

the students scored significantly higher on standardized state assessments than their peer schools. McClure was one of only 84 middle schools in the country, and one of 19 Illinois schools to be distinguished with this award.

Thanks to the dedication of McClure Junior High School faculty, the hard work of the students, and the encouragement of their parents, the school has been identified as one of the very best in the United States.

I ask you to join me in congratulating the faculty, students, and parents of McClure Junior High School for their receipt of a U.S. Department of Education Blue Ribbon Award, one of the highest honors a middle school can earn.

IN MEMORY OF U.S. NAVY SENIOR
CHIEF PETTY OFFICER DAVID
BLAKE McLENDON

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a brave sailor, dedicated citizen, and a great American, U.S. Navy Senior Chief Petty Officer David Blake McLendon, who gave his life for his country.

Senior Chief Petty Officer (SCPO) McLendon was raised in Thomasville, Georgia. After graduating from Thomas County Central High School in 1998, he answered the call to service by enlisting in the U.S. Navy, following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather.

He was a successful and dedicated naval non-commissioned officer, quickly rising through the ranks. His awards include the Joint Service Commendation Medal; Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal; Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal; Navy Battle "E" Ribbon (two awards); Navy Good Conduct Medal (three awards); and the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon.

In 2009, McLendon was promoted to Senior Chief Petty Officer and served as a Navy cryptologic technician. He was also a Navy SEAL. During his twelve-year Naval career, he served at Norfolk, Virginia and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and the Joint Expeditionary Base at Little Creek, Virginia.

While deployed to Afghanistan, he was one of nine servicemembers tragically killed when their Army Blackhawk helicopter went down in the southern Afghanistan province of Zabul on Sept. 21, 2010.

SCPO McLendon's death is a great loss to this country, as he was a man of great promise and honor. He was described as a consummate Navy professional by his fellow servicemembers, and was known for his dedication, quick wit, and engaging sense of humor.

His death is also a great loss to his loving family. He is survived by his wife and parents, his brother and sister, his nieces and nephews, and his paternal grandmother.

Madam Speaker, U.S. Navy Senior Chief Petty Officer David Blake McLendon made the ultimate sacrifice for his country. His time on this earth was too short. He was a proud American, a brave sailor, and a true family man. In life he was loved and honored, and in

death he will be remembered by a grateful nation.

RECOGNIZING THE SEATTLE
STORM FOR THEIR VICTORY IN
THE WOMEN'S NATIONAL BASKETBALL
ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Seattle Storm for their incredible season and their victory in the Women's National Basketball Association Championship.

The Seattle Storm joined the WNBA in 2000 and has since been a remarkable team, a source of immense pride for the State of Washington. Their 2010 championship was their second, and the first under Coach Brian Agler. They were consistently the WNBA's best team, ending the regular season with a 28–6 record. The team's success continued into the post-season, where they went undefeated and became the first team in WNBA history to go 7–0 in the playoffs. By the end of their impressive run, the Storm had not been defeated at home.

The women of Seattle Storm play the game with great dedication and sportsmanship, and act as role models for our community's girls and boys. The team is also one of three WNBA teams that is not owned as a companion or "sister team" to an NBA team. Rather, they are independent and reflect the value of local-owned organizations.

Their championship was earned with hard work and commitment. Team members include Svetlana Abrosimova, Sue Bird, Abby Bishop, Swin Cash, Lauren Jackson, Allison Lacey, Camille Little, Ashley Robinson, Jana Vesela, Le'coe Willingham, and Tanisha Right. The enthusiastic and loyal Washington fans have also aided to the team's success and over 5,000 fans came to celebrate the championship at the Key Arena.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives please join me in congratulating the Seattle Storm for their undefeated playoff run and their 2nd WNBA Championship.

RECOGNIZING SCOTT HECHT FOR
HIS BRAVERY AND HEROISM

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. ISRAEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Scott Hecht, a resident of Hauppauge, New York, for being awarded the Carnegie Medal by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission. This prestigious award is given to civilians who risk their lives to save the lives of others. Scott Hecht saved a girl from drowning on July 30, 2009, in Mastic Beach, New York.

According to the Commission, "A teenage girl struggled to stay afloat in the Atlantic Ocean after being swept away from the beach

by a strong current. Beachgoers shouted for help, attracting the attention of Hecht, 45, a social worker, who was in a camping area nearby. Although he decided earlier not to swim that day because of rough surf conditions, Hecht entered the water with a short surfboard and, holding onto the board, swam out to the girl, reaching her at a point about 200 feet from shore. He grasped her by the wrists and held them over the board and then started toward shore. Waves overtook them as they proceeded, and a lateral current swept them along the shoreline. Others aided the girl when they reached wadable water, and Hecht also reached the beach safely. Hecht was very tired and sustained scratches to his legs, but he did not need medical treatment."

I am proud to recognize Mr. Hecht for his bravery and selflessness and I thank him for helping make the 2nd District of New York a place in which citizens take care of their fellow citizens.

CONGRATULATING ST. PAUL
COLLEGE'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the faculty, students and staff of Saint Paul College on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the school. Founded in 1910, Saint Paul College is an outstanding community and technical college that is a part of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system (MnSCU). Saint Paul College has further distinguished itself by earning the nation's top ranking among community colleges according to the 2010 September/October edition of Washington Monthly Magazine.

Located on Cathedral Hill near downtown and overlooking at the State Capitol, Saint Paul College is a model two-year higher education institution, providing academic excellence and trade and technical skills to prepare students for success in the workplace.

Saint Paul College offers thirty-eight associate degree programs and sixty-one occupational certificate and diploma programs, including transfer and articulation agreements with 4-year colleges and universities that provide pathways for students to transfer and continue their higher education.

The first-place ranking and national recognition conveyed by Washington Monthly Magazine is a testament to the school's long-standing commitment to academic excellence and to the students and families in the community it serves. Generations of crafts and trades people in Minnesota have earned their education at Saint Paul College, and the school is poised to help more generations develop the skills they need for successful careers.

In honor of the 100th Anniversary of Saint Paul College, I am pleased to recognize the many achievements of the faculty, staff and students through this statement in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

INTRODUCING LEGISLATION TO
EXPAND THE DISCRETIONARY
AUTHORITY OF THE U.S. TRADE
REPRESENTATIVE

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to expand the discretionary authority of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) to take action under section 301 of the Trade Act of 1974. Specifically, the legislation would allow USTR to investigate and impose sanctions on countries whose trade practices are found to be unfair to U.S. interests by failing to enforce foreign country environmental laws. Specifically, USTR will have discretionary authority to take action if it finds a persistent pattern of conduct that indicates a trading partner:

(I) Fails to effectively enforce the environmental laws of a foreign country;

(II) Waives or otherwise derogates from the environmental laws of a foreign country or weakens the protections afforded by such laws;

(III) Fails to provide for judicial or administrative proceedings giving access to remedies for violations of the environmental laws of a foreign country; or

(IV) Fails to provide appropriate and effective sanctions or remedies for violations of the environmental laws of a foreign country.

This authority is very similar to existing authority held by USTR to enforce labor rights around the world.

My support for international trade agreements has always been predicated on the notion that agreements establish a fair, rules-based trading regime. The economy of my state is heavily trade-dependent. Oregon's iconic brands would not exist without strong international trading relationships. Oregon's largest private employer, Intel, is a product of the international market for high-tech products. The Port of Portland's distribution centers alone create 17,000 jobs, \$810 million in wages and other personal income, and \$2.8 billion in business revenues. Ensuring a level playing field in U.S. trading relationships is vital to protecting these jobs and to ensuring public support for a forward-looking, optimistic approach to trade policy.

Allowing our trading partners to derogate from their environmental laws provides an unfair advantage to their businesses and allows those businesses to unfairly undercut U.S. companies, which operate under strong environmental protections. I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that trade remains free and open, but, in incorporating environmental and labor protections, also meets basic expectations of fairness.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE VICTOR
MICELI

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of my friend,

Judge Victor Miceli, who served as Superior Court Judge for Riverside County, California for 15 years and dedicated his life to bettering the community around him. On Thursday, September 16, 2010, Vic passed away at the age of 82 with his wife of 49 years, Bernice, by his side. Though Vic has passed on from this life, he leaves a lasting legacy in Riverside, the community he loved so dearly.

Vic graduated from the University of Pittsburgh Law School in 1952 and went on to serve in the Army as a judge advocate general and later practiced civil law in a private practice. Although he originally hailed from Meadville, Pennsylvania, Vic came to Riverside after having been appointed to the Superior Court bench in 1986 by former California Governor George Deukmejian.

When he retired from the bench in 2001, Vic's work in the community was far from over. Vic turned his focus and efforts to the restoration of downtown Riverside, including the \$24.7 million renovation of the 1903 beaux-arts Riverside Historic Courthouse, which was rededicated in 1998 and complied with new earthquake standards. Vic himself has attributed this as his proudest professional accomplishment. He also advocated for a new federal courthouse in Riverside, and the transfer of the 4th District Court of Appeal, Division Two headquarters from San Bernardino to Riverside. Additionally, he was a dedicated partner in the preservation and continued care of the historic Evergreen Cemetery.

Vic did so much for the community, the term the "Micelian Footprint" was coined, affectionately referring to Vic's ability to positively influence whatever he touched. In fact, 101-year-old retired Appellate Justice John Gabbert called Vic the person who has done more for the community in his lifetime, and said his contributions were "beyond measure."

Despite his passion and gusto, Vic always had a way of charming those around him—and perhaps that is what helped him get so much done. He will be remembered for his great sense of humor and optimistic outlook on life just as much as his drive to accomplish projects and lead others.

Although his career flourished, Vic always put his family first, and set aside time every summer to take his two sons on road trips around the country. His wife remembers him as the kindest and most generous husband.

Vic is survived by his wife and their two sons, Victor Miceli II and John Michael Miceli.

On behalf of all those who knew him, it is an honor to offer these remarks as a tribute to the life and legacy of my friend Victor Miceli. His life and presence will be sorely missed and I extend my condolences to his dear family and friends.

RECOGNIZING THE INDEPENDENCE
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ON
THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 90th Anniversary of the Independence, Missouri Chamber of Commerce, located in my District. History reveals how Independence, the county seat, grew

from a village, to a town, to the fourth largest city in Missouri. Civic leaders joined together to create a forum for the maintenance, growth and economic stability of the city. The Chamber has played a vital role in providing vision which helped to tackle the hard economic problems of the day. Today's Chamber is comprised of a "... partnership of more than 1,200 business and professional people committed to making a difference in the community."

Following its founding in 1920, the Chamber constitution encouraged its members "to promote the civic, economic, and social welfare of the people of Independence and vicinity" with membership open to all interested people. Colonel William Southern, Jr., who began publishing the Jackson Examiner in 1898, served on the original Board of Directors and holds the honor of being the first Board President of the Chamber. Due to the continued quality of leadership, the Chamber's involvement is respected on every issue from legislative initiatives to promoting pride in the city.

Throughout its 90 year history, the Chamber has initiated and supported local programs for economic development, public education, and general community quality of life. Working as a cohesive body with its Board, staff and members, the Chamber strives to provide a better quality of life for its citizens. Historically, they have campaigned to improve infrastructure, stimulate economic growth, annexation, transportation, parks, education and tourism. Through a variety of methods, they have achieved their objectives through bonds, fundraisers or by launching programs to benefit the citizens of Independence. "Put Us to Work" was one program initiated during the depression to coordinate all civic relief efforts and employment assistance for its citizens. We should recognize organizations like the Chamber of Independence as they help our communities find solutions to our current economic challenges.

When Harry S. Truman came home from serving in World War I, he came home to Independence, Missouri. When he was contemplating a run for Eastern District Judge, he went to Col. Southern for support. After serving as President, he once again returned to Independence. The Chamber honored him as a lifetime member of the Independence Chamber in 1945. Later, out of respect and admiration, the Chamber proudly supported fundraising efforts for the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library.

Madam Speaker, please join me in extending my warmest congratulations to Dr. Patty Schumacher, Chair of the Board, and Rick Hemmingsen, Chamber President, for the many accomplishments of the Independence Chamber of Commerce on this, their 90th Anniversary. The Chamber's work and dedication on behalf of the City of Independence has truly bettered our community. I urge my colleagues to join me in showing our appreciation to all its members, past and present.

HONORING THE 5TH STRYKER
BRIGADE

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 29, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 5th Stryker Brigade,