

Mr. Speaker, now more than ever the nation is in need of teachers who inspire young people to become active participants in our democracy and dedicate significant portions of their lives to public service. Fred Freres has done just that over his thirty nine years in the classroom. Proof of this can be found right here on Capitol Hill, where numerous “Brother’s Boys” have worked over the years after having been encouraged by Fred Freres.

I wish Fred and Cathy nothing but the best for their future and hope that they get to spend more time with one another and their three daughters, Catie, Julie and Annie as well as their two grandchildren—Hailey and Clara. And if he gets really lucky Mr. Speaker, he might even live long enough to see his beloved Chicago Cubs win the World Series.

Thank you Fred Freres for the dedication to your vocation, service to your community and inspiration you have provided to your students over the course of your career.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PATIENT SAFETY

HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 7, 2011

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to promote increased awareness about patient safety and a higher quality of health care in our country. According to the 1999 Institute of Medicine report, more than 98,000 patients die annually from medical errors that occur in the hospital. The HealthGrades analysis of patient safety published in 2009 stated that almost 100,000 preventable deaths occurred annually in Medicare patients from 2005 to 2007. Based on these findings, patient safety has not improved in almost a decade.

All of us have either been patients or know someone who has been a patient, and we expect our loved ones to receive excellent patient care. Recently, I had the opportunity to meet with a nurse from Vancouver, Washington, who shared the touching story regarding the death of her father. Kristi Victoria Goodwin told me about her father Kenneth Edgar Anderson, who died from multiple preventable medical errors.

Mr. Anderson, a 55 year old, went to his doctor after experiencing chest pains while riding his bicycle. The doctor ordered cardiac testing, but, unfortunately, Mr. Anderson was never notified that his cardiac tests were abnormal. Based on his cardiac tests, Mr. Anderson should have received a cardiology consult, further cardiac testing, and based on his autopsy results, he would have been a candidate for open heart surgery. Instead, almost three months after his cardiac workup was completed, Mr. Anderson died from sudden cardiac death while riding his bicycle.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Kristi for coming to D.C. to share this personal story to illustrate the importance of the issue of patient safety. I also ask that you join me in promoting patient safety and improving the quality of health care in this country.

TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL PHILIP M. RUHLMAN

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 7, 2011

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and pay tribute to Brigadier General Philip M. Ruhlman for 31 years of service and dedication to the United States Air Force. He currently serves as the Director of Manpower, Organization and Resources in Washington, D.C., and will retire from active duty on May 1, 2011. He will be missed by many.

Brigadier General Ruhlman graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1980, and earned his wings the following year. He received his first assignment as a jump-qualified battalion air liaison officer and forward air controller, flying the O-2A Skymaster. He transitioned to the F-16 Fighting Falcon, and has since flown every version assigned to the Air Force. In 1987, he earned a master’s degree in Aeronautical Science from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. He has also served as a National Defense Fellow and Air Force Fellow for the National Defense University, and as a Senior Executive Fellow for the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

A command pilot with more than 3,200 flight hours, Brigadier General Ruhlman has led a fighter squadron, fighter operations group, and two wings—including the largest operational F-16 fighter wing in the Air Force. He flew 43 F-16 combat missions over Iraq and Kuwait during Operation Desert Storm, and served as a wing weapons officer, instructor pilot, and Chief of Standardization and Evaluation. His staff assignments include joint element, major command, direct reporting unit, Air Staff and NATO levels serving at home and abroad.

Throughout his career, Brigadier General Ruhlman’s exemplary service earned him numerous awards and military decorations. During his command of the 36th Wing on Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, he was instrumental in resolving road access issues for landlocked properties contiguous to the base. His efforts to find solutions to these issues demonstrated his commitment to building and maintaining a positive relationship between the civilian and military communities. In addition, I wish to recognize Brigadier General Ruhlman’s efforts in implementing the Joint Region Marianas—a collaboration between the Air Force and the U.S. Navy that provides installation support for all components of the Department of the Defense on Guam and in the Northern Mariana Islands. Brigadier General Ruhlman was always a staunch advocate for Guam and understood the need for greater collaboration with the local government to make the military build-up a success. His efforts were successful, in great part, because of the leadership and guidance that he received from leaders in the Air Force like retired General Howie Chandler.

Mr. Speaker, Brigadier General Ruhlman distinguished himself as an exceptional leader during his career with the U.S. Air Force. His commitment and dedication will be remembered for many years to come. I trust my fellow members of the House will join me in wishing the very best to General Ruhlman, his wife Lina, and son, Alex on their future endeavors.

IN MEMORY OF ELIZABETH “MOTHER LIZ” ANN SAMUELS

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 7, 2011

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the passing of Civil rights activist, leader, and community advocate Elizabeth Ann Samuels. Elizabeth Samuels was known by those in the community of North Minneapolis as “Mother Liz” for her nurturing and strong demeanor and as a champion of human and civil rights.

A longtime resident of North Minneapolis, Mother Liz graduated from North High School and attended Augsburg College. Mother Liz served her neighborhood and the African American community in a number of key civic posts. For example, she spent many years as Director of the American Red Cross in North Minneapolis and also worked for the Coalition of Black Churches, the African American Leadership Summit, and the Willard Homewood Organization.

Mother Liz was deeply dedicated to her friends, family, and community and touched the lives of many people through her work, volunteering, and care-giving. I ask that we remember the spirit and passion for equality and peace that Mother Liz helped shape in the Minneapolis community.

IN RECOGNITION OF KATHLEEN COLLINS, PRESIDENT OF THE KANSAS CITY ART INSTITUTE

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 7, 2011

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today in recognizing the outstanding achievements and cultural legacy nurtured at the Kansas City Art Institute by retiring President, Kathleen Collins. She took over the duties as President in 1996 and through the years has built strong community partnerships that resulted in creative and innovative projects. Her efforts enhanced and modernized the quality and function of the Kansas City Art Institute into providing an education in creativity, professionalism and business practices.

The Kansas City Art Institute dates back to 1885 to a group of artists who referred to themselves as the Sketch Club. Walt Disney, Thomas Hart Benton, Robert Rauschenberg and Robert Morris have all been associated with the Institute. Two of Kansas City’s most well known businessmen, J.C. Nichols and William T. Kemper, Jr., served on the Board of Trustees. Today, the Kansas City Art Institute is an integral part of the cultural growth of Kansas City and continues to sustain the support of the community.

Under Kathleen Collins’ leadership, enrollment escalated and the Institute expanded, with over \$25 million in renovations and improvements on campus. The H&R Block Artspace, the Jannes Library and Learning Center, the Lawrence and Kristina Dodge Painting Building, the Café Nerman, and the

J.C. Nichols Patio Garden are all new additions cultivated through Kathleen Collins' vision. Additionally, she has secured the Institute's financial future with a \$40 million endowment.

As President, Kathleen Collins reorganized the Institute into four schools: Foundation, Fine Arts, Design, and Liberal Arts. The curriculum emphasizes liberal arts while expanding the curriculum to the School of Design and Electronic Arts. The Institute maintains its foundation of art while educating artists in the fundamentals of business through its required Professional Practice program.

Kathleen launched a Community Arts and Service Learning certificate program that provides an opportunity for students to work in partnerships for the betterment of the community. The Brush Creek Community Rain Garden project is one example of this successful program. Students partnered with city and state officials and private sector companies to design an environmental solution based on regional ecological principals. By using native plants in a garden setting, they addressed the ecological impact from stormwater runoff. The partnerships created a beautiful solution that serves as an artistically green example for the community.

The presence of the Art Institute can be seen throughout our community. The latest addition of community partnership will be unveiled when the Kauffman Center for Performing Arts opens. Patrons will have the wonderful experience of viewing extraordinary murals created by KCAI students in partnership with architect Moshe Safdie.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and privilege for me to recognize Kathleen Collins. She began her career as President of the Kansas City Art Institute 15 years ago and during her tenure worked tirelessly to solve financial and creative challenges. As she retires, she can look with pride on her accomplishments that propelled the Kansas City Art Institute into the recognizable and renowned institution that it is today. We wish her well as she returns to photography and travel and enjoys the good life with her husband, Jeff Love. On behalf of the people of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District, I wish this academic leader a well-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE 145TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (ASPCA)

**HON. JERROLD NADLER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 7, 2011*

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an organization in my Congressional District that has served this nation for more than a century, protecting pets from abuse and helping to make America a more humane country. Founded on the belief that animals are entitled to kind and respectful treatment and must be protected under the law, the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) is celebrating its landmark 145th anniversary on April 10, 2011.

Inspired to take action after witnessing the beating of a work horse on a New York City

street, Henry Bergh founded the ASPCA in 1866. He believed that protecting animals was an issue that crossed party lines and class boundaries. He used his gifts of oration to make a commanding moral and legal case to protect animals, persuading some of Manhattan's most prominent leaders at the time, including members of the Rockefeller family and the Mayor of New York City to support him in this important fight.

From the beginning, the ASPCA fought hard to provide care and protection for the city's working horses and transform dog pounds into professionally run adoptions facilities. And they opened an animal hospital which serves New York City to this very day.

The modern ASPCA also includes a Humane Law Enforcement department, which upholds state animal cruelty laws in the five boroughs. Last year alone, the ASPCA investigated some 4,000 reported complaints of animal cruelty, made 51 arrests, and helped more than 400 animals. With a 90 percent conviction rate for their animal cruelty investigations, the ASPCA is helping to make New York a safer place for both the city's residents and animals.

I am proud to say the ASPCA's Bergh Memorial Animal Hospital is one of the largest full-service animal hospitals in New York, with more than 24,000 patient visits in 2009, including almost 5,000 emergency exams. The hospital's Intensive Care Unit operates 365 days a year. This was particularly lucky for Gary, a one year old cat that fell from an apartment building window in April of 2010 and was brought to the ASPCA's hospital in critical condition, with a life-threatening fractured pelvis. The hospital's veterinarians worked tirelessly, against all odds, to save Gary. He is alive today thanks to their skills.

My colleagues will find it interesting that Bergh Memorial Animal Hospital was an early leader in radiation therapy for cancer in animals and, during World War I, ASPCA veterinarians helped care for the horses used by the U.S. Army.

Mr. Speaker, the ASPCA has helped to change the way Americans view animals and the tools that are needed to care for them. It led the way with a wide variety of innovations from horse ambulances to the cardboard boxes that people use to carry home the pets they adopt—boxes that were devised by an ASPCA shelter clerk.

Furthermore, Mr. Speaker, nearly 4,000 cats and dogs are saved each year when they are adopted from the ASPCA Adoption Center. The state-of-the-art adoption center was recently renovated and now houses more than 300 cats and dogs in accommodations designed to create an inviting, appealing space for both pets and people.

The ASPCA also manages the Animal Poison Control Center, which handled more than 167,000 cases of pets exposed to toxic substances last year—treating cases that ranged from cats and dogs to horses and livestock. Its location in Urbana, Illinois provides the ASPCA with a strong presence in the Midwest to complement the New York City Headquarters.

In closing, the ASPCA's founding mission "to provide effective means for the prevention of cruelty to animals" continues to resonate today some 145 years later, and I am proud to rise today to pay tribute to this organization in my district. I hope you will all join me in wishing them many good years to come.

A TRIBUTE TO KIT McNALLY

**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 7, 2011*

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an advocate, community leader, wife, mother, and mentor. On May 5, 2011, Kit Murphy McNally, Executive Director of the Benedict Center, will retire after 23 years of distinguished service. The Benedict Center is an interfaith non-profit criminal justice agency with a 37-year history in Milwaukee of justice advocacy.

Ms. McNally advocates for positive change in the criminal justice system by demonstrating best practices through the Center's education and treatment programs. An example of this approach is their holistic, gender-responsive, Women's Harm Reduction Program, utilized by both the Milwaukee County district attorney's office and Milwaukee County judges as a diversion to prison program.

The community partnership style promoted by Kit McNally is reflected in the Community Justice Center for Day Reporting Program. In 1998, this successful education and treatment alternative was established through the Benedict Center's advocacy as a partnership between many community treatment providers and Milwaukee County. Further, under the direction of Ms. McNally, the Benedict Center has been a state-wide leader in assisting to draft a model Community Justice Act for Wisconsin. The model would return money to local communities that succeed in reducing state incarceration costs through implementation of effective treatment and diversion programs.

Ms. McNally is deeply involved with issues of mental health and racial and economic disparities in criminal justice. She has served on local and national advisory boards, committees, task forces and commissions. She served as the citizen representative on the Executive Committee of the Milwaukee Community Justice Council. The council consists of top leaders on criminal justice issues, including the mayor, county executive, police chief, sheriff, district attorney and chief judge. Ms. McNally also served on the national boards of the National Alliance of Sentencing Advocates and Mitigation Specialists, and the International Community Corrections Association.

After graduating from Indiana University in Journalism and Criminology, she worked as a part-time reporter for the Milwaukee Journal and later directed corporate communications for Kohl's Food Stores and public relations for Mount Sinai Hospital and later Aurora Health Care.

Mr. Speaker, for these reasons, I am honored to pay tribute to Kit Murphy McNally, who has worked with victims, offenders, and the community toward achieving a system of justice that is fair and treats everyone with dignity and respect. Ms. McNally's contributions have richly benefitted the citizens of the Fourth Congressional District, the State of Wisconsin, and the Nation.