

HONORING MARGARET MEHRING

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, thank you for this opportunity to speak today about my dear friend Margaret Mehring, who passed away on July 3, 2008. Margaret was someone that we all want to—and need to—remember. She was an educator, filmmaker and author. She was a political activist, fighting against the McCarthy era excesses and standing firm for the freedoms we cherish in this country.

She also worked hard to help Native Americans tell their own stories, with her work being expanded to the founding of the Media Training Development Program for Tribal College around the country. She managed political campaigns and even wrote a pamphlet about running grassroots campaigns that I got into the hands of top Democrats in Washington. How many of her lessons are finding their way into this election, I often wonder.

Margaret Mehring was all this and much, much more. She was a friend, a mentor, an always present conscience to many of us in this room. Margaret and I became friends when my late husband Walter was beginning his improbable run for Congress. That was back in 1994. Long before most people even knew who Walter was, Margaret was one of his strongest supporters. She and Walter—and I—connected on a very deep level. She understood the importance of building a community of hope and purpose. But she also knew the value of organizing a community around an idea or, in this case, a person and political movement. Margaret dedicated herself to organizing and turning out the vote for Walter so he would be elected to Congress.

She was someone who really recognized the importance of grassroots organizing, mobilizing a community, and turning out the vote. She was instrumental in galvanizing many of her friends and neighbors to support Walter's, and later my, candidacy. And I will always be deeply grateful to the tireless work she devoted to my campaigns.

But what makes me remember Margaret and miss her was larger than the help she provided Walter and me, as important as that was.

Margaret's work was dedicated as much to strengthening our democratic traditions and our civil society as it was to any one candidate. She was concerned about the vitality of our democracy and the health of our society. Ensuring that we leave this wonderful Earth a better place than we found it was what drove her every day. Clearly Margaret was a valuable member of the Democratic party, but more importantly she was an asset to the Democratic process.

I will miss Margaret dearly, I already do. But I carry with me—every day—the lessons of her commitment to her community, her dedication to making the world a better place. It is a source of strength and a constant inspiration to me. Thank you for letting me offer my thoughts today.

IN TRIBUTE TO JIM KROG

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Ms. CASTOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of a great Floridian and American, James Byron "Jim" Krog. The State of Florida suffered a great loss on September 4, 2008, when he passed away.

Mr. Krog devoted a large part of his professional career to public service. Krog served as chief of staff for the Honorable Lawton Chiles, Governor of Florida, with a landmark new commitment to children's healthcare. He also worked as a top aide to Governor Reubin Askew. He started in government relations in Tallahassee, which he returned to after working for Governor Chiles. As a founding member of the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists, he recognized the importance of improving the public image of his profession. Known for being a congenial man with a great sense of humor, Mr. Krog would battle against a political rival in the Capitol and then meet him or her afterwards to laugh it off.

A Tampa native and graduate of the University of South Florida, Mr. Krog made time each semester to return to his alma mater to offer advice and encouragement to students interested in beginning a career in government or politics. After students graduated and came to Tallahassee to start jobs, he would mentor them. Now hundreds of USF students are working in government and public policy. They are a living legacy of his dedication to public service.

Madam Speaker, Jim Krog will be greatly missed by the State of Florida. My thoughts are with his wife, Louella, and his son, Christopher.

IN HONOR OF 2008 HISPANIC
HERITAGE MONTH**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 2008 Hispanic Heritage Month, as we celebrate the members of this community and their invaluable contributions to the Greater Cleveland Area and to our country. I also rise in honor of Senator Kenneth McClintock, and in recognition of his immeasurable accomplishments as President of the Puerto Rican Senate. Senator McClintock is the keynote speaker at the kick-off ceremony of the 2008 Hispanic Heritage Month in Cleveland, Ohio.

Hispanic Heritage Month celebrates and illuminates the significant contributions that Americans of Hispanic heritage have made in all aspects of American culture. Hispanic Americans have contributed immeasurably to the fields of law, medicine and education, and have shared their diverse and rich culture with us all through fine arts and music. Americans of Hispanic descent have served our country in numerous ways—as elected officials, teachers, musicians, veterans, community activists, and dedicated employees in virtually every sector of the economy. Their longstanding

commitment to social justice and to sharing their diverse culture with friends and neighbors has been an invaluable addition to Cleveland's diverse social fabric.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and in celebration of this year's Hispanic Heritage Month and in recognition of Senator Kenneth McClintock for his dedication to public service. I am deeply grateful for the outstanding contributions made by Hispanic Americans in my district and around the country.

COMMEMORATING THE 60TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF FATHER DUENAS
MEMORIAL SCHOOL**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Ms. BORDALLO, Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the students, administrators, staff and alumni of Father Duenas Memorial School, FDMS, as they celebrate the school's 60th anniversary. Founded in 1948, by Bishop Apollinaris Baumgartner, OFM Cap., as an institution to prepare young men for the priesthood, FDMS has evolved to a 4 year college preparatory high school rooted in the Catholic faith.

FDMS was named to honor the memory of Father Jesus Baza Duenas, the second Chamorro to be ordained a Catholic priest. Father Duenas was beheaded by Imperial Japanese military forces on July 11, 1944, only 10 days before the liberation of Guam. The school was built in Tai, Mangilao, in the area where Father Duenas and his cousin Edward were executed. The school mascot, a "friar", is significant as the school has been managed and staffed over the years by religious orders, namely, the Stigmatines, Capuchins, and Marist Brothers.

FDMS has a strong record of academic excellence and athletic achievement. Many of its alumni have excelled and succeeded in their pursuit of higher education in post secondary institutions, including the military service academies and numerous colleges and universities. From its humble beginnings as a five room seminary, the school had grown in size with more classrooms, science laboratories and the recently opened Phoenix Center that serves as a multipurpose complex housing a gym, an auditorium, weight training room, and additional classrooms. The Phoenix Center is also used as a venue to host other performances and civic events for the island community.

Through the years Father Duenas Memorial School has produced distinguished alumni which include leaders in government and the business community, members of the clergy, servicemen in the United States Armed Services, judges, lawyers, doctors, dentists, and educators. Father Duenas Memorial School's most distinguished graduate is the Metropolitan Archbishop Anthony Sablan Apuron, DD, OFM Cap.

It is the heritage and testament of its students, their parents, administration, faculty staff, and alumni that continue to show the character and success of Father Duenas Memorial School. As the school celebrates its 60 Years of Excellence, I congratulate Archbishop

Anthony Apuron, Father Duenas Memorial School Principal, Mr. William Roth, the faculty and staff, and the various orders and laypeople who have educated many of Guam's outstanding young men since October 1, 1948. May Father Duenas Memorial School enjoy many more years of service to our community.

HONORING ANDREW NELSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Andrew Nelson of Smithville, Missouri. Andrew is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1360, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Andrew has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Andrew has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Andrew Nelson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING CHARLOTTE WILLIAMS

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Charlotte Williams as she receives the first "Making Democracy Work" Award from the Flint Michigan League of Women Voters.

The League will honor Charlotte at an event on Wednesday, September 17th in Flint.

The League of Women Voters gives the "Making Democracy Work" Award to a Flint female community leader. Charlotte Williams was chosen to be the first recipient. Charlotte was elected as a Genesee County Commissioner in 1968. She was the first black female elected to the position. She went on to become the first female Chair of the Board. She became active in the National Association of Counties and served on several State and local committees. Her work with the National Association of Counties culminated in being elected president of that body in July 1978, and she served one term. Charlotte also chaired a workshop at a White House Conference on "Balanced Growth and Economic Development" and contributed to White House briefings during the terms of four Presidents. She retired from the Board of Commissioners in 1980.

Charlotte is the Vice Chairperson of the Board of Stewards at Quinn Chapel AME Church and has been an active member for

40 years. She has also worked as a Home Counselor in the Mott Foundation program and taught Bishop sewing classes.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to stand and applaud the work of one of the pioneers for political equality, Charlotte Williams. I commend her for her courage, insight, and work to improve the quality of life in Genesee County. May she continue her work for many, many years to come.

IN SYMPATHY FOR THE LOSS OF
FORMER KIRKWOOD MAYOR
MIKE SWOBODA

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a man of passion, spirit and service—former Kirkwood Mayor Mike Swoboda, who struggled against incredible odds after tragedy and on September 6, 2008, was released from his suffering and went Home.

Mike Swoboda will be remembered for his innovation in the city of Kirkwood, Missouri, creating "Mayor for a Day" program for youths, his endless enthusiasm for all things Kirkwood, and his years of faithful service. He was a man of hope and optimism who loved the people he served. He will be remembered for striving to do great things and as a man of his word.

I want to extend my condolences to the family of Mike Swoboda and echo family and friends in saying "He will always be remembered."

IN HONOR OF NICK "SONNY"
NARDI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Nick "Sonny" Nardi, and in appreciation of his outstanding dedication to social justice and workers rights. I, along with the Parma Democratic Party, join in recognizing Sonny for his invaluable leadership in the Democratic Party, as he is being honored as the 2008 Parma Democrat of the Year.

Sonny, a native of the Greater Cleveland area, has a multifaceted history of leadership and social service. He graduated from Parma High School in 1978 and joined the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 416 here in Parma in 1981. Since joining Local 416, Sonny has demonstrated his dedication to workers rights in the various leadership roles he has held over the past twenty-seven years. From 1986 to 1989, he was the Trustee and Business Agent. He became Vice President of Local 416 in 1992, a position he held for three years, until becoming Secretary-Treasurer in 1996. Sonny held the position of Secretary-Treasurer for ten years and just last year, he became Local 416's President and Principal Officer.

His commitment to workers rights and to the local Democratic Party has earned him the honor of being one of only two Super-Delegates of the 1.4 million Teamster membership. From 2003–2006, Sonny served on the Labor Advisory Council for Governor Taft and was also appointed to the RTA Board of Trustees. His experience as a true leader in the local Democratic Party earned him an appointment to the Executive Committee for the Democratic Party in 2006. In 2007, the same year he became Local 416's President and Principal Officer, Sonny was chosen to represent Ohio as a member of the Democratic National Committee.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Nick "Sonny" Nardi, and in recognition of his invaluable dedication to workers rights and to the local Democratic Party. May his commitment to social justice serve as an example for all of us to follow.

HONORING CHARLES CASSIDY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Charles Cassidy of Platte City, Missouri. Charles is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1351, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Charles has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Charles has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Charles Cassidy for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, on September 15, 2008, I missed rollcall votes numbered 589, a resolution honoring the dedication and outstanding work of military support groups across the country for their steadfast support of the members of our Armed Forces and their families; 590, a resolution honoring the 28th Infantry Division for serving and protecting the United States; and 591, a bill to extend the authority of the Secretary of Education to purchase guaranteed student loans for an additional year, and for other purposes.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 589, 590, and 591.