

Sergeant Stamper's law enforcement career started in 1991, as a Deputy Sheriff in Kings County. He was promoted to Senior Deputy Sheriff in February of 2000. After sixteen years in the Kings County Sheriff's Department, Sergeant Stamper transitioned to the Kings County District Attorney's Office as an Investigator in November of 2007.

In 2010, Sergeant Stamper was sworn into the Inaugural Police Department for the City of Avenal, California. His experience and leadership made him a preferred candidate to help establish a new department to protect the citizens of Avenal. This year completes seven full years of service to the citizens of Avenal and twenty-six years of total law enforcement experience.

In retirement, Sergeant Stamper will be spending more time with his loving family, wife Julie and daughters Taylor and Lilly. On this special day for Jeffrey, it is important to remember his son Brandon who was taken from his loved ones and our community too soon in 2012.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in commending Sergeant Jeffrey Stamper on his retirement from the City of Avenal and his service to the people of Kings County over the past twenty-six years. As he embarks on the next chapter of his life, I wish him my absolute best.

LIFE OF MARCUS RASKIN

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the fiercely independent progressive think tank co-founder Professor Marcus G. Raskin and to pay my respects to his family, especially to my colleague, Maryland Congressman JAMIE RASKIN. Mr. Raskin died December 24 at 83. As a founder of the Institute for Policy Studies in 1963, Mr. Raskin was at the forefront shaping important policy proposals for more than five decades as the intellectual force against "the national security state," a term he coined. Mr. Raskin was instrumental in galvanizing the anti-Vietnam War movement and in seeing the Pentagon Papers were published. He was indicted in 1968 as one of the "Boston Five"—including William Sloane Coffin and Dr. Benjamin Spock—for conspiracy to aid resistance to the draft, and was acquitted. Later, practicing what he called "passionate scholarship"—pairing ideas with action—he was instrumental in organizing the IPS campaign that ultimately persuaded 350 cities across the country to vote on resolutions opposing the Iraq War. A graduate of the University of Chicago and its law school, Mr. Raskin joined the Kennedy administration in early 1961 as an aide to National Security Adviser McGeorge Bundy. Along with Richard J. Barnett, he founded the Institute for Policy Studies as a national vehicle for promoting progressive policies for the left-leaning elements of the Democratic Party. IPS became the model for policy think tanks in Washington and remained independent by refusing to take government grants. The author or editor of 20 books, Mr. Raskin was a leading force in progressive social causes, including the anti-nu-

clear arms debate, civil rights, women's rights, the environment and consumer affairs. In 1977, IPS was asked by 56 members of Congress, led by members of the Congressional Black Caucus, to analyze the federal budget, leading to the 1980 publication of *The Federal Budget and Social Reconstruction*. After the 9/11 attacks, he wrote three books forging a new approach to threats, including, with Robert Spero, *The Four Freedoms Under Siege: The Clear and Present Danger from Our National Security State* (2006). In 2012, he co-edited *Warfare Welfare: The Not-So-Hidden Coasts of America's War Economy*. I want to express my condolences to Mr. Raskin's family. The country was strengthened and enlightened by Marcus Raskin's persuasive ideas. As an American citizen who took an active role shaping public policy, he will be missed.

TAYLOR SCOTT AFFENTRANGER

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Sergeant Taylor Scott Affentranger. Affentranger joined the United States Army in 2011 and proudly served his country in Afghanistan and Italy until 2017.

After returning home from duty he went back to school at the Central New Mexico Community College. Taylor was focused on his coursework and excited to work towards a bachelor's degree in Video Game Engineering. He was dedicated to his family, community, and country.

Affentranger passed away on December 22, 2017. He was the husband to Courtney Affentranger and father to their son, Rowan, who recently turned two. He will be remembered as a loving husband and father, and as a hero who bravely defended our country. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Taylor Scott Affentranger for his service to our nation.

He is survived by his father, Scott Affentranger and wife Miriah; his mother, Pamela Gonzales and husband Ken; his wife Courtney and son Rowan; Treva Affentranger, his grandmother; his siblings, Ashley and Bracton; and stepsiblings, Dallen and Ashlyn Fluit.

IN HONOR OF THE ST. FRANCIS DESALES HIGH SCHOOL BOYS SOCCER TEAM

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the St. Francis DeSales High School Boys Soccer Team for winning the Ohio Division II State Soccer Championship.

This victory caps a tremendous season and adds to the great legacy of the St. Francis DeSales soccer program. While most student athletes endeavor to capture one championship during their high school career, the young men on the DeSales Boys Soccer Team have won three championships in four years. This

accomplishment truly exemplifies St. Francis DeSales High School's commitment to academic and athletic excellence.

These young student athletes have set a new standard for future Stallions and demonstrated that success is attainable through diligence and countless hours of practice. Everyone at St. Francis DeSales can be extremely proud of their accomplishment.

On behalf of the citizens of Ohio's 12th Congressional District, I congratulate the St. Francis DeSales Boys Soccer Team on their state championship. I wish them continued success in both their athletic and academic endeavors.

CELEBRATING RUTH M. YOUNG'S 95TH BIRTHDAY

HON. BARRY LOUDERMILK

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 95th birthday of Mrs. Ruth M. Young of Marietta, Georgia. Mrs. Young was born on January 15, 1923.

A longtime resident of Decatur who relocated to Marietta-Cobb County with her daughter, Olivia, Mrs. Young continues to be an active member of her neighborhood and community. A woman who is deeply devoted to her family, being married for 72 years until the death of her beloved husband (Jesse T. Young) in 2013, she has continued to be a tireless mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and well-respected neighborhood-community figure.

Mrs. Young's family and friends are gathering this weekend to celebrate her 95th birthday with a reception on January 15, 2018. Please join me in wishing Mrs. Ruth Young a very happy birthday.

HOMILY/EULOGY FOR SR. CATHERINE PINKERTON CSJ

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following Homily and Eulogy for Sister Catherine Pinkerton:

The readings chosen for Catherine today by her CSJ sisters are wonderfully descriptive of who she was.

Catherine's life was all about bringing glad tidings to the poor and letting the oppressed go free. She was so powerfully passionate and so dedicated to her mission of justice, who can doubt that the Spirit had indeed anointed her for this work?—And is she not a true daughter of Joseph? (Luke 4: 14-23)

The first reading from the Book of Wisdom (Message version) describes her so well: inquiring mind coupled with dedication. She was one of a kind, able to multitask and keep an edge; nimble in argument, able to conduct three conversations at the same time; kept a clean record, always had her wits about her; wouldn't hurt a fly; was drawn to the good; sharp as a tack, nothing got past her; always had an orange in her pocket; cordial with humans, kind to animals; (Some examples—I'm told that one

fish in the motherhouse fish tank actually always responded to the sound of her voice. She loved the deer on our property, and was once found after hours roaming the kitchen trying to find some food for a wounded doe. Her great niece Kelly Haas recalls how much Catherine loved the horses at the stable where Catherine came to watch her learning to ride.) could hold her own in male company. She was a model of virtue, didn't miss a trick; she could discern the movements of the soul—whether intellectual or moral, subtle or not-so-subtle.” (Wisdom 7: 22-23)

The only thing that's missing from this fascinating list is that her hair and makeup were always perfect, her two business suits beautifully tailored, and she always looked as if she had just stepped out of a band box. Seriously.

So how shall we eulogize our Catherine?

Perhaps we should begin at the beginning—her heart for the marginalized was instilled at age seven, when her parents were about to buy a new home right before the Great Depression. Catherine loved the house they were considering, particularly because of its large library. “I told all my friends about it,” she said. “But Dad sat us down and said, ‘Mother and I have decided not to buy that house.’ I said, ‘Why, Daddy?’ He said, ‘Because something terrible is going to happen in this country, and there will be people who won't have food or housing or jobs and . . . we have to help them.’ And I said, ‘Why can't they help themselves?’ He said, ‘Some people don't have resources like education and jobs.’ And then he said, ‘And besides, missy, you don't need a big house when other people don't have food on the table.’ And that was my first lesson in justice.”

Later, involvements with Dorothy Day's Catholic Worker Movement and friendship with Mother Margaret Mary Neary were influential in Catherine's decision to join the Congregation of St. Joseph.

After Vatican II, Catherine quickly acquired multiple involvements in Cleveland. She was a respected teacher, skilled choir director and principal at St. Joe's Academy where she annually taught the entire student body to sing the Battle Hymn of the Republic in four-part harmony. She worked closely with Cleveland groups that focused on the poor and on advancing women's roles in church and society. In the 1970s she worked as a consultant to Cleveland's parish councils and other religious communities. She was president of the Sisters' senate and became a founding member of the Cleveland Women's Ordination Conference.

Among her local awards are two naming her as one of the Most Influential Women in Cleveland as well as the John Carroll University Centennial Education Medal. From 1976-1984 she served in leadership with our Congregation of St. Joseph and in 1982 was elected to the presidency of Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR), which at the time represented all 130,000 US sisters.

And so began Catherine's national ministry—first via LCWR—and then in 1984 when she began working as a lobbyist for NETWORK, the Catholic Social Justice lobby founded by LCWR sisters.

I'd like to take a moment now and reprise a tribute from her LCWR and NETWORK sisters when in 2006, they gave her the highest honor any former LCWR president could receive—the Outstanding Leadership Award. It is a good snapshot of how Catherine lived out her anointing to work for justice and the poor:

The late Sr. Bette Moslander, CSJ who was part of the LCWR presidency with Catherine said: “Catherine was in LCWR leadership at a time when the conference and US women religious were the focus of intense scrutiny by the church and by the US government.

The major shifts of Vatican II renewal had brought about changes that were not yet completely accepted by the Catholic population in this country or by the Congregation of Religious in Rome.”

The late Sr. Miriam Therese Larkin, CSJ, also in the LCWR presidency with Catherine, says: “Catherine's wisdom, insight and straightforwardness during these times enabled her to make her point so clearly and cogently that further protests lost their meaning and simply died. We really cannot measure the value of her service to women religious in the United States and in the world.”

Former Network Director Sr. Kathy Thornton RSM wrote: “It is perhaps on Capitol Hill that [Catherine] has had the strongest impact, commanding attention with her intelligence and unwavering determination as an advocate for those unduly burdened by the injustices of society. . . . Catherine has become a formidable presence in the halls of Congress.

Jean Stokan, policy director of Pax Christi USA: “When Catherine walks the halls of Congress, she parts waters. Heads turn and useless chatter ceases when she enters a room.”

NETWORK colleague Michael Culliton concurs. “I remember trips to Capitol Hill with Catherine. I was struck by the number of times we were stopped by staffers and elected officials who knew Catherine by name. Ever a woman of justice, her warm return of a greeting was typically followed with a strong injunction related to an upcoming vote or policy debate.”

Kathy Thornton again: “Catherine has become at home in centers of power. She has won the respect of many heavy-hitters in the political world and can ably tease Bill Clinton, confer with Hillary Clinton and chide Ted Kennedy, who when he does not see Catherine for a while, admits to really missing her.”

Sr. Janet Mock CSJ—the former Executive Director of LCWR—notes: “She is equally at home, however, with the people who live on the margins. Her co-workers note that Catherine puts the same effort into building relationships with the world's power brokers as she puts into building relationships with the marginalized people whom she knows from the streets of DC. As she uses her intellect to analyze social ills, she uses her heart to understand the people affected by them.

U.S. Representative Marcy Kaptur, who knew Catherine for over 30 years, told us at her wake last night that Catherine was the founding face of NETWORK and of Catholic Social Teaching in Congress. “Network in its early years would not have been possible without her inspired leadership.”

By way of background, during Clinton admin—Catherine worked with then First Lady Hillary Clinton and Senator Edward Kennedy in an effort to craft comprehensive health care legislation. She brought Catholic Social Teaching principles to the debate and was a strong advocate for ensuring that those without coverage would have access to healthcare. When that effort faltered, she became a passionate advocate for the Child Health Insurance Program for families too poor to have health insurance but did not qualify for Medicaid.

At the Wake Service last night, the current Executive Director of NETWORK, Sr. Simone Campbell reflected that Catherine's perseverance and lobbying had actually prepared the way for the Affordable Care Act, and related how happy she was to see it passed just before Catherine retired so she could experience the rich fruits of her over 25 years of dedicated lobbying.

Sr. Nancy Sylvester IHM remembers that when Catherine came to NETWORK “[She]

also took a great interest in our young interns/associates. She mentored them and took time to drive them home if needed or to assist them in other ways.”

Sr. Theresa Kane RSM—LCWR president just before Catherine: “Catherine Pinkerton was a dedicated, enthusiastic and a most gracious woman religious to all who encountered her. She lived a full, joyous and most worthwhile life and meets her loving God with many graces. Indeed she has earned and been gifted with the hundredfold!”

At a DC farewell for Catherine, the well-known Washington Post Columnist EJ Dionne praised her this way: “It has been said that while we are born with original sin we also have access to original grace...Sr. Catherine's public witness has always been about grace—about the capacity to solve problems and help people. We have heard her preach, we have watched her work, and boy are we grateful—this city could use a whole lot more people like you, Sr. Catherine. You make us proud to be Catholic.” (Full remarks can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i0qHNO3Gqu0>)

So, are we getting the idea that Catherine was sort of a larger than life kind of person? Well, yes—and no.

We, Cleveland sisters were immensely proud of her but we also dealt gently with her frailties.

Last, unbeknownst to any but her closest confidantes, there were the insecurities that sometimes plagued her. So this closing quote comes from someone Catherine has described as her soulmate: Sr. Felicia Petruziello, who lived with her in Washington for a number of years and is a lifelong friend:

“We were soulmates in our earthiness—our human weaknesses,” says Felicia. “Both of us were always doubting ourselves—we were connected in being anxious and wondering if what we were doing or saying was right or not. It wasn't the big and famous things she did that connected us but our insecurities. When she gave a speech, she needed to have five people read it first to see if it was OK. Before she received her award at LCWR she spent most of the time in the bathroom because she was so anxious about whether her speech was good enough. And she found it so helpful to ride up in the elevator with Joe Biden's mother just before her benediction at the 2008 Democratic convention. She felt more secure that another “old lady” was present.”

“This is something most people didn't know,” concludes Felicia. “She often felt very insecure inside—but that didn't stop her—she is a model for how we can do big things when we move beyond our insecurities.”

“She is a model for how we can do big things when we move beyond our insecurities.”

I'd like to close with Catherine's own words from a news story at the time of her LCWR award: “Our foundresses dealt with chaos,” she said, “and we have to deal with chaos now because only out of chaos is going to come the creativity of the future. Women Religious are the prophetic dimension of the church. Religious life is a prophetic gift given to the church and humanity. We stand on the line of what is and what is yet to be, and that is our role.”

“We stand on the line of what is and what is yet to be”

And isn't this a daughter of Joseph?

SISTER CATHERINE PINKERTON, CSJ
(Congregation of St. Joseph)

Formerly Sister Mary Pius
Born September 22, 1921

Entered Eternal Life December 28, 2017

Catherine was born, the third of four children, on September 22, 1921 to Charles D. and

Anne Berry Pinkerton. She grew up on Cleveland's west side in a family that was both politically conscious and socially active and where discussion of "issues" (which almost always included the children) was a regular part of family interaction. Her father ran a steel foundry supply business and was a salesman most of his life. Her mother was both a homemaker and helped her husband with the business.

Catherine talked about Sunday afternoon walks to the lake with her father where she learned many valuable things among which was that a woman could do anything if she understood how the world and business worked. Catherine attended St. Ignatius Elementary School from which she graduated in 1935. She then went on to St. Joseph Academy, graduating in 1939. During her high school years, she was introduced to the Catholic Worker movement and was soon volunteering at a soup kitchen. She became very close to Mother Margaret Mary Neary, who was instrumental in helping her make the decision to enter the Sisters of St. Joseph, which she did immediately following graduation.

Her parents were reluctant to see her enter, but they did support her in her decision. She received the habit in 1940 and was given the religious name, Sister Mary Pius. She attended St. John College from which she received her BSE in 1950 and her MA (Curriculum, English, and Education) in 1957. She did further study at both John Carroll University (certification in secondary school administration) and Laval University in Canada (music). As was the case with most sisters at that time, much of her formal education was done on Saturdays and during summers while she was teaching.

Sister Mary Pius's teaching assignments were: St. Rose (1943-50); St. Joseph, Canton (1950-57); St. Joseph Academy (1957-73). During her time at St. Joseph Academy, she was a teacher, the principal, and the director of the Junior Professed Sisters. This was around the time of the Second Vatican Council and Mother Margaret Mary Neary (Catherine's friend from high school) told her that she would be responsible for preparing young sisters for a Church and a community which didn't yet exist. What a challenge that was!

In all the different capacities which Catherine served at St. Joseph Academy, she was always involved with teaching music. She was especially skillful in getting large groups to sing well. There was nothing like hearing the entire school sing, "The Battle Hymn of the Republic"!

It was during these years that Catherine was elected to the Diocesan Sisters' Senate and eventually became its president. She gradually became more and more involved in organizations of women religious. From 1973-75, she was the chairperson of NAWR (National Association of Women Religious). In 1975, she came back to Cleveland and worked for the Diocese in pastoral planning as the Director of Parish Councils (1975-80). Shortly after, she was elected to the leadership team of the Congregation of St. Joseph. (1976-84). When her term was completed, Catherine went to work for NETWORK, a national Catholic social justice lobby in Washington, D.C., which was affectionately known by some as the "nuns' lobby" (1984-2010). NETWORK was founded in the early 1970's by Catholic sisters to do research on and lobbying in Congress regarding those issues which affect the lives of the poor and minorities in our country and in the world. Catherine was honored to give the benediction at the 2008 National Democratic Convention in Denver, pausing before praying, and delivering a prayer of hope and gratitude to the crowd and the nation.

Catherine's health caused her to decide in 2010 to return to Cleveland and to St. Joseph

Hall where she remained a vibrant part of the local CSJ community. We are grateful for having shared in the life and the gifts of Sister Catherine and we celebrate her entrance into eternal life.

The following are a few additional reflections about Catherine:

"Catherine has a remarkable capacity to build relationships. In the mystical body of Christ, Catherine is sinew and nerves: connecting and loving each unique expression of the Divine." (Michael Culliton)

"Catherine, politically astute and passionately committed to the Gospel, never backed away from the way of justice and peace in the concrete and often messy reality of our time." (Bette Mosslander CSJ)

"Catherine has ventured into the halls of Congress to speak truth to power. She approaches Senators and Representatives not with money to line campaign coffers, but with faith, a deep knowledge of the issues, and a belief in the social Gospel of Jesus. As a consequence, she has touched the hearts—and changed the votes—of countless members of Congress." (Kathy Thornton, RSM)

KAZAKHSTAN'S CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, today I call on my colleagues to join me in recognizing the visit of the President of Kazakhstan, Nursultan Nazarbayev, to the United States and Kazakhstan's assumption of the rotating presidency of the UN Security Council.

Over the past 26 years, Kazakhstan and the United States have built a strategic partnership based on mutual trust and friendship. Additionally, Kazakhstan has been and remains a vital partner in the fight against violent Islamic extremists—which is a threat to both of our countries—and Astana is an advocate of religious freedom and tolerance.

Since declaring its independence from the former Soviet Union in 1991, Kazakhstan has built a market-oriented economy continuing to be a valued partner of the United States. I congratulate the people of Kazakhstan on that achievement.

Despite its vast mineral wealth, Kazakhstan is committed to diversifying its economy, in line with the Strategy-2050, its national vision for future development. The strategy calls for widespread economic, social and political reforms with the goal of positioning Kazakhstan as one of the top 30 global economies by 2050.

Since its independence, Kazakhstan has attracted \$260 billion in foreign direct investment, with another \$100 billion forecast for the next decade. The United States is a large contributor, with foreign direct investment worth billions of US dollars entering the Kazakh economy. This makes the US one of the largest investors in Kazakhstan.

Kazakhstan hosted an EXPO in 2017 with a theme of "Future Energy," which showcased successful US-Kazakhstan collaboration. Kazakhstan seeks to become a leader in promoting renewable energy.

Kazakhstan remains a reliable and trusted partner in the region, and I look forward to our work together to improve human rights, eco-

nomics freedom and security inside Kazakhstan and across the region.

RECOGNIZING STEVE EKBERG, RETIRING MEMBER OF THE GIG HARBOR CITY COUNCIL, WASHINGTON STATE

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Steve Ekberg and his nearly four decades of service as a member of the Gig Harbor City Council in the great state of Washington. I wish to thank him for his dedication to public service. I am proud to consider Steve a friend and I offer him my sincerest congratulations on his retirement.

Councilmember Ekberg has served under five mayors and alongside nearly 100 councilmembers. His passion for improving our community's access to recreational opportunities is a testament to his lifelong commitment to public service. When Councilmember Ekberg was first elected, the City of Gig Harbor had only one park. Today, the city features more than 20 parks and public piers. As a father to two little girls who play in those parks, I am appreciative of the tireless work of Councilmember Ekberg.

Councilmember Ekberg's contributions to Gig Harbor have been extensive. His years as a business and non-profit leader as well as a member of City Council have revealed him to be a champion for our region's youth. As a community leader, he worked tirelessly to build the YMCA into a place where our children can learn and thrive. He spent years coaching youth sports teams and devoted countless hours to the local Historical Society.

Councilmember Ekberg was a longtime business leader in the community. His insurance firm, the family owned Pilkey-Hopping & Ekberg, Incorporated, has been operating since 1896. When Steve retired from his firm, his son Reid Ekberg, was elected by the Board of Directors to become the fourth generation of family leaders for the company.

Steve has embodied the American dream and has contributed greatly to our region's economy and to the civility of our small community. Whether we've been working to build a new hospital in Gig Harbor, grapple with Narrows Bridge tolls, transfer some federal property to the city, or other initiatives, Steve has been a terrific partner and has always focused on doing what's right for the people of Gig Harbor.

Though Steve will be retiring from the Gig Harbor City Council, his service to his community will surely continue in other capacities. I also want to recognize Steve's wife Marion and their two sons, Adam and Reid, for the support they showed Steve and their own service to our community. It's clear that Steve has passed along his commitment to service.

On behalf of all Gig Harbor residents and the people of the Sixth District of Washington, thank you Steve for your tireless work and commitment to building a better community. Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Councilman Steve Ekberg's nearly 40 years as a public servant on the City Council of the City of Gig Harbor.