

Friendship Industries has been a pioneer in the community since its inception. The mission of the nonprofit social service agency is to develop and maintain employment and training opportunities for persons with disabilities. Clients of the agency begin with a program called Work Adjustment. This program assists trainees with disabilities in their adjustment to a real work environment occurring within a supportive and sheltered atmosphere. The individual learns appropriate work behaviors and skills while developing the highest productivity internally as a sheltered employee, and sometimes gets placed into competitive or supported jobs in the community.

Friendship Industries started with 8 young men with mental retardation and has since grown to provide services for over 120 men and women with differing degrees of mental retardation, mental illness, and/or physical illness. The agency's financial contribution to the community has increased as well. Starting with a mere \$20,000, the budget of Friendship Industries now approaches \$4 million. It employs 20 staff to run the program, and contributes over \$3.6 million to the Harrisonburg area through wages, contract services and job training and services.

Mr. David Flick, president of Friendship Industries since 1976, has been instrumental in the growth and success of the program. With his leadership, the agency has expanded the access and breadth of the program by providing transportation to interested trainees and by forming a network of friendly area companies. I commend David for his unwavering support and passion for helping the disabled get back to work in the Shenandoah Valley.

I congratulate Friendship Industries on 40 years of dedication to improving the lives of persons with disabilities, and wish them continued success for many more years.●

TRIBUTE TO BILL MARTIN

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator STABENOW and myself, I rise to bring tribute to Ann Arbor, MI, resident Bill Martin. On May 2 of this year, the Jewish Federation of Washtenaw County will confer their Humanitarian Award on Bill Martin as an outstanding member of the community.

Throughout his life, Bill Marin has dedicated himself, publicly and privately, to projects that involve, concern, and benefit the community. When the Ann Arbor public schools needed extra funds for school projects, Bill implemented the very successful 3-on-3 Superball basketball tournament. He rallied a group of craftsmen to rebuild State ranger cabins on Isle Royale and joined in the effort. And he answered the calls of both the University of Michigan Athletic Department and the United States Olympic Committee when they were engulfed in turmoil and scandal.

Bill Martin has been director of Intercollegiate Athletics at the Univer-

sity of Michigan since 2000. Martin has also served as the president of the United States Olympic Committee. An avid sailor, Bill Martin has also served as president of the United States Sailing Foundation, as well as the U.S. Sailing Association.

In 1968, Bill Martin founded First Martin Corporation, a diversified real estate construction, development and management firm. He is also the founder and chairman of the board of Bank of Ann Arbor.

Bill Martin's devotion to his community ranges beyond business and athletics. He has served as president of the Washtenaw Land Conservancy, and has been a board member of the Ann Arbor Public Schools Foundation and the Washtenaw Technical Middle College. He has been a member of the advisory board of U-M's Center for the Education of Women and served on the Fales Committee of the U.S. Naval Academy. He is currently on the board of directors of New York 2012, working to bring the Olympic Games to New York City.

He has been awarded numerous awards including the U.S. Olympic Committee Award for outstanding service to the U.S. Olympic Committee and America's athletes, the Nathaniel G. Herreshoff Trophy for outstanding contribution to the sport of sailing, the Bob Ufer Distinguished M Club Award, and "Ann Arbor News' Citizen of the Year for his service and contributions to the community.

Martin earned a bachelor of arts degree from Wittenberg University, a graduate degree in economics from the University of Stockholm, and a MBA from the University of Michigan.

Bill and his wife Sally have lived in Ann Arbor since 1967 when they met as students. They have two grown sons, Seth and Michael.

Senator STABENOW and I are delighted to have the opportunity to pay tribute to Bill Martin for all of his contributions to his community and congratulate him on his upcoming honor from the Jewish Federation of Washtenaw County.●

BSU NATIONAL DEBATE AND SPEECH CHAMPS

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize Boise State University's outstanding debate and speech team, the Talkin' Broncos, who captured the national title at the Biennial Pi Kappa Delta National Tournament in St. Louis on March 20. The open tournament is the Nation's oldest and largest team competition among 4-year schools with forensics programs. More than 470 competitors representing 72 schools and 29 States participated in the event. The 14-member championship team also brought home an impressive 22 individual awards.

Many in this Chamber appreciate the importance of speech and debate in the business of government. Forensic skills translate into effective communica-

tion, and not just in politics. These young women and men have developed techniques that will serve them throughout their lives, no matter what career they decide to pursue. They have demonstrated exceptional oratory capabilities and the quick and incisive thinking needed to communicate ideas and persuade others of the merits of their opinions in an expeditious manner.

I congratulate all the students on the team as well as their coaches and head coach Marty Most. I would especially like to recognize John Petty, national champion in the broadcast journalism division; and Lacey Rammell-O'Brien and Nancy Henke for their recognition as two of only nine All-Americans. Over the years, Boise State has firmly established itself as a national force for forensics, and the fact that most of the students on the team are from Idaho high schools is a fine testament to the strength of the secondary academic programs in my home state. This national title is especially noteworthy, and I am proud to honor Boise State University's tremendous achievement in the United States Senate today.●

IN RECOGNITION OF HARRY VINES

● Mrs. LINCOLN. Mr. President, today I rise to pay tribute to Arkansas Harry Vines, president of the National Wheelchair Basketball Association.

The National Wheelchair Basketball Association is the largest and oldest wheelchair sports organization in the world. Established in Champagne, IL, in 1948, the National Wheelchair Basketball Association has provided opportunities for individuals with physical disabilities to learn to play and compete in the game of basketball. For more than 50 years, thousands of individuals ranging from young children to disabled war veterans have benefited from the programs of the National Wheelchair Basketball Association.

Harry Vines of Sherwood, AR, has served as the National Wheelchair Basketball Association president since 2001. Mr. Vines is well known in Arkansas for his many volunteer activities. He has served as the coach of the Arkansas Rollin' Razorbacks, a wheelchair basketball team that he helped established in 1978. In addition, Mr. Vines has coached the U.S. Wheelchair Basketball team four times in international competition and served in numerous administrative roles in the organization over the past 28 years.

On April 9, 2005, Mr. Vines, as the National Wheelchair Basketball Association President, will present the first series of National Wheelchair Basketball Association Spirit Awards in Phoenix, AZ. The Spirit Award recognizes the work of the many volunteers and organizations that support the National Wheelchair Basketball Association. The 2005 Spirit Award recipients are Evelyn Bologna of Lexington, KY; Jim Hayes of Arlington, TX; Tim Stout of