

TRIBUTE TO GARDNER MAYOR  
CAROL LEHMAN

**HON. DENNIS MOORE**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 2, 2009*

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to rise today to honor Gardner, Kansas, Mayor Carol Lehman who is stepping down this year after serving for 20 years as mayor. Before being elected mayor, Carol served two years on the City Council. During her time as mayor, Gardner has grown and prospered, no doubt in part because of the wise and stable leadership that Carol provided. Through it all, Gardner retains all the charm of a Midwestern small town, with the advantages of being a short drive from Kansas City.

I would like to read into the record Mayor Lehman's recent farewell message to her community. In this message, I know you will see the affection and devotion she feels to Gardner, and will understand how much all of us will miss her common sense, humor, and leadership.

It doesn't seem possible I'm writing my last Mayor's message—20 years have gone by in a flash. The advancements we've made in the last 20 years are too numerous to mention, but some do stand out as milestones in our story of growth and change.

When metro dialing became available in Gardner, we weren't "out of town" anymore and homebuilders started making their way down 1–35. When McDonald's came, we surely thought we had arrived when every child in town could have a happy meal—in their own backyard! New subdivisions began popping up and both the City and the School District realized they had many challenges facing them. The excitement of Country Mart locating in Moonlight Plaza, as our first "big" grocery store was only surpassed by Price Chopper becoming a Gardner presence. The construction of TradeNet in Gardner was the first new industry we had seen in years. And finally the arrival of Wal-Mart assured more sales tax dollars would be staying in our community!

By adding the departments of Community Development, Public Safety, Finance, and Parks & Recreation to our City Administration team, a new era of professionalism was established. Some noteworthy accomplishments include: designating Hillsdale Lake as the City's water supply, building the new water treatment plant and the new wastewater treatment plant, the expansion of City Hall, donating land to Johnson County for our new library, partnering with our veterans to build Veteran's Park, forming the Economic Development Corporation with the help of local businesses, enhancing the Gardner Greenway Corridor and walking paths, creating the Downtown Enhancement District, Christmas in the Park, widening Center Street, working on future plans of the BNSF Intermodal Logistics Park and anticipating in the future revenue it will generate in our city, county and state, Gardner's fabulous Sesquicentennial Celebration, building Plum Creek Public Safety Station #2, annexing nearly 5,600 acres and experiencing the population explosion—from 4,380 in 1989 to approximately 18,000 today! Most recently, the

announcement of a 1.1 million square foot warehouse building in Gardner with the promise of 200 jobs is great news for the City and its residents.

I can vividly remember an event that occurred on my birthday in June, 2005. The results of our park sales tax question came in with a resounding Yes, passing by 72%! That was a birthday present to remember! Citizens are now enjoying our fabulous Gardner Aquatics Center and beautiful Celebration Park. The passage of that ballot question emphasized to City leaders how important quality of life is to our families and it also told us that Gardner wants to enjoy leisure time closer to home.

The influx of new citizens and young families has been exhilarating—they have continued to bring, to their new "home town", high expectations, and an enthusiasm and brightness which will light Gardner for years to come. It has been heartwarming to see the blend of new and long time citizens in our churches, neighborhoods and civic organizations—working together to make Gardner a quality community.

In the last 20 years, there have been bumps in the road, but with each challenge we have been fortunate to have the right people in the right places to guide and advise us. With each disappointment we have learned much, pledged to do better the next time and approached the new day with optimism.

Gardner has been blessed with a succession of forward thinking City Council Members and Planning Commissioners. For many years now, the City Council has planned for the future, embraced growth and change and kept the mill levy steady, while at the same time earning the city an A2 bond rating. Together, with a visionary staff whose expertise, professionalism and creativity rates among the best, Gardner has handled our explosive growth well and we will be ready for whatever the future brings.

I cannot adequately express to you what an honor and a privilege it has been to be your Mayor, and I humbly thank you. Gardner has always been a town of wonderful people; if I am certain of one thing as the torch is passed, I know the future shines brightly for this town and its residents.

**EARMARK DECLARATION**

**HON. JIM GERLACH**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 2, 2009*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information for publication in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 1105, Consolidated Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2009. These earmarks are all multi-member requests and national projects/programs.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE AND SCIENCE

Delaware River Basin Commission, P.O. Box 7360, West Trenton, NJ—\$235,000—Funding for the Delaware River Enhanced Flood Warning System. The funding will be

used to assist the Delaware River Basin Commission, in conjunction with NOAA/NWS, USGS and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, with the enhancement of the basin's flood warning system. This enhancement will include the evaluation and improvement of existing precipitation and stream gage networks, development of additional NOAA flood forecast points in both non-tidal and tidal stream reaches, and merger of GIS and Doppler radar technology to improve flash flood warning capabilities for smaller watersheds.

ENERGY AND WATER

Mid-Atlantic River Commissions, Delaware River Basin Commission, P.O. Box 7360, West Trenton, NJ—\$2,365,000—This funding is necessary to fulfill the federal government's obligation to provide an equitable share of funding for the commissions, as required under their compacts. This funding will enable the commissions to implement critically important water resources management projects and activities in the national interest.

LABOR HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AND EDUCATION

National Writing Project Corporation, University of California, 2105 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA—\$24,291,000—It is my understanding that the funding would be used to fund programs in teacher development, quality writing, and research to help improve student performance in writing.

Reach Out and Read National Center, 56 Roland Street, Boston, MA—\$4,965,000—It is my understanding that the funding would be used for the purposes authorized in Section 5411–5414 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

Center for Civic Education, 5145 Douglas Fir Road, Calabasas, CA—\$25,095,000—It is my understanding that the funding would be used to support the We the People program and the Cooperative Education Exchange, the purposes of which are authorized by the Education for Democracy Act (Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Sections 2341–2346).

National Council on Economic Education, 1140 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 202, New York, NY—\$5,019,000—It is my understanding that the funding would be used to support the Cooperative Education Exchange, the purposes of which are authorized by the Education for Democracy Act (Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Sections 2341–2346).

National History Day, 0119 Cecil Hall, University of Maryland, College Park, MD—\$500,000—It is my understanding that the funding would be used to expand and improve National History Day, a year-long non-profit education program, focused on grades 6–12, that works with both students and teachers to improve the teaching and learning of history in schools.

Reading is Fundamental, Inc., 1825 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Suite 400, Washington, DC—\$24,803,000—It is my understanding that the funding would be used for the purposes authorized in Section 5451 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act to support and promote programs, which include the distribution of inexpensive books to young and school-age children, that motivate children to read.

RECOGNIZING MANITOWOC MAYOR KEVIN CRAWFORD ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM PUBLIC SERVICE

**HON. THOMAS E. PETRI**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 2, 2009*

Mr. PETRI. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to offer my congratulations to the Honorable Kevin Crawford, the longest continually-serving mayor in the history of Manitowoc, Wisconsin. First elected in 1989, Mayor Crawford is stepping down this month to pursue another career path.

Mayor Crawford's energetic and creative leadership over twenty years has helped provide the spark fueling a business and manufacturing revival in Manitowoc that has made the city one of Wisconsin's biggest economic success stories of recent years. His focus on job creation, pursuit of public-private partnerships and instinct for opportunity helped the city capitalize on its already diverse manufacturing base, skilled labor force and unique attributes as a Lake Michigan port city with a proud history as a World War II maritime industry leader.

Over the years, I have worked with Kevin Crawford on many issues of importance to Manitowoc and have come to know him as a tireless and passionate advocate for the city. It's clear to me that his optimism and hard work have not only offered an impetus for progress and growth in the city, but have contributed to the momentum to sustain it.

Last year The Wall Street Journal ran a feature story highlighting the manufacturing and exporting successes of the city and its rebound after the closing of its second-largest employer in 2003. Mayor Crawford has called manufacturing a "core pillar of our economy," and has seen to it that local government takes an active role in developing what he terms "new economy manufacturing," including new technology and jobs.

Indeed, in the current global recession, hits to the Manitowoc economy have been buffered by the presence of promising new energy-related companies that have taken root there in recent years.

During his tenure, Mayor Crawford negotiated the revival of car ferry passenger service between Manitowoc and Ludington, Michigan, and has worked to ensure its continued success. He was instrumental in bringing new owners and leadership to the ailing Burger Boat Company, now firmly positioned as a world leader in luxury yacht manufacturing.

As commissioner of the Manitowoc Public Utilities, Mayor Crawford has been the dedicated chief steward of this city-owned and managed electric and water utility which has grown considerably over the last two decades and affords local citizens some of the lowest utility rates in the country. Considered one of the most knowledgeable local elected officials in the area of electric energy, he has been recognized by the American Public Power Association, the Municipal Electric Utilities of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Water Association.

Other achievements of the Crawford era in Manitowoc include the construction of a new city hall, library and public safety building, the development of a new Visitor Information Cen-

ter, and major retail expansion and infrastructure improvements.

In addition, Mayor Crawford created and has fostered an active sixteen-year sister-city relationship between Manitowoc and Kamagowa, Japan. The partnership has resulted in numerous citizen exchange visits over the years and is acknowledged to be one of the most vibrant sister-city associations in the country.

His colleagues across Wisconsin have also recognized Mayor Crawford's outstanding leadership skills. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Alliance of Cities and a Past President of the League of Wisconsin Municipalities as well as a member of its legislative committee.

In light of his many years of commitment to the people of Manitowoc, Wisconsin, and his impressive record of accomplishment, I am proud to recognize Mayor Kevin Crawford and extend my congratulations and appreciation to him on his retirement from public service.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LIFE SUSTAINING TREATMENT PREFERENCES ACT OF 2009

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 2, 2009*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to introduce the Life Sustaining Treatment Preferences Act of 2009. As we approach health care reform, there is no other area more vital for honest discussion and careful analysis than what happens at a patient's end of life.

For most of us, the majority of our lifetime health care will be administered in that last year of life. Indeed for many, it is just the last few months where we will use the most doctor care, the most medical procedures, and the most days in a hospital.

Advances in healthcare have led to an aging population facing increasingly complex end of life health care decisions. These strains make complicated, critical decision making about medical care incredibly difficult. Too often, these decisions are avoided until a crisis occurs, resulting in inadequate planning, unknown patient preferences, and families left struggling with the burden of determining their loved ones' wishes. For both families and patients, this is a time of incredible stress, confusion, and pain.

In response, health organizations in Oregon came together in the early 1990s to develop the Physicians Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment program to help seriously ill patients identify their treatment preferences using a clear, standardized template. Written as actionable medical orders and signed by a physician, these forms help communicate patient preference to health care personnel regarding intensity of medical intervention, transfers to the hospital, use of antibiotics, artificially administered nutrition, and resuscitation.

National interest in Oregon's Physicians Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment program has spread and Oregon has become the national resource for states and communities interested in developing similar programs. Last year, California and New York enacted orders for life sustaining treatment programs and over thirty other states are developing programs.

We can and should do more to support these efforts to enhance quality patient care at the end of life. The Life Sustaining Treatment Preferences Act provides coverage under Medicare for consultations regarding orders for life sustaining treatment. These discussions add quality and value to patient care, but they often require significant time, proper training, and great delicacy, which merit compensation through Medicare. Medicare currently pays for acute care services provided to beneficiaries, but it does not specifically recognize the important benefit of informed discussions between patients and their health provider about care preferences for their last months and years of life.

The Life Sustaining Treatment Preferences Act also creates a grant program to support the development and expansion of these programs, providing necessary resources to states and local communities. These programs provide valuable services to patients, their families, and health care providers through educational materials; professional training on advance care planning; coordinating and collaborating with hospitals, skilled nursing facilities, hospice programs, home health agencies, and emergency medical services to implement such orders across the continuum of care; and monitoring the success of the program.

To be effective, advance care plans must ensure that treatment preferences are elicited and presented in a way that is recognized and respected by the health care community—orders for life sustaining treatment programs do just that. These programs have a track record of promoting patient autonomy through documenting and coordinating a person's treatment preferences, enhancing the authorized transfer of patient records between facilities, clarifying treatment intentions and minimizing confusion, reducing repetitive activities in complying with the Patient Self Determination Act, and facilitating appropriate treatment by emergency personnel. Oregon is nationally recognized for our exemplary end of life care and orders for life sustaining treatment have played a critical role providing quality, patient-centered care for those in their final chapter of life.

I am proud to introduce the Life Sustaining Treatment Preferences Act of 2009, which will lay the groundwork so all seriously ill Americans have the tools to make informed medical care decisions, convey their care plans as clearly as possible, and feel confident their wishes will be known and respected by health care personnel.

INTRODUCING THE AGRICULTURE EDUCATION FREEDOM ACT

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 2, 2009*

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Agriculture Education Freedom Act. This bill addresses a great injustice being perpetrated by the Federal Government on those youngsters who participate in programs such as 4-H or the Future Farmers of America. Under current tax law, children are forced to pay federal income tax when they sell livestock they have raised as part of an agricultural education program.

Think about this for a moment. These kids are trying to better themselves, earn some