

and she is already learned to do that all by herself—which makes her twos not so terrible after all.

Friday morning, as I reflected about Flag Day I found myself reading the words of Lloyd Ogilvie who served as our Senate Chaplain for many, many years. In his book, *One Quiet Moment*, he wrote “Thomas Jefferson inscribed in his memorial God, who gave us life, gave us liberty. Can the liberties of a Nation be secure when we have removed a conviction that these liberties are the gift of God?”

On Flag Day and throughout the year, those are good words of advice to consider and put into practice. We must never forget that all we have received from our citizenship ultimately comes from God. Then it is up to us to share those great blessings with all those we meet as we work together to make our Nation a better place not only for us, but for our children and our grandchildren so they will never lose their fondness and appreciation for this great land of ours.

I can think of no better way to celebrate Flag Day than to join with my granddaughter in her recognition of the flag with an exuberant “God bless America!” Yes! God bless America and God bless us all. May our future be as blessed as our past.

MACHIAS, MAINE

Ms. COLLINS. Madam President. I rise today to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the founding of Machias, ME, a remarkable town on the Downeast Coast that exemplifies the determination, resiliency, and courage of our Nation. It was there, in 1775, just 12 years after the village was established, that the first naval battle of the American Revolution was fought and won.

The word “Machias” translates from the language of the Passamaquoddy Indians as “bad little falls.” The rushing water where the Machias River plunges to the sea and the vast stands of virgin pine drew the first settlers in 1763, who built a successful sawmill and a thriving community.

In early June of 1775, word reached Machias of the Battles at Lexington and Concord in April, the first military engagements of the American Revolution. When two British cargo ships, escorted by the warship *Margaretta*, arrived at Machiasport to take on a shipment of lumber to build barracks for British troops under siege in Boston, they were met by patriots eager to join the fight for freedom.

On June 12, with the town under threat of bombardment if it did not cooperate with the lumber shipment, a militia of 30 men under the command of CPT Jeremiah O’Brien stormed the *Margaretta*. Armed with muskets, pitchforks, and axes, the militia captured the warship and sailed it triumphantly into harbor. The battle known as the “Lexington of the Seas” was a stunning American victory.

Among the heroes of that battle was a young woman named Hannah Weston. As the plans to seize the *Margaretta* were taking shape, this 17-year-old wife of militiaman Josiah Weston went house to house throughout the sparsely settled region collecting gunpowder and shot, and lugging the heavy load through the wilderness to the front lines. Today, the Hannah Weston Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution keeps her memory alive.

The Passamaquoddy gave Machias more than a name. By 1777, the town had become a center of revolutionary activity and the British sent an invasion fleet to crush the rebellion. Some 40 or 50 Passamaquoddy, led by Chief Joseph Neelala, joined the militia and the invaders were turned back.

Just outside of Machias stands Fort O’Brien, one of just a few forts to have been active in the American Revolution, the War of 1812, and the Civil War. On the road to that historic site, on the banks of a small stream, there is a plaque that wonderfully describes the spirit of this community.

It was at that place in June of 1775, when the *Margaretta*’s cannons threatened Machias, that the townspeople met in open air to choose between a humiliating peace and a likely hopeless war. The words on the plaque tell the story: “After some hours of fruitless discussion, Benjamin Foster, a man of action rather than words, leaped across this brook and called all those to follow him who would, whatever the risk, stand by their countrymen and their country’s cause. Almost to a man the assembly followed and, without further formality, the settlement was committed to the Revolution.”

Today, that settlement is a thriving community. Machias is the shiretown of Washington County and, as the home of the University of Maine at Machias, it is a center for education and the arts in the region. Located in the heart of the blueberry industry, Machias hosts the Maine Wild Blueberry Festival, one of our State’s great summer events. Beautifully restored Burnham Tavern, where the valiant militiamen met to plan their attack on the *Margaretta*, is a National Historic Site, so designated for its significance in America’s independence.

In his marvelous history of the town published in 1904, George W. Drisko, a descendant of one of the heroes of the Revolution wrote this: “The pioneers of Machias believed in destiny. They had faith in vitality. In their rough homes were courageous souls who believed they had a future.” Those beliefs and that faith helped America achieve the freedom we cherish today, and all Americans congratulate the people of Machias on their 250th anniversary.

HOT SPRINGS COUNTY, WYOMING

Mr. BARRASSO. Madam President, it is my pleasure to honor the residents of Hot Springs County, WY as they celebrate their centennial.

Located in northern Wyoming, and nestled in the Big Horn Basin, Hot Springs County is an incredible place to live and work. Nearly 5,000 residents reside in the communities of Kirby, East Thermopolis, and Thermopolis, the county seat. The county boasts a wide range of recreational opportunities, and its residents share the beauty of the Big Horn River, the Owl Creek Mountains, and the Wind River Canyon with visitors from around the country.

Hot Springs County has a storied past and a promising future. The county is aptly named for the natural mineral hot springs in the area. For thousands of years, Big Spring has produced millions of gallons of mineral water at a constant temperature of 135 degrees Fahrenheit. Northern Arapahoe and Eastern Shoshone Native Americans relied on the spiritual and physical healing powers of the hot springs years before the first settlers arrived. In 1896, under the guidance of Chief Washakie, the tribal leaders transferred ownership of the land surrounding the springs to the U.S. Government. The treaty opened the natural beauty of the area to the public to be enjoyed in perpetuity. Today, this historic treaty is celebrated every August with the Gift of the Waters Pageant. This celebration recreates the treaty ceremony of 1896 and is a truly special attraction.

In the past 100 years, Hot Springs County has benefitted from a variety of industries and has enjoyed great economic success. The county played a key role in supplying oil to support the war effort during World War II. The communities of Grass Creek and Hamilton Dome were especially efficient producers of oil during this period. In addition, a portion of the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railroad travels through the county. The Railroad connects the State to important supplies and goods from around the country.

Tourism is arguably the county’s most successful industry. In Thermopolis, Hot Springs State Park attracts thousands of guests every year. Created from the land purchased in the Treaty of 1896, the Park provides year-round recreation opportunities, including hiking, picnicking, and soaking in the world-famous hot springs. Just 20 miles away, folks can visit the Legend Rock Petroglyph Site, which is home to some of the best-preserved examples of Dinwoody rock art in the world. The Wyoming Dinosaur Center celebrates Wyoming’s incredibly rich natural history. It is one of the few centers in the world that has an active excavation site within driving distance. Visitors can see active dig sites, explore modern preparation laboratories, and admire dozens of fossilized dinosaurs and specimens. Folks in the county have done an incredible job of preserving the county’s rich history and sharing with its visitors.

Hot Springs County is a very special place to all of us in Wyoming. In addition to being the hometown of my wife,

Bobbi Brown Barrasso, Thermopolis is also the hometown of former Wyoming Governor Dave Freudenthal. The fine folks of the county are incredible leaders and greatly contribute to the success of the entire State.

It is an honor to recognize the residents of Hot Springs County as they celebrate their 100th anniversary. This year, the Hot Springs County Centennial Committee has planned a county-wide celebration on June 22nd to commemorate this milestone. I invite my colleagues to visit the communities of Hot Springs County. The county's rich heritage, geological wonders, and genuine cowboy hospitality provide a truly wonderful experience to visitors from all over the world.

RECOGNIZING THE NEHEMIAN

Mr. RISCH. Madam President, during Small Business Week it is important to recognize the ingenuity of small business owners who take a leap of faith and invest in an idea in order to make their dream of being an entrepreneur a reality. I rise today to honor The Nehemian of Buhl, ID, a small business that has shown over the course of 25 years in business that they can take chances and survive in this economic climate.

Over 26 years ago, Nancy Tyrrell and her husband, Ed, opened The Nehemian, a shop that sold antiques and offered custom picture framing. But after years of being in business, the Tyrrells wanted to expand their services and increase their sales. Tyrrell began designing custom key fobs which depict Idaho points of pride, including the Boise State Broncos and the University of Idaho Vandals. As a result of this risk to produce and market new product, The Nehemian found great success in the sale of these local treasures.

Tyrrell has faced her share of entrepreneurial challenges. After a \$25,000 loss on a project, Tyrrell considered going back to teaching instead of continuing as a small business owner. But her love for the creative opportunities her business provided convinced her that she wouldn't be happy doing anything else. Instead of giving up, Tyrrell rededicated herself to her store and sought to expand into an untapped market. Her custom key fobs are manufactured by Silver Creek Mint, another local business located in Buhl and where her son is employed. Tyrrell licensed both the Boise State Bronco and University of Idaho Vandal key fob with Collegiate Licensing Co. in order to sell to a market in which she recognized a demand for her product. After only 6 weeks of selling her custom key fobs, Tyrrell had recouped two thirds of her investment. Currently, The Nehemian sells 12 different variations of key fobs. There is even a Great Seal of Idaho key fob which is sold at the Idaho State Capitol gift shop. Tyrrell also offers key fob design services to large companies to commemorate special milestones.

Though The Nehemian is a small company, they have learned to manage their resources well and expand their products. Nancy Tyrrell's business has achieved a reputation of quality, as well as that of a unique Idaho gem. I would like to recognize The Nehemian as an Idaho Small Business of the Day based on their resiliency through hard times, their willingness to take a risk and their creative spirit.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO MIKE CURRY

• Mr. ENZI. Madam President, I wish to take a moment of the Senate's time to call your attention to the retirement of one of the true heroes of my home town of Gillette, WY. For 30 years our local basketball team, the Camels, has been coached by one of the finest high school coaches of all time—Mike Curry.

Mike has been doing a good job for so long we thought he would be on the bench on the Camels' side of the court forever. That is why it took us all by surprise when Coach Curry decided to retire from coaching at the end of this past season.

Over the years Coach Curry has been more than our coach—he's been a Wyoming tradition. Ask anyone who is a Camels fan who has been responsible for their success and every one will tell you our secret advantage has been the coaching ability and basketball knowledge of Coach Curry.

His concern for each of his players, and his great love of Campbell County High School, has been evident for all the years of his service to the people of Gillette. It shows itself in the hearts of those he has coached and in the lives of those he has worked with as their teacher. He has always been one to lead by quiet but focused example and that important quality of his has made him a role model that has helped to provide guidance and direction to all those with whom he has worked.

If you ask the members of all those championship teams that played for Coach Curry, they will tell you that they learned some important lessons from him that helped to shape their lives. Thanks to him they came to realize what high expectations, teamwork, making good, thoughtful decisions and refusing to ever give up on a goal can mean to the pursuit of a difficult challenge. Ask his current players and they will tell you what it has meant to play for Coach Curry and to receive the legacy of success from his past efforts that helped to get them inspired and motivated right from the start. They knew before they even made the team how successful Coach Curry's Camels had been and that made them ask more from themselves than anyone else would have ever thought was possible for them to achieve.

Coach Curry is now ending a remarkable career. In 30 years he has collected

605 wins and 12 State titles. If we were to ask him which one was sweeter—the first win or the last—I have a feeling he would tell us that they were all special because each one was made possible by a team of young men committed to winning and to each other.

For my family, we will always remember Coach Curry for the impact he had on our son, Brad. He also touched the rest of our family as we watched the Camels play for and learn from a very strong, steady coach. For the community of Gillette, we will always remember the key role Coach Curry played in strengthening Gillette's sense of community and increasing our sense of pride in our school and those who wore its colors.

Congratulations and good luck, Coach Curry. You did a great job and you can now look back on your coaching career with the satisfaction that comes from a job well done. You can also look ahead to some new adventures as this chapter of your life comes to a close and you begin a new one. God bless. •

TRIBUTE TO JOHN J. SWEENEY

• Mr. CARDIN. Madam President, I rise today to recognize the contributions that John J. Sweeney, AFL-CIO president emeritus, has made to improve the lives of working men and women and their families across America and around the world. The labor movement is the foundation of America's middle class, and John Sweeney understands that fact. He has devoted his life to fighting for workers so that they have safe working conditions, good benefits, and a paycheck big enough to support a family.

John Sweeney's life is an inspirational one. He was born in the Bronx, NY—the son of Irish immigrants. His parents knew the value of hard work. His father was a New York City bus driver and his mother worked as a domestic for wealthy families. John Sweeney's father was a member of the union and it was that union membership and steady income that made it possible for Sweeney to attend Iona College in New Rochelle, N.Y. and graduate with a degree in economics. He also holds honorary degrees from Georgetown University, Oberlin College, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, the University of Baltimore, Catholic University Law School, the University of Toledo's College of Law, Iona College and the College of New Rochelle.

Sweeney's first job in the labor movement was with the International Ladies' Garment Workers, which later merged with the Clothing and Textile Workers Union. He joined SEIU Local 32B in New York City in 1961 as a union representative. Sweeney was elected president of Local 32B in 1976 and led two citywide strikes of apartment maintenance workers during the 1970s.

John Sweeney was first elected president of the AFL-CIO in 1995 on a platform of revitalizing the federation,