

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE  
MARGARET AZEVEDO

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 1, 2001*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, today I honor Ms. Margaret Azevedo. Margaret Azevedo, a long-time progressive in Marin County, exemplified the very best in public service to our community. During her 45 years of activism, Margaret was known for her thorough and balanced approach to preserving our environment. Her tireless efforts on behalf of the people of Marin and their quality of life earned her the respect and admiration of all who knew her.

As a member of many organizations including the Marin County Planning Commission, the North Central Regional Coastal Commission, the Coastal Conservancy, the Bay Area Transportation Study Commission, the Association of Bay Area Government's Housing Task Force, the League of Women Voters, the Marin Council for Civic Affairs and the Point Reyes National Seashore Foundation Margaret worked endlessly to enhance the long-term health of the Northbay community. She was known for her breadth of knowledge as well as a keen sense of humor.

Margaret Azevedo is credited with preserving 240,200 acres of open space as well as playing a major role in the establishment of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and the Richardson Bay Audubon Sanctuary. Her numerous awards—such as the San Francisco Examiner's 10 most distinguished women of the Bay Area, Marin Women's Hall of Fame and the League of Women Voters' Bunny Lucheta Award for Outstanding Public Service in Marin County—are a testament to the success of her efforts.

Mr. Speaker, Margaret's death in December 2000, leaves a void in Marin that will be impossible to fill as well as a legacy that demonstrates the value of an individual's dedication to preserving and bettering our environment and our world.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ABEL AND  
MARY NICHOLSON HOUSE NATIONAL  
HISTORIC SITE STUDY  
ACT

**HON. FRANK A. LoBIONDO**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 1, 2001*

Mr. LoBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce H.R. 793, the Abel and Mary Nicholson House Historic Site Study Act. This bill would require the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the Abel and Mary Nicholson House, located in Elsinboro Township, Salem County, New Jersey, in my congressional district, as a unit of the National Park System. As part of the study the Secretary would also be required to consider management alternatives to create an administrative association with the New Jersey Coastal Heritage Trail Route. This

study is the required first step in designating the site as a national park.

The Abel and Mary Nicholson House was built in 1722 and is a rare surviving example of an unaltered early 18th century patterned brick building. The original portion of the house has existed for 280 years with only routine maintenance. This house is a unique resource which can provide significant opportunities for studying our nation's history and development.

I was pleased to announce the designation of this house as a National Historic Landmark on March 1, 2000, which made it the first National Historic Landmark site in Salem or Gloucester Counties, in New Jersey. The U.S. Department of the Interior designated the Nicholson House as a National Historic Landmark because of its historical importance to the entire nation and listed it in the National Register of Historic Places.

As one of the most significant "first period" houses surviving in the Delaware Valley, the Nicholson House represents a piece of history from both Southern New Jersey and early American life, and should remain protected and preserved to continue as a valuable teaching tool for generations to come.

SAINT ISIDORE SCHOOL  
CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

**HON. VERNON J. EHLERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 1, 2001*

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, today I give recognition to St. Isidore School in Grand Rapids, Michigan for its 100 years of service to the Grand Rapids community. Founded by Polish immigrants, the school opened its doors to 144 students on January 2, 1901, in a northeastside building that served as a combination school, church, and convent. Since the ringing of the first bell in 1901, the school has served as an excellent example of families committed to providing their children with a positive Catholic school experience.

St. Isidore School, originally the city's East Side Polish parish school, has been through many changes over the years and has grown into a cosmopolitan school. The current facility on Spring Avenue was built in 1926 and in recent years has housed an average of 140 students in grades K-8. The record year was 1927 when the pupil count swelled to 920 students. During a 20 year period from 1927 thru 1947 St. Isidore's also opened its doors to ninth grade students.

During its 100 year existence, St. Isidore's has served as the starting point for numerous young men and women who have gone on to very challenging and successful careers. Graduates of the school have become priests, sisters, doctors, nurses, attorneys, engineers, accountants, teachers, administrators, elected officials, and good loyal employees of the many industries in the West Michigan area.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely delighted to take this time to pay tribute to this superb school that has played a vital role in our city's history. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting the efforts and commitment of the staff

and students who have called St. Isidore home over the past 100 years. Their dedication to learning and excellence is a model for others to follow. Congratulations! May God also bless you for your next 100 years!

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
SCOTT VFW POST 4183

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 1, 2001*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 50th anniversary of the Scott Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4183 in Belleville, Illinois.

The Veteran's of Foreign Wars (VFW) of the United States traces its roots back to 1899. That year, veterans of both the Spanish-American War and the Philippine Insurrection founded local organizations to secure rights and benefits for their veterans. In Columbus, Ohio, Spanish-American War veterans founded the American Veterans of Foreign Service and in Denver, Colorado, Philippine veterans organized the Colorado Society, Army of the Philippines. In 1913, both organizations merged to form the present Veterans of Foreign Wars organization.

The VFW is known the world over for their service not only to veterans, but to all people. They are considered to be one of the most influential forces in the halls of Congress. The efforts of the VFW resulted in the creation of the House Veteran's Committee, the WW 1 bonus, the national Veteran's Day holiday, various GI bills, the creation of a cabinet level office of Veteran's Affairs and support on many veteran's health issues. The VFW is active in disaster relief and also provides information to citizens about our national flag. You cannot also mention the VFW without mentioning their "buddy poppy" program which raises funds for veteran's homes.

The Scott VFW Post 4183 was chartered in 1951 with 88 members and was named the Loren Howarth VFW Post. Their first meetings were held in the basement of the P-3 Building at Scott Air Force base. In 1970, the post was renamed for Frederick M. Kocher, the commander largely responsible for re-energizing the post's efforts in reaching membership goals. Commander Kocher was also responsible for providing a commitment to service to those veterans who served their country. In the 80's, the Post took on its present designation as the Scott VFW Post 4183.

The Post's present location on 3½ acres used to be a farmhouse that still remains as part of the Post complex. Additions to the farmhouse over the years were the inclusion of a bingo and meeting hall in 1954 and a building addition in 1986. Located just outside the Belleville Gate of Scott Air Force Base, VFW Post 4183 relies on base personnel for the majority of its membership. Currently, the Post has 446 members, residing in 35 different states and five foreign countries. Two hundred and forty of these Post members are considered life members and the membership roll includes a Pearl Harbor Veteran and a WW II Flying Sergeant. The majority of the