

A reformer, Ned was obsessed with the notion of coaxing more value out of government investment. At that point, city-county consolidation was all the rage. It had happened in other parts of the country—Indianapolis, Nashville, Davis—and Ned was part of the civic drumbeat that was going to bring city-county consolidation to Oregon. We were going to take the largest city and the largest county in Oregon and merge them to create all this extra efficiency. It was a brilliant plan supported by all the powers that be and the newspapers—and it lost two-to-one at the polls. But typical of Ned, he was convinced that something else was at work here, that we could do better. and he wasn't going to give up. He was part of the effort coming out of the City Club and other hopeless do-good organizations that envisioned and ultimately led to the creation of Metro, the only directly elected regional government in the country—a one-of-a-kind idea that is so good that no one else in the United States has seen to replicate it in the last 30 years. This was typical of Ned and his energy and his involvement.

Ned was always in the vanguard of the community foundation movement around the country. I had vaguely heard about community foundations from a friend of mine in Cleveland, Barbara Rossin, who helped set up the Cleveland Foundation. But it was Ned who made it happen in Oregon; it wasn't just his profession. it became part of the expression of who he was. It became larger than life.

When I think about the changes that have taken place in our community in the last 40 years. I recall that we didn't have any organizing principles then; we didn't have large companies. But we were able to establish a framework in the community that encouraged people to get things done. We organized around a community foundation, but it went far beyond that. Today, you see the evidence of these efforts from the caliber of people are much more connected and reaching out and making things happen in a more entrepreneurial way. Just as we're the only city in the United States with a directly elected regional government, we are unique in the way we go out and solve problems. And much of this unique quality is due to people like Ned Look. There simply are not a lot of people like Ned in any city, nor have there ever been.

The Harvard University sociologist Robert Putnam wrote "Bowling Alone" a few years ago, exploring changes in our society by asking why, if there were more people bowling, there were fewer bowling leagues. His book got a lot of attention, and appropriately so. But his second book, "Better Together," which focused on the resurgence of citizen participation, didn't get quite the attention it deserved. He has a whole chapter about Portland; he called it "The City that Meets." Now, I know that all this "meeting" drives many of you crazy—especially those of you who try to do business here or get anything done in civic organizations—but we are inclusive, we reach out to one another, even as we work in different patterns. These are the qualities Ned Look expressed better than anybody I've ever met.

For years, we've had a parade of people who come to Portland looking at what we do and how we do it: Portland State University, streetcars, land use, even bicycles. They see the development patterns that have strengthened our neighborhoods and restored vitality

to our community. We can show them our plans and talk about our government structures; we can talk about how we have constructed light rail and street car—but the single ingredient that is hard to express, the one that is more essential to that success than anything else, is our people. Ned was always there, front and center at the City Club, ready to give me advice, whether I was speaking or not. His antenna was always out; he was always gravitating toward conversation, eager to be involved. Ned was the personification of why, in the words of Professor Putnam, we're "better together."

Thank you, Ned.

HONORING WILLIAM FREDRICK
HENRY DUNKER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize William Fredrick Henry Dunker of Parkville, Missouri. William is 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 1495, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

William has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years William 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 William Fredrick Henry Dunker for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING SISTER M. CLAUDIA
BURKE

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Sister M. Claudia Burke as she retires to the Franciscan Sisters of the Poor Motherhouse in Cincinnati. She has been a cornerstone of social services in my hometown of Flint, Michigan since 1960.

Sister M. Claudia Burke entered the convent on January 6, 1944. She attended Our Lady of Cincinnati College, graduating in 1953, and worked at Catholic Charities of Cincinnati. She was transferred to Catholic Social Services in Steubenville, Ohio and continued there providing family and child welfare counseling. In 1958 she was responsible for the foster care, and supervision of 10 Hungarian refugee teenage boys.

In 1960 Sister Claudia was transferred to Flint, Michigan to work at Catholic Social Services. Since that time she has left Flint twice, once to obtain her Master's in Social Work degree from St. Louis University and a 1 year assignment in Cincinnati. She returned to Flint

and continued her service to the people of Genesee County.

Through her work at Holy Angels Convent and Catholic Social Services, Sister Claudia recognized the need to help families facing difficult economic circumstances. Known for her tenacity, Sister Claudia provided the unique leadership to organize Catholic Outreach to respond to the need in the community. Countless individuals have directly benefited from her hard work and devotion to the poor. Supported through a variety of channels, Catholic Outreach assists about 12,000 people a year and the number is growing. Though her responsibilities as an administrator and fundraiser consumed most of her time in recent years, Sister Claudia preferred to spend her time working directly with clients. She has said, "You can't look at the face of poverty and not feel for people." In addition to founding Catholic Outreach, Sister Claudia was also instrumental in creating the North End Soup Kitchen and the Displaced Workers Center.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Sister M. Claudia Burke. The Flint area is losing one of its truly great humanitarians. Sister Claudia has spent her life acknowledging the needs of others and responding with selfless, caring love. Recognizing the divine in all humans she lives the teaching contained in Matthew 25:40, "Whatsoever you do to the least of my people, that you do unto me." Through the years Sister Claudia has been an inspiring, thought provoking, tireless laborer in the vineyard of Our Lord Jesus Christ. She has put her love into action and set an example for the lives of those following in her footsteps. I know I am a better person for having known her and will miss her wisdom, and compassion. I pray she will find a much deserved relaxation and peace in this next phase of her life.

HONORING KENNI FRIEDMAN

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kenni Friedman upon being named the 2008 "Citizen of the Year" by the American Legion, Post 74. Mrs. Friedman will be honored at the sixty-first annual Awards and Veteran's Day observance dinner on Tuesday, November 11, 2008.

Kenni Friedman is a longtime resident of the northern San Joaquin Valley. After receiving her bachelor of science degree and a masters in business administration from the University of California, Los Angeles, she began working at Price Waterhouse. She later served as a staff accountant for the cities of Los Angeles and New York. During the early 1990s, Mrs. Friedman began her political career in Stanislaus County. She was elected to the Modesto City Council in 1991 and was re-elected in 1993 and 1997. While serving on the city council she served on numerous council committees including: Financial Policy, Transportation Planning, Community Development and Housing, Human Services, Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations and Public Safety. Mrs. Friedman also served on the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District (1994–2000), the

Stanislaus Area Association of Governments (1992–2000) and the Tuolumne River Regional Park Policy Board (1992–2002).

Outside of the political arena, Mrs. Friedman has been involved in many community activities. From 1997 to 2006 she served on the Sutter Health Board of Directors. Since 2003 she has worked with the Salvation Army in various capacities. In 2003 she worked on the Christmas Angel project and from 2004 to 2006 she co-chaired the “Grassroots” campaign. Since 2006 she has co-chaired the Salvation Army “One Night Out” dinners and has been an honorary Advisory Board member since 2002. Mrs. Friedman is currently serving on the Gallo Center for the Arts Advisory Board, the Valley Business High School Advisory Board and the University of California at Merced Foundation Board. In May 2008 she received the “Children’s First Award” from the Center for Human Services for her dedicated service to the community and children.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Kenni Friedman upon her accomplishments and for being honored as the 2008 “Citizen of the Year”. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mrs. Friedman many years of continued success.

HONORING SEAN PATRICK
McCALMON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Sean Patrick McCalmon of Kansas City, Missouri. Sean is 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 1495, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDEMN THE ONGOING ATTACKS ON HUMAN RIGHTS IN CUBA

HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. SIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today, the 60th Anniversary of the signing of the United Nations Universal Declaration of

Human Rights, to condemn the ongoing attacks on human rights in Cuba.

It has been reported that possibly a dozen people in Cuba have been rounded up and detained by the regime to thwart their efforts to attend Human Rights Day events on the island. I was outraged, but not shocked to hear of this most recent action by the brutal Cuban regime to deny the Cuban people their basic human rights, which are guaranteed in the U.N. declaration. Dissident groups throughout Cuba have attempted to organize protests, and government attacks on protesters will likely continue.

This blatant disregard for the rights of all peoples on this symbolic day so accurately represents the true nature of the oppressive Cuban regime. I will continue to fight for a day when the voices of all Cuban people are respected.

HONORING SENIOR AIRMAN AARON
RATH

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a great American, who was recently honored by the Illinois Air National Guard.

Senior Airman Aaron Rath of Springfield, Illinois, has been chosen as the 183rd Fighter Wing’s Airman of the Year. Airman Rath earned this honor after two tours of duty in Iraq in 2006 and 2007. He serves as a life member of the National Guard Association of Illinois, senior vice commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 755, a member of the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States, and vice president of the Defenders Association. Locally, he has been active in Big Brothers Big Sisters, and in the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics.

Airman Rath enlisted in the Illinois Air National Guard at the age of 29, after the September 11 terrorist attacks on our Nation. He told the local newspaper that he felt it was his “utmost duty as an American to enlist and serve, and give a little back for what so many before me had sacrificed.”

I want to congratulate Senior Airman Aaron Rath on this much deserved recognition, and to thank him and so many other brave young Americans for their service to our Nation. It is through their dedication and their sacrifice that we are able to enjoy the liberties we all hold dear.

BUT I

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Mr. HERGER. Madam Speaker, this poem was penned by Albert Caswell in honor of a great American hero, Christopher Frost from Chico California. Tech Sergeant Frost lost his

leg during an IED explosion in Samara, Iraq. His courage and positive attitude is an inspiration to us all. He was part of the Weapons Intelligence Team/Air Force.

But I . . .

Went off to war . . .

And, I will not give up, nor give in for sure!
For my heart, will fly once more . . . for I
will rise, and I will soar!

Wearing my Nation’s Wings, I’ll reach for
the stars . . . once again . . . once
more!

Until, that very end . . . America, and The
United States Air Force . . . I will defend . . .

Is but my life’s passion, my life’s force . . .
all in my heart as my course, I’ve fashioned . . .

For we all have mountains to so climb . . .
For we all have stories, to so write and so
rhyme . . .

Answers, to the hardest of all questions to
find!

All about what we have so left inside, all
about our short lives . . . which so
come to mind . . .

All those moment’s which test our metal, all
in our pain and woe . . .

As this is mine . . . all for Country Tis of
Thee, I was ready to die and bleed . . .

And gladly, pay the greatest of all costs indeed . . .

All in what I’ve found, and so believe . . . all
in what I’ve lost and do not need . . .

As on this day my life, takes me to new
heights . . .

Look into my heart, as it’s there you’ll find
inspiration taking flight . . .

As this Airman’s heart, soar’s so high above
. . .

Burning bold, burning bright . . . all in my
love . . .

A work of art, which make’s souls fly . . .
Showing us all, how a heart faith and courage
can so soar so high . . .

Bring hope, and bringing light . . . speaking
long and loud this night . . .

Who on battlefields of honor once seen . . .
Or home once again, rebuilding from such
heartache and pain . . .

As Chris your heart of courage full, so
astounds . . .

For when all seemed lost, Chris somehow
you found . . .

The Strength, The Courage . . . to not be discouraged . . .

The Light, that flows through your eyes
which does nourish . . .

Teaching us all so how . . . To bare that burden,
to bare that cost . . .

Even, with your fine leg lost! Mountains you
so cross . . .

To reach for the stars, in all your loss . . .
All in that smile upon your face, all in that
mantle of a hero heart that’s yours
portrays . . .

As we see such a fine heart that will not look
down . . .

Teaching us all, what God has made! As your
fine heart so sounds . . .

Reminding us all, not to waste not even a
single day . . .

Bringing tears to eyes, as we kneel down and
pray . . .

But I . . .

If I could but be like you . . .
Then, I would but teach every women, child
and man so too!

Where faith and courage, and service to
country begins . . .

And if ever I have a son . . .
I but hope and pray . . . he could but soar, as
far and as high . . . as you have my
fine son!

And, be like you the one . . . But I . . .