

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 home-steading 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 Galfetts 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.

Brian, who previously worked at Milne Travel and Rock of Ages, never expected to go into the restaurant business. Although Karen had also worked elsewhere—E.F. Hutton and Co. and Smith Barney in Burlington—she knew The Wayside was probably in her future.

“It was something I tried and I liked. We’ve enjoyed it,” Brian Zecchinelli said. “We’re been so active in this business that we can tag team each other.”

The Galfettis and Zecchinellis have put seven additions on the restaurant over the years, and although customers have urged him to expand, Brian said the current size of 120 tables feels like the number to stay with, “a comfortable size.”

He said the best thing about owning The Wayside has been the customers, who truly respond to good food. “You’re only as good as your last meal,” he quipped.

The toughest thing, he noted, has been meeting the bottom line.

“The challenge is keeping costs in line so we can continue to be an affordable place for people to gather,” he said. Almost everything is made on site. The kitchen is large and the smells of freshly baking bread (almost all bread, except English muffins and rye, are made at the restaurant). Daily specials include full turkey meals, roast beef, maple-cured McKenzie ham and more.

On virtually any day of the week, any time of the day, the parking lot is packed, most of the cars, trucks and motorcycles carrying Vermont license plates.

Zecchinelli said his favorite moment during his years as Wayside owner was the Red Sox rally he hosted after the Sox won the 2004 World Series, noting the last time his team had won was the year The Wayside opened—1918.

“We argued whether The Wayside has been the curse or the Bambino,” he joked.

The restaurant rolled back prices that day, and more than 3,000 people came in to celebrate, “mostly Red Sox fans, but some employees were in Yankee jerseys. That’s OK because we’re baseball fans.”

What will happen to The Wayside in the future, one wonders? It’s impossible to know for sure.

But, Zecchinelli pointed out, his son Jay has been working the register since he was 4.

VOTE EXPLANATION

- Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I rise today because I am proud to see the Senate pass two strong, bipartisan bills that will provide much needed relief to families across the country; the College Opportunities and Affordability Act of 2008 and the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008.

Congress first passed the Higher Education Act more than 40 years ago, guided by the principle that no qualified student should be denied the opportunity to attend college because of the cost. Today, the cost of college has more than tripled. Tuition at 4-year public colleges in Minnesota has increased 100 percent in just the past 10 years.

I believe that investing in higher education pays extraordinary dividends, I am proud to provide real help for students and their families to make college more affordable. By passing this legislation we continue our fight to gain stronger Federal support for higher education opportunities—be-

cause our future success as a State and a nation depends on making sure that quality education is accessible and affordable.

I am also so happy to see Congress pass comprehensive product safety legislation. Inspired by the story of Jarnell Brown—a 4-year-old boy in Minnesota who died after ingesting a charm that was 99 percent lead—I have worked for the past year on authoring and promoting the lead provision of the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008. In the past year and a half, over 13 million toys have been recalled because they contained harmful lead, and I am proud to say that this bill finally gets that substance out of children’s toys.

As one of the conferees of this legislation, I signed the final conference report that was sent to the floor today, and I have been a strong supporter of this legislation since the beginning. This legislation is the most sweeping consumer product safety reform in decades, and I am glad that we have finally voted this evening to protect our children and protect our public.

On August 1, 2007, the Minneapolis I-35W bridge spanning the Mississippi River collapsed. The 1-year anniversary of this tragedy will be recognized across my State tomorrow. I am traveling home to honor the victims and their families, and to recognize our heroic first responders. By returning to Minnesota, I will not be in Washington, DC, to vote on the adoption of either the College Opportunities and Affordability Act of 2008 or the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 conference reports. Had I not returned to Minnesota, I would have voted in favor of both of these important pieces of legislation.●

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

HONORING HOOSIER OLYMPIC ATHLETES

- Mr. BAYH. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the eight outstanding Hoosier athletes representing the State of Indiana and all of the United States in the Games of the XXIX Olympiad in Beijing, China.

Lloy Ball, a volleyball player from Fort Wayne; David Boudia, a diver from Noblesville; Tamika Catchings, a basketball player from Indianapolis; Lauren Cheney, a soccer player from Indianapolis; Richard Clayton, a baseball player from Lafayette; Mary Dunnichay, a diver from Elwood; Thomas Finchum, a diver from Indianapolis; and Bridget Sloan, a gymnast from Pittsboro, will all represent the Hoosier State as members of Team USA.

These Hoosiers have shown superior abilities, extraordinary work ethics, and unflappable determination in their quests to become Olympic athletes. The road to the pinnacle of athletic success has required thousands of

hours of demanding training over years of preparation, yet these athletes show us that commitment to excellence truly has its rewards. For some, the spoils of their sacrifice may even come in the form of an Olympic medal.

This Olympiad is the first for many of the Hoosier athletes; others have donned the colors of Team USA before. This year, Lloy Ball, a member of the U.S. men’s volleyball team, will become the first male athlete from the United States to compete in four Olympic Games. Lloy’s incredible feat will forever be part of Indiana and Olympic sports history, and I know our entire state is immensely proud to count him among our own.

As these eight athletes travel halfway around the globe to compete against the world’s finest, they will bring with them the unwavering support of their fellow Hoosiers. The people of Indiana are fortunate to have such an exceptional group representing us at the Olympic Games.

Team USA represents the best America has to offer, and these Hoosiers will make our State and our country proud.●

HONORING JACK W. AEBY

- Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, this month marks the 63rd year since scientists at Los Alamos National Laboratory tested the world’s first nuclear weapon at the Trinity Test Site in southern New Mexico. While much has been written about this test, which has changed the course of the world as we know it today, little has been written about the famous color photograph of this test the only color photograph that survived the test.

Jack W. Aeby, then 23, was assigned to Emilio Segre in the Gamma Radiation group as a technician and was permitted to bring his own 35 mm camera to take color pictures of the radiation measuring equipment. When the detonation occurred, Mr. Aeby took 3 pictures of the detonation before running out of film. Of those three pictures, one turned out to be good. Today that picture is used around the world and is found on the cover of such famous publications as Time magazine and Richard Rhodes’ “The Making of the Atomic Bomb.” In some cases he is given credit for this photo but never consistently due to the complications associated with our copyright law.

Mr. Aeby still lives in Espanola, NM. As he turns 85 next month, I would like to honor him and the contribution he has made to society in taking this photo to remind us of the way this test has changed the course of modern history.●

TRIBUTE TO DR. MICHAEL C. MORGAN

- Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, Dr. Michael Morgan is a professor of atmospheric sciences at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and a Congressional Science Fellow sponsored by the