restoration project now nearing completion in Mendocino, California. While the North Coast of California is renowned for its natural beauty and breathtaking views, in Mendocino there is another coastal landmark that has captured the imagination of this rugged region. Built in 1908, the Point Cabrillo Lighthouse is a living reminder of California’s maritime history. And on August 6th, the Lighthouse celebrates the 90th anniversary of the first lighting of its light.

This one-of-a-kind structure was originally built by the United States Lighthouse Service to protect the legendary “doghole schooners” that plied the lumber trade between San Francisco and California’s northern coast at the turn of the century. The Lighthouse was turned over to the U.S. Coast Guard in 1939, and still houses Coast Guard navigational aids and monitoring equipment. However, the Lighthouse structure and its rare Fresnel lens suffered significant damage during the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. Fortunately in 1998, the California Coastal Conservancy and North Coast Interpretive Association stepped forward to restore and reinstate the original Fresnel lens, and to renovate the Lighthouse for use as an educational and interpretive center.

Thanks to the efforts of the people of Mendocino, the Coastal Conservancy and the North Coast Interpretive Association, the Lighthouse restoration project will soon be complete. A weekend of festivities will celebrate the Lighthouse’s revival and highlight the attractions of the Point Cabrillo Preserve and Light Station. This celebration will acknowledge the efforts of the many volunteers and community partners that also helped make this project a success.

It is important to take the time to applaud the restoration of this nationally significant historic landmark. I also think it is important to recognize the significance of community projects such as the Point Cabrillo Lighthouse, which serve as invaluable, irreplaceable links to our common past and as unique educational tools for the future. I commend the efforts that have gone into this restoration project, and send the Point Cabrillo Lighthouse volunteers and other partners my best wishes for their continued success.

TRIBUTE TO THE TOWN OF NEWTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE

Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the town of Newton, New Hampshire. The town of Newton in the United States Senate. I am proud to serve the residents and it’s dedicated and patriotic citizens. They have participated in the Vietnam Conflict, War of 1812, Civil War, World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam Conflict. Newton’s citizens are always willing to serve our nation when called upon.

I congratulate the town of Newton, and it’s dedicated and patriotic citizens. I am proud to serve the residents of Newton in the United States Senate.

ICELANDIC HERITAGE

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I rise today to celebrate the Icelandic heritage of our country and of the state of North Dakota.

For a century it has been North Dakota’s custom to set aside time to honor the contributions of Icelanders to North Dakota. In order to honor the thousands of people of Icelandic descent that reside in my state, the Governor has proclaimed July 30 to August 2 as Icelandic Heritage Days.

Icelandic Heritage Days culminate with a celebration of the historical presentation of a new constitution to the Icelandic Parliament. This occurred on August the second, or “August the Deuce.” as many Icelanders call it, 1874 by King Kristjan the Ninth. This action formally freed Iceland from hundreds of years of Danish rule.

In 1878, people of Icelandic descent first settled in northeastern North Dakota. Since this time, Icelandic-Americans have been instrumental in the development of their communities and my state. One settler, E.H. Bergman, was a member of the Territorial Legislature, which passed legislation enabling the establishment of the states of North Dakota in 1889. Since Bergman’s time, many more people of Icelandic descent have represented their constituencies in the ND Legislature and state government.

Mr. President, this year’s celebration is especially noteworthy because an Icelandic dignitary, the Olafur Ragnar Grimsson, the President of Iceland, will be in attendance. This visit will mark the first time that an Icelandic head-of-state has visited North Dakota.

It is a pleasure to have President Grimsson visit North Dakota, and a privilege to honor Icelandic-Americans for all they have done for North Dakota and this great country.

ANGELO QUARANTA

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today, I extend special birthday wishes to a very special Californian, Angelo Quaranta, whose birthday is August 8.

Angelo is perhaps best known as the owner and driving force behind Allegro, an Italian restaurant on San Francisco’s Russian Hill. Regardless of whether you are the Governor, the Mayor, a community organizer or just someone looking for a wonderful plate of pasta, Angelo’s grace and easy manner always make you feel welcome.

Angelo was born in Taranto, Italy in 1934. Before leaving his homeland for San Francisco in 1960, he attended the police academy and became national Judo champion while serving with the Italian Police Force. Upon arriving in San Francisco, he first worked as a window washer and then began a distinguished career in the insurance industry.

Cooking may be Angelo’s passion, but he can be found in many more places than the kitchen. He has long been active in local government and is a leader in community affairs. He is currently president of the Commission of Parking and Traffic, and serves on San Francisco’s Recreation and Park Commission. In the 1970’s, he operated an Italian television station that broadcast programming from Italy. He founded Unione Sportiva Italia, and has been active in numerous efforts to celebrate the invaluable contributions of Italians and Italian-Americans to the life of the city and nation. Angelo has served as a member of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation and founded Candlelight Again, an organization comprised of restaurant owners and their patrons dedicated to raising funds for community needs. In recognition of his work, and in addition to many other honors, the Mayor’s Office has twice proclaimed it “Angelo Quaranto Day in San Francisco.”

Angelo has two adult daughters who live with their husbands and children in Italy. It is a pleasure to join them and the larger civic family Angelo continues to nurture in San Francisco in wishing him a joyous 65th birthday.