

picture of the American flag hanging from the Richford fire truck high above Main Street, and I immediately began to cry," said Purrier St. Pierre.

"I cannot begin to explain how much your compassion and support through this experience has meant to me."

As she took the track, Purrier St. Pierre thought of the community behind her.

"I was racing for way more than myself; I was racing for all the people that got me there and hoping to inspire the next young generation in this great community," said Purrier St. Pierre.

"I was humbled to see the Franklin County community come together to support one of their own; I could read your messages, see your signs, and watch in awe as you all showed up to the Richford High School gym to cheer me on."

VOTE EXPLANATION

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. President, I was necessarily absent, but had I been present would have voted yea on Roll Call Vote 387, on the Confirmation of Monica P. Medina to be an Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs.

I was necessarily absent, but had I been present would have voted yea on Roll Call Vote 389, on the Confirmation of Todd D. Robinson to be an Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MIKE MARIANI AND DEVIN McLAUGHLIN

• Ms. HASSAN. Mr. President, I am proud to recognize Mike Mariani of Spofford and Devin McLaughlin of West Chesterfield as September's Granite Staters of the Month. Mike and Devin are currently biking nearly 4,000 miles across the United States to raise money and awareness for suicide prevention efforts following the loss of Mike's brother to suicide in 2018.

Three years ago, Mike lost his 16-year-old older brother Nathan. Nathan was a junior at Keene High School at the time and was known to friends and family for his sense of humor and love for the outdoors.

In his memory, Mike and his best friend Devin launched Pedaling for Prevention, an initiative to raise awareness for suicide prevention by cycling across the country. Pedaling for Prevention also raises money for The Samaritans in Keene, which is a nonprofit that provides resources, including an anonymous crisis hotline, to help Granite Staters battling depression or thoughts of self-harm.

This cross country bike ride was initially scheduled for last year, but the COVID-19 pandemic forced Mike and Devin to change their plans. Instead, the pair travelled across New England and held socially distanced meet-and-greets where folks could share their stories about losing loved ones to sui-

cide and help reduce the stigma around mental health. On their return home, the duo received a warm welcome from their community, including a ride through town on the top of a fire truck, courtesy of the Chesterfield Fire Department.

Mike and Devin started their long-awaited cross-country journey earlier this summer. The two are currently exhibiting an incredible show of endurance by pedaling 3,762 miles across the entire United States and providing social media updates to spread awareness about the importance of suicide prevention. On their journey, they are also sharing their story with people they meet along the way to further expand their reach.

These two thoughtful, brave, and determined young people embody what it means to be a Granite Stater. After a heartbreaking loss that reverberated through an entire community, Mike and Devin decided to make a positive impact by spreading a message of resilience and hope, all the while educating others about suicide prevention and the importance of reaching out for help.●

TRIBUTE TO PATRICK COLLINS

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I recognize Patrick Collins, a pillar of Belen Jesuit Preparatory School in Miami, FL, for his 50-year commitment to the edification of thousands of young men in the community. Throughout his tenure, Mr. Collins served as a teacher, chair of the social studies department, founder and moderator of Close Up and Founding of a Nation, tennis coach, and cofounder of the overseas study program.

Mr. Collins' decades of service shaped numerous generations of students and are evidenced by his students' testimonies. From his students, one can learn how Mr. Collins complemented their civic education with the values of citizenship, patriotism, responsibility, and leadership. Ultimately, his passion and love for his country has created a legacy that has positively impacted the Miami community, State of Florida, and country at large through the moral compass that he worked to instill in every single one of his students.

I admire Mr. Collins' virtuous character and am grateful for the fruit of his work. I look forward to continuing to learn of the impact that his students have on our communities and know that he serves as an exceptional example to educators across the country.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that an article from the Miami Herald dated September 23, 2021, about Patrick Collins be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

FOR 50 YEARS, BELEN EDUCATOR HAS GIVEN FLIGHT TO STUDENTS' PASSION TO SERVE

(By Rafael A. Yáñez)

Patrick Collins, a beloved and influential educator at Belen Jesuit Preparatory

School, will be honored on Sept. 25. Belen Jesuit Preparatory School

"Before you stand up, you must know the first word that is coming out of your mouth." This was the first piece of advice that Patrick Collins—Belen Jesuit Preparatory School's social studies department chair and 11th-grade U.S. government teacher—gave me.

Decades later, I think of his advice whenever I am about to speak in any formal setting.

And I am not alone in remembering him and his guidance, for which, after five decades, he will be honored at Belen on Saturday, and most deservedly so.

"All prayers in the world can be condensed into two words," he told me. "Thank you"

"I've tried to instill in students a sense of gratitude to say Thank you, when they walk through Arlington National Cemetery, through the halls of Congress, through their cities, to find a niche in their lives to do something that benefits another citizen. That way, we can continue on to the betterment of ourselves and our country."

Collins' career has had a lifelong impact on generations of Belen Jesuit students during the course of his 50 years at Miami's storied all-male prep school, who have applied his lessons to make our community and our country better.

"In my era, we were rambunctious," said José Cil, CEO of Restaurant Brands International, the parent company of Burger King, "but he set a really high bar and drove us to excel—even if you weren't an excellent student."

Collins' passion for teaching beyond the textbook inspired him to succeed.

Former U.S. Congressman Joe Garcia agreed. "Mr. Collins' addition to Jesuit pedagogy is the insight that being a 'man for others' requires you to engage in the broader society without cynicism—without hatred—but always with an openness to engage in critical thought," Garcia said. "In the ideal republic, he is the ideal citizen."

Carlos Trujillo, former U.S. ambassador to the Organization of American States, said, "The impact Mr. Collins has had as a U.S. government teacher producing government servants, very few teachers across the country have had that kind of impact in their careers."

"To this day, I still apply the lessons I learned from Coach Collins inside and outside of the classroom," said Cesar Conde, chairman of NBCUniversal News Group, who played tennis under Collins' coaching.

"I first began to understand the importance of a free press and the role of great journalism in our democracy while studying in his government classes. And, during a Close Up Foundation trip to Washington, D.C. that he led, I was directly exposed to the federal government, which inspired me to apply to the White House Fellows Program years later." Conde subsequently served under then-Secretary of State Colin Powell.

"He taught me to dream big and then work hard to achieve those ambitions," explained Mr. Conde.

Eddy Acevedo, chief of staff and senior advisor to the CEO of the Wilson Center, astutely observed, "Anyone who grows up in Miami thinks about getting involved in politics, in government, in public service."

Former U.S. Congressman Carlos Curbelo was one of those students with an innate desire to serve.

"He provided us with a thorough understanding of what government is and how it works, the way the system is designed to impede the passage of legislation, and what people have to do to overcome those challenges."