

Today, Rachel is the founder of the DetritusGroup which collaborates with businesses, municipalities and nonprofit organizations to build up their internal capacity and effectiveness in the area of sustainability. Rachel is also an Adjunct Faculty in the Business Department of Red Rocks Community College teaching business and entrepreneurship classes and inspiring both young students and returning adults to pursue a career in business and the development of entrepreneurship.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Rachel T. Emmer for being honored by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

HISTORICAL RECORD OF
FALEOMAVAEGA'S REQUEST FOR
OFFICIAL CLARIFICATION OF
U.S. POLICY REGARDING AMERICAN
SAMOA'S STATUS BEFORE
THE UNITED NATIONS
DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include, for historical purposes, the following information about my request for official clarification regarding American Samoa's status before the United Nations Decolonization Committee.

FALEOMAVAEGA VISITS UNITED NATIONS AND REQUESTS OFFICIAL CLARIFICATION OF US POLICY REGARDING AMERICAN SAMOA'S STATUS BEFORE THE DECOLONIZATION COMMITTEE

[Press Release—Mar. 30, 2006]

Congressman Faleomavaega announced today that on Monday March 27, 2006 he visited the United Nations (UN) as part of an official Congressional Delegation (CODEL) led by Chairman Henry Hyde and Ranking Member Tom Lantos of the House Committee on International Relations. The CODEL, which included other senior Members of the International Relations Committee, met with Ambassador John Bolton, the US Permanent Representative to the UN, to discuss the current nuclear crisis with Iran and whether Congress should withhold funding for the UN when problems of corruption and lack of accountability continue to exist.

During the visit, Faleomavaega also had the opportunity to be briefed by Commander Jeffrey J. Jones who has been appointed by the US Mission to serve as the liaison for the United States to the UN Special Committee of Twenty-four (C-24), also known as the UN Decolonization Committee. As a follow-up to his briefing, Faleomavaega wrote to Ambassador Bolton to determine American Samoa's status relative to US policies relating to the Decolonization Committee and the United Nations.

The full text of Faleomavaega's letter to Ambassador Bolton dated March 30, 2006 follows:

Dear Mr. Ambassador: I am writing to thank you for meeting with Members of the House International Relations Committee during our recent visit to the United Nations (UN) and the United States Mission. I commend Chairman Henry Hyde and Ranking Member Tom Lantos for leading our Congressional Delegation and I was pleased to be a part of our important discussions with you

regarding the current nuclear crisis with Iran and whether Congress should withhold funding for the UN when problems of corruption and lack of accountability continue to exist. During our visit to the United Nations, I also had the opportunity to be briefed by Commander Jeffrey J. Jones who has been appointed by the US Mission to serve as the liaison for the US to the UN Special Committee of Twenty-four (C-24), also known as the UN Decolonization Committee. As you know, in 1945, the United Nations established the International Trusteeship Council for the purpose of reviewing and then making recommendations before the UN General Assembly to declare certain territories as non-self-governing, or dependent on colonial powers. Since the creation of the UN, more than 80 colonies have gained their independence and 16 non-self-governing territories, as defined by the UN remain today.

Although the Trusteeship Council no longer exists, the Decolonization Committee stands in its place. Each year, the UN Decolonization Committee reviews the status of the 16 non-self-governing territories which include American Samoa as well as other US possessions. It is my understanding that the US does not pay much attention anymore to the activities of the Decolonization Committee in part because the US has had frustration over the years in dealing with member countries like Cuba that continue to view the United States as a colonial power. A few years ago, I attended a meeting of the Decolonization Committee held in Havana, Cuba and I can confirm the fact that the remarks of the Speaker of the Cuban Parliament were very negative towards the United States.

This aside, it is my understanding that there are no negotiations on American Samoa underway between the United Nations and the US Government. Notwithstanding these circumstances, Commander Jones informed me that the US State Department does file annual reports about American Samoa with the Decolonization Committee after consulting with officials of the US Department of the Interior. These reports contain information about the economic, social and political development of American Samoa and, for this reason, I am requesting your assistance in determining the official position of the US regarding American Samoa's status before the UN Decolonization Committee. Again, the Decolonization Committee defines and categorizes American Samoa as a non-self governing territory.

In recent years, our late Governor Tauese Sunia initiated a movement to request that American Samoa be de-listed as a non-self governing territory by the United Nations. However, neither our US Secretary of State nor our Secretary of the Interior ever brought this matter before the people and leaders of American Samoa for consideration. While I suspect that at some point in time a plebiscite may be needed to determine whether or not the listing should be continued, I respectfully request that the Governor, our territorial legislature, and my office be informed on what procedures need to be taken before action, if any, is taken by the UN Decolonization Committee or the US Mission to the UN.

As you can appreciate, it is imperative that the elected and traditional leaders and the people of American Samoa are fully briefed and informed about the territory's political status as a non-self governing territory as defined and categorized by the United Nations before any action is taken.

Faleomavaega concluded his letter by saying, With this understanding, I would appreciate receiving a response from you as to

American Samoa's status relative to US policies relating to the Decolonization Committee and the United Nations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I missed the following votes on Thursday, November 20, 2014. On Roll Call Vote 529, the Waxman of California Part C Amendment Number 1, I would have voted "aye." On Roll Call Vote 530, on the Motion to Recommit with Instructions to H.R. 4795, I would have voted "aye." On Roll Call Vote 531, On Passage of H.R. 4795, the Promoting New Manufacturing Act, I would have voted "no."

HONORING KAREN NELSON

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, it doesn't take long for anyone to recognize that the Congress depends on staff people to get most of its work done. Members speak and Members vote, but much of what we say is researched for us by staff and many of our votes are based on advice and counsel we get from our staff.

I have been in Congress for 40 years now. For 36 of those years, I have had the great good fortune to be advised and counseled by Karen Nelson, my chief health staff person. Much of what we have accomplished in health during that time has been because of her.

First, she knows the field. For three decades, she has been directly involved in every public health and health finance law that has passed this House. She's a living reference work for details about everything from Medicaid rates to pharmaceutical trials to tobacco advertising to health exchanges. She also provides the institutional memory on the origins of these laws as well as the alternatives and amendments that were considered in their passage.

She is, however, much more than an encyclopedia of health policy. She is also intuitive about issues. I have seen her be briefed on an issue that was altogether new to her and immediately hone in on the central problem. She can hear disparate facts and figures and then pick out the common thread. She has often learned of a policy roadblock and quickly found a way over, under, around or through it.

And, fundamentally, she is wise. When politics and politicians come to a stalemate, she can find a fair compromise. When egos and pride get in the way, she can find a way for everyone to save face. And when a policy is unfair, inequitable, or just wrong, she has the courage of her convictions to say so.

This is not to say that Karen spends all her life at the office. I've seen her walk out of members' meetings to go to a basketball game of her beloved Wizards. I know that if I have a weekend night free that Karen will have seen every movie in town and will have a review for me. As hard as she works, she also manages to enjoy her free time, too.

I have been the beneficiary of Karen Nelson's life and work for decades. So has the Commerce Committee. So has this House. And so have millions of children, poor people, elderly people, and all Americans. Most of them don't know—and will never know—what she's done for them, but I wanted to take this moment to tell my colleagues and to thank her.

HONORING CITY OF TRACY
MAYOR, BRENT H. IVES

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge City of Tracy Mayor, Brent H. Ives, for his numerous years of outstanding service and commitment to the betterment of our community.

Mayor Ives is a local of Tracy and grew up in the community. He attended New Jerusalem School in the Vernalis area and graduated from Tracy High School in 1971. He attended San Joaquin Delta College and has a Bachelor of Science degree in Organizational Behavior from the University of San Francisco.

Mr. Ives began his service in 1988 as a Parks Commissioner in Tracy. He served on the Parks and Recreation Commission for four years prior to serving one year on the Planning Commission. In 1991, he was elected as a Tracy City Councilmember and for the last eight years, has served as Mayor.

Mayor Ives served as a member of the Economic Development Advisory Group, South County Fire Authority, San Joaquin Partnership for Economic Development, San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission (ACE), and as Chairman of the San Joaquin Council of Governments and the San Joaquin Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO). He also lead the Mayor's Community Youth Support Network (MCYSN), which provides broad-based assistance and solutions to youth and their parents encountering the challenges that young people and their parents face today.

Mr. Ives operates BHI Management Consulting in Tracy, a consulting firm that specializes in assisting small government agencies and non-profits in areas of strategic planning, governance, organizational health and supervisory excellence. Prior to his time in public service, he worked as a Senior Engineering Deputy Section Leader at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory before retiring after a 37 year career.

Brent and his wife, Lynda, have three grown children and enjoy spending time with their grandkids.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring City of Tracy Mayor, Brent H. Ives, on his retirement and thank him for his exemplary leadership and service to the community.

CRITTENTON SERVICES
CELEBRATES 126TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to share with my col-

leagues inspiring information about Crittenton Services of Greater Washington, a life-changing organization serving low-income teenage girls in public and charter schools in Montgomery County, Maryland and Washington, DC.

On November 20th, at a gala celebrating its 126th anniversary, Crittenton announced an important expansion of its programs and honored several area women who have displayed leadership on issues crucial to the healthy development of teen girls. I am delighted that one of the honorees is our colleague, and a member of the Maryland Congressional delegation, my good friend Rep. DONNA EDWARDS. Karla Silvestre, Director of Community Engagement at Montgomery College and with whom my staff and I have worked over many years, also received well-deserved recognition, as did Meredith Attwell Baker, President and CEO of CTIA—the Wireless Association, and Gloria L. Blackwell, Vice President of Fellowships, Grants, and Global Programs at the American Association of University Women. Each of them has my heartiest congratulations.

Earlier this year, with the support of Montgomery County and the District of Columbia Department of Health, Crittenton tripled the number of its programs for low-income teen girls. As a result, Crittenton, under the outstanding leadership of Executive Director Pamela Jones, now provides services at 11 DC schools and six Montgomery County schools, serving over 400 middle and high school girls. The objectives of the programs are to reduce pregnancies, births, and sexually transmitted infections among teen girls, ages 14 to 19, and increase their motivation and aspirations to succeed in high school and complete post-secondary education.

Over the course of the school year, Crittenton presents structured curricula that are science-based, age appropriate, and medically accurate. In 26 sessions, the programs teach girls about healthy relationships with their peers, dating partners, and parents; reproductive health, nutrition, and fitness; and life options, including post-secondary education and careers. Through active learning activities—role-play, games, or group discussion—Crittenton helps the girls acquire “real world life skills” such as communication, conflict resolution, assertiveness, and negotiation; managing emotions, impulses, frustration, and stress; and goal-setting, planning, problem-solving, and decision-making.

In addition, to help participants envision a future and become increasingly motivated to achieve that future, Crittenton organizes out-of-school enrichment activities that expose them to college and careers. But the programs’ “secret sauce” is the relationship that program leaders form with the girls. Program leaders are culturally competent, well trained, highly experienced youth development specialists. They create a welcoming environment and a “safe space” that inspires the girls to speak openly with a caring adult and each other; they talk with the girls honestly and non-judgmentally; and they model positive behavior.

A central component of Crittenton's programs is a focus on the “whole girl” and her future, with a goal of heightening her awareness of life options. Through the experiences the programs provide, girls learn to recognize and value their gifts and develop invaluable

life and leadership skills. Most importantly, they develop a belief in their ability to succeed, even in challenging situations.

Crittenton was originally established in Washington, DC in 1887. Its mission has evolved from rescuing young girls from sex trafficking and exploitation to providing a residential home as a safe haven with caring trusted adults for single mothers and their babies. As society and the need for services changed, so has Crittenton. The Florence Crittenton Home was sold in 1983 and the organization launched a series of successful multi-year programs for teen girls and young women. Today, Crittenton Services of Greater Washington provides three key programs.

SNEAKERS (Self-efficacy, Nurturance, Expectations, Assertiveness, Knowledge, Empowerment, Responsibility, and Success), a program that enables vulnerable girls who are navigating the challenges of adolescence to thrive;

PEARLS (Parenting, Education, and Responsive Life Skills), a program that enables pregnant and parenting teens to succeed as students and parents; and

4C'ING the Future (Crittenton College and Career Connection), a college and career access program that engages parents and prepares 8th grade girls to become the first in their families to attend college.

For many years, Crittenton's programs have been changing the trajectories of teen girls' lives. Crittenton girls are avoiding risky, unhealthy behaviors; acquiring social and emotional skills that are essential for academic and life success; becoming motivated learners who will graduate from high school; and using their voices, time, and talent to serve others. They also have a vision—and a plan—to achieve their academic, personal and professional goals.

I am pleased to share with my colleagues this wonderful example of the invaluable contributions that non-profit organizations make to their communities. I extend my gratitude and appreciation to Crittenton for all it does to change lives and wish it a very happy anniversary.

HISTORICAL RECORD OF ASCC'S
UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 1, 2014

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to include, for historical purposes, information about the funding of an Upward Bound program at American Samoa Community College in 2003.

[Press Release, Oct. 9, 2003]

FALEOMAVEGA SPEAKS OUT ABOUT CONFUSION SURROUNDING ASCC'S UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

Congressman Faleomavaega announced today that he is speaking out about the confusion surrounding ASCC's Upward Bound Program and is also making all letters pertaining to this matter available to the public.

“On June 22, 2003, Hipa Neria, the Director of ASCC's Upward Bound Program, called my office and requested my assistance in finding out whether or not ASCC's grant application would be funded.” Congressman