

lands in two world wars and other conflicts across the globe.

Through it all, the Spencer Magnet kept the community informed.

This community has survived droughts, blizzards, floods and tornadoes. We've even felt the earth shake a time or two.

We've endured divisive and bitter elections, political scandals both small and large and we've had families devastated by violent crime and tragic accidents. The Spencer Magnet was here to report that news.

There have been grand times as well. New businesses have started and flourished and the progress that changed so much of American life did not bypass Spencer County. We've seen the stage coach give way to the railroad and the railroad give way to the automobile. Modern day luxuries often taken for granted, such as running water, electric lights, radio and television were greeted with fanfare when they made their initial appearance in our community. The Spencer Magnet was here to chronicle those changes and the ones that have followed. Students worked their way through school and annually marched to receive their diploma.

Local citizens have accomplished monumental achievements and various churches and organizations have worked tirelessly to serve the community, their neighbors and their fellow man. The Spencer Magnet has been here to help the good.

Today, Spencer County continues to grow. Many families from Louisville, seeking a slower pace of life and a rural atmosphere, have chosen to make this their home. Many of these new families simply lay their heads here at night as they continue to work, shop and socialize in Louisville. But increasingly, more and more of the newer residents are becoming active in this community that they now proudly call home.

The Spencer Magnet understands the role we play in this pivotal era of Spencer County's history. Perhaps more than ever before, this newspaper is practicing community journalism by covering more meetings where decisions that impact you and this community are made. More and more Spencer Countians are expressing an interest in being involved citizens, and it is our role as a newspaper to help those same people be informed citizens.

Over this latest chapter of our history, the Magnet has been honored on numerous occasions by the Kentucky Press Association for our efforts to publish an informative, quality newspaper that serves our residents. But more important than awards, is the feedback we get from our readers. There's nothing we like hearing better than the words "We read it in the Magnet."

The Spencer Magnet is now 150 years old. We're the oldest continuously operated business in Spencer County. We're proud of that distinction, but we also do not take it for granted. That longevity had to be earned by gaining the trust and respect of readers like you. We don't take that lightly and we will continue to strive to earn that trust each and every week as we begin our next 150 years.

The next century and a half will surely be filled with a mixture of tragedy and triumph. There will be achievements and there will be failures. We will write stories about great accomplishments, and we'll most certainly have to report on heartbreak as well. But that's the nature of the newspaper. It's what William T. Burton set out to accomplish in 1867, and it's what we hope those who follow us will continue to do decades from now.

ILLINOIS STUDENT LOAN BILL OF RIGHTS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, last week my home State of Illinois took a

major step forward in protecting student loan borrowers.

On November 7, the Illinois House of Representatives voted 98 to 16 to override Governor Rauner's veto of the Illinois Student Loan Bill of Rights, which was designed to protect student loan borrowers from the well documented abuses of Federal student loan servicers. The Illinois Senate previously voted 37 to 19 to override. With the house's action, the bill became law.

I would like to thank all of those in the general assembly who voted for this bill, including Senator Daniel Biss and Representative Will Guzzardi, who sponsored the legislation. I would also like to thank the legislation's author, Attorney General Lisa Madigan, for her leadership and tireless efforts to investigate and hold Federal student loan servicers accountable.

Federal student loan servicers are contracted by the U.S. Department of Education to handle the billing and other services related to the repayment of a Federal student loan. Too often, these contractors make it more difficult for students to repay their loans by giving them incorrect or incomplete information and guidance, refusing to provide benefits to which students are entitled under Federal law, or incorrectly processing payments. I have heard complaints about servicers from countless of the 1.5 million Illinoisans holding a cumulative total of \$51 billion in Federal student loan debt.

Attorney General Madigan has heard those complaints too. In response, she initiated an investigation which resulted in an ongoing lawsuit against the Nation's largest student loan servicer, Navient. Navient has become the poster child for poor customer service and abusive practices that make it more difficult for struggling borrowers to repay their Federal student loans.

The Illinois Student Loan Bill of Rights will help to protect Illinois borrowers from these practices. Among other things, the law requires servicers to inform borrowers about their eligibility for income-driven repayment plans and other affordable repayment options. It also prohibits servicers from misleading borrowers, requires them to correctly process payments, and requires servicers to inform borrowers about their eligibility for loan forgiveness due to a disability or harmful actions by the school.

I have worked at the Federal level to provide similar protections for all student loan borrowers. I authored the Federal Student Loan Borrower Bill of Rights, which I will reintroduce in the coming months. This bill was the basis for reforms to student loan servicing contracts initiated by President Obama. Unfortunately, much of that work has been rolled back by Secretary Betsy DeVos.

Thanks to Attorney General Madigan and the bipartisan actions of the Illinois General Assembly, borrowers in our State will now have new rights and protections that neither Governor

Rauner nor Secretary DeVos can take away.

TRIBUTE TO EARL "RUSTY" POWELL

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, for 25 years, Earl "Rusty" Powell has served as the director of the National Gallery of Art, making him the longest serving director in its history. Rusty will retire in early 2019, concluding a tenure that has marked growth and development at one of our Nation's great galleries.

Rusty's life of public service began with 3 years of service in the Navy, during which he served as a navigator in Vietnam. Upon his return, Rusty embarked on what would become a decades-long career as a curator, historian, and aficionado, earning a doctorate from Harvard before beginning his first assignment at the National Gallery of Art.

His experience there led to a 12-year tenure as the director of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, after which he returned to the National Gallery for what would become the longest tenure of a director in its 75-year history. He has worked tirelessly at the National Gallery of Art to increase the accessibility of the arts by expanding the National Gallery's projects, exhibitions, and endowment.

Rusty's approach to expanding and enriching the National Gallery has been as collaborative as it has been visionary. Rather than govern with a singular vision, he included his staff and board in moving the museum forward. From the construction of the stunning sculpture garden, to the renovation of the gallery's west wing, no detail has been overlooked throughout his tenure. He has also overseen several other projects that received less attention but are of no lesser value to the current success of the gallery. All these improvements have enhanced the experience of the more than 5 million visitors that pass through the gallery every year.

Rusty's great passion for the mission of the National Gallery and his unwavering efforts to bring storied art collections to its millions of visitors each year are unparalleled. With his retirement next year, he will leave a legacy at the gallery that will never be forgotten.

Marcelle and I have treasured the evenings we have spent with Rusty and his wife, Nancy, at exhibits and events we will always remember.

I ask unanimous consent that the November 7, 2017, Washington Post article detailing Rusty's time and accomplishments at the National Gallery of Art be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows: