

A TRIBUTE TO MARY SCARPA FOR
HER PUBLIC SERVICE TO
ADELANTO, CALIFORNIA

HON. JERRY LEWIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Mr. LEWIS of California. Madam Speaker, I would like to join today with my friend and colleague Congressman BUCK MCKEON in paying tribute to Mary Scarpa, the former mayor of Adelanto, California, who helped that small desert city grow and prosper over two decades of public service.

Mary Scarpa arrived in California's Mojave Desert in 1968 with her husband John, joining their lifelong friends from the U.S. Air Force, Patricia and Herbert Chamberlaine. They moved to Adelanto, a then tiny city in the shadow of George Air Force Base, where Herbert Chamberlaine was stationed.

Within two years, Mary Scarpa and Patricia Chamberlaine began their community involvement by helping organize the incorporation of the city of Adelanto. They founded the Adelanto Independent newspaper to watch over civic affairs. Mary Scarpa joined the city's planning commission in 1971, and was elected to the City Council in 1981. She served on the council for the next 16 years, including four years as Mayor. For many of those years, she was joined on the civic body by her friend Pat Chamberlaine.

The city of Adelanto had just 2,100 residents when Mary Scarpa was elected to the council. It had few amenities and almost no business base other than the Air Force Base. Today, the city has industrial parks, housing tracts and its own minor league baseball stadium—and a population approaching 30,000. Mary Scarpa is credited for much of the progress.

At 83, Mary Scarpa is still involved in community activities through her work with the Community Food Closet charitable pantry and through organizations like the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Read Across America program in the local schools. She has attended nearly every game of the minor league High Desert Mavericks at the baseball stadium she helped bring to the city.

Madam Speaker, the city of Adelanto and the Adelanto Chamber of Commerce are honoring Mary Scarpa as one of the founders and civic leaders of the city. Please join Congressman MCKEON and me in congratulating Mary on her long years of public service, and wishing her well in her future endeavors.

HONORING THE CAREER OF
MARGIE FITES SEIGLE

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Margie Fites Seigle and to celebrate her retirement after 17 years as the visionary President & CEO of the California Family Health Council (CFHC), headquartered in Los Angeles, California.

Margie Fites Seigle has long been a peerless advocate for the low-income and under-

served. A champion for women's and civil rights, Margie's career in social justice began after she accepted a job with Planned Parenthood, an organization dedicated to advocating for and ensuring access to important reproductive and sexual health care services. For the next 17 years, Margie served as Executive Director of two Planned Parenthood affiliates: Allentown, Pennsylvania and Orange/San Bernardino Counties, California, where she lead an expansion of services and geographic outreach.

But perhaps Margie's most pivotal role has been as the President & CEO of the California Family Health Council. CFHC works with over 70 delegate agencies that provide family planning services in more than 300 clinics throughout the state of California. More than one million Californians receive care in one of these clinics. CFHC also conducts contraceptive research; develops culturally and linguistically appropriate educational materials; facilitates conferences, seminars, and training workshops for clinical staff and community health workers; and champions reproductive health and justice issues through coalition building and policy advocacy.

Aside from her leadership roles, Margie has actively promoted increased access to health care services for California's women and men through strategic alliance building. Margie has served on the boards of the Coalition of Orange County Community Clinics; the Family Planning Councils of America; the Family Planning Providers Council; the Guttmacher Institute; and the National Family Planning & Reproductive Health Association.

Margie has worked hard to promote and preserve California's Medicaid waiver for family planning services, FamilyPACT, which provides health care to low-income women and men at no cost. Though the waiver provides cost-savings to the state of California, it is consistently under threat. The FamilyPACT program remains alive today as a direct result of the efforts of Margie and other coalition partners who fight to maintain it.

Madam Speaker, I want to recognize Margie Fites Seigle for all of the important work she has done to expand access to vital reproductive and sexual health care for millions of Americans, and for her many years of unwavering dedication to the low-income and underserved.

HONORING MAXWELL KENNEDY

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Maxwell Kennedy, my cousin, for his stewardship in the opening of the Robert F. Kennedy Community Schools Complex in Los Angeles, California on September 13, 2010. Named after U.S. Senator Robert F. Kennedy, Maxwell's father and my uncle, the schools are devoted to social justice. Maxwell's work on behalf of the young people of Los Angeles is simply remarkable.

On September 13, the six pilot schools that make up the Robert F. Kennedy Community Schools Complex began instructing students in grades kindergarten through 12th on its campus located in the Pico-Union/Korea Town

neighborhood of Los Angeles. The schools are located on the site of the former Ambassador Hotel and because of the historic nature of the site, there were legal challenges to converting the site to a school. Community members and organizations, including RFK-12, came together to advocate for a local school. In 2005, the Los Angeles Unified School District School Board and Superintendent Roy Romer appointed the Robert F. Kennedy Commission to provide recommendations on how to memorialize Senator Kennedy's life. The commission was chaired by former California Supreme Court Justice Cruz Reynoso, and included a number of civic leaders.

The Commission's major recommendation called for a social justice theme to permeate the curriculum, extending from kindergarten through high school that would reflect Senator Kennedy's commitment throughout his public life.

The schools activities include: the creation of a foundation guided by an Advisory Committee that will help to fund social-justice related activities and act as a resource for the schools on establishing relationships with community service groups outside the school locally and in the larger world, a speakers program, a fellows program that will bring emerging and established leaders to the school, and the creation of a public park recalling the inspirational speeches by the Senator and others.

The pilot schools are innovative small schools that have charter-like autonomy over their budget, curriculum and assessment, governance, schedule and staffing, but are part of the public school system.

Maxwell has been instrumental in the improvement of public education in Los Angeles. I wish him all the best as he continues his important work on behalf of young people. He will continue to carry my own admiration, and that of all who have had the privilege to work with him.

REPRESENTATIVE CAROLYN
CHEEKS KILPATRICK

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus it is with great pleasure and pride that I rise today to extend my best wishes to Congresswoman CAROLYN KILPATRICK as she prepares to retire from the United States Congress after 14 years of service to the people of the 13th congressional district of Michigan and our nation.

Congresswoman Kilpatrick was an exemplary chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, who I served with as First Vice Chair during the 110th Congress. I have also had the pleasure of serving with Congresswoman KILPATRICK as a member of the House Appropriations Committee, where she has been a forceful advocate for her constituents and the state of Michigan. A brilliant and focused lawmaker, Congresswoman KILPATRICK is known for her inspirational leadership, her outstanding passion for public service, and her steadfast commitment to education and equality.

While serving on Capitol Hill, Congresswoman KILPATRICK has worked to level the