their families. She views these relationships as paramount to students achieving success in her classroom, college, and in working environments.

Amy has been a teacher for more than 7 years, with most of those years at Summers Elementary School. She is currently a first grade teacher.

I am honored to express my sincere gratitude to Amy for her hard work and look forward to hearing of her continued success throughout her teaching career.●

TRIBUTE TO BETH ROSENOW

● Mr. RUBIO. Madam President, today I honor Beth Rosenow, the Monroe County Teacher of the Year from Coral Shores High School in Tavernier, FL.

Beth received this important recognition because of her exemplary marine science and leadership programs. Her colleagues note her outstanding work in and out of the classroom because she connects her class material to the outside world and keeps her students engaged.

Beth is known by her coworkers for her unique teaching style. She uses hands-on techniques to give her students a firsthand experience to the material they are learning. Her expertise and participation within the local marine science community provides her with material for her students. Beth's commitment to this field allows her students learn how to assess the health of coral reefs and to report data to the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration.

Beth has certifications in fish identification, rescue diving, and uses her expertise to challenge her students and herself. She began her teaching career 18 years ago in Fenton, MI, and is coming up on her seventh year of teaching