

German machine gun position that had held up his entire company. Alone and the his company under fire, Gail gradually ran 130 yards across the battlefield, machine guns kicking up dirt on both sides of him and artillery shells falling all around. He made it to the machine gun position, knocking it out with grenades, allowing his company to come out from under cover.

In the official military report of the incident, Gail's commanding officer said, "Sergeant Alexander's fearless action under direct machine gun fire for twenty minutes, enabled our company to obtain the objective . . . and prevented any further casualties to our own men."

Gail's brothers William, George, and Jack all returned home after serving in various capacities more than 2 years each all throughout the European theater. The youngest brother, Bert Alexander, who just passed away on April 2 of this year at the age of 87, was too young to serve in World War II but still answered the call to defend liberty when he embarked for service in Korea.

So today I, along with the entire U.S. Senate, honor these five brothers, their Gold Star mother, and their families, both living and deceased. We remember their tremendous service and sacrifice, and we express our profound gratitude for their sacrifice in defending freedom for us and for America's allies.

AVIATION MAINTENANCE TECHNICIAN DAY

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. President, in 1902, a little known machinist by the name of Charles Edward Taylor began working for Orville and Wilbur Wright at the Wright Cycle Company in Dayton, OH. Over the course of 6 weeks, using only a metal lathe, drill press, and hand tools, Mr. Taylor built a 12-horsepower engine that was used to power the Wright brothers' first successful aircraft in 1903.

Today, Charles Taylor's May 24th birthday is observed as Aviation Maintenance Technician Day to recognize the thousands of men and women who follow in Mr. Taylor's footsteps and fulfill a critical safety role in the U.S. aviation industry. Whether maintaining military, commercial, general aviation, private, space, or experimental aircraft, aviation maintenance technicians use their specialized knowledge and skillset to ensure that all aircraft are safe and reliable.

I want to thank aviation maintenance technicians across Illinois and throughout the Nation for their hard work and dedication. Their expertise and integrity ensures the U.S. aviation system will remain the safest and most reliable in the world.

TRIBUTE TO DR. WILLIAM MEDD

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, access to quality healthcare is the foundation of any community. Throughout his long and distinguished career at Ste-

phens Memorial Hospital in Norway, ME, Dr. William Medd has helped to build that foundation in Oxford County. It is a pleasure to join his friends and neighbors in thanking him for 45 years of expert, dedicated, and compassionate service.

Healthcare is essential to the vitality, even the survival, of rural communities. In a recent interview, Dr. Medd said that, after he graduated from the University of Rochester Medical School, he had a wide choice of places to practice. He decided to practice in a place where he could make a real difference, and he certainly has. His role in starting the Maine Track program through Maine Medical Center and the Tufts University School of Medicine to recruit young physicians to rural practice will make a difference for generations to come.

When a new medical center opened in Norway 3 years ago, it was named in Dr. Medd's honor as a tribute to his many contributions to his community. Just as important is the gratitude the people throughout the Oxford Hills region have for his outstanding attentiveness to their health and well-being. I offer Dr. William Medd my congratulations upon his retirement and best wishes for the years to come.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CODY STAMPEDE RODEO

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, this year, the Cody Stampede Rodeo is celebrating its 100th anniversary. This is a milestone for the Stampede, for Cody, and for Wyoming. One hundred years of the Cody Stampede Rodeo represents 100 years of us living life the cowboy way. The cowboy and the rodeo is an integral part of our culture, and this 100th anniversary is a chance to celebrate this long standing history.

The rodeo has long been a part of Wyoming history. Wyoming is often referred to as the Cowboy State as a reference to its cowboy culture. At the heart of cowboy culture lies the rodeo. We hold rodeos all over the State in almost every single town.

Rodeo is in some ways the West's ambassador to the world. With our bucking horse license plate and visitors' conceptions of the Wild West, cowboys and rodeo are what they see and expect to see first. Through the efforts of all who participate, the sport of rodeo continues to grow. It is a part of western tradition that can be shared and enjoyed by visitors and residents alike.

The rodeo is a part of our livelihood that is unique to the Cowboy State and the West. The relationship between the rodeo and the West is much like the relationship between a cowboy and his horse. Few pairings have produced a more perfect partnership and the image of a cowboy and his horse remains an American icon. When one imagines a cowboy, he is rarely without his horse companion.

The American cowboy represents the greatest parts of the American West:

our courage, honor, and hard work ethic. The cowboy way provides an ethical code for cowboys to live by. All rodeo participants embody this cowboy way when competing in the arena, providing the world with a prime example of the code all Wyomingites live by.

Cody is nicknamed the Rodeo Capitol of the World. Rodeo in Cody began over 100 years ago with William Frederick "Buffalo Bill" Cody and his Wild West Show. The Wild West Show was never formally held in Cody but the tryouts for the show were held right behind the Irma Hotel. In 1913, Buffalo Bill closed his Wild West Show. He hosted one last parade and rodeo in Cody for the prince of Monaco.

In 1917, Buffalo Bill passed away and with that ended a fascinating chapter in the story of the American Wild West. In 1919, Clarence Williams led the effort to establish a rodeo celebration in Cody to commemorate Buffalo Bill and the Old West he personified. Every summer since 1919, people from all over come to watch cowboys compete in the Cody Stampede Rodeo, as well as the rodeos held every night from June to Labor Day.

For its centennial year, the Cody Stampede Board is being inducted into the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Hall of Fame. This is a great accomplishment for the town and the Stampede.

Caroline Lockhart was the founder and first president of the Cody Stampede Board. Caroline was considered a liberated, independent woman ahead of her time. She was described as someone "with a spirit as wild as the West." Last November, she was inducted into the Cowgirl Hall of Fame. As we approach the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, which granted women the right to vote across the country, it is important to recognize Wyoming's history of women leaders, like Caroline. Caroline Lockhart is a great example of the trailblazer nature of our great State.

As a trailblazer State, women in Wyoming were voting long before the 19th Amendment was passed. Wyoming is coming up on the 150th anniversary of women's suffrage. In December 1869, Wyoming's territorial legislature became the first government in the world to grant women the right to vote. Called the Equality State, we have the distinction of having the first woman to serve as Governor and the first woman to vote in the world. Rodeo exemplifies the nature of the Equality State through its history of inclusion and acceptance.

There are many great sports, but there are probably none as demanding or difficult as Rodeo. That is why it continues to grow in popularity and participation. It requires a tremendous combination of athletic ability, concentration, and dedication from its participants. It takes a lot of courage to face the challenges of the sport and give it your very best.

Rodeo also does a lot to build character and increase the self-confidence