

"We were young and naive," Tish admits.

Add "fanatically hard-working" The charming location proved less than ideal, since vacationers driving north to Stowe didn't want to drive back for dinner.

"We had to be creative the first 10 years, until word-of-mouth got around," Tony says.

Finally, the Stowe Montrealers who had adored Tony's cuisine at home rediscovered him and oh, did he cater to their tastes. "They want it special, not off the menu," he says.

"Tony's so intent on pleasing that he's flexible to a fault," Tish adds.

But bumps along the way, including an exhausting foray into retail refrigerated pasta that Tish delivered to gourmet shops between caring for two children and running Villa Tragara, might have derailed a less-committed couple. The Stowe restaurant scene was exploding with competition. Attitudes toward food were changing. "We were a sinking ship but we were going down fighting," Tish admits. Once, things got so bad they closed the door and fled to Martha's Vineyard for a week.

Tony was forced to make changes, to lighten sauces with vegetable purees, to initiate cabarets, dinner theater, jazz, a moderately priced tapas menu and early-bird discounts. Redecoration turned the farmhouse—particularly the mountain-view solarium—into a lively, informal trattoria. Herbs grow along the path to the front door; zucchini clog the compost-enriched garden plot out back.

And, somehow, their marriage has not only survived, but flourished. How? "We drop the restaurant when we go home," Tish says. "If we have an argument, it keeps until the next day."

Watching them you see the connection. "She is my partner, 120 percent," Tony affirms, touching Tish's shoulder. They have led student tours to Italy. They provide food for Odyssey of the Mind and March of Dimes events. On Christmas, Tony contributes lasagna (of all things) to a Christmas dinner at a Waterbury church and donates food to a retirement home.

No wonder, in March of 1999, Tony was one of 59 restaurateurs worldwide (nine in the U.S.) to receive the Insegna Del Ristoratore Italiano, which honors chiefs who leave Italy but "keep the good name alive."

The award was presented by Italian president Oscar Scalfaro. The Pope recognized the honorees during a public audience.

Simmons was happy but not surprised at the recognition. "When you walk in that door you feel special. Tony and Tish are genuinely glad to have your business," she says. The Simmonses drive almost an hour once a month to eat at Villa Tragara. "I'm a schoolteacher, not a rich woman, but we would rather eat at a place we know is good."

Because, Simmons concludes, "Anything else is going out to get some food. This is going out to dinner."

What a nice story.●

WOLFE MIDDLE SCHOOL NAMED 1999-2000 BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, in 1982, the United States Department of Education initiated its Blue Ribbon Schools Program. In each year since, the Department has recognized schools throughout the country which excel in all areas of academic leadership, teaching and teacher development, and school curriculum. In other words, Blue Ribbon Schools are the finest public and private secondary schools our

Nation has to offer. They are the schools that set the standard for which others strive. I am very proud to report that nine of the 198 Blue Ribbon Schools named by Secretary Richard W. Riley for 1999-2000 are located in the State of Michigan, and I rise today to recognize Wolfe Middle School, in Center Line, Michigan, one of these nine schools.

The hope of the Center Line Public School system is that their schools will become places where "every person will be a teacher, every teacher will be a leader and every student will be a success." To this end, Wolfe Middle School is a shining example. Its mission statement lays out the following goals: first, to teach students the knowledge and understanding embedded in the Michigan core curriculum; second, to help students explore their elective areas of interest; and, third, to help students as they make the transition from childhood to adolescence. Wolfe Middle School has been successful in these areas because of the teamwork that has developed, not only among faculty and administrators, but also between parents and community members.

This teamwork is best represented in planning teams, groups which involve staff, parents and community members. These teams meet regularly in a constant effort to evaluate, improve and enact goals and objectives which will continue to move Wolfe Middle School and its students in a positive direction. In addition to planning teams, daily teacher team meetings take place in which plans are devised for classroom instruction, grade level activities and professional development. There is an unwavering rule that guides both planning teams and teacher teams: all programs must be dedicated to helping Wolfe students develop academically, socially and emotionally.

In recent years, school improvement has focused largely around the premise that every student should leave Wolfe computer literate. The school has two computer labs, as well as a computer in every classroom. Laptop computers are available to take home from the new Media Center which allow students to do computer homework. In 1999, a Technology Education Laboratory was completed which boasts a robotics area, audio and video production studios, and a computer animation station, making it among the most advanced laboratories in the Midwest. It is important to note that providing students with the opportunity to work with computers is part of an overall plan to encourage their participation in other areas of education and social interaction—it is not an end in itself.

I applaud the students, parents, faculty and administration of Wolfe Middle School, for I believe this is an award which speaks more to the effort of a united community than it does to the work of a few individuals. With that having been said, I would like to recognize Ms. Sue Gripton, Principal of

Wolfe Middle School, whose dedication to making her school one of the finest in our Nation has been instrumental in creating this community. On behalf of the entire United States Senate, I congratulate Wolfe Middle School on being named a Blue Ribbon School for 1999-2000, and wish the school continued success in the future.●

THE END OF AN ERA

● Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I was born in 1953, the same year that major league baseball made its way back to Milwaukee. I grew up with County Stadium and the countless memories it produced.

When the stadium and I were just six years old, Milwaukee County bore witness to one of the most dramatic games in baseball history. Pittsburgh's Harvey Haddix, pitched 12 perfect innings and lost both the no-hitter and the game to Milwaukee in the 13th.

When the stadium and I were eight years old, the legendary Warren Spahn had a spectacular year. He became the second oldest pitcher to throw a no-hitter and became only the 13th pitcher in history to win 300 games.

When the stadium and I reached 20, the Green Bay Packers won their very first Monday Night Football game. Wisconsinites never forget the last game the Packers played at county stadium nearly six years ago today.

On the year of our nation's bicentennial, when the stadium and I were 23, Hank Aaron hit his 775th and last career home run there. His home-run hitting presence and uncanny style added so much to County Stadium and the aura that surrounded him will never be forgotten.

When the stadium and I reached the age of 45, it was at County Stadium that Mark McGwire and Sammy Sosa both hit their 65th home runs.

And finally, at our ripe age of 47, we must say farewell. Fortunately, its great and storied past will always be in our memories. I look forward to sharing with my family and Brewer fans across the state, the many new thrilling baseball moments that await us at Miller Park.●

MONTANA OLYMPIANS

● Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the achievements of two native Montanans, Mrs. Monica Joan Tranel-Michini, and Mrs. Jean Foster.

Mrs. Tranel-Michini is a Billings native who competed recently in the Sydney Olympics. She not only qualified for the finals of the women's single sculls, a rowing event, but she also placed sixth in the event. Six is a magic number for Monica, because she is the sixth of ten brothers and sisters. She and her family grew up on a cattle ranch just outside of the city limits of Billings, Montana. Before the age of twenty, this now established U.S. champion and Olympic finalist had not

seen a body of water larger than her family's irrigation pond. It was not until this accomplished woman attended law school in Philadelphia that she gained the passion for rowing. I salute this young woman, for her proud representation of the sport of rowing, the country, and the state of Montana.

Mrs. Jean Foster is another young woman from Bozeman, Montana whom I want to recognize. Joan's career in shooting was paved a little better than Monica's. Jean is from a family with world championships in shooting under their belt, her mother being a world champion in rifle shooting, and her father a two-time Olympian and a USA hall of famer in shooting. Jean represented our state and our country with distinction in the 3-position rifle event. I congratulate Jean on the effort she put forth and on her and her family's commitment to the sport of shooting.●

S.C. AWARDED PAN AM GAMES FOR THE BLIND

● Mr. HOLLINGS. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I recognize Spartanburg, South Carolina and the South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind as hosts of the 2001 Pan American Games for the Blind. This is not only a distinguished honor for Spartanburg and for the school, but also for our state and our nation. Three hundred blind and visually-impaired elite athletes from 22 countries will compete in the third Pan Am Games for the Blind May 29-June 3, 2001 in Spartanburg. It marks the first time that these Games have been held in the United States. Previous competitions took place in Buenos Aires and Mexico City.

Athletes will compete in track and field events, swimming and goal ball, a team sport developed specifically for the blind. Two students at the S.C. School for the Deaf and Blind, Royal Mitchell and Sonya Bell, will represent the United States in track and field events.

The International Blind Sports Association selected the S.C. School for the Deaf and Blind as the site for the 2001 Games because of its excellent facilities and the strong credentials of the athletic staff. Since its founding in 1849, the school has served South Carolina well and proven itself worthy of this latest distinction. I wish all the participants in the 2001 Pan American Games for the Blind much success.●

10TH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF MUSLIMS OF INDIAN ORIGIN

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the American Federation of Muslims of Indian Origin (AFMIO), which will hold its 10th Annual Convention on October 7-8, 2000 in Southfield, Michigan. The theme of the convention is "Information and Technology: The Digital Divide," providing

members of the AFMIO with an opportunity to explore new ways to expand upon the many beneficial things the organization is already doing in this realm.

The AFMIO is an umbrella organization which represents various Indian Muslim Associations. It has chapters throughout the world, and a membership which includes academicians, professionals, entrepreneurs and social activists. The mission of the organization is the educational and economic upliftment of Indian Muslims by seeking cooperation among the American and Indian relief and educational organizations.

The AFMIO stands for a stable democratic, secular and progressive India, where the human rights of all citizens, regardless of caste, religion, language or region, are preserved. The organization works in close cooperation with others that believe in these same principles, and thus serves as a bridge between Indian intellectuals, public officials and business people, and Indian Americans, particularly Muslims.

The highest priority of the AFMIO continues to be the eradication of illiteracy among Indian Muslim children, a goal which goes hand in hand with bridging the digital divide. Access to a computer can upon new worlds for children, and ensure that they are not only literate in the traditional sense, but culturally literate as well, which I think is equally important. In this regard, AFMIO has already done a great deal. Its grassroots mobilization and motivation program is termed as one of the most successful education programs in India.

AFMIO has also done much to aid Indian Muslims on other fronts. The organization has financed several projects which draw on the resources of local communities and aim for the economic upliftment of these communities by teaching citizens how to employ these resources. Through programs of political education and awareness, the organization has united forces that have similar beliefs of social justice and the upliftment of all people. Furthermore, it has been responsible for establishing several hospitals and orphanages, and has organized relief work at times of natural disasters.

I applaud the AFMIO for all of the wonderful work it has done to improve the living conditions of Indian Muslims. A large part of this success stems from educational programs which have been incredibly successful, and I am sure the discussion this weekend will focus upon how these programs can be even further adapted and improved in this Digital Age. On behalf of the entire United States Senate, I extend a much deserved thank you to the American Federation of Muslims of Indian Origin, and wish the organization continued success in the future.●

EULOGY FOR ELLEN GLESBY COHEN

● Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I come before you today to pay tribute to a staunch patient advocate whose dedication and commitment to biomedical research has changed the lives of all around her.

Ellen Glesby Cohen was the President and Founder of the Lymphoma Research Foundation of America (LRFA). Ellen founded this organization almost ten years ago after she was diagnosed with a slow growing form of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma (NHL).

Ellen, being the courageous person she was, decided to turn her experience into something positive by establishing the Lymphoma Research Foundation that is the nation's first and foremost organization dedicated to promoting and funding lymphoma-specific research.

Ms. Cohen's efforts on behalf of lymphoma-specific research has led to the Lymphoma Research Foundation awarding close to \$3 million to support 92 lymphoma research projects at top universities and cancer centers throughout the nation.

The foundation Ms. Cohen founded has been active not only in funding research, but has helped educate the public about the high incidence rates of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma by spearheading such initiatives as the National Lymphoma Awareness Week during the second week of October and an annual Lymphoma Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill.

I have been particularly impressed by Ms. Cohen's passion on behalf of lymphoma patients and, consequently, have supported increasing the funding for lymphoma research at the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Ellen is survived by her husband Dr. Mitchell Cohen and her two children Hailey and Josh. While the last decade of Ellen Cohen's life was dedicated to lymphoma research, Ellen's accomplishments as a mother and a wife will forever be remembered even after the day comes that non-Hodgkin's lymphoma has been eliminated.

Although Ellen's work has already benefitted thousands across the country diagnosed with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and other cancers, I know that she would like us all to continue her fight against this devastating disease by supporting such worthy organizations like the Lymphoma Research Foundation of America.

Despite the fact that Ellen is not here physically, her spirit will continue to live on through her family and friends. Thank you Ellen for what you gave to persons everywhere. You will truly be missed.●

NOVI HIGH SCHOOL NAMED BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL FOR 1999-2000

● Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, in 1982, the United States Department of