

young people in Wyoming a second chance.

It is because of his strong family values and his sense of duty to his community that the Boys and Girls Clubs Man of the Year is so meaningful to Al Simpson. This award tells this great statesman that Wyoming is thankful for his leadership.

I am so proud to call Al Simpson my friend. He is a respected mentor and adviser. It is fitting and terrific that the Boys and Girls Clubs of Central Wyoming have named him Man of the Year—and I ask that my colleagues join me in sending our congratulations to Al for this well-deserved honor.

REMEMBERING CONGRESSMAN EMILIO DADDARIO

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the life of former Connecticut Congressman Emilio Daddario who passed away on July 6, 2010.

One of the unique strengths of the United States of America is that our government derives its power from the people. It is dependent upon an educated populace, engaged in public affairs, and prepared to offer their services to make our society better and fairer for all of our benefit.

That system has worked well for more than 200 years thanks to citizens such as Emilio Daddario.

He was born in Newton Center, MA, on September 24, 1918. As a young man, he moved south to Middletown, CT, to attend Wesleyan University where he starred on the baseball and football teams. He was an exemplary athlete who twice received MVP honors in football, and was named team captain in 1938.

Upon his graduation in 1939, Emilio chose to pursue a career in law. After beginning law school at Boston University, he graduated from the University of Connecticut in 1942. He successfully passed the bar and moved back to Middletown to begin private practice. But then the call to serve his country came.

In 1943, he enlisted as a private in the U.S. Army. He was sent to the Mediterranean theater during World War II. There he was a key member of the team which captured Rodolfo Graziani, then-chief of staff to Italian Dictator Benito Mussolini, at the Hotel Milan in 1945. His distinguished service earned him the rank of captain, as well as the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, and the Italian Medaglia d'Argento.

After the war, he could have easily gone back to private legal practice and no doubt would have been very successful at it. Instead, he chose to continue his military service as a member of the Connecticut National Guard and to pursue a life in the public arena by running for mayor of Middletown.

At just 28 years old, fresh from his service overseas, Emilio Daddario won that election. He served as mayor from 1946 until 1948 and was appointed judge of the Middletown Municipal Court.

In 1950, the Nation called on him again. This time, the 43 Division of the Connecticut National Guard, of which he was a member, was sent to engage in the Korean war. His military service in that conflict as a member of the Far East Liaison Group earned him promotion to the rank of major.

Upon returning to the United States in 1952 he chose to resume private law practice, this time in Hartford, CT. But the call to serve proved to be too strong, and in 1958, Daddario ran for the opportunity to serve the people of Connecticut's 1st Congressional District.

He won that election, as well as five more, serving as a member of the U.S. Congress until 1971. While in Congress, he sat on the House Science Committee where he became an advocate for science and technological innovation. He chaired two subcommittees and also in the planning and development of the Apollo missions to the moon.

In 1970, Emilio decided not to run for reelection to the House, and instead ran for Governor of Connecticut. He did not win that race. But he sought ways to remain involved in public policy, in particular issues related to science and technology. He returned to Congress in 1973, not as a member, but as the Director of the Office of Technology Assessment.

He also went on to serve as the president of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and as co-chair of the American Bar Association's Association for the Advancement of Sciences, Conference of Lawyers and Scientists.

Emilio Daddario was just the sort of American citizen that our Nation's Founders were hoping for, and his legacy is one of exemplary public service, and commitment to making our Nation a better place for future generations. He was a devoted husband and father, and I know that he will be deeply missed. My deepest sympathies and prayers go out to his children, Richard, Anthony, and Stephen, and to the rest of his family.

90TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN'S RIGHT TO VOTE

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise today in honor of the 90th anniversary of women gaining the right to vote on August 26, 1920, and to acknowledge the celebration of this anniversary by the community of Las Cruces, NM.

The struggle for the right to vote began in 1848 at a convention in Seneca Falls, NY, hosted by Lucretia Mott, Mary Ann McClintock, and Elizabeth Cady Stanton. This convention began the seventy-two year struggle by women to win the right to vote, which was also a struggle to rise from second class citizenship and a struggle to gain equality. Women throughout the United States are empowered by the efforts of the brave and pioneering suffragists Susan B. Anthony, Carrie Chapman Catt, and Alice Paul. These

women serve as an inspiration to those who secure leadership positions in industry, government, the military, and academia.

Las Cruces was founded in 1849 and became a town of the Territory of New Mexico in 1907. After gaining the right to vote, the women of Las Cruces sought elected office. These women include Bertha Paxton, who was the first female elected to the New Mexico State House of Representatives in 1922, Mrs. E. C. Wade, who was the first female elected as a Trustee in the town of Las Cruces in 1932, Ellen Steele, who was the first female elected as a New Mexico State Senator in 1985 from Dona Ana County and Dolores C. Archuleta who was the first Native American female elected to the Las Cruces City Council in 2001. In continuation of this tradition, the first female Governor will be elected by New Mexicans on November 2, 2010.

To celebrate and commemorate the 90th anniversary of the ratification of the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, women will continue to advocate for responsible and responsive government through the election process. The League of Women Voters of Greater Las Cruces will hold a celebration with an informative panel on women's history of performance and films on the suffragists and the role of women in the political system to further commemorate this praiseworthy day.

I join with the League of Women Voters, the people of Las Cruces, and the people of New Mexico in celebration of this important day, August 26 when women finally won the right to vote and greatly enhanced their great contributions to our government and our society.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, tomorrow marks the 45th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, a landmark piece of legislation which helped guarantee the right to vote to all Americans. As we approach the upcoming midterm elections, it is important to remember the journey of voting rights in America. Without this right, words and phrases like "democracy," "land of the free," and "equality" lack true meaning.

The right to vote traveled a long ugly road—a road we must all remember. Edmund Burke once said "those who do not remember history are destined to repeat it." Some would say they are doomed to repeat it. For this reason, on this day and every day, we should remember how Americans, Black and White; young and old; men and women; stood, marched and fought together for equal access to the voting booth. We must ensure that all barriers to voting are removed.

There are many people who contributed to the voting rights movement. Today I would like to highlight one woman—Mrs. Fannie Lou Hamer, a woman who was "sick and tired of being sick and tired" when it came to the denial of equal voting rights. Hamer, a great American hero, led a

life most people could not imagine today. Despite having polio and only 4 months of schooling, Hamer became a matriarch of the voting rights movement.

On August 31, 1962, Hamer decided to exercise her constitutional right to vote by traveling 26 miles in Mississippi to register only to be confronted by the highway patrol and literary test requirements. After being denied her right to vote she didn't just sit down, she stood up and joined the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and traveled all across the country speaking and registering other people to vote.

Hamer also helped organize "Freedom Summer" in 1964. She and thousands of civil rights supporters, many of them White college students, traveled to Mississippi and other Southern States to try to end the long time political disenfranchisement of African Americans in the region. Despite these nonviolent efforts for equality, on the very first day of Freedom Summer, three volunteers were brutally murdered. As America continued to march toward equality the Nation and its political leaders began to realize the horrific battle being waged against African Americans seeking equal treatment under the law.

As violence and frustration mounted, President Johnson pushed Congress to act and pass voting rights legislation. After research, multiple hearings and the longest filibuster in Senate history, Congress passed the Voting Rights Act of 1965. This bill provided all Americans—regardless of color—with nationwide protections against barriers and access to the voting booth. It contained protections against systematic methods of disenfranchisement by States and localities. Since its enactment, Congress has reauthorized the landmark legislation in an effort to remain vigilant against any forms of disenfranchisement.

In 2006, when Congress last took up reauthorization of this legislation, civil rights leader Congressman JOHN LEWIS said, "forty-one years ago I gave a little blood on that bridge. So when I see what's happening in New Orleans and the Gulf Coast, it's a beginning of an effort not only to violate the letter but the spirit of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. And that must not be allowed to happen." With overwhelming bipartisan support, the House of Representatives passed the bill by a vote of 390-33 and the U.S. Senate passed the bill by a vote of 98-0.

Despite the bipartisan support and a large array of evidence demonstrating the continuing need for this legislation, some have argued that this legislation is no longer warranted. To those people, I say you are wrong. I have seen examples in my own State that prove how necessary this legislation is today. During my Senate campaign, just 4 years ago—the very same time the Congress was providing near unanimous support for the Voting Rights

Act—I had the unfortunate experience of witnessing deceptive practices and tactics used to undermine the constitutional right to vote. Lines were inexplicably longer and slower at polling locations in African-American districts and not simply because there were more people voting. Phone calls were made to minority districts reminding them to vote on Wednesday, not Tuesday; and a fraudulent sample ballot was targeted to confuse minority voters. I remind you that this was in 2006, not 1956.

Just two years later, in the 2008 election, substantial barriers were implemented making it difficult for eligible voters to vote. These included the purging of voter rolls, misleading voter information and voter intimidation. Take for example, an election administrator in Mississippi improperly purging approximately 10,000 voters from the rolls from her home computer; or the local prosecutor in Ohio who requested via subpoena personal information for 40 percent of voters who had registered during the same day registration and voting period in the State. These are real examples of incidents occurring today—45 years after we passed the Voting Rights Act.

Despite attempts to ignore or chip away at the protections provided to all Americans by the Voting Rights Act, this legislation remains relevant and provides the most significant and essential tool in ensuring continuity and the integrity of our democratic system. Our former colleague Ted Kennedy once said we need to "seek the reign of justice in which voting rights and equal protection of the law will everywhere be enjoyed." On this 45th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, I urge my colleagues to continue their bipartisan support for this critical legislation and for equal access to the voting booth for all.

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. President, I rise today to speak on behalf of the women of America to recognize, honor, and celebrate the 90th anniversary of their voting rights on August 26, 2010—Women's Equality Day. I know my colleagues join me, in acknowledging the tremendous contributions women have made to America and the historic significance of reaching this milestone in women's history.

The 72-year struggle of suffragists, from the first women's rights convention held in Seneca Falls, NY, in July 1848 to the passage of the 19th amendment of the U.S. Constitution on August 26, 1920, bears witness to the sacrifice and dedication of the leaders of the early women's rights movement who never wavered from their intent to reach the goal of full enfranchisement.

We must thank Elizabeth Cady Stanton, born in 1815 in Johnstown, NY, who organized the first women's rights convention with Lucretia Mott and other courageous women in 1848. Their early advocacy for voting rights, protection from domestic violence, the right to own property, and other social

reforms that promoted equality are what we continue to support for women today. The "Declaration of Sentiments" speech Mrs. Stanton delivered at that July convention called for "all men and women" to be recognized as created equal under the law. Her celebrated 50-year partnership that began in 1851 with Susan B. Anthony brought to the public consciousness the importance of equality rights for women. That is a sacred trust we must continue to support.

On August 26, 1970—the 50th anniversary—the National Organization of Women, NOW, called upon women nationwide to strike for equality in protest of the fact that women still did not have equal rights, 40 years after passage of the 19th amendment. In New York City, 50,000 women marched down Fifth Avenue to demonstrate in support of the women's movement and securing equality rights, as did women in 40 other cities across America that day. U.S. Representative Bella Abzug addressed the NYC crowd and was instrumental in getting Congress in 1971 to officially recognize August 26 as Women's Equality Day.

In 1776, Abigail Adams, wife of John Adams, sent an urgent message to her husband, who was a delegate to the Second Continental Congress, stating: "In the new Code of Laws, I desire you would remember the ladies." It took 144 years for women's equality rights to be sanctioned by Congress, and I ask, Mr. President, that we take this opportunity on August 26, 2010, to honor this 90th anniversary and the remarkable contributions women have made to this country. The American people owe a debt of gratitude to the early suffragists for remaining steadfast in the face of overwhelming opposition in advocacy on behalf of the equality rights for all American citizens that our Constitution supports today.

SECURE AND RESPONSIBLE DRUG DISPOSAL ACT

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I thank my colleagues for their support in passing S. 3397, the Secure and Responsible Drug Disposal Act by unanimous consent this week. I thank the Senate cosponsors of this bill—Senator GRASSLEY, Senator BROWN of Ohio, Senator GILLIBRAND, Senator COLLINS, Senator CORKER, Senator FEINGOLD, Senator KOHL, Senator SCHUMER and Senator DURBIN. I especially thank my lead cosponsor, Senator CORNYN, and his counsel Gustav Eyler for their significant efforts on behalf of this important legislation.

When the Drug Enforcement Administration brought this issue to my attention, I was eager to work on it because this is such a commonsense bill.

We know that prescription drug abuse is on the rise and what is even scarier is that it is on the rise among teenagers. In fact, teens abuse prescription drugs more than any illicit drug