

important legislation was signed into law without delay.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

SOCCER

• **Mr. WYDEN.** Madam President, I would like to honor the city of Portland for hosting its first Major League Soccer All Star game on August 6. Major League Soccer, MLS, has rightly chosen Providence Park and the Portland Timbers as host for their annual All Star event, which this year pits the MLS All Stars against European giants, Bayern Munich.

Soccer City, USA—as Portland fans have dubbed it—rightly deserves to host such a high-profile match. Portland is home to the most passionate fan base in the league for both the Timbers and the inaugural champions of the National Women's Soccer League, the Portland Thorns. Timbers games drew more than 20,000 fans per game last season, and the Thorns averaged over 13,000 for home games. And, of course, I have to mention the awesome banners displayed by Portland fans at Providence Park, which are second to none.

This year, the Timbers' head coach, Caleb Porter, along with players Diego Valeri and Will Johnson, will represent our hometown team for the MLS All Stars. Congratulations to them for making all Oregonians proud. Special thanks should also go to team owner Merritt Paulson, whose hard work getting a team to Portland paid off when he was awarded this great event.

I commend the Portland Timbers, the Portland Thorns, the Timbers Army, and the Rose City Riveters for their stellar community outreach and charity work in Oregon. Whether it is partnering with the Make-A-Wish Foundation, building soccer fields for youth, or collecting school supplies for local schools, the Portland Timbers show they are a first-class organization through their outstanding civic engagement.

I send my congratulations to the MLS players who have made the All Star team and who will represent the league against an international opponent. It is exciting to host Bayern Munich, a team who fields some of the recent World Cup championship players from Germany. I wish both teams good luck in the match, but as the Timbers Army says: "There's no pity in the Rose City!" Go MLS All Stars.●

REMEMBERING IRMA DETIEGE

• **Ms. LANDRIEU.** Madam President, I wish to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the illustrious life of Mrs. Irma Gene Hall DeTiege, who passed on July 1, 2014, after more than five decades of service in the Louisiana community.

Mrs. DeTiege was born in 1931 in Riverton, LA, which had a total popu-

lation of 40, including livestock. From these humble beginnings, she learned lessons of humility and hard work that were embodied throughout her entire life. After moving to Monroe, LA and meeting the love of her life, Frank G. DeTiege, a graduate of Southern University who taught Industrial Arts at Carroll High School, Mrs. DeTiege rode the bus to Grambling College every morning. There she received a bachelor's of science degree in elementary education, which she would later use to become a teacher at Lincoln Elementary School. During her tenure, she created enduring changes in a wide breadth of programs that impacted and improved the lives of almost every individual who attended the school.

In addition to her efforts as a teacher, Mrs. DeTiege worked tirelessly as a newspaper editor, publisher, and columnist for the Monroe News Leader and the Monroe News Weekly before she and Mr. DeTiege founded the Monroe Dispatch in 1975. Mrs. DeTiege had a vision of providing the citizens of Monroe with access to accurate reporting at a time when important information in this community was too often overlooked. Throughout her career, she remained dedicated to ensuring that those in crisis and most in need always had an advocate in the community. In this and in all of her tasks, Irma fought for a community where people are taken care of, no matter their situation in life. She also worked continuously to provide for the prosperity of Louisiana citizens for generations to come. This level of devotion to her craft, the people of Monroe, and the State of Louisiana is indicative of her storied career of service.

Irma was a wonderful friend to me and my family. She was also an inspiration to all those who were impacted by her tireless efforts. It is with my heartfelt and greatest sincerity that I ask my colleagues to join me along with her son Frank and other family members in recognizing the life and many accomplishments of this incredible leader and her impact on so many people throughout Louisiana.●

RECOGNIZING THE DELAWARE 87ERS

• **Mr. COONS.** Madam President, I wish to recognize the National Basketball Association's Developmental League team, the Delaware 87ers and their impact on my community.

In April 2013, Delaware sports fans rejoiced when the Philadelphia 76ers acquired an NBA Development League team, the Utah Flash, and chose to relocate the franchise to Delaware. The Delaware 87ers are named in recognition of Delaware's place in United States history as the first state to ratify the United States Constitution on December 7, 1787, as well as in a nod to the franchise's parent team, the Philadelphia 76ers.

The Sevens promised and delivered a fast-paced, high-scoring NBA brand of

action with the fan-friendliness and affordability for which the NBA Development League is known.

During their inaugural season, the Sevens' success grew, drawing a steady and passionate fan base to the Bob Carpenter Center as they squared off against D-League teams from around the country. Rivalries were built with the Canton Charge, Erie BayHawks, Fort Wayne Mad Ants and the Maine Red Claws.

The passion of the players and coaches, their connection to the community, affordable ticket prices and family-friendly amenities drew thousands of fans to Newark. Head coach Rod Baker and his team, led by fan favorites Thanasis Antetokounmpo, Kendall Marshall, Lorenzo Brown and Vander Blue, finished their first season displaying flashes of brilliance and leaving fans with high hopes for greatness to come.

Even more important than their on-court accomplishments was the team's off-court impact on the community. Prior to their inaugural season, the Sevens unveiled their SEVENS STRONG community initiative, which included revitalizing seven basketball courts in seven days, as well as each of their employees pledging 87 hours of community service throughout the year. Basketball courts that received makeovers included Adams Court, Fraim Boys & Girls Club, Kosciuszko Park, Helen Chambers Park, Tatnall Park, Woodlawn Park and Judy Johnson Park.

Throughout the 2013-14 season, the Sevens attracted more than 38,000 fans and averaged over 2,100 fans for the last eight contests. The attendance increase can undoubtedly be traced back to their commitment to the community and their tireless grassroots presence in Newark, Wilmington, Christiana, Hockessin, Newport, Elsmere and Elkton. Players and the front office staff participated in countless community-based activities including visiting Christiana Care and AI Dupont/Nemours Hospital for Children monthly, partnering with Stubbs Elementary School for a Green Week Challenge, volunteering at the Delaware Food Bank, hosting four non-profit promotions at games: Lyme Disease Awareness Night, B+ Foundation Night, Christiana Care NICU Night and USO Night, participating in more than a dozen community events, and donating over 8,000 tickets to Delaware-based community organizations and charities. The team truly embraced the meaning of community and civic engagement.

We congratulate the Delaware 87ers on a successful season, both on and off the court, and wish them continued success in their second season. We look forward to supporting them as they work to inspire their fans and better our community.●

RECOGNIZING MARIA MATOS AND THE LATIN AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER

• Mr. COONS. Madam President, on behalf of Senator TOM CARPER and myself, I wish to recognize two special occasions in Wilmington, DE happening on September 5, 2014: the 45th anniversary of the Latin American Community Center, LACC, serving the Hispanic community of Delaware as well as to honor the service, dedication and passion of a name synonymous with the service to Delaware's vibrant Hispanic community: Maria Matos.

The LACC's continuum of care promotes education, life skills, and an enhanced quality of life while celebrating diverse Hispanic cultures. The LACC was founded in 1969 in the Hilltop section of Wilmington serving and supporting the community and people that surround it.

Over the last 45 years, the LACC has focused on lifelong learning that concentrates on the educational needs of client families, from quality pre-school programs to adult education; and life empowerment, focusing on the immediate life needs families and individuals may face, from short term case management to a job placement or English language skills.

Since 1994, Maria Matos has been the executive director and driving force behind the LACC. Her impact has been felt not just in the Hispanic community, but throughout Wilmington and New Castle County. She has contributed her leadership skills to such boards as the Medical Center of Delaware, Grand Opera House, Delaware Community Foundation, and Advisory Council for the Fund for Women, as well as at the grassroots level supporting the Hilltop Working Group, an alliance of residents and legislators who work to promote the community's well-being.

In conclusion, we would like to congratulate Ms. Matos on her years of service to the LACC as well as the LACC on its 45 years of service to the community, and wish each of them luck in the future.●

TRIBUTE TO MAJOR GENERAL JAMES LIVINGSTON

• Mr. SCOTT. Madam President, I would like to take a moment today to honor Beaufort, SC resident, Maj. Gen. James E. Livingston, a 33-year U.S. Marine Corps veteran and Medal of Honor recipient, for his tireless service to this country. He is truly an American patriot worthy of our recognition.

Born in Towns, GA, General Livingston knew from a young age that he wanted to serve his country. While enrolled at the Military College of Georgia, he was a member of the nationally recognized Corps of Cadets. After graduating from Auburn University in 1962 with a degree in civil engineering, General Livingston rose through the ranks of the Marine Corps. From Vietnam to

the Philippines and domestically, wherein he was the first commander of the Marine Reserve Forces, General Livingston distinguished himself with exceptional service all over the world. Throughout his long and storied career, General Livingston has made his mark as a man who leads by example.

General Livingston, serving as the operations officer for 3D Battalion, 7th Marines, oversaw Operation Frequent Wind, the evacuation of Saigon. Despite the urgency and chaos of the situation, General Livingston led with poise and professionalism: characteristics that would define his career. Due in large parts to General Livingston's leadership during Operation Frequent Wind, more than 7,000 American civilians and Vietnamese people in a desperate situation were airlifted out of Saigon and to safety.

In 1968, while serving as the commanding officer, Company E, 2d Battalion, 4th Marines, General Livingston led his men on a determined assault on the village of Dai Do, where another Marine company had been isolated the night before when enemy forces seized the village. Despite being twice wounded by grenade fragments, General Livingston refused medical treatment and continued to lead his men across 500 meters of open rice fields. Having reestablished contact with the surrounded Marine Company, General Livingston then learned of a third Marine Company leading an attack on nearby Dinh To village. Marshalling his resources, General Livingston consolidated the two companies and led a support effort to halt the aggressive enemy counter attack from Dinh To. After being wounded a third time and rendered immobile, he remained in the combat zone and supervised the evacuation of his men. Only after his fellow marines were safe did General Livingston allow himself to be evacuated. For his gallantry, bravery, and selflessness, General Livingston was awarded the Medal of Honor from President Richard Nixon in 1970.

In addition to the Medal of Honor, General Livingston also holds the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, the Silver Star, the Superior Service Medal, the Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart. It is because of men like James Livingston that Americans sleep easy at night, knowing they are safe from those who wish to inflict harm upon them.

It is an honor that this Saturday, August 2, General Livingston will be the keynote speaker at my Vietnam Era Veterans Honor Ceremony in Columbia, SC where I will honor more than 1,500 veterans. General Livingston and his fellow veterans deserve to be recognized for their gallant efforts, and it will be my honor to stand with him on this special occasion.

I invite my colleagues to join me in thanking Maj. Gen. James E. Livingston for a life and career dedicated to the protection of this Nation, her ideals, and her citizens.●

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE C. WRIGHT

• Mr. COONS. Madam President, on behalf of Senator TOM CARPER and myself, I wish to honor the exemplary service of the executive director of the Delaware League of Local Governments, George C. Wright and recognize his recent retirement. For over five decades, he has been a tremendous and courageous leader serving in many positions throughout our great State. His hard work, perseverance, and dedication will truly be missed.

Since the 1960s, George has played an active and integral role within Delaware. For six terms, he served as councilman in the town of Smyrna before serving as its mayor for 14 years. Since then, George has been a crucial member and leader of the Delaware League of Local Governments. As he steps down from his position as executive director, we join the many Delawareans he has worked with in thanking him for his diligent efforts to improve and assist local governments through legislative advocacy.

Born in Chesapeake City, MD and educated in the public school system there, George studied at several distinguished universities including Maryland State College in Princess Anne and the University of Delaware. After his graduation, George began his career during the turbulent 1960s as Head Start director in Smyrna, a town that was once denounced by former Attorney General David Buckson as having the worst race relations in the State. George later went on to serve on the town's council and as the chief of staffing at the Dover Air Force Base. In 1981 he was able to overcome many racial barriers in order to become the town of Smyrna and state of Delaware's first African-American mayor.

Most recently, as the executive director of the Delaware League of Local Governments, George has successfully worked with 57 municipalities in Delaware to help forge a common voice across the State. George's work has been nothing short of inspirational and we are sincerely grateful for all that he has done on behalf of the towns, cities and counties in Delaware.

We wholeheartedly thank George for all of the work he has done for local governments of Delaware. His model leadership and dedication has truly touched every corner of our great State. We offer our sincerest congratulations on a job well done and wish him many happy, healthy, and successful years to come.●

EXCEPTIONAL CITIZENS' WEEK

• Ms. AYOTTE. Madam President, I wish to recognize and congratulate the leadership and volunteers of New Hampshire's Exceptional Citizens', EC, Week at Camp Fatima as the program marks its 60th year of providing continuous service to children and adult campers with special needs.

Held every year at Camp Fatima on the picturesque Upper Suncook Lake in