

The grassy embankment behind this now landmark establishment, pays tribute to the many thousands of customers that have passed through the town of Ellijay to eat the Colonel's barbecue. The embankment, referred to as the "Pig Hill of Fame," is covered by nearly 4,000 personalized, painted, and pig shaped signs. Individuals, families, tour groups, friends, Sunday school classes, and celebrities have each had pigs erected to memorialize their visit to one of the South's greatest places for barbecue. In fact, I am fortunate enough to have a sign in my name on this famed hill. As many in the South know, politics and barbecue go hand in hand. Therefore, it comes as no surprise to learn that governors, congressmen, Senators, statesmen, and even Presidential candidates have made the voyage to Colonel Poole's.

Colonel Poole's reputation supersedes our state's boundaries. On three separate occasions he was the highlight of Capitol Hill. On his first trip to Washington, the Colonel arrived at the steps of the Capitol in his large yellow PigMobile and in his colorful and patriotic suit to deliver his hickory smoked pork to the entire Georgia delegation and their staffs. Much to the dismay of some in the delegation, word about real Georgia barbecue got around Washington so fast that the Colonel's rations, enough for 450 people, quickly ran out. On another occasion, I had the opportunity to serve what may be one of Georgia's finest kept secrets to several of my friends and colleagues here in the Senate who meet for a weekly lunch.

While most know the Colonel as a barbecue maestro, he is a wearer of many hats. His customers know he is also a pianist. Others know of him as a preacher. This man with a big heart is all of these things and more.

Inside his tin covered, pine wood restaurant the Colonel plays classical music, show tunes, and almost every customer request. Having learned to play the piano at an early age, Mr. Poole has long since appreciated his gift as a musician. His ability to play was good enough to put himself through the Methodist seminary where he was ordained a minister.

His work in the Church, as a preacher and a missionary, took him to many rural communities here in the South and to developing countries like Brazil. It was this sort of compassion that enabled a north Georgia gentleman named Wendell Cross to approach the Colonel for instruction on how to read. Mr. Cross, a sixty year old man, had spent his entire life not knowing how to read. That was until Mr. Poole took him under his wing and worked with him on a daily basis for nearly twelve months. Eventually Mr. Cross learned to read. The story of compassion and friendship received nationwide media coverage and was shown on the popular "Today Show."

More importantly, two days before the tenth anniversary of his business, Colonel Poole will be celebrating his 49th, I repeat, 49th year of marriage to his lovely wife, Edna Poole. This is a milestone that anyone would be extremely proud, and I am happy to report that the Poole's will have four sons—Michael, Greg, Keith, and Darwin—to help them celebrate this milestone.

Once again, Mr. President, I would like to commend Colonel Oscar Poole on his tenth year of business and his 49th year of marriage. During this time when there are discussions of the direction of today's culture, Colonel Poole is an example of how leading one's life by a core set of good, American values—faith, family, and country—will result in a life of many successes.●

WELCOME TO EDRINA AND LISELA DUSHAJ

● Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to tell the story of the Dushaj family. Several years ago Pranvera and Zenun Dushaj left their native Albania and were granted political asylum in the United States. They settled in the Bronx, New York where they found a place to live and both found jobs. Unfortunately, at the time they left Albania they could not bring their two young daughters, Edrina and Lisela, with them. They had to stay behind with their grandmother.

As soon as they were eligible, the Dushaj family applied for permission to bring their children to the United States. The family came to my office last year seeking assistance in getting the I-730 petitions approved. Last fall, the Immigration and Naturalization Service granted the petitions for both daughters.

All was set. The Dushaj children could now join their parents in this country. All they needed were immigrant visas, but therein lay the problem. Because of recent fighting and the threat of terrorist activity, consular services at our Embassy in Albania were all but shut down, providing only emergency services to American citizens. The embassy was no longer able to process the needed visas.

I note that this was occurring this March just as the conflict with Serbia was coming to a head. The Dushaj children were stuck in Albania and their parents were quite concerned. To make matters worse, they lived in Bijram-Curri, a city in the Tropoja region which is less than half an hour from the Kosovo border.

Albanians were being instructed to contact the American Embassy in Italy or Greece to obtain visas. This presented a problem for the Dushaj family. With the start of the NATO bombing campaign, it became nearly impossible to get from Albania to Italy, ei-

ther by sea or air, and anti-American demonstrations outside our embassy in Athens made the Dushaj family reluctant to send their four and six year old daughters to Greece.

Fortunately, Zenun Dushaj has a cousin in Turkey and my office was able to work with the Dushaj family to have our embassy in Ankara accept jurisdiction in this matter. In April, Edrina and Lisela left Albania. Soon thereafter, they arrived at our embassy in Ankara where they applied for immigrant visas. They filled out the proper forms, underwent the necessary medical exams, provided the necessary documentation, and shortly thereafter their visa applications were processed.

I am very happy to report that on May 21, the Dushaj children landed in New York and were reunited with their parents. Pranvera and Zenun could not be more thrilled as their family starts a new life together in America. I am also proud that like so many immigrants before them, they will start that life in New York.

Many thanks are owed to Marisa Lino, our Ambassador in Albania, who I know is working under very trying conditions, and especially to Jacqueline Ratner, our Consul in Turkey. Ms. Ratner not only recognized that this was a situation where she could make something good happen, she followed up and shepherded the Dushaj children through the application process. I have no doubt that it was her fine work that made this happy outcome possible.

I also note the courage, ingenuity, and tenacity of the Dushaj parents and all their relatives in Albania and Turkey. They fought to bring these children to this country and no matter how desperate things looked, they never gave up hope. Most of all Mr. President, I would just like to say to Edrina and Lisela, welcome to America.●

1998 NATIONAL GUN POLICY SURVEY OF THE NATIONAL OPINION RESEARCH CENTER

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago recently released an informative survey which documents the attitudes of Americans on the regulation of firearms. I think that my colleagues will find the results of this survey to be valuable, and I ask that an executive summary of the survey be printed in the RECORD.

The summary follows:

1998 NATIONAL GUN POLICY SURVEY OF THE NATIONAL OPINION RESEARCH CENTER RELEASED MAY 6, 1999

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Results from a national survey indicate strong public support—including substantial majorities among gun owners—for legislation to regulate firearms, make guns safer, and reduce the accessibility of firearms to criminals and children.

Key findings of the 1998 National Gun Policy Survey include:

- Three-fourths of gun owners support mandatory registration of handguns, as does 85 percent of the general public.

- Government regulation of gun design to improve safety gets support from 63 percent of gun owners and 75 percent of the general public.

- Two thirds of gun owners and 80 percent of the general public favor mandatory background checks in private handgun sales, such as gun shows.

The survey was conducted by the National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago in collaboration with the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research with funding from the Joyce Foundation. The third in a series of surveys of American attitudes toward gun policies, it shows a continuation of an upward trend in public support for more control over firearms and more attention to making all firearms safer.

Other key findings include:

- Three quarters of those surveyed want Congress to hold hearings to investigate the practices of the gun industry, similar to the hearings held on the tobacco industry..

- Sixty percent of Americans want licenses to carry concealed weapons to be issued only to those with special needs, e.g., private detectives. And 83 percent of the public believes that public places, including stores, theaters and restaurants, should be able to prohibit patrons from bringing guns on the premises.

- Americans strongly support measures to keep guns from lawbreakers. 90 percent favor preventing those convicted of domestic violence from buying guns, 81 percent would stop gun sales to those convicted of simple assault, and 68 percent to those convicted of drunk driving.

- People are willing to pay higher taxes for measures to reduce gun thefts and root out illegal gun dealers, and they express a willingness to pay higher prices for guns that are designed for greater safety.

- Sixty-nine percent of those surveyed opposed importing guns from a country where those guns could not be legally sold. A total of 55 percent are against all gun imports.

Nearly nine out of ten Americans believe that all new handguns sold should be childproof, that is, designed so that a child's small hands cannot fire them.

Eighty percent of the people asked say owners should be liable for injuries if a gun is not stored to prevent misuse by children.

When asked if there should be a mandatory background check and a five-day waiting period in order to purchase a gun, 82 percent of the people owning a gun, as well as 85 percent of the general public, agreed that position was a good idea.

Nearly one out of ten adults report having carried a handgun away from home during the last months. About half of those did not have a permit for doing so, and about half of the handguns were loaded.

Just under half of adults who own a handgun obtained the gun through a "less regulated source," defined as pawnshops, private sales, gifts and inheritances.

The data were collected in the fall of 1998, before the recent school shootings in Colorado and Georgia, but following similar highly publicized shootings in Arkansas, Kentucky and Oregon. The telephone survey of 1,200 U.S. adults has a margin of error of three percent. The final report is entitled "The 1998 National Gun Policy Survey of the National Opinion Research Center: Research Findings."

Affiliated with the University of Chicago, NORC has conducted national surveys in the public interest for over 55 years. As a pioneer in the field of survey research, NORC is noted for the high quality of its survey designs, methods, and data.

The Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research, established in 1995, is dedicated to preventing gun-related deaths and injuries. Located in The Johns Hopkins School of Public Health, the Center applies a science-based, public health approach to gun violence. It provides accurate information on firearm injuries and gun policy; develops, analyzes, and evaluates strategies to prevent firearm injuries; and conducts public health and legal research to identify gun policy needs.

Based in Chicago with assets of \$947 million, the Joyce Foundation supports efforts to strengthen public policies in ways that improve the quality of life in the Great Lakes region. Since 1993, it has granted over \$13 million to support public health approaches to reduce gun violence.

Full results of the survey are posted on the NORC web site at: <http://www.norc.uchicago.edu/>

A LIFETIME OF TEACHING

- Mr. TORRICELLI. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Dr. Joseph A. Klingler as he retires after 36 years of service to the students and families of my hometown, Franklin Lakes, New Jersey. He served as a teacher, a principal, a mentor, and a leader in the educational field.

Throughout his thirty-one years, Dr. Klingler has shown unparalleled support and caring for his pupils. He provided each school he taught at with a unique personality that demonstrates caring, respect, interest in others, and academic challenge. He always encouraged his students to take an active role in school, whether academically, athletically, or through community activities. Because of his encouragement, staff members applied for mini-grants which contributed to the success of several middle school activities such as the Show Choir, FAYM, and the Drama Club. Dr. Klingler understands the importance of parents becoming involved in their children's school and has formed a close alliance with the PTA.

Dr. Klingler shaped our definition of a middle school, with mission statements, team concepts, and quality programs. He was active in local and national education associations. He chaired the FLOW area Regional Education Council several times, and participated in the national program for evaluating elementary schools. He is a member of Phi Delta Kappa, the National Professional Educational Fraternity, the American Association of School Administrators, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, the New Jersey Principals and Supervisors Association, and the National Mathematics Teachers Association.

Dr. Klingler has served as a role model for community activities, coach-

ing baseball in the local recreation program, volunteering at the Bergen Community Regional Blood Center, participating in the Environmental Commission Clean-Up Day, and chairing the Franklin Lakes Juvenile Committee. He encouraged his students to take an active role in their community.

As one of his former students I was directly influenced by his teaching and leadership. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Klingler for his years of service to all his students in Franklin Lakes. He will be dearly missed, but I am certain that the values he instilled in his students will live on.●

TRIBUTE TO ST. PHILOMENA SCHOOL: 1999 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

- Mr. REED. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the achievement of St. Philomena School of Portsmouth, Rhode Island, which was recently honored as a U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon School.

It is a highly regarded distinction to be named a Blue Ribbon School. Through an intensive selection process beginning at the state level and continuing through a federal Review Panel of 100 top educators, 266 of the very best public and private schools in the nation were identified as deserving this special recognition. These schools are particularly effective in meeting local, state, and national goals. However, this honor signifies not just who is best, but what works in educating today's children.

Now, more than ever, it is important that we make every effort to reach out to students, that we truly engage and challenge them, and that we make their education come alive. That is what St. Philomena School is doing. St. Philomena is a kindergarten through eighth grade school that emphasizes student achievement.

Since opening in 1953, much has changed for St. Philomena. For a brief time, it offered a comprehensive education from elementary through high school. But since the late 1960s, St. Philomena has focused exclusively on elementary education, and its students have benefitted from this wise decision. While the school has grown in size—adding four new buildings to its facilities, its administration and faculty have taken a personalized approach to each student's education.

Mr. President, St. Philomena is dedicated to the highest standards. It is a school committed to a process of continuous improvement not only for students but for teachers as well. Indeed, St. Philomena's teachers hone their skills as educators by continuously pursuing educational opportunities of their own.

Mr. President, the Blue Ribbon School initiative shows us the very