

ALPHA SIGMA TAU CELEBRATES
100TH ANNIVERSARY

• Mr. ABRAHAM. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize an important event that will take place in the state of Michigan. Alpha Sigma Tau, a national sorority, will be celebrating its 100th anniversary this summer.

Alpha Sigma Tau was founded at Michigan State Normal College, (now Eastern Michigan University) Ypsilanti, Michigan on November 4, 1899. The Founding Sisters were: Helene M. Rice, Adiance Rice, May Gehart, Ruth Dutcher, Mayene Tracy, Eva O'Keefe, Mabel Chase and Harriet Marx. Alpha Sigma Tau aims to attract women of good character and spirit. One of the sororities' main goals is scholastic achievement.

Alpha Sigma Tau was nationalized in 1925. There are 59 active collegiate chapters and 3 active existing colonies in the United States. In 1949, the sorority became a National Panhellenic Council member and was represented on the Executive Committee from 1979 until 1985. Alpha Sigma Tau was honored to have a member serve as President from 1983-85. Alpha Sigma Tau National Foundation, founded in 1985, offers a wide variety of scholarships, awards, grants and loans to the sorority sisters. Additionally, the sorority contributes philanthropically to several causes.

The celebration of the 100th anniversary will take place at the Centennial Convention at the Sheraton Inn in Ann Arbor, Michigan from Tuesday, June 23 until Saturday, June 27. The celebration will include over 300 collegiate and alumnae women and their guests. Alpha Sigma Tau will be presenting Eastern Michigan University with a gift to commemorate the occasion. I extend my warmest regards to all who are involved with this celebration.●

MRS. ELLIE MCNAMARA

• Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I rise today with great pleasure to recognize Mrs. Ellie McNamara for a career of exemplary service in Vermont public schools. Her career spans four decades, beginning in 1958 as a fourth grade teacher, and for the last 17 years as principal of the C.P. Smith primary school in Burlington. She will retire at the close of this school year.

There is no better evidence than the work of Mrs. McNamara to the truth of the adage, "There is no substitute for a good teacher."

The devotion with which she met the challenges of teaching and then as a principal won her the hearts and minds of students, faculty and parents alike. She has made a difference.

Even as she moves into retirement she continues to serve as a role model for all of us. I wish her well as she moves into the next stage of her life.

Marcelle and I have known Ellie McNamara, her husband Jim who is a distinguished lawyer and her wonderful

family for decades. Burlington and Vermont are proud of her and her family.

I ask that an article regarding her retirement from the Burlington Free Press be printed in the RECORD.

The article follows:

[From the Burlington Free Press, May 28, 1998]

RETIREMENT IS PRINCIPAL LOSS

(By Anne Geggis)

Guests, gifts and tokens celebrating Ellie McNamara's 17 years leading Burlington's C.P. Smith School keep pouring in as the days of her career run out.

The message they all bring: Don't go.

Wednesday, community members ranging from kindergartners to her now-grown students to Gov. Howard Dean gathered to admire the longtime principal's accomplishments. Janet Breen, a mother of three, wasn't the only wistful attendee.

"She's a wonderful woman, wonderful," Breen said. "I wish she'd retire after my toddler left, but that would be 10 years."

Dean told the assembled crowd that McNamara is the reason his kids are in Burlington schools. Faculty members got teary-eyed talking of the fun she has brought to the New North End elementary school.

"It's a huge loss," sighed Leslie Kaigle, a School Board member from the Old North End who has worked with McNamara on school committees. "Her connections with families, with people . . ."

McNamara, however, remains firm that a career started in 1958 teaching his fourth-grade at the now-demolished Converse School, should come to an end now.

"You should leave while the audience is still clapping," she said, flashing her trademark toothy smile.

The force of a personality that can memorize the names of all 358 of her students and their siblings and parents, is something to be reckoned with. In the space of a half hour Wednesday, she examined a scraped knee, started a purple fleece jacket on the road to a reunion with its owner and watched more than 100 wriggling bodies during lunch.

There's a devilish side, too: She's been known to take her hairdresser's phone calls before the superintendent's. Holding a conversation with her requires that eyes remained fixed on her. Look away for a moment and she's gone around a corner. She's often quoted as saying, "I've got to see you. I'll be back on a minute."

But ask what's planned for C.P. Smith's final assembly on the last day of school, and the frenetic pace of this 62-year-old grandmother of six stills.

"The final assembly . . ." she said, a catch in her voice. Eyes suddenly turn misty. "That's when . . . well, I can't talk about it now."

Linda Dion, who has been school secretary for 16 of McNamara's 17 years, picked up where McNamara left off: "At the end of the assembly, the fifth-graders march out as we sing the C.P. Smith song. This time, Ellie will be marching out behind them."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF THE VILLAGE OF DIMONDALÉ

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the Village of Dimondale, located in Eaton County, Michigan, which will hold its Sesquicentennial celebration from June 26-28, 1998.

Dimondale was established in 1848 by Isaac Dimond, a wealthy former New

York resident who had purchased 4,000 acres of land in Michigan in 1837. Mr. Dimond and his wife, Sarah, left New York for his "wild land" in Michigan in 1840, after poor investments caused them to lose most of their possessions. In 1848, Mr. Dimond built his house on Jefferson Street, and the Dimondale School District was formed, signifying the establishment of the community. Isaac Dimond founded several businesses in Dimondale, including a saw mill, a general store and a grist mill. In 1860, Isaac Dimond returned to New York, where he died in 1862.

Today's residents of Dimondale are proud to celebrate the history and heritage of Isaac Dimond and the village he created 150 years ago. During the Sesquicentennial festivities, Dimondale residents are encouraged to dress in period clothing while participating in a family picnic and watching a baseball game featuring the Kent Base Ball Club of Grand Rapids, Michigan, which has been in existence for 130 years and which plays by the rules the game followed in the 1800s.

Mr. President, I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating the residents of Dimondale, Michigan, on this special occasion.●

JOEL BARLOW, DIPLOMAT AND
PATRIOT

• Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, I rise to honor one of America's earliest diplomats and a distinguished native of Connecticut, Joel Barlow. On June 28, in a modest ceremony, a bronze biographical tablet will be dedicated to Barlow in the churchyard of the tiny village of Zarnowiec, Poland, where Barlow died and was laid to rest in 1812. The event is organized and the tablet donated by the Joel Barlow Memorial Fund, in cooperation with the American Center of Polish Culture and DACOR, Diplomatic and Consular Officers Retired (of the U.S. State Department).

Joel Barlow was born in 1754 and raised in Redding, Connecticut. His ancestors were among the earliest settlers of the region. After graduating from Yale University in 1778, he took an additional Divinity course and joined George Washington's army as a chaplain, serving for three years until the end of the Revolution. He slipped home from his army duties long enough to marry Ruth Baldwin, the sister of a Yale classmate. They married in secret because of her father's initial objection.

At the close of the war in 1782, the couple moved to Hartford, where Barlow helped publish the magazine "American Mercury," writing political pamphlets, satires, and poetry. He was one of a group of satirical writers, mostly Yale men, known as the "Hartford Wits." At that time, he also completed and published the first version of his American verse epic, "The Vision of Columbus." It is said that in this work, he was the first writer in English