

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL W. HODES

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Mr. HODES. Madam Speaker, due to illness that required hospitalization, I missed the following votes. I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall vote 567—S. 2403—A bill to designate the new Federal Courthouse, located in the 700 block of East Broad Street, Richmond, Virginia, as the “Spottswood W. Robinson III and Robert R. Merhige, Jr. Federal Courthouse”—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 568—S. 2837—A bill to designate the United States courthouse located at 225 Cadman Plaza East, Brooklyn, New York, as the “Theodore Roosevelt United States Courthouse”—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 569—S. 2135—Child Soldiers Accountability Act—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 570—H. Con. Res. 344—Recognizing that we are facing a global food crisis—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 571—H. Res. 937—Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the emergency communications services provided by the American Red Cross are vital resources for military servicemembers and their families—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 572—H. Res. 1069—Condemning the use of television programming by Hamas to indoctrinate hatred, violence, and anti-Semitism toward Israel in young Palestinian children—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 573—H. Res. 1307—Commemorating the Kingdom of Bhutan’s participation in the 2008 Smithsonian Folklife Festival and commending the people and the Government of the Kingdom of Bhutan for their commitment to holding elections and broadening political participation—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 574—H.R. 6168—Lance Corporal Drew W. Weaver Post Office Building—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 575—H.R. 6630—To prohibit the Secretary of Transportation from granting authority to a motor carrier domiciled in Mexico to operate beyond United States municipalities and commercial zones on the United States-Mexico border unless expressly authorized by Congress—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 576—H. Res. 1419—On Ordering the Previous Question Providing for consideration of H.R. 3667, Missisquoi and Trout Rivers Wild and Scenic River Study Act of 2008—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 577—H. Res. 1419—On Agreeing to the Resolution Providing for consideration of H.R. 3667, Missisquoi and Trout Rivers Wild and Scenic River Study Act of 2008—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 578—H.R. 1527, The Rural Veterans Access to Care Act—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 579—S. 2617, The Veterans Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2008—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 580—H.R. 3667, On Motion that the Committee Rise—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 581—Grijalva of Arizona Amendment to H.R. 3667—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 582—H.R. 3667—Table Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 583—H.R. 3667—On passage of the Missisquoi and Trout Rivers Wild and Scenic River Study Act of 2008—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 584—H.R. 4081, The Prevent All Cigarette Trafficking Act of 2007—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 589—H. Res. 1200, 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—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 590—H. Con. Res. 390, Honoring the 28th Infantry Division for serving and protecting the United States—“yes.”

Rollcall vote 591—H.R. 6889, To extend the authority of the Secretary of Education to purchase guaranteed student loans for an additional year, and for other purposes—“yes.”

HONORING STEPHEN LEE DODSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize, Stephen Lee Dodson 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 376, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Stephen has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Stephen 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 Stephen Lee Dodson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RARE FOUNDATION

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize the RARE Foundation in Troy, Michigan as they celebrate their 10th Anniversary on September 16, 2008. The foundation’s work for Michigan’s youth has changed lives and inspired future generations of leaders.

The RARE Foundation was founded in 1998 by Gilbert Cox, Jr. with the mission to inspire Michigan’s youth to see possibilities through the real-world examples of everyday heroes. RARE highlights the lives and life lessons of everyday people in the workplace who, through extraordinary commitment, integrity, selflessness, and courage, are changing lives and inspiring others. In addition, the foundation provides a forum for these extraordinary individuals to reach out to Michigan’s youth and teach, by example, their compelling lessons for life’s venture.

Throughout the years, the foundation’s programs have engaged young people in the process of discussion, discovery, and writing about everyday heroes in their communities to help them see possibilities and make the connection between fulfilling careers and mean-

ingful lives. They have done so by providing grants for teachers and mentoring programs to reinforce character education and strengthen the basic curriculum at a time of severe program, cutback and budget reductions in our schools. The foundation has also started an At-Risk Community Outreach program in collaboration with educational, business, community, and mentoring organizations designed to bring certainty of opportunity to urban youth.

At a time when material things have replaced character as the currency for measuring success, the RARE Foundation has stepped in to reinforce the idea strong morals and character are imperative to achievement. In fact, their programs have proven to be so successful that they should serve as a model to be followed by other communities.

Madam Speaker, the RARE Foundation continues to educate and enrich the lives of young people in Michigan. I wish to congratulate them and the many volunteers on their 10th Anniversary and hope for many years of prosperity.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KENNEDY POLITICAL UNION

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, 40 years ago today a tradition began at the American University in Washington, DC. That tradition, which I am proud to say I was and continue to be a part of, began when Theodore Sorensen became the first speaker at the Kennedy Political Union at American University. I rise today to honor and recognize this institution for both its excellence and longevity.

The Kennedy Political Union was founded to take advantage of American University’s Washington, DC location. Since its inception the Kennedy Political Union has been student-run, student-funded, and non-partisan in its commitment to connecting American University students with the most compelling speakers on a wide variety of issues.

Past speakers at the Kennedy Political Union have included Former Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev, His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, and Secretaries of State Madeleine Albright and Colin Powell, among hundreds of others who have come to share their views and experiences with thousands of American University students.

As Director for the 1980–81 Kennedy Political Union Lecture Series, I hosted Israeli politician and diplomat Abba Eban; former Attorney General Ramsey Clark; Alger Hiss; U.S. Senators Howard Baker, Strom Thurmond and George McGovern, and others. The experience was a formative one for me, and I to this day have maintained my ties with the Kennedy Political Union and my alma mater.

With today, September 16, 2008 marking the 40th Anniversary of the Kennedy Political Union, I want to congratulate each of the Directors who have promoted the organization’s commitment to the expansion of political awareness and engagement. I want to thank the speakers who have made the organization what it is today, many of whom are former or current members of this body. And lastly I want to wish the Kennedy Political Union continued success now and in the future.

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