

with a camera, they knew it when they picked up the Reformer the next publication day and saw their nuptials splashed as an exclusive atop the front page.

Runnion, deemed by one competitor "chief curmudgeon of the Vermont press corps," surprised readers in 1990 by leaving the paper to attend Virginia Theological Seminary, work as a seminarian assistant at the all-black St. Luke's Episcopal Church in Washington, and serve as rector of St. Martin's Episcopal Church in Fairlee.

Invited to address several New England press associations, the new priest condemned the media for "growing ineptness," he blamed on a loss of ethics and "corporate obsession with the bottom line."

"I don't think the First Amendment is a protective umbrella for the kind of sin journalism we are seeing in our culture today," he said at one event. "I don't think picturing violence for the sake of money is what Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton had in mind. The fact is, the public has a right not to know a lot of the junk that is being tossed their way in the name of the 'right to know.'"

Runnion would retire from the church in 2001 and return to journalism by writing for the weekly Herald of Randolph, near his Brookfield home. His column on the 50th anniversary of Kennedy's assassination was reprinted by the statewide news website VTDigger.org, spurring a flurry of public comment.

"Hey, Norm: Oswald did not do it," one reader posted.

"Good point—I agree," Runnion replied. "It was ET and the aliens."

Runnion will be remembered July 8 at a public service in Randolph to be led by Vermont Episcopal Bishop Thomas Ely, with specifics to come from that town's Day Funeral Home. ("He wrote a partial obituary and said, 'You can fill in the blanks,'" his wife Linda said Monday.) He'll also live on through nearly seven decades of his published work.

"I personally witnessed much of this history and believe what I saw over what people who were not there claimed happened 20 or 30 or 50 years later," he recently posted to Internet readers sharing conspiracy theories. "But hey, it's differences of opinion that make the world go around. Cheers, Norm."

CELEBRATING WYOMING'S 125TH STATEHOOD ANNIVERSARY

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, we will celebrate the 125th anniversary of the day Wyoming became a State on Friday, July 10, 2015.

Wyoming's journey to statehood was not without hurdles. In fact, the debate in Congress was contentious. The arguments centered upon one of our most proud accomplishments—a decision made long before Wyoming became a State. On December 10, 1869, the Wyoming territory was the first in the United States to grant women the right to vote.

Efforts to attain statehood finally came to fruition 20 years later. It was incumbent on our delegate to the U.S. House of Representatives, Joseph M. Carey, to convince his colleagues to support the statehood bill.

On March 26, 1890, the day of the statehood bill debate, Joseph Carey spoke passionately about Wyoming. His words still hold true today. He said that Wyoming was rich in agricultural

possibilities. He explained Wyoming was one of nature's great storehouses of minerals. Joseph Carey also talked about grazing development, educational leadership, widespread railway construction, the model Constitution, and the unique opportunities for women.

Yet, opponents to our statehood did not support women having the right to vote. On the same day as Joseph Carey's impassioned speech, Representative William Oates of Alabama argued against our admittance to the Union. He said, "Mr. Speaker, I do not hesitate to say that in my judgment the franchise has been too liberally extended. Should we ever reach universal suffrage this Government will become practically a pure democracy and then the days of its existence are numbered."

The U.S. House of Representatives narrowly passed Wyoming's statehood bill with a vote of 139–127. Part of the narrow margin was due to Democrats in Congress fearing that Wyoming would be a Republican State. The U.S. Senate passed the bill on June 27, 1890.

President Benjamin Harrison signed the bill into law on July 10, 1890, which led to impromptu celebrations across the State. Newspapers reported a 44-gun salute in Laramie; Douglas celebrated "louder than ever;" and "Rawlins Town is wild."

The main celebration on July 23 featured a 2-mile parade in Cheyenne consisting of many floats. One float had 42 women representing the older States and a small carriage in which rode three little girls, representing the Goddess of Liberty, the State of Idaho—admitted July 3, and the State of Wyoming. The parade led to the Capitol where Esther Hobart Morris, the first female justice of the peace in the United States from Wyoming, presented a 44-star silk flag, purchased by women of the State of Wyoming to Governor Francis E. Warren.

After a 44-gun salute, Mrs. I.S. Bartlett read an original poem, "The True Republic." Her poem ended with the following words:

Let the bells ring out more loudly and the deep-toned cannon roar,
Giving voice to our thanksgiving, such as never rose before,
For we tread enchanted ground today, we're glorious, proud and great;
Our independence day has come—Wyoming is a State!

As Wyoming marks 125 years of statehood, I encourage my colleagues to join me in celebrating Wyoming's rich heritage, geological wonders and genuine cowboy hospitality that provides a truly wonderful experience to visitors from all over the world.

RECOGNIZING FERDINAND, INDIANA ON ITS 175TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, today, I wish to honor the town of Ferdinand on its 175th anniversary and to recognize the many contributions of

Ferdinand's citizens to the surrounding communities, the great State of Indiana, and to our country.

Ferdinand's history dates to the mid-1800s when Dubois County was known for its merchants and tobacco market. The town was established on January 8, 1840, as a resting point for travelers and was officially incorporated as a town in 1905. Ferdinand quickly began to grow and develop with the discovery of materials needed to make paint. The town began manufacturing paint and developed the largest foundry in the county. By the end of the 19th century, Ferdinand innovated as industries changed and grew to include manufacturing plants, small businesses, a mill, schools, churches, and a convent. Today, manufacturing continues to be its top industry.

Ferdinand is a community of 2,500 citizens located in the beautiful hills of southern Indiana. Throughout the year, outdoor enthusiasts visit Ferdinand to take advantage of its numerous natural wonders. Camping, hunting, swimming, fishing, and hiking are just a handful of the activities available to visitors. Since its founding, Ferdinand has remained the home to some of our State's most beautiful parks and forests, plus an expanding trail system. Ferdinand is home to the Ferdinand State Forest, a historic Benedictine monastery, and the Ferdinand Folk Festival. The community is also a short drive from Abraham Lincoln's boyhood home and the gravesite of his mother, Nancy Hanks Lincoln.

The strength of Ferdinand is rooted in an importance placed on community, family values, and quality education. Ferdinand Elementary School and Cedar Crest Intermediate School are both four-star academic institutions that provide quality education to young Hoosiers. Furthermore, the residents of Ferdinand are widely known for their strong work ethic, sense of community, and Hoosier hospitality. It is due to these enduring qualities that Ferdinand has been a contributor to Indiana's success. It is a great honor to represent the town of Ferdinand, also known as the "gateway to Dubois County and a gateway to opportunity," in the Senate. On behalf of the State of Indiana, I congratulate each and every citizen of Ferdinand on the town's 175th anniversary and wish you continued success and prosperity in the future.

TRIBUTE TO GARY HOLLANDER

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize and honor Gary Hollander of Milwaukee, WI, for 20 years of guiding Diverse & Resilient as its founder and CEO. I have known Gary for many years and have been proud to work with and support his efforts at Diverse & Resilient throughout that time. Gary has been a leader in the mental health and LGBT communities, and his passion for serving people will be missed by all who have