them the best of luck in what I am sure will be bright futures.

Madam President, I ask to have an article from the Burlington Free Press detailing their accomplishments be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

TWO REACH APEX IN MATH COMPETITION, ESSEX, RUPERT TEENS AMONG NATION'S BEST

(By Matt Ryan)

Six congruent circles are arranged inside a larger circle so that each small circle is tangent to two other small circles and is tangent to the large circle. The radius of the large circle is 2007 centimeters. Find the radius of the small circles.

For Colin Sandon of Essex and David Rolnick of Rupert, this problem was preparation for a series of increasingly selective math competitions. The two high schoolers placed in the Top 12—Sandon tied for first place—in the country's highest pre-collegiate math competition last week. They will try out in June for a national, six-person math team that will compete internationally in Madrid.

Sandon, 18, and Rolnick, 16, are the first Vermont students to place in the Top 12 at the U.S. Mathematical Olympiad in at least a decade, according to the Mathematical Association of America. Anthony Trono, who has been training Vermont's math prodigies since he retired from teaching at Burlington High School in 1992, said, as far as he knew, they were the state's first students to accomplish the feat. The Olympiad began in 1974.

Trono, 80, of Colchester conceived the sample problem above and provided The Burlington Free Press its solution: 669 centimeters. Four times a year, he mails a sample exam with eight such problems to Vermont's high schools to test the waters for up-and-coming whizzes. The problems, like those found on exams for the American Math Competition, the American Invitational Math Exam and the Olympiad—the three tiers of the national math tournament through which Sandon and Rolnick advanced—involve applications up to pre-calculus.

''Some of these problems aren't even algebra, it's just arithmetic, but you gotta use your head to solve them,'' Trono said. ''They usually have to prove something is true, derive some kind of formula, or solve a very, very complex problem.''

During the course of the tournament, the field narrowed from 500,000 students—including some from Canada—to the 500 who competed in the Olympiad.

Students in the competitions generally take the exams at their high schools. Sandon took his at Essex High School and Rolnick, who is homeschooled, took his at Middlebury College. Students were allotted 4 1/2 hours on two consecutive days to complete the Olympiad's six problems. The highest scorer, Sandon, a senior, and Rolnick, a junior, have been accepted to and plan to enroll at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the fall.

''I'm kind of nervous, because I've never been away from home for more than a month, and MIT will be my home for the next four years,'' Sandon said. ''On the other hand, I'll get to meet new people there and take more challenging classes.''

Sandon has sought more challenging classes since elementary school.

The Vermont State Math Coalition discovered Sandon when he was in first grade. Engineers and physicists from IBM tutored the boy for the next few years, as his capacity for math exceeded that of his teachers. He finished pre-calculus in sixth grade, and began taking courses at the University of Vermont three years ago. His course load includes calculus III, linear algebra, graph theory and number theory.

His goal was to crack the Top 12 in the Olympiad.

''I felt like I had done pretty well, but I didn't think I had done that well,'' Sandon said.

His parents, Peter and Maureen Sandon, an engineer at IBM and a retired home economics teacher, respectively, said the announcement surprised them, too.

''We had a message on our answering machine,'' Maureen Sandon said. ''I said, 'Wait a minute, what did this message say?' I must have replayed it three times.''

Peter Sandon said his son left him behind ''quite a while ago'' in math.

''I used to play chess with him, too, and I used to be able to beat him,'' Peter Sandon said. ''And now I can't.''

Colin Sandon said he enjoys strategy games, and also likes to read science fiction and fantasy.

THE RENAISSANCE MAN

Rolnick said he also enjoys strategy games—as well as hiking; tennis; word play; reading; writing; talking; listening to classical composers, such as Bach, Beethoven, Haydn, Schubert and Tchaikovsky; and studying moths.

Tiny white moths are boring, Rolnick said. He prefers the variety of larger moths with scarlets, violets, yellows, greens, silvers and golds.

''I have had the fortune to grow up in a household with parents who did not cause me to be afraid of insects,'' Rolnick said. He blasted the ''societal prejudice against insects'' that assumes all bugs ''bite, sting or eat furniture.''

Rolnick sees beauty in moths and math.

''Geometry I find easier to talk about,'' Rolnick said. ''I love the way that things that are true, really are true.''

''If you have a triangle, and you join the vertices to the midpoints of the opposite side, you come up with three lines. Those lines will come to a point—those three lines will always meet—and I find that very beautiful.''

Problem solving becomes increasingly important as students advance through the competitions, Rolnick said.

''For all the problems, there is a certain amount of thinking and puzzling that is absolutely necessary,'' Rolnick said.

''It is absolutely hard,'' he said of the Olympiad. ''It is meant to be hard, even for professional mathematicians.''

TRONO RETIRES

Sandon and Rolnick attended the Governor's Institute in Mathematical Sciences, a week-long residential program for students held at UVM during the summer.

Trono has directed the institute and run the Vermont State Mathematics Coalition Talent Search—for which he mails high schools his sample exams—since the early 1990s. He said he will retire from the institute this year.

''This has been a terrific year for me to go out,'' Trono said.

He said he has 10,000 ''super, very good problems''—those that did not make the cut for previous sample exams—to give his successors a head start.●

REMEMBERING ROBERT LEENEY

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Madam President, New Haven has lost a friend, a neighbor, and a teacher, with the passing of Robert Leeney, the longtime editor of the New Haven Register. In his career at the Register, Bob informed, educated, and entertained us in many roles, including as an editorial writer, reporter, book editor, Broadway columnist, and theatre critic.

Bob's weekly column in the paper, the ''Editor's Note''—which he remarkably wrote from April 6, 1974 to April 7, 2007, without missing even a single week—was a must-read column that brightened up our Saturday mornings. Evident in his writing was his love of New Haven, often reminding us what we may have missed, and through him it is true to say that our love of New Haven increased.

In his columns, Bob rarely strayed from local nonpolitical topics, but when he did it was often to remind us about the greatness of our country, the value of service, or to urge politicians to look beyond partisan politics. And Bob always did this with a grace and delivery that ensured his words made their impact.

His writing often brought to life, and made us yearn for, an earlier age. In his last July 4th column, published on June 30, 2007, for instance, Bob wrote about the celebrations in the 1920s. It was a time, he wrote, when: ''In every family, the youngsters were chipping in long-saved nickels and dimes to build a fireworks fund for the front porch displays that illuminated streets and lawns, beaches and boat docks in salute to American independence and the personal freedom it signified for all the world.''

Just as Bob's professional life was marked by his scholarship and talented writing and reporting, his personal life, too, was marked by his dedication to New Haven and to his being the consummate gentleman. His service to our community did not end with his journalism, and in his spare time he served our community in many roles. Indeed, his life was twinned with that of New Haven, especially in its artistic and religious life.

To give just a few examples of his extensive public service, Bob served as vice president of the New Haven Arts Council and on the city committee that worked to reopen the Shubert. Once the theatre was reopened, he served on its board.

His interests and service was not limited to the arts. Bob served as a director of the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce and was a member of the State Education Commission's Connecticut Education Council. He also sat on the committee tasked with establishing a Holocaust memorial, as well as on other committees.

Bob was a religious man, and in recognition for his service to the Catholic Church, Pope John Paul II appointed him a Knight of St. Gregory. Bob also received numerous other awards, including Connecticut Anti-Defamation League's First Amendment Freedoms Award—of which he was the first ever recipient.

It can be said about Bob that he left our society better off for the wisdom

and humanity he taught us both in his writings, in his personal life of honor, and in his public service.

Bob's wife Anne passed away in 1990, and I remember him writing that after she died he went to bed and ''touched the pillow where the moonlight and the memory fused and whispered, 'Much ado about nothing, old girl'—and went to sleep.'' Hadassah and I extend our condolences to his family, the Register, and the entire community. We will miss you, Bob.●

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL LIFE GROUP OF VERMONT

● Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, I would like to recognize the National Life Group of Vermont for the impact this company is having in the field of renewable energy, energy efficiency, and environmental stewardship in my State of Vermont. National Life, a Fortune 1000 financial services and insurance firm based in Montpelier, is actively moving forward with a significant solar project at its headquarters.

National Life announced in May that it will install 240 300-watt solar panels on the roof of its Montpelier headquarters. This will be one of the largest, if not the largest, solar electric installations in Vermont. The solar panels are expected to be installed and running by September, and they estimate that the system will generate 77,767 kilowatt-hours a year. The 72 kW Photovoltaic, PV, system will generate enough electricity to power 13 average Vermont homes.

The $500,000 project will be financed in part through a $200,000 grant from the State of Vermont's Clean Energy Development Fund, which is administered by the Department of Public Service.

National Life has contracted Solar Works of Montpelier to handle the installation. Solar Works is the leading solar electric systems provider in the Northeast.

National Life is also working on a separate proposal to install a solar hot water system at the building. Both solar projects are part of a larger plan, begun 5 years ago, to transform the company's Montpelier headquarters into a ''green'' campus. An important plan objective will be realized at the end of 2008, when the company expects to win a coveted LEED certification. LEED—Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design—is the nationally accepted benchmark for the design, construction, and operation of high-performance green buildings. Impressively, experts say LEED certification for National Life's headquarters would be the first for a 50-year-old facility anywhere in the Nation.

Tom MacLeay, the CEO of National Life, has driven this entire green initiative. A Vermont native who has worked at National Life for 32 years, Tom recently announced that he would be retiring at the end of this year. It is certainly worth noting that the company's commitment to environmental leadership is a testimony to his vision of the ways in which business can help achieve a secure environmental future for this Nation.

Solar is not the only area in which National Life has shown its environmental stewardship. Every 10 days National Life sends its shredded paper to Fairmont Farms, a dairy farm in East Montpelier, to be used as bedding for the cows and mixed into fertilizer for the fields. In 2007 they recycled 64 percent of their waste, including paper, plastic, shredded material, aluminum, metal, food composting, and computer equipment.

In 2007 National Life transformed the offices of its Human Resources Department into a showcase for leading-edge green technology, using carpet with no volatile organic compounds, VOC, occupancy sensors, glass walls and automatic window blinds that allow light to pass through while keeping the heat out in the summer and the cold out in the winter. The new lighting technology put in place at its headquarters—with fixtures that are 95 percent efficient compared to the 50-percent efficiency of existing fixtures—will cut the company's electric bill in half.

The company's Alternate Transportation Program offers incentives such as free bike tuneups, gas cards, free bus passes, and shoe discounts for those who carpool, bike, use bus service, or walk or run to and from work.

These accomplishments are not just environmentally sound, they illustrate smart business decisions. By reducing its greenhouse gas emissions, Vermont Life is cutting its electric bills and saving serious money too. And by pushing the boundaries of what can be done, it is setting an example for other companies.

What they are accomplishing with solar energy in Vermont, which is not a particularly sunny State, demonstrates what is possible to achieve right now if the will is there to carry it through.

Mr. President, I look forward to the day when renewable energy and conservation have become so commonplace in our society that they are no longer looked upon as being unusual or path-breaking but are seen as totally ordinary, a normal part of the landscape. When that day comes, and I believe that it will, we will be able to look back to a handful of environmentally aware companies, such as National Life, that helped show us the way toward our sustainable energy society.●

HONORING RAYE'S MUSTARD MILL

● Ms. SNOWE. Madam President, today I wish to recognize a small business from my home State of Maine whose roots spring from both our State's seafaring heritage and agricultural legacy. Raye's Mustard Mill in Eastport has long provided locals with the perfect condiment to top almost any meal from the once traditional sardine to the timeless summer classic of burgers and hot dogs.

Raye's Mustard, founded in 1900 by J. Wesley Raye, has been operating at its current location in Eastport, America's easternmost city, since 1903, when a young Wes Raye decided to move out of the family smokehouse and into a more commercially viable location. When the company's mustard was first produced, it provided the perfect complement to the sardines being caught and consumed by Maine fishermen. While times have changed, Raye's mustard has consistently remained a Maine culinary staple. It has continued to accompany new dishes while it is still made using many of the same techniques that Mr. Raye employed over 100 years ago. Indeed, Raye's is the only remaining traditional stone ground mustard mill in America, and the firm uses a time-honored cold grind method for preparing its product, slowly grinding mustard seeds and other ingredients together using massive pieces of stone.

Raye's distinctive technique has succeeded in producing numerous award-winning mustards that have been recognized by culinary organizations nationwide. Raye's 21 mustard varieties have been featured in publications, including ''Martha Stewart Living'' and ''Yankee Magazine.'' With varieties ranging from the Downeast Schooner, Raye's classic yellow mustard; to more innovative flavors, like the spicy Heavenly Jalapeno, the firm has managed to produce mustards to satisfy any palate. Furthermore, its special line of select mustards provide a hint of Maine in every jar, as the company has partnered with local restaurants and breweries to produce signature items such as Raye's Jameson Tavern Style and Raye's Sea Dog Beer Mustard.

While Raye's Mustard is sold in stores regionally and worldwide via the internet, just as unchanging as the mustard itself are the Mustard Mill and The Pantry Store, Raye's on-site retail location. In fact, in 2006, these Eastport institutions garnered the Maine Tourism Association's Down East and Acadia Regional Tourism Award. Tours of the mill give visitors the opportunity to learn about the history of one of the most universal food products in the world and to see first hand the valiant spirit and commitment to quality that have driven Raye's to the impressive heights that it has achieved.

In addition to the respect that I have for Raye's Mustard Mill as a small family-owned business, I also have a great personal esteem for its fourth generation of owners. I have long known Kevin and Karen Raye as friends and colleagues, and I have been particularly pleased to see the successes they have achieved since Kevin left Capitol Hill after serving as chief of staff for many years. It is with great admiration that I wish Raye's Mustard the