

not to be missed, regardless of his gubernatorial duties. And, of course, O'Neill's Tavern was the spot where old friends gathered and new friends were made.

He was proud of the people he appointed who formed part of the O'Neill administration. He did not seek to be surrounded by yes men or women, but rather by people who had the confidence to carry out their tasks with the knowledge that they were fulfilling the O'Neill goal of providing a better place for the people of Connecticut. Tony Milano, who guided him through the budgetary process in good financial times and bad. Bill Burns who carried out the largest highway infrastructure program in the country. Jay Jackson, his peerless and trusted attorney. Chad McCollam who provided years of good counsel as his Chief of Staff, followed by his successor, David McQuade. His loyal secretary, Anne DeNoia, and the woman who ran the scheduling for the governor's mansion, Ruth Sharaf, all helped shape the O'Neill years. And, Tim Bannon, Tax Commissioner, speech writer, advisor and office wit—all roles that Bill O'Neill relied on. So many others.

He also was proud of the prominent roles in government that he filled for the first time with members of ethnic and minority groups and women. Bill O'Neill appointed the first female State Treasurer, the first female Attorney General, the first African-American Associate Justice and the first female Chief Justice to serve on the Connecticut State Supreme Court. He also appointed the first Chief Justices of the Supreme Court of Polish and Italian extraction. He opened the door to strong and capable individuals and the doors he opened will never be closed again.

I'm not sure he was proud of George Hannon, Jack Mahaney and me, but we made him laugh so he kept us around. And, every now and then, we managed to get in a word of advice that he actually followed. As a result of the several political battles that we fought together, it can be said with confidence, that the four of us became: "We few, we happy few, we band of brothers."

He was proud of the Troopers who drove him and protected him—Rick Perdue, Jim Gaylord and Al Lane. They were the sons he never had. In his final days at the Nursing Home when he could not help himself, Al and Jim were there feeding him. What does tell you about friendship and loyalty?

And, finally, he was proud of his wife, Natalie—known to all of us as Nikki. What a team! In every election in which he ran, she was there plotting strategy, rounding up votes, thanking donors and workers. Like Bill, her political sonar was dead on. He listened to her, to her counsel and followed her advice. He was proud of the grace and charm that she shared with the people of Connecticut as its First Lady. The two were a pair that couldn't be beaten—and, by the way, never were.

So, there you have it. Bill O'Neill—Reliable, Honest and Trustworthy.

And, Old Pal, because you lived your life and ran your administration by that code, the people of Connecticut were proud of you.

And, if I can indulge myself in a little hubris, I am proud I was able to call you my friend.—James Wade

Governor Rell, Senators, Representatives, I haven't seen this many politicians under one roof since an O'Neill fundraiser in 1986. I'll not speak to you about the many accomplishments of Bill O'Neill; they are well documented in Connecticut history. I'll tell you about the Bill O'Neill I met in 1967 and beyond. I refer to them as recollections and reflections; 41 years ago this month Bill O'Neill was elected to the Connecticut General Assembly, you couldn't miss him, his tight dark curly red hair, trimmed perfectly, his cadet-like erectness, neat and natty of dress, except for what turned out to be his

favorite trademark, a hounds-tooth sports jacket that contained at least 19 colors. We found out over a period of years the jacket would just not wear out. Some of us asked, no begged, Nikki, his wife of then four years, to have the jacket burned. She just wouldn't or couldn't do the deed.

The jacket was a staple at the Capital from 1967 to 1970, but as fate would have it, O'Neill and his jacket appeared in a campaign photo with Gubernatorial Candidate Emilio Daddario in 1970, the good news was, that O'Neill won reelection, the bad news was that Mim didn't. Now I'm not saying that the jacket had anything to do with Mim's loss, but you never know.

Bill was not a culinary trail blazer. What he wanted, Nikki cooked. When asked by a few of us if he would join a small group for dinner, he demurred saying, Nikki's cooking a pot roast. Secretly, we kept track of his subsequent refusals. They added up in one year to 87 pot roasts, 32 meatloafs, and 19 hot dog dinners. In 1991, after Bill and his lovely wife Nikki retired to the lake, he would often call during the summer and ask what Sue and I were doing for dinner. The four of us would meet at the Governor's Tavern, the successor to O'Neill's tavern. Now dinner and cocktails for four is not very complicated, Bill made it even less complicated. When menus were handed out, Nikki turned and whispered to Sue and me, "I don't know why they're giving him a menu, he orders the same thing every time. A half order of tenderloin tips and a side of mashed potato." Nikki was right, over the next four years, every time we gathered, Bill would take his menu and look at it from cover to cover. And then order a half order of tenderloin tips and a side of mashed potatoes.

Back in '82 during the gubernatorial campaign we hired what we considered to be the best pollster and the best media guru. We launched a massive number of cocktail parties, many at the homes of his ardent supporters. It was an undertaking that would push Bill and Nikki into multiple appearances in an evening and weekends. I was asked and I won't say by whom, I was asked, late in the campaign, why we needed so many cocktail parties, my response was, "because we are in an aggressive and people oriented campaign". The person shook his or her head and said, "Well, we may win the election, but I hope Bill and Nikki will outlast that." They did and O'Neill won.

Bill has a church full of relatives, friends, admirers honoring him today. I see faces in the crowd today of people who served with him, those who worked for him and of course his beloved people from East Hampton, who he never forgot. As I express my feelings towards him, I know they are also yours. He was my dear friend before he was governor, he was my dear friend when he was my governor, he was my dear friend after he became retired. I remember the phone would ring when it was his turn to call me in Naples, and when I answered, when it was him, I knew what he was going to say, "how are you old pal?"

Men are not usually known for their long friendships with other men, women do a much better job with long term friendships. But I am now, and will be forever grateful and touched by the relationship between Bill and me. Like all celebrations, this one will end soon. Nikki, asked me to tell you a brief story about Bill's favourite chanteuse, now Irish kids don't get a chance to use that word, chanteuse, very often. Well if you got your dictionary handy, chanteuse is a singer of folk narratives with simple stanzas. Bill's chanteuse of choice was a Brit, circa 1940's, her name was Vera Lynn. She's best known for her rendition of "White Cliffs of Dover" during World War II. But lesser known, and Bill's favourite, was her rendition of "We'll Meet Again". Soon, we leave this church

today, remember well the simple and true words of Vera Lynn, "we'll meet again, goodbye for now Bill."—George Hannon

WE'LL MEET AGAIN

(By Vera Lynn)

We'll meet again,
Don't know where,
Don't know when
But I know we'll meet again some sunny
day.
Keep smiling through,
Just like you always do
Till the blue skies drive the dark clouds far
away

So will you please say "Hello"

To the folks that I know
Tell them I won't be long
They'll be happy to know
That as you saw me go
I was singing this song

We'll meet again,
Don't know where,
Don't know when,
But I know we'll meet again some sunny
day.

[We'll meet again,
Don't know where,
Don't know when
But I know we'll meet again some sunny
day.

Keep smiling through
Just like you always do,
'Til the blue skies
Drive the dark clouds far away
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Tell them it won't be long.
They'll be happy to know
That as you saw me go,
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Don't know where,
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But I know we'll meet again some sunny
day.

IN HONOR OF PRESIDENT IADAROLA

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 13, 2008

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Dr. Antoinette "Toni" Iadarola, president of Cabrini College in Delaware County in Radnor, Pennsylvania. On June 30th of this year, Dr. Iadarola will retire after 16 years as president of the College.

During a tenure which comprises more than 30 percent of the College's 50-year history, Dr. Iadarola has led Cabrini to expand academic offerings, construct state-of-the-art facilities, and raise its regional and national profile. The College's academic standing was enhanced, SAT scores and grade-point-averages of incoming students increased, and full-time undergraduate enrollment grew from 763 in 1992 to 1,650 in 2008.

Under her leadership, the College completed \$100 million in capital improvements, and the endowment and reserves increased from \$3 million to \$30 million. During her tenure, Cabrini's annual operating budget went from \$12.3 million to more than \$60 million.

With a history of preparing students for engaged citizenship, Cabrini was among the first

institutions of higher learning nationally to implement community service into its core curriculum, and was the first in Pennsylvania to require community service of all its students. For the second year in a row, the College was named to the President's Higher Education Community Honor Roll with Distinction for General Community Service. In 2005, Cabrini became the first college in the country to sign an agreement with Catholic Relief Services to support the organization's global outreach program.

As a founding member of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Consortium for Higher Education (SEPCHE), Dr. Iadarola helped procure more than \$20 million from private and government sources for the eight-school consortium.

Dr. Iadarola serves on the U.N. Commission on Disarmament Education, Conflict and Peace; on the board of the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities; and on the board of Pennsylvania Campus Compact. In 2001, she was named "One of the 30 Most Powerful People on the Main Line" by Main Line Life Magazine, and in 2006, she was named a Woman of Distinction by the Philadelphia Business Journal and the National Association of Women Business Owners.

Her extraordinary tenure as president is more than double the national average for private-college presidents, as measured by the American Council on Education.

HONORING CARROLL HIGH SCHOOL FOR WINNING THE GIRLS UIL 5A STATE SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 13, 2008

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to the 2008 Carroll High School girls' soccer team. On Saturday, April 12, 2008 they earned the UIL 5A State Championship title and finished their season with an impressive 24–4–4 record.

On the afternoon of April 12, 2008, in Round Rock, Texas, the Carroll High School girls soccer team was determined not to let the past few years of history repeat itself. Under Head Coach Matt Colvin and his staff, the Lady Dragons posted an amazing 24 shutouts during the season. In the playoff opener the Lady Dragons shut out the 2005 state champions in regulation before winning in overtime with a score of 2–1. Utilizing the amazing strength of the Carroll defense, the Lady Dragons went on to shut out their next five opponents in the playoffs by an 8–0 margin.

Leadership, discipline, and accountability were the driving forces that took the Lady Dragons to the pitch every match. The team's resilience, fortitude, and determination to overcome challenges helped propel the Lady Dragons to an amazing season capped off with a 2–1 victory in the state title match.

The Lady Dragons have proven themselves to be gifted not only on the soccer field but in the classroom. The team exemplifies the enthusiasm and determination it takes to succeed in academics and athletics.

It is a distinct honor to represent Carroll High School in Congress, and I congratulate

the players, coaches, fans and family members who made the 2008 season such a memorable one.

CELEBRATING ISRAEL'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY AND THE STRONG TEXAS-ISRAEL RELATIONSHIP

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 13, 2008

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Israel's 60th Anniversary and to recognize the strong partnership between my home State of Texas and Israel. Israel has made tremendous strides since its establishment in 1948—and today it is a strong security and trading partner with the United States. Israel's growing business sector has benefited the United States as a whole and the State of Texas.

Because of this growing partnership, the Texas-Israel Chamber of Commerce was established in Richardson, Texas. Texas is Israel's third largest U.S. trading partner—exporting over \$1 billion in goods in 2007. The State's low taxes, affordability and strategic trade location make Texas a great place for Israeli companies to do business. Additionally, Texas's reputation as a leader in telecommunications, energy and security technologies make the State very attractive to Israel. With the second highest number of companies on NASDAQ and strong investment incentives, Israel is equally attractive to U.S. investment. Israel boasts an extremely high level of skilled engineers and is the world leader in medical device patents.

Through the State's Department of Agriculture, the Texas-Israel Exchange program has encouraged the development of business relationships and joint technology research for agriculture and natural resources.

The strong ties Texas shares with Israel are reflective of our Nation's valued friendship with the Jewish community. I am grateful for the bonds our two countries share and I will continue to work to strengthen our relationship for the next generation.

INTRODUCING NATIONAL APHASIA AWARENESS MONTH RESOLUTION

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 13, 2008

Mr. MARKEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to reintroduce legislation to designate June as National Aphasia Awareness Month. Aphasia is a disease that causes the loss of the ability to produce and/or comprehend language. It can also impair a person's ability to read and write. Each case is different depending on the severity of the stroke or brain trauma. This condition is a result of damage to the left hemisphere of the brain. The main cause of aphasia is stroke, but other causes of aphasia include blows to the head, gunshot wounds, and brain tumors. Strokes are the third leading cause of death and disability in the United States today, and the effects of aphasia are borne not only by the victim but also by the victim's family and friends.

Currently there is research being done on how to help people with aphasia enjoy a better quality of life. Aphasia does not cause any kind of disability in thinking or learning but can affect expressive and receptive language, as well as impair a person's ability to read and write. People who suffer from aphasia are able to function in everyday life, but they need assistance and attention. Moreover, further research is needed to improve our understanding of how to identify the risk factors that cause aphasia, prevent the occurrence of aphasia and improve the ability to function of those with the disease.

There are currently about one million cases of aphasia in the United States, and about 80,000 people are afflicted with the disease every year. By working with vocational specialists, speech-language pathologists and family and friends, many of those with aphasia may be able to obtain some sense of normalcy and regain some of their skills.

I am introducing this resolution as I did last year to support the goals of National Aphasia Awareness Month with the hope that it will bring more attention to this disease and give a voice to those who suffer from aphasia who often cannot speak for themselves. Last year when we honored June as National Aphasia Awareness Month it meant a great deal to the groups and doctors working on preventative measures and conducting new research for this disease.

This resolution recognizes June 2008 as National Aphasia Awareness Month in hopes of drawing more attention to this illness and in hopes that more recognition will highlight the importance of research and compassion for the daily struggle faced by those affected by aphasia.

HONORING THE HARFORD DAY SCHOOL DESTINATION IMAGINATION TEAM

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 13, 2008

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Harford Day School's Destination ImagiNation, DI, team, who recently won first place in the "Chorific Improv" competition at the statewide Destination ImagiNation competition and is headed to the national finals this month in Tennessee.

Destination ImagiNation is a place where kids take what they know and what they excel at and learn to apply it to solve challenges, working cooperatively with a team and pushing the limits of imagination. Destination ImagiNation is a community-based, school-friendly program that builds the participants' creativity, problem-solving, and teamwork in enjoyable and meaningful ways. Teams of five to seven members work together to apply critical thinking and their particular talents to solve a Team Challenge. A Destination ImagiNation Team Challenge is a challenge that is solved over a period of 8 weeks. Each Team Challenge is designed to be open-ended and solvable in many ways and on many levels.

The Harford Day School DI team participated in the Chorific Improv Problem this year. The criteria for the Team Challenge focused on improvisational acting, story development,