

Phil was a graduate of DeLaSalle High School and earned a bachelor's degree in business administration from Rockhurst College. He served 11 years in the Missouri House and 16 years in the State Senate before retiring in 1998.

I had the distinct honor of serving with Phil in the Missouri General Assembly, where his tenure was marked by excellence and community involvement and where I learned important lessons about public leadership from him. Phil was always regarded highly by everyone he interacted with, including his contemporaries as well as older and younger politicians. Through his public service, Phil helped to shape the course that the city and State has taken.

Phil was deeply involved in Freedom, Inc., making sure the community he loved had the political power necessary to bring about positive change. In addition to Freedom, Inc., Phil was involved in so many organizations and had so many achievements and awards that it would be very difficult to list them all. I can, however, state with total certainty that Phil left a permanent mark on Kansas City and will be fondly remembered and dearly missed.

With Phil's passing, we have lost a prolific public servant and a passionate individual. I will miss him as a close friend. Phil is survived by his wife of 43 years, Councilwoman Melba Curls; daughter Monica; sons Phil II, Michael, Quincy and Louis; four grandchildren; and a large extended family.

Mr. President, I ask that the Senate join me in honoring the life and legacy of Phil B. Curls, Sr. ●

2007 WE THE PEOPLE NATIONAL FINALS

● Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, from April 28-30, 2007, more than 1,200 students from across the country visited Washington, DC to take part in the National Finals of the We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution competition. Administered by the Center for Civic Education, the We the People program is funded by the U.S. Department of Education by Act of Congress, and is an innovative national educational program developed to educate young people about the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

Sixteen outstanding students from West Anchorage High School of Anchorage, AK, through their knowledge of the U.S. Constitution, won their statewide competition and earned the chance to come to Washington, DC, and compete at the national level. I am proud to announce that these talented young people won the Region One: Western States Award at this prestigious national event. The regional awards are presented to one class from each of the five geographic regions that has the highest cumulative score during the first 2 days of competition.

While in Washington, the students participated in a 3-day academic com-

petition that simulates a congressional hearing in which they "testify" before a panel of judges. Students demonstrate their knowledge and understanding of constitutional principles as they evaluate, take, and defend positions on relevant historical and contemporary issues.

The We the People competition is a rigorous program and students enter prepared to answer tough questions, some of which Americans have been debating since the Constitution was ratified. For example, participants in this year's competition were asked to evaluate the following constitutional principles: States rights—Evaluate the proposal in the Virginia Plan to give Congress the power to strike down state laws that it considered to be in violation of the national constitution or of the national interest; The rights of the individual—Evaluate the anti-Federalist argument that a bill of rights is as necessary to defend an individual against the majority in a republic as against the king in a monarchy; equal protection—How, if at all, is the concept of equal protection of the laws related to the natural rights philosophy and the idea of a social contract? America's role as an example to other countries—Which aspects of American constitutional democracy have been the most influential in other countries?

I am so proud to recognize the outstanding students from West Anchorage High School, this year's We the People Region One winners:

Kristin Baylon, Justin Birchell, Kathryn Braden, Chloe Cotton, Taylor Evenson, Emmaus Finau, Colby Gerik, Matthew Legacki, Elyse Lindsay, Patrick Marcil, Sara Perman, Molly Quinn, Leyna Rynearson, Henrik Strand, Chandra Suriano, and Brianna Thompson.

I also wish to commend the teacher of the class, Pamela Orme, who is responsible for preparing these young constitutional experts for the National Finals. Also worthy of special recognition is Maida Buckley, the state coordinator, and Todd Heuston, the district coordinator, who are among those responsible for implementing the We the People program in Alaska.

I congratulate these students on their exceptional achievement at the We the People National Finals. ●

HONORING ISADORE ERWIN MILLSTONE

● Mrs. MCCASKILL. Mr. President, I ask the Senate to join me in recognizing Isadore Erwin "I.E." Millstone of Saint Louis, MO. It is an honor to celebrate I.E.'s centennial birthday and to pay tribute to all that he has accomplished in his 100 years. Through his business and philanthropic interests, Mr. Millstone has helped shape the course of the city of Saint Louis over the past century.

Born on January 6, 1907, in North Saint Louis, I.E. graduated from Sol-

dan High School in 1923. He then continued his education at Washington University in St. Louis, studying architecture and engineering, and graduating in 1927.

During his life, I.E. has been an integral member and patriarch of the Saint Louis community. He is a life member of the United Hebrew Congregation in Saint Louis, where he earned money as a child checking hats and coats, and served as global president of the World Federation of YMHA's and Jewish Community Centers Association.

Following the Great Depression, I.E. formed Millstone Construction Company with his wife and became involved in the creation of many landmarks throughout the Saint Louis area—due in part to his revolutionary use of reinforced concrete. These projects include the old Busch Stadium, Highway 40, and the Jewish Community center in Creve Coeur. As the city is being redeveloped, both the old Busch Stadium and Highway 40 are being transformed to serve a new generation, but the original structures are forever a part of the city's history.

A giant among men, I.E. demonstrates a passion that does not lie solely in building Saint Louis from a physical standpoint. As a dedicated philanthropist, I.E. has supported many causes, including funding a program to support nearly 60 scholarships at Washington University in St. Louis. His dedication to helping others, however, is not limited to the Saint Louis area. Following World War II, I.E. joined a small group of builders to help the new State of Israel construct emergency housing for thousands of immigrants, many of whom were Holocaust survivors.

Mr. President, I ask that the Senate join me in honoring I.E. Millstone for 100 years of dedicated service to Saint Louis and to the world. I am proud to recognize this extraordinary Missourian and wish him many more healthy and happy years to come. ●

HONORING LYMAN MORSE BOATBUILDING

● Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize for the week of May 13 an outstanding small business from my home State of Maine that has not only succeeded in manufacturing a product of great quality, but has also made its facilities environmentally friendly and energy efficient. Lyman Morse Boatbuilding of Thomaston, ME has produced boats for over 100 years. Noted for their expert craftsmanship and storied history, Lyman Morse has a proven track record of quality and success. In their great spirit of innovation, Lyman Morse will be unveiling, on May 26, a "green"—or energy efficient—boat-building facility, and I want to take this opportunity to commend them for this fabulous attempt at conservation.

Lyman Morse's new "green" building is a temperature-controlled facility