

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO AUDREY ROSENSTEIN

• Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize Audrey Rosenstein of Las Vegas, NV, for her tireless efforts on behalf of children in need of a family and her work that has distinguished her as a 2018 Angel in Adoption honoree. After learning of Audrey's story, I was proud to nominate her for this award, which is presented to individuals for outstanding contributions to adoption and child welfare through the Congressional Coalition on Adoption Institute.

Audrey and her husband, Craig, are parents to five biological children and 10 adopted children. Sixteen years ago, the Rosensteins decided to fill the empty bedrooms of their adult children with children in need of a safe and loving environment. Since then, their family has welcomed 25 foster children into their loving home. As a father of four, I have great admiration for the Rosensteins who have opened their heart and home to those who are in need of it most.

In addition to her parenting role, Audrey is committed to serving her community. Audrey is the president of Fostering Southern Nevada, an organization that is dedicated to improving foster parent recruitment and retention. She also works closely with the Clark County Department of Family Services on the Quality Parenting Initiative, as well as with Child Haven and Peggy's Closet to help ensure that foster families have access to the resources that they need.

Audrey was quoted in a Las Vegas Review Journal article saying, "I'm hoping we give children a feeling of being loved, important and being a part of a family. The idea that we've made an impact in someone's life makes it all worth it."

I certainly believe that Audrey has made a significant impact on many young lives, and I believe that Nevada is better off because of her unwavering commitment to providing young Nevadans with much-needed hope and love. I offer my deepest appreciation to both Audrey and her husband Craig for their efforts to care for Southern Nevada's children, and I ask that all of my colleagues join me in recognizing their service to our community. •

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF SUNRISE COUNTY ECONOMIC COUNCIL

• Mr. KING. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the Sunrise County Economic Council of Washington County as they celebrate their 25th anniversary. Founded using funds left over from the Quoddy Job Opportunity Zone, an initiative from then-Governor John McKernan, SCEC has used a grassroots approach to economic development in Washington County. They have worked tirelessly across political, economic, and municipal boundaries to

promote development in one of the least populated counties in the State.

SCEC was founded in 1993 by a group of businesses and community leaders to promote economic and community development. SCEC brings together community-focused businesses, not-for-profit organizations, municipalities, and citizens to all work together to create jobs and promote prosperity in Washington County. During my time as Governor, we created the Investing in Washington County initiative, which was a partnership between SCEC and State agencies working through the cabinet subcommittee on economic development. Since then, SCEC has been dedicated to job creation and development and continues to play a vital role in Maine's economic prosperity.

Today SCEC has several programs and initiatives to achieve their goals to improve their community and promote development. One of these programs is Family Futures Downeast. This program aims to break the cycle of poverty by providing children with a safe, secure environment, high-quality education, and supporting parents through postsecondary education and career development. Parents enroll at the University of Maine Machias or Washington County Community College and their children are enrolled in early-education programs right on campus. Families receive support from a variety of partners, including college preparatory and tutoring services, workforce training, career counseling, and financial support. This program is life-changing for parents and children. Thanks to the program, children are thriving in high-quality childcare, parents can pursue opportunities without worrying about their children's care, and parents are on path to long-term, higher-paying jobs right in Washington County.

Another SCEC program is the Washington County Leadership Institute. Founded in 1997, the institute provides Washington County citizens with the skills, insight, and professional network to be more effective leaders in their communities. Participants come from all sectors, including small business, finance, education, tourism, healthcare, nonprofit, and municipal government. Institute graduates have gone on to serve on planning boards, school boards, filled a variety of volunteer positions, and served in the legislature.

I am honored to join all of the communities of Washington County and the entire State of Maine in congratulating Sunrise County Economic Council for 25 years of incredible work. I look forward to their continued growth and service to the State, and I thank them for their dedication to making Maine such a special place to call home. •

RECOGNIZING BEAR KNUCKLES

• Mr. RISCH. Mr. President, Idaho's entrepreneurs are passionate individ-

uals who consistently innovate and create high-quality products. As chairman of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, it is my distinct privilege to recognize Bear Knuckles as the Small Business of the Month for September 2018. Located in Blackfoot, ID, Bear Knuckles manufactures gloves with a unique design that allow for a stronger grip while still protecting the wearer's hands.

Bear Knuckles' founder, Shawn Schild, is one of three brothers who own B Bar B in Blackfoot. B Bar B is a family-owned leather shop founded by Shawn's parents, Bob and Gay Schild. Bob Schild began his career as a professional rodeo rider in 1954. Throughout his rodeo career, Bob carried a sewing machine and other tailoring supplies in his camper to craft his own equipment. He often sold rodeo chaps and other items that he crafted to make extra income while on the road. Bob continued his rodeo career until he settled down in Blackfoot with his wife Gay and founded B Bar B Leather in 1961. He continued to compete in the rodeo part time to help support the business until 1969. Bob and Gay passed along this entrepreneurial spirit and the values of hard work and integrity to their three sons: Jeff, Shawn, and Kelly. After taking the reins of the business from their parents in 1994, the three brothers founded B Bar B Wholesale in 1996.

Shawn began designing his own line of gloves over 20 years ago, while competing in the rodeo like his father had done before him. He wanted to make a glove that could protect his hands, while providing a better grip on bucking bulls. After a great deal of experimentation, Shawn created gloves with curved fingers to better conform to the natural shape of the hand. This resulted in a glove that allows for a strong grip, while also reducing grip fatigue. Shawn's patented double wedge ergonomic design worked so well that it was adopted by several professional bullriders who still use it to this day.

Shawn saw the potential for this new glove to benefit working men and women. He began making different types of gloves and approached local stores and industrial businesses asking them to test his new products. Several employees at a local natural gas distributor, who tested the welding gloves, praised Shawn's design and claimed that they no longer wanted to use any other type of glove. After further tinkering and experimentation, he received a patent for the design in 2015. Following the patent, Shawn took the next step and decided to pursue a manufacturing and distribution agreement with a large glove manufacturing company. Shawn overcame multiple challenges in the manufacturing of his glove, which ultimately led him to start his own small business, Bear Knuckles. Today Shawn's gloves are sold in stores throughout the area.

The State of Idaho is proud to be home to innovative, hard-working entrepreneurs like Shawn. The entire B