

God every day that I live in America and how fortunate I was. He was right. This is the greatest country on Earth. And it is because of the brave actions of so many of our fellow countrymen.

The Wyoming Congressional delegation had the privilege of greeting a group of Wyoming's World War II veterans on the National Mall this spring. They made the Wyoming Honor Flight trip to Washington from Wyoming to visit the World War II Memorial. Wyoming's World War II veterans are heroes in every sense of the word. They quite literally saved the world. Let Wyoming's new memorial be a monument of our endless thanks for all they have secured for us. All of Wyoming, and indeed America, says thank you.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

COMMENDING SALLY HUNTER

• Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the distinguished service of an outstanding Texan, Sally Hunter. Ms. Hunter is the recipient of the 2009 Preserve America Elementary History Teacher of the Year for Texas. This award recognizes outstanding American history teachers from elementary school through high school, as well as the crucial importance of American history education. One teacher from each State is chosen from thousands of exceptional teachers to receive this prestigious award.

For almost 30 years, Sally Hunter has served the students of Texas as an instructor, mentor, and friend. Through recognizing and cultivating untapped potential within students, she has inspired countless youth to be men and women of character, vision and dedication.

Ms. Hunter began serving students as an elementary teacher in Austin ISD in 1980, and has taught fourth grade since 1995. Since that time, she has positively impacted the lives of thousands of students by making history personal for them. In keeping with her great love of Texas history, Ms. Hunter has traced her very own family back to the 1850s when they were neighbors of Sam Houston. Ms. Hunter continues to encourage and foster the same love of research and history in her own students so that they may learn more about their own family history.

Just 2 days after the fire that destroyed the Governor's Mansion in Austin, Ms. Hunter began to write the curriculum This House is Your House in order to ensure that students would learn about the richness of the mansion's history. Ms. Hunter's program is being used in classrooms across Texas, and continues to illustrate the mansion's tangible connections to people of the past, while challenging students to contribute to restoration and preservation.

Ms. Hunter has a gift for recognizing the unique needs of students and has never failed to commit her time, en-

ergy, and resources to meeting their needs. Ms. Hunter's love for teaching has made a lasting impact on her students, and she exemplifies an outstanding teacher and historian.

Sally Hunter's years of selfless service and unwavering devotion to the improvement of her students' lives have earned the respect of countless Texans. I thank Sally for her commitment to excellence in teaching the future leaders of Texas and send my best wishes for the years ahead.●

100TH BIRTHDAY OF ETHEL SCHWENGEL

• Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, today is the 100th birthday of a very special Iowan and a wonderful friend, Ethel Schwengel. One century ago today, Ethel was born on her parents' family farm near Purdin, MO. This is a bit premature, but I should also note that we are on the cusp of yet another remarkable milestone. On August 15, Ethel and her family will celebrate the 78th anniversary of her marriage to the late Frederic Schwengel, who represented Iowa in the United States House of Representatives from 1955 to 1965 and from 1967 to 1973.

The Schwengels married in Unionville, MO, in 1931, and moved to Davenport, IA, in 1937. There, Ethel worked as an educator, and was active in many civic organizations, including Girl Scouts and the YWCA.

When her husband served in the Iowa House of Representatives from 1944 to 1954, and later during his long service in the U.S. House, Ethel became a respected and beloved presence in her own right.

Ethel was always actively engaged in her husband's campaigns. Meanwhile, on the home front, she was a strong stabilizing influence in the Schwengel household during his inevitably frequent absences. She was a tireless and gracious hostess, often responding to last-minute calls from her husband to set additional places at the table for colleagues and visitors.

During their years in the Nation's Capital, the Schwengels hosted "Washington Week" for an Iowa State University professor and two of his students, one of whom was a very young and green TOM HARKIN. I will never forget their kindness and hospitality during that very eventful week.

Ethel joined in her husband's passion for collecting antiques as well as Abraham Lincoln memorabilia, which she displayed beautifully in the Schwengel house. Another highlight of their home was the Ethel's garden, which featured her prized tomatoes and Fred's beloved rhubarb—and little bit of Iowa right in suburban Washington. Ethel was especially proud of her dazzling display of azaleas each spring.

Across more than six decades of marriage, Ethel and Fred Schwengel were blessed with a large extended family. They raised two children, Frank and Dorothy. Moreover, immediately after

marrying, their household became home to Fred's brother Forrest and sister Helene. Later, Fred's widowed mother joined the household, as did Ethel's mother.

Following the Second World War, the Schwengels opened their home in Davenport to 11 displaced persons from Poland, helping them to learn English, find jobs, and become U.S. citizens.

In 1966, their grandson, Robert Schwengel, joined the household. When he left for college in 1979, it was the first time in 48 years of marriage that Ethel and Fred Schwengel were without extended family members in their home.

After Congressman Schwengel retired in 1973, he and Ethel continued to make their home in Arlington, VA. Mr. Schwengel helped to found the U.S. Capitol Historical Society in 1962, and headed that organization as its president until his death in 1993. Ethel remains a strong champion of the Historical Society and a member of its Honorary Board of Trustees. Their grandson, Dr. Robert Schwengel of Providence, RI, is a member of the society's active Board of Trustees, and their son-in-law, Neale Cosby, is its treasurer as well as a trustee.

Since that summer many years ago, when the Schwengels took me into their home for a very memorable "Washington Week," Ethel has been a very dear friend.

I am pleased to note that, for the big celebration today, she will be joined by family members and friends at her current residence in Arlington. In addition, there will be a reunion picnic on Saturday at her daughter and son-in-law's home at Mason Neck, VA. Ethel will be joined at these celebrations by her sister, Florence, age 98; her children and their spouses; five grandsons and spouses; nine great grandchildren; one niece; two nephews; and four great nephews. Clearly, this is a woman of great wealth—the kind of wealth that really matters.

I congratulate Ethel Schwengel on this great milestone. She has brought light into the lives of so many of us in Iowa and here in the Washington area. One hundred years since its birth, that light continues to shine with a very special radiance.

Happy birthday, Ethel!●

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF TROUT UNLIMITED

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, it is with great pride that I pay tribute to Trout Unlimited, a national conservation organization established in my home State of Michigan. This exceptional organization was founded in 1959 on the banks of the Au Sable River, near Grayling, MI, by 16 concerned Michigan anglers. These anglers, who met in the home of George Griffith, sought to ensure the continued and long term health of trout, their habitat, and the sport of angling. Today, Trout Unlimited boasts more than 150,000 members