

good humor, and tireless defense of the Tenth Amendment on behalf of the States.●

#### TRIBUTE TO JIM GRANT

● Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, today I wish to honor the significant contributions that Peterborough native Jim Grant has made to New Hampshire throughout his life. I am proud to recognize Jim's service in the Granite State and dedication to his fellow New Hampshire residents.

Jim has lived his entire life in Peterborough and is proud of his roots, which are represented on his vanity license plate with the phrase "LUVPBRO." In addition to being well-known and beloved by his neighbors, Jim epitomizes the spirit of generosity in New Hampshire. Spanning decades, Jim's dedication to volunteerism is outstanding, and he has served as a volunteer firefighter for 53 years. His record of service also includes volunteering for the Salvation Army, founding the Monadnock Workspace—an organization that employs and empowers those with developmental challenges—and co-founding the Peterborough Sunshine Fund, which assists individuals with emergency and travel needs.

It is only fitting that Jim's own profession would be as a teacher who educated and inspired generations of students. His passion for teaching compelled him to found the organization where he works today, Staff Development for Educators. By ensuring and enriching the professional development needs of educators, Jim is helping to spread education across the globe.

Jim has contributed greatly to the Greater Monadnock region, injecting positivity into the lives of people he may never know. It is an honor to highlight Jim's life of service and commitment to a cause greater than himself. His selflessness and generosity is a testament to all that is great in New Hampshire.

I extend my sincerest thanks to Jim for all that he has done and continues to do for the people of New Hampshire. I am extraordinarily proud to join his friends and neighbors in commending Jim for a life well lived and his lifetime of giving.●

#### TRIBUTE TO DELANEY BIEL

● Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize a Hinsdale High School senior, Delaney Biel. Delaney is described by her EMT instructor, Dorothy Jensen, as "a determined team player, who is committed to her community. She consistently exceeds expectations . . . I'd trust her with my life." Delaney is already a nationally certified emergency medical technician and will soon be receiving her State certification any moment now.

The loss of three classmates in recent years inspired Delaney to enroll in an EMT course offered at her own high

school. Initially, an aspiring businesswoman, she has said, "the class absolutely changed what I wanted to do as a career. As a kid I was afraid of hospitals, but with the ambulance I get to make decisions in a fast-paced environment and I can get down to business without getting flustered." So far she has responded to women in labor and individuals with cardiac and diabetic emergencies. Last year, Delaney gave up basketball, volleyball, and most of her free time in the service of her community.

As a fifth generation Montana rancher, making the switch from farming equipment to an ambulance was simple. Both working her family's ranch and participating in Hinsdale athletics prepared her for the collaboration essential to high quality urgent care. Delaney has said, "This is a team sport; it's not about you, it's about everyone using their strengths to make the team work."

Delaney likes to keep a full schedule. Since April of last year, she has completed 500 hours of community service, administering bimonthly blood pressure screenings at the local senior center. She is also a member of FFA, president of student council, a member of the music department, and a member of the National Honor Society.

This fall, at Montana State University-Northern, Delaney will continue on her path to becoming a medical professional by pursuing a bachelor's degree in nursing. After college, she intends to gain hands-on experience in the emergency rooms of Billings and Great Falls before applying to medical school. Her long term goal is to raise a family in Hinsdale and spend a few days each week where she got started, with the volunteer ambulance.

This young woman's dedication is inspiring. It is our small-town family values that makes Montana so special. Her example encourages each of us to reach beyond expectations we have set for ourselves and do our part to strengthen our communities.

Delaney, I wish you the best in college, and thank you for your service to our great State. Keep making us proud.●

#### CONGRATULATING JOHN TIERNEY

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate John Tierney on being named Nevada's 2016 Michael Landsberry Teacher of the Year. This accolade is truly prestigious, attained by only the most influential of Nevada's educators. Without a doubt, Mr. Tierney's work at Adobe High School in the Elko County School District warrants recognition with this incredible award.

Mr. Tierney started his career in teaching three decades ago at the Fremont Unified School District. In 1989, he moved to Nevada and began teaching English and social studies at Adobe Middle School and has remained a valued member of the Red-Tailed Hawks'

faculty department ever since. In addition to time spent in the classroom, Mr. Tierney leads the social studies department and serves on the School Improvement Team at Adobe High School. He is also a national facilitator for PBS TeacherLine, which provides online professional development courses for Pre-K through 12th grade teachers. Mr. Tierney's unwavering dedication to his students at Adobe High School over the last 25 years goes without question. He is truly a role model, providing an innovative and interactive teaching style for those in his classroom, and he encourages students with open discourse and debate. His commitment to his students is invaluable to the Elko community.

As the father of four children and as the husband of a teacher, I understand the important role educators play in enriching the lives of Nevadans. Ensuring students throughout the Silver State are prepared to compete in the 21st century is critical for the future of our country. The State of Nevada is fortunate to be home to educators like Mr. Tierney.

I ask my colleagues and all Nevadans to join me in thanking Mr. Tierney for his dedication to enriching the lives of Nevada's students and congratulating him on receiving this award. I wish him well in all of his future endeavors and in creating success for all students who enter his classroom.●

#### TRIBUTE TO CAROLE VILARDO

● Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, today I wish to congratulate Carole Vilardo on her retirement after three decades of service to the Great State of Nevada. Ms. Vilardo has gone above and beyond in her role with the Nevada Taxpayers Association, NTA, embodying Nevada's values of strength and steadfast dedication to improving the Silver State's tax laws.

Ms. Vilardo began her career with the NTA in 1986 when she was assigned to work on issues including taxes, spending, and business regulation. Prior to this, she owned a retail shop and teamed up with former Nevada State Senator Ann O'Connell in spearheading work to create tougher shoplifting laws in Nevada. These laws were later adopted and became a model to other States. From 1972 to 1986, the two worked as a team to better the State of Nevada by advocating for greater accountability for the Clark County Commission in its actions and decisions.

After joining the NTA, Ms. Vilardo worked for 30 years to maintain unbiased and fair tax laws for the Silver State. Throughout her tenure, Ms. Vilardo was recognized as a tax expert with an unparalleled ability to explain complex issues to those around her. Even with the slightest change in legislation, Ms. Vilardo could explain the direct effects these decisions would have on Nevada's economy. She was one-of-a-kind, earning the trust of anyone she made contact with. In addition,