

IN APPRECIATION OF MAURI
GRAY'S WORK WITH THE HOUSE
JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, today, as Ranking Member of the Committee on the Judiciary, I join with Representative SHEILA JACKSON LEE, Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, in expressing our appreciation for Mauri Gray's work with the Committee over the past two years.

Mauri came to us as a detailee from the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts, having worked for nearly six years as an Assistant Federal Public Defender in Puerto Rico, representing indigent clients in federal criminal cases. Prior to starting her career as a public defender, Mauri attended the University of Florida and the University of Georgia School of Law.

At the conclusion of her detail to the Committee, she will be resuming her work, moving to the Federal Defender's office in Phoenix, Arizona.

As counsel to the Committee's Democrats, Mauri provided indispensable analysis and advice concerning oversight hearings and a wide range of proposed legislation, including various child protection bills, legislation to combat opioid abuse, proposals to fight online sex trafficking, legislation concerning arrest authority of federal law enforcement officers, and bills concerning federal benefits for those with criminal records. Often, her counsel helped Members defeat or improve bills intended to inappropriately expand the scope of federal criminal law or to impose unjust penalties.

As the Committee has engaged in the beginnings of an initiative to reform our criminal justice system, Mauri's experience as a federal defender has informed our legislative efforts. She has helped us examine and prepare legislation to improve our sentencing laws as well as legislation to reform various aspects of federal prisons.

We have appreciated and benefited from Mauri's energy, enthusiasm, and insight over the past two years, during which she became an integral part of our team. We will miss her.

We thank Mauri for her selfless service to the Committee, and we wish her the best as she continues her career.

CELEBRATING THE BICENTENNIAL
OF SANDUSKY, OHIO

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an important milestone in the life of one of the communities in my district. Sandusky, Ohio celebrates its bicentennial in the coming days, highlighted by a ball on Saturday April 28, 2018.

Founded two hundred years ago in 1818, Sandusky was developed near the town of Portland, which it soon overtook. According to

history, part of the city was built on "land formerly occupied by a Native American man named Ogontz. Thus, the city is said to have been built upon 'Ogontz' place." The name "Sandusky" was taken from the Native American Wyandot word for "water." In fact, Sandusky sits on the Western Basin of Lake Erie. As a result of its location on the Lake, Sandusky's population grew quickly. It was one of Ohio's first major ports and was "an original terminus for the Mad River and Lake Erie Railroad. Chartered by the state legislature in 1832 and envisioned to run between Sandusky and Dayton to the southwest, the Mad River and Lake Erie Railroad was the first rail line located entirely in Ohio" when Sandusky was the site of its ground breaking on September 17, 1835.

The State of Ohio established Erie County in 1838 and set Sandusky as the county seat. Charles Dickens, who visited Sandusky in 1842, wrote this about the city in his travelogue *American Notes*: "At two o'clock we took the railroad; the travelling-on which was very slow, its construction being indifferent, and the ground wet and marshy; and arrived at Sandusky in time to dine that evening. We put up at a comfortable little hotel on the brink of Lake Erie, lay there that night, and had no choice but to wait there next day, until a steamboat bound for Buffalo appeared. The town, which was sluggish and uninteresting enough, was something like the back of an English watering-place out of the season."

However, the town soon grew and by 1846 Sandusky had become an economic hub, with its port and two railroads. According to the history, about three thousand people lived in Sandusky and were served by "numerous stores, two printing offices, two machine shops, two banks, six churches, one high school, and several iron furnaces." The city's downtown was laid out similar to the pattern in our nation's Capital.

Sandusky was a critical stop on the Underground Railroad. Many fugitive slaves who sought freedom in Canada boarded a boat in Sandusky to cross Lake Erie into Ontario. They were assisted in their journeys by a strong network of residents.

The history notes that by 1880, "Sandusky's population had reached almost sixteen thousand residents. This much larger population resulted in an increasing number of social institutions, including twenty churches and three newspapers. The community also became more economically diverse, with at least twenty-nine businesses with ten or more employees. Among the items that Sandusky businesses produced were lime, railroad locomotives and cars, carriages, wheels, crayons, chalk, beer, paper, baskets, and tools. In 1886, residents boasted that they were the leading manufacturers of wooden wheels in the United States. That same year, Sandusky was home to the Ohio Soldiers' and Sailors' Home and the Ohio State Fish Hatchery."

Sandusky continued to grow and develop through the Twentieth Century. Today, Sandusky is known for its tourism: its beaches, boating and fishing, parkland and Cedar Point. It is home for higher education for adults of all ages at the Firelands Campus of Bowling Green State University, a thriving arts community and the MerryGoRound Museum, the active Sandusky Chapter of the NAACP, historic religious institutions and many thriving businesses. The Ohio Veterans Home—one of

only two in the state—continues to serve veterans. Its nearly 30,000 residents are members of a town that proudly celebrates its history while looking toward its future.

DANTE PADRO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dante Padro for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Dante Padro is a student at Arvada K-8 and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Dante Padro is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dante Padro for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF
SANFORD M. SAUNDERS, JR.

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life of Mr. Sanford M. Saunders, Jr., whom we lost too soon at the age of 59. A constituent of McLean, Virginia, Sandy is survived by his wife of nearly 22 years, Beth Saunders and predeceased by his parents, Eugene and Paulette David.

Sandy was loved immensely, sharing a special bond with his wife, Beth that came from his great heart and genuine nature. They had similar personalities and together sought the adventures of life, year after year finding the treasures of the world. Love is not an easy feeling to put in words but with Sandy, his love for Beth was revolutionary and he devoted himself to her.

Sandy carried a joyous spirit throughout this world and always shared it unto others. He will be remembered affectionately as the "Sandman." A name given unto him to fit his calm and comforting personality. He was a supportive uncle and the oldest cousin among all family members. His wisdom and humor prevailed in every conversation.

Above all passions, Sandy was enthusiastic about serving people. With over thirty years of representing his clients, Sandy every day pledged to arm them in his work.

From a young age, Sandy understood the importance of a good education. He received his J.D., Cum Laude, from Georgetown University Law Center in 1983 and his B.A., with honors, from Johns Hopkins University in

1980. In addition to his time practicing law, Sandy also served as a Visiting Fellow at George Mason University's Center on Terrorism, Transnational Crime and Corruption, imparting his decades of wisdom in these fields to the next generations.

Sandy deeply loved life and this was clear to all those around him. Psalms 34:22 speaks, "The Lord redeems the souls of his servants; none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned. The dust returns to the earth as it was, but the spirit returns to God who gave it."

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in honoring the extraordinary life of Mr. Sanford Saunders, Jr., and I ask that my colleagues join me in offering our deepest condolences to the Saunders family.

RECOGNIZING THE BLUE VALLEY NORTHWEST TEAM

HON. KEVIN YODER

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the team from Blue Valley Northwest High School in Overland Park, Kansas that is representing our state this weekend at the 31st Annual We the People National Finals academic competition.

The We the People program is a civics education course that teaches K–12 students around the country about the U.S. Constitution. Each year, this program culminates in a national competition, in which state champion teams come to Washington, D.C. to test their constitutional knowledge against other students from around the country.

This will be Blue Valley Northwest's seventh year in a row as the Kansas champion, representing our state in the We the People national competition. Under the leadership of teacher Ken Thomas, they have earned the state title in nine out of the last ten years. This is a remarkable achievement and a testament to the dedication of Blue Valley Northwest students and Mr. Thomas to learning about our nation's Constitution.

I applaud the Blue Valley Northwest team for this achievement, and I welcome them to our nation's Capital. Good luck to them in the competition, and go Huskies.

ANDREAS JERMAINE PEREA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Andreas Jermaine Perea for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Andreas Jermaine Perea is a student at Wheat Ridge High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Andreas Jermaine Perea is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard

work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Andreas Jermaine Perea for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARY I. GREGORY

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life of a remarkable woman. Mary Gregory passed from this life on April 2, 2018. Her friends and family will gather this week to remember and honor her.

Mary Gregory was born to Louise and Richard Booker in Marion Indiana in 1930. Though they lived in town, the family owned a farm and Mary participated in its daily operation. She regularly attended the Methodist Church. Surely, Mary's faith and discipline were instilled at an early age. Some of her family left for work in Toledo and eventually the rest of the family, including Mary, joined them. Her mother established a beauty salon, one of the first African American owned salons in Toledo.

After graduating from Libbey High School, Mary was at first unable to pursue a nursing degree as she had chosen, because no nursing schools would admit an African American. In 1947 she was admitted into the St. Vincent School of Nursing and was the first African American to do so. She graduated in 1951, married Raymond Gregory, and together they raised a family of four children. Mary continued her education, completing her Masters of Education, Community Health and Administration Degree from the University of Toledo. She went on to a 47 year career at St. Vincent Hospital.

Mary Gregory's tenure at St. Vincent's was writ large. Beginning in the Emergency Room, she later was an operating room staff nurse. Then Mary really established herself. She instructed and trained students as surgical technicians for twenty years. During this time she developed a "patient centered" curriculum and initiated a two year Surgical Tech training program. The program was so successful it was transferred to Lawrence Tech so that it could grow and was replicated in other places. Mary also supervised the St. Vincent Sickle Cell Free Testing and Education Program provided to Toledo's African American community. She even wrote the grants to fund this service.

It was through her position as Manager of Health Promotions that Mary Gregory indelibly stamped her imprimatur on St. Vincent and the Toledo community. She developed free community health screenings and education, going out into the neighborhoods, migrant camps, and other underserved areas. She met the people where they were, at community events, shopping centers and health fairs. She talked to all people, especially those whose health and well-being were disproportionately addressed. Mary Gregory became the face of health promotion for many and fought to elimi-

nate disparities in health care availability and accessibility.

At the same time her career progressed at St. Vincent Hospital, Mary Gregory served our community in many ways, committed to community health. She was a member of the Toledo-Lucas County Board of Health, the Toledo HIV-AIDS Task Force, and the Ohio Commission on Minority Health. Mary was a co-founder of the Toledo Council of Black Nurses, serving as its first president. Additionally, Mary started a caregiver service at Warren AME Church, implemented health screenings at Toledo Public Schools, worked through the organizations of which she was a member to provide cancer, diabetes, and heart disease screenings, lupus support services, and smoking cessation help as part of April's Minority Health Month, and she was an Ambassador for the American Heart Association.

Mary Gregory used her time and talents for the benefit of others. Through her efforts our community was compassionate, and our most vulnerable neighbors were ministered to in many ways. She lived Christ's message of Love. Surely at her homegoing, she was greeted as in Matthew 25:23, "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

To Mary Gregory's family and friends, we offer our condolences. We hope they find comfort in shared memories and the gift of her life.

RECOGNIZING INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 26, 2018

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the value and importance of international students in the United States. I am fortunate enough to represent numerous colleges and universities in my district. I have a deep appreciation for the important role these institutions play in providing opportunities for students around the globe.

The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, the largest university in my district, enrolls over 10,000 international students from 122 different countries. Illinois State University boasts students from 67 countries and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville has 325 international students from 50 countries.

I am proud to represent institutions like these that welcome the world's brightest learners. I believe that today's students become tomorrow's leaders. The former presidents of both Ecuador and the Philippines earned doctorate degrees from universities in my district, and I know that presidents and prime ministers all over the world have earned their college degrees right here in the United States.

Welcoming international students and scholars strengthens our diplomatic ties with countries across the globe and contributes significantly to national security and to our economy. International students are vital to our nation's fabric. Through the exchange of ideals, languages, and cultures, diplomacy is strengthened and our world is made a better place.