

TRIBUTE TO JAE GLASS

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Jae Glass, the Gulf County Teacher of the Year at Port St. Joe High School in Port St. Joe, FL.

Jae teaches seventh grade English language arts and a ninth grade intensive reading class at her alma mater, Port St. Joe High School, where she has taught for 8 years.

Jae dedicates her time to being a positive role model for her students by engaging with them each day in her classroom. Throughout the school year, her students participate in more than traditional learning lectures. An example of an alternative activity includes her "book tasting day," which allows students to snack at picnic tables while sampling from an array of books.

Jae believes it is important to make English relatable and fun to her students. She encourages them to use reading and writing as a creative means of expression. She also works to help students that do not speak English as a first language by securing additional materials for her school.

I convey my sincere gratitude to Jae for her devotion to helping her students succeed in their future endeavors. I look forward to hearing of her continued success.●

TRIBUTE TO EVAN GOULD

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I honor Evan Gould, the Clay County Teacher of the Year from Lake Asbury Junior High School in Green Cove Springs, FL.

Evan felt honored and humbled to represent Clay County as he considers himself just one of the many high-quality educators teaching in the region. He relishes opportunities for his students to participate at district and State competitions as he takes great pride in their superior and award-winning performances. His music and drama programs are highly regarded in Florida and generate great interest throughout the county.

Evan has been a teacher for 30 years, with 22 years in Clay County. Outside of the classroom, Evan dedicates his time and talents to giving back to his community. He cofounded the Clay All-County Elementary Chorus, as well as The 5 & Dime Theatre Company. Evan also serves as the chair of District 1 Junior Thespians, which hosts an annual festival that brings in more than 500 drama students from across the region.

I extend my sincere thanks and gratitude to Evan for his many years working as a teacher and helping countless students fulfill their drama and musical ambitions. I look forward to learning of his continued success in the coming years.●

TRIBUTE TO JOLI HARTZOG

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I honor Joli Hartzog, the Washington

County Teacher of the Year at Florida Panhandle Technical College in Chipley, FL.

Joli has been a teacher for more than 26 years. She is the adult education director and instructor for the Florida Panhandle Technical College and offers instruction for several programs at the school. Joli teaches all levels of students, including those seeking high school equivalency, professional testing preparation, personal enrichment, or other specialized certification.

Enrollment at Florida Panhandle Technical College remains open throughout the year so the environment and format of Joli's class is ever-changing. She works with students ranging from 16 to 66 years old who are working towards their GED, and she is able to modify her teaching style to match the composition of the current class. She is willing to meet with her students anytime, whether when they arrive in her classroom, after class, or by appointment.

Joli finds the best part of teaching to be the family she has found at the school. She enjoys working with her fellow instructors and faculty and says they all work as a team. Joli considers this family to extend to her students and loves that she is able to help them achieve their life dreams.

I offer my sincere gratitude to Joli for her dedication to her students and extend my best wishes on her continued success in the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO KERI HEMRICK

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I recognize Keri Hemrick, the Collier County Teacher of the Year at Gulf Coast High School in Naples, FL.

Keri believes motivating her students to impact their community is one of the most important commitments she makes as a teacher. She aims to lead each student, whether they have a disability or a gift, towards increasing their achievements in school. She works to ensure their success upon leaving her classroom.

Keri's students were excited to learn that she had received this award. They were proud to see her recognized for representing the family-like environment she cultivated in their classroom. Many students have credited her for helping them to understand the new subjects throughout the school year.

Keri is an exceptional education co-teacher, case manager, and chair of the exceptional student education department at Gulf Coast High School. She dedicates her life to making a difference by engaging her students with special instruction and services.

I extend my best wishes to Keri for her dedication to her students and her community and congratulate her on this award.●

TRIBUTE TO EUAN HUNTER

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I honor Euan Hunter, the Marion County

Teacher of the Year at Vanguard High School in Ocala, FL.

Euan believes that learning is a lifelong endeavor not only for his students, but also for himself. He enjoys working with other teachers in the school district and works to utilize the teaching experience to make the learning of chemistry as real, enjoyable, and successful as he can for his students.

Euan believes he is fortunate to have taught chemistry to students of different age groups under a variety of curricula in England, Scotland, New York City, and now in Ocala. He looks forward to bringing chemistry to life so students can enjoy the learning process.

Euan currently teaches chemistry at Vanguard High School and has taught students around the world for 16 years. He received his degree in chemistry from the University of Edinburgh and studied to be a chemistry teacher at a university in England. Euan taught chemistry and general science in England and Scotland for 10 years and was an adviser to the Scottish Government on chemistry curriculum and assessment qualifications for students. After marrying his wife, they moved to New York City, where he taught at a middle school, before moving to Ocala.

I am grateful for Euan's hard work in educating students and enabling them to succeed. I wish all the best to him and look forward to learning of his continued good work in the coming years.●

TRIBUTE TO WHITNEY JONES

• Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, today I am pleased to recognize Whitney Jones, the Nassau County Teacher of the Year from Wildlight Elementary School in Yulee, FL.

Whitney became a teacher to make a difference in the lives of students by helping them to develop a passion for learning. Her teaching philosophy is that students will work hard when they are shown love and respect. She finds it humbling to watch her students grow and successfully learn new class subjects throughout the school year.

Whitney considers her role in her students' lives to be one that offers encouragement, guidance, and compassion. She works with her colleagues to implement new teaching strategies and plans standards-based lessons to ensure students are prepared for the third grade when they leave her classroom.

Whitney began her teaching career at Yulee Primary School, teaching there for 5 years before becoming a second grade teacher at Wildlight Elementary School, where she has taught for the past 2 years as a team leader and grade level chair. She is also on her school's action plan team, which works to create plans to help the lowest quartile students improve in school.

I extend my best wishes to Whitney for her good work as a teacher and look forward to hearing of her continued good work in the years to come.●