

whenever any Form of Government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the People to alter or to abolish it, and to institute new Government, laying its foundation on such principles and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their Safety and Happiness."

This government is bent on overburdening its citizens. According to the Declaration of Independence, such government should be "altered or abolished."

Please do not get me wrong and think I'm anything but a patriotic American. Indeed, I spilled my own blood for this country of mine! I fought a war of bone cancer in the U.S. Navy, causing me to lose my right tibia. I have been fighting for twenty years for a right knee replacement, but I am told I cannot have one because of Veterans Administration policy and budgets. I received a Purple Heart at Balboa Naval Hospital, but it does not show on my DD-214. Am I bitter, yes! But, I still love my country!

There are countless millions of people out here (outside of your 3-piece suits and luxury cars—outside your sphere of influence) who feel just as I do, but there seems to be nothing we can do about it. Vote yes, sure, but ultimately it is you who make the decisions right, wrong, indifferent, fair or not fair. How you make your decisions personally and politically makes the determining factors of whether you stand for us or against us . . . the People of these great United States of America.

You must choose whether or not you get to keep your jobs gentlemen. I now have a Master's Degree, a chip on my shoulder for politicians, a loud voice, and a lot of free time! Shall I work with you or against you?

Here are our requests:

Cut Foreign Oil Purchasing!

Cut All Big Oil Subsidies . . . on all fronts!

Cut your paychecks in half, even for three months to show good faith!

Make 100 percent BioDiesel a priority!

Make diesel vehicles and electric vehicles a priority now!

End gasoline vehicle production now, not 20 years from now!

Make Alternative fuels vehicles a priority now not 20 years from now!

Electrical power can be harnessed all day long in the desert, why isn't it?

Wind energy can be harnessed in the desert, why isn't it?

Why burn coal to make electricity when you can burn Brown's Gas (HHO) for half the cost and zero percent emissions released into the air?

JONATHAN-DAVID, *Meridian*.

Your thinking is not unique . . . it is rhetoric we have heard for the past 30 years. Jimmy Carter and his lies about a shortage are still around. It is you and our Congress that has caused this problem. You allowed the Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Environmental Quality and all the environmentalist to control your thinking and votes. I do not think I am wrong in my facts, am I? Your fuel taxes and so-called regulations are taking the U.S. economy down. We will soon be controlled by foreign economies if we do not take our own resources and begin using them. You know we are the 3rd largest oil producer in the world yet we use so much foreign oil that it has become a joke? We had over 500 years of oil and natural gas reserves in the 70's. Can you tell me what happened to them? Do not answer me unless you have the facts about the info from the 70's. I hope you will stand up and be counted when it comes to the controlling liberal environmentalists' whining and crying. I truly believe you can get this done and soon. Tell Congress we need to open

up our reserves. We have plenty for the next few centuries and by then we will have a new energy source. Thanks for listening.

RON.

In your e-mail, you have said that you support wind energy. I was disappointed to see that you voted against the Production Tax Credit that would help the wind industry to continue to grow.

STEPHEN.

I will be 67 this October; my wife is 58. I am still working, at a [lower] salary than I once commanded. This fiasco on gasoline and diesel prices has caused me to wonder if I will ever be able to retire.

I own a motor-home; having traded in my one-ton diesel pickup and a 5th wheel trailer due to the screaming increases in diesel fuel. Now I cannot travel at all the way we had planned and hoped. All of my immediate family is in the Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas areas—it may be that for some of my family I may never see them again. Selling the motor home is foolish at this juncture in that I can never hope to even almost recoup my investment.

It is essential that Congress immediately find and drill for oil anywhere in our own territories. At the same time, there should be major tax breaks given to those that can provide a) sensible alternative fuels or b) major improvements in the internal combustion engine. Nuclear energy has been stupidly legislated out of the future as well.

My concern is that when we had the majority and the President, we did not seem to have the leadership that could provide the increase in oil search, production and refinement. Now it seems that we may no longer have the Presidency and for sure will not regain the majority in the legislature. It is my firm belief that the opposition will choke our economy to death with continued pressures on ethanol or taxation on larger vehicles—all under the wing of left-wing partisanship.

Substantial increases in the supply, while changing the demand via alternative fuels, seem to be the only sensible way to go.

AL, *Hayden*.

REMEMBERING GOVERNOR ANNE ARMSTRONG

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I rise today with a heavy heart for the loss of one of Texas' strongest, most influential women, Anne Armstrong. More importantly, I rise today to honor and commemorate her incredible service to Texas and the Nation as a whole.

To understand what kind of a woman Anne Armstrong was, you first need to understand where she came from. A valedictorian graduate of Vassar in 1949, Anne's career started out, not in politics, but on a ranch in southern Texas' Kenedy County with her husband Tobin.

Although she was born in Louisiana, Anne quickly took to Texas life, and enjoyed working on one of Texas' historic ranches, settled in the 19th century. Owning a ranch taught Anne to be tough when necessary, and always polite. She also learned how to talk politics with her husband and his friends, and quickly proved to have a sharp insight into the issues facing our country.

Although her family always came first, Anne's passion for politics led her

to become the Kenedy County Republican Party chair. From there she took off, serving next as Texas Republican Party chair, and eventually as the first woman ever to cochair the Republican National Committee.

One year later Anne made history again when she became the first woman ever to deliver a keynote address to a national party convention.

But Anne's service was never about the notoriety, it was about improving the government of America. In a time when a woman in politics was almost unheard of, Anne Armstrong forced herself into the game, and proved that she belonged there. She became the first ever woman to hold a Presidential Cabinet Position, serving as an adviser to Nixon and to Ford.

When President Ford joked at her swearing-in that his wife was "always needing" him to appoint women to higher positions, Anne quickly retorted "I have the feeling Abigail Adams would have been just as excited as Betty Ford and I."

In her role Anne worked to further advance the roles of women in America. She established the White House Office of Women's Programs, an office dedicated to recruiting and assisting females in obtaining political appointments and high level government employment. Her work, as well as her example, helped lay the groundwork for countless women who have followed her. I know that my colleague, Senator HUTCHISON, attributes much of her success to Anne's example and mentorship.

After serving in the White House, Anne again made history as the first female Ambassador to the United Kingdom. During that time, Anne Armstrong nearly became the first woman on a Presidential ticket, as she was considered by President Ford for the vice presidency.

In what would be her last national position, Anne served at the request of President Reagan on the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board. She served as the first and only female chair to that board, and served under both Presidents Reagan and Bush.

Ultimately, Anne Armstrong was an adviser to four different presidents, a mentor to many of today's prominent politicians, and a beloved friend to all who had the pleasure of working with her. In 1987, recognizing her distinguished service, President Reagan awarded Anne with the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

But as passionately as Anne Armstrong worked in politics, nothing could take priority over her family. After serving in national politics for roughly 20 years, Anne returned home to her ranch and her family in Kenedy County.

Even after such a remarkable career in politics, Anne Armstrong could not resist the call to serve her community. When she passed away on Wednesday, Anne Armstrong was still serving as the county commissioner. At the age of

80, battling cancer, Anne Armstrong continued to serve her beloved community, her home of Texas.

Whether as a mother, a wife, a rancher or a politician, Anne Armstrong's commitment and dedication was unmatched. Without a doubt, Texas, and the Nation as a whole, is richer for her service.

Anne's legacy is survived by her 5 children and 13 grandchildren—as well as the countless others whose lives she touched. That is why I have come today to introduce a resolution honoring the life and service of a pioneer of women in politics, and a great Texan, Mrs. Anne Armstrong.

RECOGNIZING DAY OF THE AMERICAN COWBOY

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, today I rise to pay tribute to the American Cowboy. This distinguished body saw fit to designate July 26 as the Day of the American Cowboy. I cosponsored this resolution and would like to take this opportunity to recognize this iconic figure.

Around the globe, the American Wild West is known. To many it means cowboys, ranchers, cattle, horses, outlaws, and gunfights. But it was also homesteading and pioneering. These folks helped establish the American West, expanding our territories while creating a lasting culture and way of life, passing down the traditions of honesty, integrity, courage, compassion, respect, a strong work ethic, and patriotism from generation to generation. The cowboy spirit is the backbone of our great Nation, exemplifying strength of character, sound family values, and good old-fashioned common sense.

The enduring lessons and virtues of the American cowboy are as prevalent as ever in towns all across America. As a young boy growing up in northern Colorado, agriculture and livestock were an integral part of everyday life. Coming from a community where I saw the strong moral character and drive to succeed that modern ranchers exhibit, I can speak to how vibrant the cowboy spirit still is today in America's heartland.

In many ways, it is the unexpected places where you find the influence of cowboys that amaze us and show the true breadth of their impact. Originally known for their tough and rugged way of life on the Great Plains, the American cowboy has a magnetism that has drawn some of this Nation's most talented writers, architects, artists, and poets to devote their work to the tradition of the cowboy.

I am pleased to be a part of continuing this tradition with the designation of July 26 as the Day of the American Cowboy and hope we will honor the legend of these American heroes with our continued steadfast, hard work and dedication to this great country.

TRIBUTE TO WAYSIDE RESTAURANT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I would like to pay tribute to one of central Vermont's finest community gathering spaces, the Wayside Restaurant. Over the past 90 years, the Wayside has built its reputation around the State of Vermont as a quality establishment where neighbors enjoy a country style breakfast, a quick business lunch, or a well-rounded family dinner. The Wayside represents the needs of the community with affordable and diversely pleasant fare.

In 1918, when Effie Ballou opened the small soup and sandwich restaurant, she never expected it would become what it is today. The Wayside serves around 1,000 customers a day, and with 160 seats, is always filled with loyal customers. Vermonters from all walks of life frequent the Wayside for authentic Vermont cooking. Politicians, professionals, farmers, elderly people, and families all gather here to eat, mingle and enjoy where they can choose a booth or saddle up to the horse shoe diner top.

The Wayside's menu offers more than 200 items, plus an additional list of specials, all new every day. These daily specials are memorized by the true blue patrons who line up at the doors before 6:30 a.m. Unique delights such as fresh native perch, only served in season, is breaded and fried. Traditional Yankee entrees are always accompanied by freshly baked pies, breads and donuts.

One of Vermont's landmark eateries, the Wayside Restaurant sparks community admiration through its history of public service. A major part of the Wayside's success is its history of family ownership. Karen Galfetti and Brian Zecchinelli are second-generation owners and operators. The couple's dedication and hands on approach are what sets the tone of the establishment, aided by their home's location right next to the restaurant. Working together as a family, the Zecchinellis strive to create a comfortable atmosphere and affordable service for the community; as such they represent the heart of working America. Providing excellent benefits for employees, most of whom have been there for decades, the philosophy behind the Wayside reflects the kind of values that strengthen our country. The Zecchinellis' dedication was recognized in 2005, when the U.S. Small Business Administration named them best Family-Owned Small Business of the Year.

Without the Wayside, to invite folks into Vermont, we would be missing not only the chance to connect with our next door neighbors, but the opportunity to support a long-time establishment that has always kept the interests of its customers at the heart of its expansion.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that an article from the Times Argus detailing their 90 years of success be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Times Argus]

WAYSIDE TURNING 90

(By Susan Allen)

MONTPELIER/BERLIN (literally).—In 1918, the Armistice was signed, ending World War I.

A legend—Ella Fitzgerald—was born.

A first class postage stamp cost 3 cents.

And, of course, the Boston Red Sox won the World Series.

That same year, Effie Ballou opened The Wayside Restaurant, straddling the Montpelier/Berlin town line—not the 160-seat local institution that has become something of a landmark in Central Vermont, but a small, take-out joint that more closely resembled a snack bar.

"In the early days, there were no seats inside the restaurant," said Brian Zecchinelli, who married into the restaurant business in 1994 when he tied the knot with Karen Galfetti—whose family bought The Wayside in 1966 from the Fishes (who bought it from Effie Ballou in 1945).

"Mrs. Ballou would make some soup at the house, donuts, bring them down and reheat them," Zecchinelli said.

Today's Wayside serves around 1,000 customers a day—more in the summer, fewer in the winter. Most are locals and many are regulars who eat there so often they know the day of the week by the restaurant's regular daily special.

But The Wayside has become more than a place local Vermonters go for a good, affordable meal (Zecchinelli recently mailed a letter to lawmakers reminding them they can eat three meals a day there for about \$20).

Many statewide and local politicians make sure there's at least one Wayside stop on the campaign tour. Zecchinelli said that's because so many Vermonters from all walks of life can be found there—plenty of votes to woo.

"It's just such a cross section of the community eating here," Zecchinelli said. "Plumbers, lawyers, teachers, bank presidents . . . the whole mix of customers. You've got rusty old trucks and shining Mercedes in the parking lot."

The Wayside was also a hot spot for state workers until some years ago. That was due, in part, to the employee meal reimbursement plan that allowed workers to expense meals eaten outside Montpelier. So, Zecchinelli said, some would eat at tables on the Berlin side of the restaurant so they could expense their meal—until an auditor discovered that while the town line passed through the property, the entire restaurant was inside the Montpelier city limits. No more expensing.

Asked what makes the restaurant so special, "You always say you have good employees and good customers," Zecchinelli said.

But, he said, the reality is something different. It's the house. Ballou lived in a house on the hill just behind The Wayside. When she sold the restaurant to Joseph and Amy Fish (their son George and his wife Vivian took it over in 1954), the house went with the deal.

And when the Galfettis bought the restaurant in 1966, they, in turn, got the house, as did Karen and Brian when they took over.

"Since Day One, the house was always with the restaurant," said Brian Zecchinelli. "So the owners have always been very hands-on. . . . The fact that the owner has always been able to skip down to The Wayside to give folks a hand, be there during hours when you're busiest.

"If other businesses want to put a house on the property, go for it," he advised.