

The
Legacy
of

Maria Chappelle-Nadal

State Senator - District 14



Dear Residents of the 14th Senatorial District:

I truly hope you are in good spirits and health.

After serving in the Missouri Senate for two full terms (eight years), I've learned how truly fortunate we are to have a community that works together in good and challenging times. The 14th District encompasses 40 municipalities, areas of unincorporated St. Louis County, 10 school districts and multiple fire districts.

In 2010, when a majority of you voted for me as the Democratic nominee, little did I know that our Senate District would serve as *ground zero* for multiple national issues.

One of the most destructive tornadoes in St. Louis history occurred in 2011. Thousands of residents were without electricity for days, if not weeks. Many families were displaced and schools were closed. However, as a community we came together, raised resources and walked door-to-door to help our neighbors in Berkeley, Maryland Heights, Ferguson, Bridgeton, Hazelwood and Florissant where damage was quite extensive.

At one time, the Senate District had the only two unaccredited school districts in Missouri. Today, both Normandy and Riverview School Districts are accredited.

As I sat in a St. Louis County courtroom full of parents – in the summer of 2014 – no one could have ever imagined a few days later a recent Normandy high school graduate, Michael Brown, would be shot on the streets of Ferguson, by a police officer, where his body sat in the hot sun for hours as neighbors looked on. As we approach the 4th anniversary, St. Louisans are still seeking due process, as well as social and economic equality.

I will continue to work on your behalf.

In 2015, the attorney general formally announced the dangers associated with a fire in a landfill known to have 48,000 tons of legacy nuclear waste from the processing and storage of Manhattan Project uranium. At the time, I had been on the case since 2012. Because of this specific announcement, I knew, once again, there was a colossal challenge facing me as a public servant. Immediately, I started holding town hall meetings on radioactive waste, to raise awareness, with the first being held on Labor Day weekend in 2015. On Dec. 13, 2017, I held my 100th town hall meeting (in two years) on this subject. I did this because most people in the region have no idea how the environment has a direct correlation to the health status of the area's residents. St. Louis is a cancer cluster due to radioactive waste dumped, stored or transferred to over 100 sites in the region. This is a fact. It has been found in parks, creeks, multiple water sheds, yards and businesses. If a member of your family has ever had cancer or an autoimmune disease, depending on where you live(d) and/or work(ed), a serious review of your environment must be considered.

In the last six years, my work and efforts regarding legacy nuclear waste has only intensified. Today, I serve as one of only a few subject-matter experts in Missouri.

Through it all, the ups and downs, I am very thankful to you for allowing me to work on your behalf. This is the only job where I've needed a Geiger counter, rubber boots, a projector, a laser pointer, magnifying glass, wall-sized maps, a rain coat, personal security and a gas mask. Together, we have been tested on many fronts...and we are still standing tall and fighting for righteous causes.

Over the last eight years, my service to you has defined the person I am today, humbled and grateful.



Sen. Maria Chappelle-Nadal

14th District



Table of Contents

Directory of Services.....	4-5
Domestic Violence Awareness.....	6-7
Legislative Interns.....	8-9
Ferguson Uprising.....	10-15
African-American Women of the Senate.....	16
Dedicated Educators.....	17
Maria's Filibusters.....	18-19
Students of the 14th District.....	20-21
Radioactive Waste.....	22-27
University City Residents at the Gym.....	28
Photo Collage.....	29-30
Maria Through the Years.....	31



Directory of Services

Children & Family Services

Division of Child Support Enforcement.....	(314) 264-7700
Jewish Family & Children's Services.....	(314) 993-1000
NAACP - St. Louis County Branch.....	(314) 361-8600
St. Louis County Human Services.....	(314) 615-4453
Youth Emergency Services.....	(314) 727-6294

Consumer Protection

Consumer Credit Counseling Services.....	(314) 725-4079
Consumer Credit Reports.....	1-877-322-8228
Missouri Consumer Protection Hotline.....	1-800-392-8222
Missouri Department of Insurance Consumer Information.....	1-800-726-7390

Crisis Hotlines

The Women's Safe House	(314) 772-4535
Youth Emergency Services Hotline	(314) 727-6294
St. Louis Housing Resource Center.....	(314) 802-5444
Life Crisis Services, Inc. (For adults)	(314) 647-4357
Elderly Abuse Hotline.....	1-800-392-0210
Child Abuse & Neglect Hotline.....	1-800-392-3738
Alcohol Drug Interventions & Drug Treatment Referrals.....	1-888-762-3750
Trevor Lifeline (For at-risk LGBT Youth).....	1-866-488-7386

Health-Related Services

Alzheimer's Association.....	1-800-272-3900
Birth & Death Records.....	(314) 615-1720

Higher Education

Missouri School for the Blind.....	(314) 776-4320
Paraquad, Inc.....	(314) 289-4200



Housing

Beyond Housing.....	(314) 533-0600
St. Louis County Housing Authority.....	(314) 428-3200
Home Improvement Grants (North County).....	(314) 615-8232

Pregnancy Counseling

Abortion Alternatives.....	(314) 962-5300
Planned Parenthood & Reproductive Health Services of St. Louis.....	(314) 531-7526

Senior Citizen Services

Missouri Rx Program.....	1-800-375-1406
Long-Term Care Information-Ombudsman.....	(314) 918-8222
Older Adult Community Action Program.....	(314) 993-5181
Legal Services of Eastern Missouri (Elderly Law Unit).....	(314) 534-4200

Tour the Capital City

State Capitol Tours.....	(573) 751-2854
Governor's Mansion Tours.....	(573) 230-7000
Historic Missouri State Penitentiary Tours.....	1-866-998-6998

Transportation

Call-A-Ride.....	(314) 652-3617
------------------	----------------

Veteran's Benefits

American Red Cross Blood Services.....	(314) 658-2000
Missouri Veterans Commission.....	(573) 751-3779
St. Louis County Office of Veterans Services.....	(314) 253-4450

Volunteer Organizations

Big Brothers, Big Sisters.....	(314) 361-5900
Foster Grandparents.....	(314) 918-2298



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS

Educating Children About Domestic Violence

This session, I sponsored legislation (SB 587) designed to educate and protect our children from the dangers of domestic violence.

On Wednesday, I presented Senate Bill 587 to members of the Senate Education Committee. This bill is not your typical domestic violence measure as it aims to educate and protect a group of domestic violence victims who are often voiceless – our children. Domestic violence is not limited to any specific group of people; it affects all economic classes, ethnic groups and ages. There is no one face of an abuser or victim. No community is untouched by this plague. One out

Educating Children About Domestic Violence – Senate Bill 587

of four women will become victims of domestic violence in her lifetime. Every nine seconds in America, a woman is beaten by someone who claims to love her.

Senate Bill 587 seeks to encourage schools to establish curriculum that provides domestic violence information in an age-appropriate manner. Our children must be enabled to recognize when something is amiss in their homes. They deserve to know what is and what is not acceptable behavior by the adults who model relationship standards unto them.

-Published March 20, 2012

Domestic Violence Public Forum in University City

Our goal is to make our community a safer place by providing resources and educating our citizenry on what signs to look for. It is in everyone's best interest to address and encourage efforts to help those in need and to prevent instances of abuse.

With confidence, I believe our schools can effectively raise awareness about domestic violence among our student population. If we do not address the emotional, societal and economic effects of domestic violence and teach our youth about prevention, then we are doing a disservice to our communities.

-Published Jan. 5, 2012



MISSOURI SENATE

JEFFERSON CITY

Maria Chappelle-Nadal
14th Senate District

Capitol Building, Room 421
Jefferson City, MO 65101

For Immediate Release:
Dec. 8, 2011

Contact: Christine Brauner
(573) 751-4106

Sen. Maria Chappelle-Nadal Opinion- Editorial: "Domestic Violence During the Holiday Season"

Recently, I attended the annual conference hosted by the National Hispanic Council of State Legislators. I've been a member of this organization for the majority of the time I've been elected, however, our last conference was especially touching and inspired action on my part as your state senator.

The holiday season is usually dedicated to spending time with family, friends and neighbors. It's a chance for all to be thankful for what and who they have in their lives, a time to enjoy good company and an opportunity to reflect on the past year with new and exciting expectations for the future. For some, however, November and December can be filled with anxiety, stress and family arguments. This time of year finances can be tight because of the number of gifts we have to buy and the money we spend traveling to visit family and friends. However, no matter how difficult this time of year is, there is no excuse for physically or emotionally taking your frustrations out on your loved ones — a far too common practice known as domestic violence.

As some of you may know, statistics indicate there is a good chance that someone you know has suffered from domestic violence in their lifetime. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 71 percent of all female domestic violence victims are between 20-39 years old, and one out of every four women in the U.S. will be victims of domestic violence in her lifetime. The estimated cost of domestic violence, which includes medical care, mental health services, and loss of productivity (e.g., time away from work) was \$5.88 billion in 1995. Today it's ballooned to more than \$8 billion.

I am very passionate about the subject of domestic violence, and find that many people do not want to approach the issue with open and honest discourse in a public forum, let alone in a private setting. I have personally known of friends and family members who have been victims of domestic violence. I will tell you that this is a disease that is not confined or subject to one race, one gender or one economic bracket. It is often very hard for a victim to leave a violent situation when they have children and/or are financially dependent.

Sometimes abusers use this time of year to gain more control over their victims. Abusers know how important family and friends are to their victims, and the abuser uses this knowledge to maintain complete control. Abuse can take many forms and can be difficult to identify by anyone except the person receiving the abuse. Those guilty of domestic violence use a variety of tactics, and the abuse can increase in frequency and severity over time and can be triggered by stressful events such as the holiday season. Sometimes victims, most of whom are women, will even defend their abusers by blaming the stressfulness of the holiday season. However, no matter how difficult this time of year is, there is no excuse for physically or emotionally taking your frustrations out on your loved ones.

Domestic violence experts say talking about your feelings is the most important thing to remember during stressful times. If a situation appears to be getting out of hand, the best thing to do is to step back and cool down before losing control. Experts and law enforcement officials urge individuals who find themselves in abusive situations, or as a witness to abuse, to speak up and seek help; find a friend, relative or neighbor who can help.

It's in everyone's best interest to address and encourage efforts to help those in need and to educate individuals about preventing instances of abuse. If you are concerned that you or someone you care about could be in an abusive situation, please seek help and contact law enforcement and any domestic violence agency for guidance. There are a lot of people who can and will help you — especially your local police department are there to help. Please take care of each other, because at the end of the day, we are all we have.

Legislative Interns



Sen. Chappelle-Nadal and Alexandria Smith.

"I am graduating from Webster University with a Masters Degree in Legal Studies. I currently work for the Division of Youth Services. I served as an intern during the 2015 legislative session. I learned from Sen. Chappelle-Nadal to defy the odds. If someone says you can't do something, make them motivation for you to get something done. You should not allow what society thinks be your end result. Working with the Senator was an amazing experience, it allowed me to see what a true woman in the Legislature should be, and it really takes a strong woman to be in that position. Senator Chappelle-Nadal was definitely a woman to fill the spot. Excellent job, Senator. Your work will not go unnoticed."

-Alexandria Smith

"Senator Chappelle-Nadal brings much needed humanity and meaning to environmentalism. As an environmental science student who grew up idolizing Rachel Carson, Al Gore and Steve Irwin among others, I can easily say the Senator is one of my favorite environmentalists. So often dialogue for a healthier and more sustainable planet is lost in jargon and idealistic conversation lead by one type of person. The debate is always about what we are or aren't doing wrong, with no focus on why we should try to do right by our planet. The Senator dives into the environmental setting while focusing on the most fundamental fact that many never recognize: our entire lives are carried out on this planet, our environment affects us just as much as we affect it! The Senator brings life to an argument that we should protect our Earth, not only for its sake, but for our own, for the relationship between ourselves and our home."

"Through her extensive research into the legacy of Manhattan Project radioactive waste in the St. Louis metropolitan area, Sen. Chappelle-Nadal knows not only do we have a major impact on the health of Earth, but the state of the planet directly affects our well-being. The Senator taught me emotional, first-hand human testimonies dealing with environmental catastrophes should be considered and researched just as scientific data is researched. Those who protect the environment are emotionally invested in it. Senator Chappelle-Nadal taught me understanding my emotions, listening and empathizing with others is key to having an idea of the gravity of a situation. In an age of carelessness and lies, the Senator lives her values, working authentically and powerfully to stand up for what is important, while understanding and communicating why it is important. Interning and working for Sen. Chappelle-Nadal was truly a life changing experience. I am forever grateful for the philosophies, work ethic, organization, writing skills and authentic leadership styles she instilled in me."

-Ashley Hollis



Interns Ashley Hollis, Dondre Hess, Austin Bauer and Jacob Ruboneka are shown with Sen. Chappelle-Nadal and Christine Brauner.

"As a descendant of participants in the Underground Railroad in Missouri, it was empowering and fulfilling to work with a woman of color who has and continues to overcome widespread, systematic adversity. The Senator continuously enforced an unspoken policy of productive public servitude; whether it was helping her organize a clothing drive for her flood-ravaged district during the absence of federal assistance, composing weekly newsletters ripe with current legislative agendas and relevant policy issues, demanding accountability from state regulatory agencies or pushing for better communication for her disabled constituents who rely on public transportation, she always lived what she spoke. As the saying goes, "Well behaved women rarely make history," and I think this will hold true for her."

-Nathan Gerth

"What I will *always* remember is the Senator's endless-seeming energy and how she applied that to representing her district. The trust the Senator placed in my fellow intern and I even inspired me that I could run for office myself!"

-Chris Givan

"While interning with Sen. Chappelle-Nadal's office during the fall of 2011, the political bug bit me.

"My favorite memory is arranging a round-table discussion about making state government work effectively with the municipalities in her district. Countless local leaders attended the event at the University of Missouri - St. Louis. There were long nights associated with writing up a brief about recent developments in each municipality, but it all paid off with a well-attended event and the Senator being very complimentary of my work.

"Since the internship, I have stayed in touch with Sen. Chappelle-Nadal's office, especially with the office manager Christine. The opportunity led me to intern in the Missouri House, work on political campaigns and eventually to come to work in the Missouri House. The Senator has also been very engaged with my family residing within her district. Whether it is my mother attending the Senator's town halls or my niece visiting the Capitol, Sen. Chappelle-Nadal has been amazing to my family, and I am very thankful for the opportunity to intern with her office."

-Sean McLafferty

"My favorite memory while working for Sen. Chappelle-Nadal was sitting in on the Senate floor. While there was not much going on (it was a special session) compared to a normal session, I still found it very interesting.

"More importantly though, the research I did for the Senator regarding the ACA led me to pursue a Masters Degree in Public Health. This, in turn, led me to my current career, and I still view this internship as sparking my interest in public health.

"I'm now working for the Kansas City, MO Health Department as a local planner and regional coordinator for public health emergency response planning (think disease outbreaks and bio-terrorism). I work closely with Missouri state agencies and seven other local health departments to ensure regional cohesion and implementation of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines. Planning for local and regional public health emergencies is not something I knew about, much less considered as a career during my undergrad.

"Honestly, I think I would have learned more had I interned during a regular session. The special session seemed a bit slow and focused on a narrow set of issues. That said, I have no regrets of doing it when I did. Senator Maria Chappelle-Nadal is clearly passionate about the citizens she represents and the values she defends. I would recommend anyone interested in state policy to intern with her."

-Steven Lammers, MPH



Interns Justin McPherson, Sikudhani McCowan and Tori Jones.



Sen. Chappelle-Nadal's interns Chris Givan and Christine Assefa.

"My time as an intern for Sen. Maria Chappelle-Nadal will always be a time I cherish. From working on constituent concerns to organizing files, I learned first-hand the amount of mental, physical and emotional strain it takes to be an elected official. The internship gave me a in-depth experience on how government policies and procedures work; but overall, the internship gave me life experience. The most important thing I took away from working with Sen. Maria Chappelle-Nadal was the necessary backbone it takes for public service and the passion involved in helping others. Every day, Sen. Chappelle-Nadal displayed these characteristics. This passion radiated throughout the Capitol. I learned many things while interning for Sen. Chappelle-Nadal, but I will always cherish that she taught me to always do your research, stand up for your values and beliefs and never be afraid to call truth to power."

-Steven Clark

FERGUSON UPRISING

“This was the new Jim Crow”: an oral history of the Ferguson protests – Vox Magazine (Michael B. Thomas) Aug. 11, 2015



“On Sunday night, that’s when the Quik Trip burned up. I was at the police station at the time - at a candlelight vigil there. No one wanted to do a prayer with the older ministers. There was one minister or pastor who was younger than I am, and he was the only one the folks in the crowd would allow to hold hands and pray in a circle. And I think it was because he was younger. So there was a generational gap.”

- Vox, Aug. 11, 2015

“A Missouri state legislator who represents the City of Ferguson said Wednesday that shots were fired in her direction when she got out of her car in the St. Louis suburb. A man was wounded in the shooting and was hospitalized, police said.

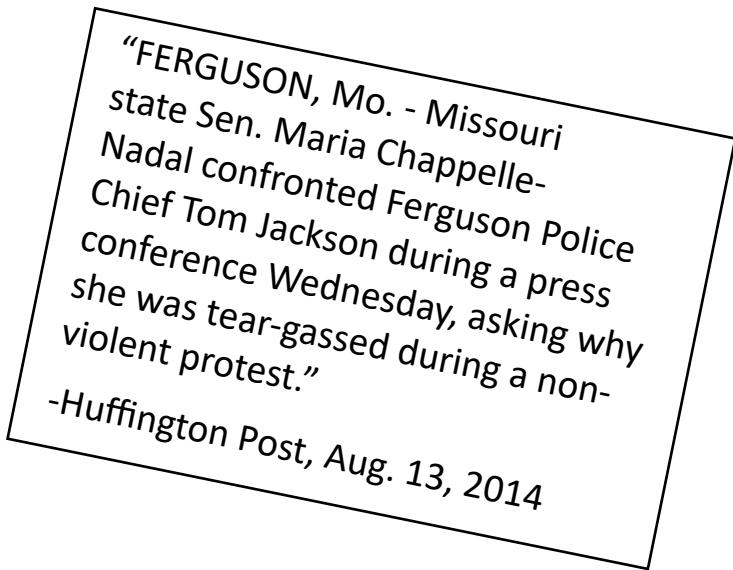
Maria Chappelle-Nadal, a state senator who was tear-gassed during protests that followed the police shooting death of 18-year old Michael Brown in August, said she was getting out of her car when shots were fired toward her. She said on Twitter that the shots were fired ‘from the trees or apartment complex behind the parking lot’ where she parked.”

-Huffington Post, Oct. 8, 2014

"Missouri State Senator Gassed While Protesting in Ferguson"

-Business Insider, Aug. 13, 2014





"FERGUSON, Mo. - Missouri state Sen. Maria Chappelle-Nadal confronted Ferguson Police Chief Tom Jackson during a press conference Wednesday, asking why she was tear-gassed during a non-violent protest."

-Huffington Post, Aug. 13, 2014

State Senator To Ferguson Police: “Will I Get Tear-Gassed Again?”

-HUFFINGTON POST, AUG. 13, 2014

“We were in that neighborhood and we were tear-gassed,” she said. I could not breathe, I could not speak, I could not focus, I could not think because I thought we were going to die because we were shot at and tear gas was constantly thrown at us and the police officers.”

She continued: “I’m the senator for the area, and I felt threatened. Everyone felt threatened.”

Chappelle-Nadal said Jackson’s response was “[expletive].”

“He blew me off,” she said. It was [expletive], and the thing is...I don’t tell people when I’m out with these kids, ‘Hey, I’m your senator.’ But I don’t care about that, I care about these kids.”

-Huffington Post, Aug. 13, 2014

“I just wanted to know if I was going to be gassed again, like I was on Monday night,” Chappelle-Nadal asked. “We couldn’t get out, and we were peacefully sitting. I just wanted to know if I’m going to be gassed again?”

-Huffington Post, Aug. 13, 2014

“When Maria Chappelle-Nadal asked if she would be gassed again like she was on Monday, Ferguson’s police chief Thomas Jackson kept a stoic expression until he found out she was a state senator:

He then replied: “I hope not.”

Chappelle-Nadal said she was protesting peacefully when she was gassed”

-Huffington Post, Aug. 13, 2014



“Change systems or people? Beyond Ferguson debates way forward”

“Chappelle-Nadal in particular spoke about a two-track form of change. She spoke at length about University City’s struggles to come to terms with racial divisions, even though the community has a reputation for being progressive.

But she also spoke of the challenge of trying to get her legislative colleagues to embrace structural changes, especially to how police departments interact with a primarily Black citizenry.

“Federal, state officials take sweeping steps in response to Ferguson, Mo., unrest”

-Washington Post Aug. 14, 2014



“Chappelle-Nadal said she rejects the idea that Ferguson’s police department should be dissolved and replaced with the St. Louis County Police. But she is in favor of other municipalities taking over patrol of the city, and added that Ferguson’s policymakers may not have a choice on the matter.

“It may not be up to the elected people - it may be up to the Department of Justice,” Chappelle-Nadal said. If they do not follow the guidelines and some of the ideas expressed by the DOJ, it won’t be up to [city officials] them.”

-St. Louis Public Radio, March 24, 2015

“There are not many senators who understand what is happening here at home,” Chappelle-Nadal said. “And that same sense, there are a lot of people who are on the streets every day who don’t understand the culture we have in the legislature. So every day is an educational opportunity to communicate with my colleagues - most of which are Republican - and try to encourage them to pass legislation.”

-St. Louis Public Radio, March 24, 2015



"I went to see the family of Michael Brown, where he was headed before he was shot, to give my condolences to the family. We walked around. We saw rows of police officers - I would say something like 40 to 50 just on the street alone. Then, on the main road, there were probably a ton of police cars. This police officer... folks were trying to overturn his car. I remember more officers coming in. When those cops came in, that's when people started holding their hands up and saying, "Hands up, don't shoot!" That's where that [phrase] came from. Everybody started thinking about the possibility of being Mike Brown."

- Vox, Aug. 11, 2015

"It was oppressive treatment. When I look at what happened in Baltimore and protests in other states, they all did a better job than what Ferguson and St. Louis County did. This was the new Jim Crow."

- Vox, Aug. 11, 2015



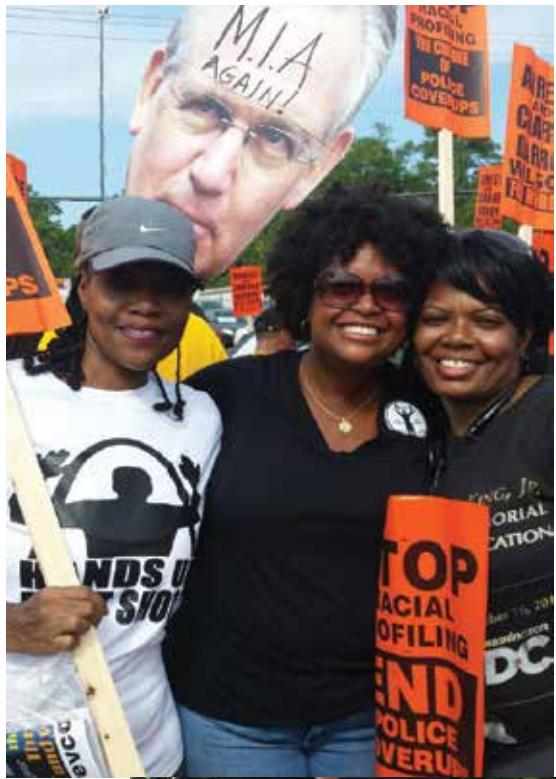
"I'm so grateful to the media, because it finally gave us a voice. What I was enduring and what everyone else was enduring; we thought it was normal to be turned on at every single turn. You know? This [expletive] wasn't normal. It was not normal. So I'm grateful to the media for coming to Missouri."

- Vox, Aug. 11, 2015



"It still hasn't changed [in Missouri]. Ferguson has had more impact on states around the country than Missouri itself."

- Vox, Aug. 11, 2015



African-American Women of the Senate



As the *second* African-American elected to the Missouri Senate representing St. Louis County, it is a pleasure to share with you that I stand on the shoulders of giants. The 14th Senatorial District, in recent history, is known to have some of the most intellectually prominent and outspoken figures in the entire Senate. My mentor, Harriett F. Woods – the first female to hold this seat and former lieutenant governor – was tough, direct and plain spoken. Harriett's colleagues always knew she was prepared to take on a hard fight. And most of the time, she won. Harriett provided me the strength and grit I needed to serve in such a distinguished body before I ever thought of serving in the Missouri Senate.

Without pause or hesitation, I am proud to be part of Harriett's political legacy.

In 2002, Rita Days became the *first* African-American woman to represent St. Louis County in the Missouri Senate. Senator Days is my predecessor, a friend, an advisor and someone who has always had the courage to stare

her colleagues in the eyes when policy went too far from the interests of her constituents. I learned from Sen. Days that a brain and comfortable shoes could outlast a novice in the Missouri Legislature any day!

“We’re fearless”: Black women wield unprecedented political clout in the St. Louis area St. Louis Public Radio, July 25, 2017

I am fortunate to serve with two other African-American women. We have, collectively, fought many battles in the Missouri Senate to protect the interests of the residents we represent. We have not won every battle, but we, together, are known as a force to be reckoned with when we set our sights on a piece of bad legislation.

Since 1821, when Missouri became a state, nearly 200 years ago, only 10 African-American women have served in the Missouri Senate: Gwen Giles (SD-4), Paula Carter (SD-5), Mary Bland (SD-9), Yvonne Wilson (SD-9), Rita Days (SD-14), Robin Wright-Jones (SD-5), Maida Coleman (SD-5), Kiki Curls (SD-9), Jamilah Nasheed (SD-5) and myself, Maria N. Chappelle-Nadal (SD-14).

I leave the Missouri Senate as the “senior senator from St. Louis County,” the senator with the most seniority in the Democratic caucus, while simultaneously serving as one of the youngest members of our chamber. Today, in 2018, I am the youngest African-American woman to ever be elected to the Missouri Senate.



DEDICATED EDUCATORS



Teachers make the world a better place for many reasons.

Our teachers are on the frontlines when it comes to educating our children.

And, of course, our teachers should be recognized for the greatness they add to a child's life. Teachers inspire students to dream and realize the impossible, while encouraging them to opt-out of life-altering decisions that put them in danger or limit their long-term opportunities.

If it were not for my former teachers, I would not have been capable of competing with the best and brightest in Missouri and in our country. This year, I wanted to honor all of my former teachers for giving me the tools that I needed to serve studiously in the Missouri Legislature. Education is important, and, as such, I completely enjoyed eight years of teaching many of my Senate colleagues about the critical issues we face here at home.

In the 14th Senatorial District, nearly 5,000 students are served by a food pantry on a weekly basis. Certainly, this does not account for the thousands of families living in food deserts where food prices are often higher. This reality, along with the lack of permanent housing, impacts the ability for students to learn. One of the reasons I fully support entities such as Operation Food Search is because they help teachers fill in the gap of providing our students with nutritious meals for weeks at a time.

When it comes to the former teachers in my life, I get emotional because I know the path I could have taken. They protected me, encouraged learning, exemplified patience and gave praise and advice when it was necessary.

On the last day of the 2018 legislative session, I read the poem "The Road Not Taken," written by Robert Frost. This poem was read multiple times in my youth by teachers. It is the poem that got me through a very rough time in my life. It is the poem that allowed me to dream about public service. And, for that, I am forever grateful.

Maria's Filibusters



MariaChappelleNadal ✅
@MariaChappelleN

26-hours of filibustering.
#NotInMyState

5:57 PM · 08 Mar 16

[View Tweet activity](#)

252 Retweets 673 Likes



MariaChappelleNadal ✅
@MariaChappelleN



"I've been reading from the same book ALL session. Only today, did my colleagues break the rules to shut me up. Only one's pride gets in the way of progress. I believe I was silenced because some believe Black History books are not allowed to be read in the Missouri Senate. Black people have no voice in MO."

#FiveStepsBack

May 11, 2018

"One of the lawmakers, Missouri State Sen. Maria Chappelle-Nadal, said she would speak for three hours Tuesday evening, "take a break, and be fresh at 3 a.m." The filibuster is the longest continuous effort in Missouri history."



MariaChappelleNadal ✅
@MariaChappelleN

30-hours of filibustering.
#NotInMyState Changing shifts.

9:59 PM · 08 Mar 16

[View Tweet activity](#)

111 Retweets 224 Likes



MariaChappelleNadal ✅
@MariaChappelleN

Replying to @jrosenbaum

@jrosenbaum And it is a record bc no female senator did a filibuster for that long, nor African American. 3rd longest n MO history. #10Hours

1:25 PM · 02 Oct 14

[View Tweet activity](#)

2 Likes



Jason Rosenbaum ✅ @j... · 02 Oct 14

Replying to @MariaChappelleN
@MariaChappelleN it is impressive any way you slice it. Ten hours of standing and talking is not something everyone can do.

“Chappelle-Nadal voted ‘no’ for the first-round approval and says she may decide to launch another filibuster if she feels it’s necessary.”



Jason Rosenberg

@mynameisjro

Solidarity with @MariaChappelleN and the other MO Democrats filibustering for 39 hours!
#NotInMyState #SJR39



Missouri Democrats Wage Wendy Davis-Style Filibuster Against Anti-Gay Religious Am...
thinkprogress.org

8:58 AM · 09 Mar 16

34 Retweets 36 Likes



Betty Ford Dropout

@ManicMinxy

@MariaChappelleN is the real MVP.
#MOLeg #SJR39 #NotInMyState

8:03 AM · 09 Mar 16

1 Retweet 9 Likes



Hillary Clinton

@HillaryClinton

Follow

Marriage equality is the law. I stand with those filibustering in MO to make sure discrimination won't be. -H

BuzzFeed LGBT

@BuzzFeedLGBT

Missouri Democrats Have Been Filibustering An Anti-Gay Bill For 20 Hours And

Counting bzfd.it/1QB6jnW

5:51 PM · 8 Mar 2016

1,824 Retweets 4,063 Likes

205 1.8K 4.1K

Follow



Wendy Davis

@wendydavis

I'm happy to loan a certain pair of sneakers for the cause #NotInMyState #SJR39

MariaChappelleNadal

@MariaChappelleN

24-hours of filibustering. #NotInMyState

2:25 PM · 8 Mar 2016

262 Retweets 556 Likes

8 262 556



Tweet your reply



MariaChappelleNadal

@MariaChappelleN

· 8 Mar 2016
Replying to @wendydavis
Thank you, @wendydavis! I would love to borrow your shoes! #25Hours #NotInMyState

4

28

92



Mark Spiessl

@MSpiessl

@MariaChappelleN Bravo Sen. Maria Chappelle-Nadal ! Sending you strength, power & energy all the way from Munich Germany !! #NotInMyState

Students of the 14th District



Students in the Ritenour School District.

phase of education. Through reading and other course instruction, students decide their likes and dislikes. They also, hopefully, enter into a long phase of intellectual discovery. This is important practically and philosophically, reading impacts a person's entire life. Therefore, we must start the activity early on.

During my Senate service, I have actively set time aside to read to students across the district in both public and private schools. I do admit Dr. Seuss books are my favorite, especially "Fox On Socks" and "Hurray for Diffendofer Day."

There are not many students choosing books on uranium-235 or uranium-238 processing in the United States during the 1940s or 1950s, but I do suspect there is a future nuclear physicist attentively listening to a librarian read a fascinating book.

As a Flynn Park (University City) Elementary School student, reading was encouraged all the time. Mrs. Joyce Best, our librarian then, read all sorts of books with students. It was always fun sitting on the rug, near the fireplace, attentively listening to Mrs. Best read "Little House on the Prairie" books or "Little Women" in our library. This early practice caused me to be a regular at local book stores and our local library. Our University City library is still a place where I enjoy researching, picking up books and having quality conversations with like-minded residents.

From first to fifth grade, our teachers worked with students to create our own books. This activity caused us to think critically and creatively. As I look at those ancient books, as an adult, in my upper right-hand desk drawer in my Senate office, I reflect on the importance of teaching students to live as creatively as possible. I firmly believe this practice allows students to begin the "dream"



Students from St. Ann Elementary School in 2015.



First grade students at Washington Elementary School in 2015.



Sen. Chappelle-Nadal reads to students in the Ferguson-Florissant School District.



Members of the Brittany Woods Robotics Team.



Sen. Chappelle-Nadal reads to children during a National Reading Day event.



Students from Freedom Elementary School in 2012.



Students from Flynn Park Elementary School in 2015.



RADIOACTIVE WASTE



"Sen. Maria Chappelle-Nadal says she's hosted more than 60 meetings to discuss the legacy of radioactive waste at sites throughout north St. Louis County." - St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Dec. 15, 2016

"This is my passion and this is my crusade," said Chappelle-Nadal. "I'm just trying to educate as many people as possible."
-St. Louis Post Dispatch, Dec. 15, 2016

"This has become a crusade for me," said Chappelle-Nadal. "After all that I have learned, I see radioactive waste contamination in north county as a bigger crisis than Flint, Mich. In Flint, you can smell the bad water and see the discolored water that is poisoning people. Contamination here is something you cannot see or smell, because it's radioactive[er]."

- Environmental Echo, March 10, 2016

"One of the few public officials drawing attention to this crisis is Maria Chappelle-Nadal, a state senator who represents parts of St. Louis County. The radioactive waste in her district is a deeply personal fight for her - Chappelle-Nadal's father used to work at the St. Louis airport, where Cold Water Creek begins, and breathed toxic air from the creek every day, eventually dying of kidney cancer. She's conducted over 1,000 interviews over the years with people in the West Lake and Bridgeton Landfill areas, along with residents in the Cold Water Creek watershed."

- The Grit, March 15, 2018

"Senator Chappelle-Nadal hosts meeting on landfill dangers"

-Fox 2, Nov. 13, 2015

"However, Chappelle-Nadal has long contended that the landfill is causing area contamination leading to health problems. 'When people are [expletive] dying, I'm going to be an alarmist,' she said in October 2015."

- Missouri Times, Jan. 19, 2017

"My father actually died of kidney failure, and he worked at the airport and was breathing that Cold Water Creek air every day. ...Carol Williams has fourth-stage cancer and will lose her tongue. This is my last term in office; we've got to do something about this. No matter what."

-The Root, March 2, 2018



"State senator hosts public meetings on North County's radioactive history"
-St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Dec. 15, 2016

"We have heard some of the saddest stories you could ever imagine," says Chappelle-Nadal. "Some of these examples are 15-year olds dying of leukemia, ovarian cancer or young eight-year olds who have arthritis. The longer we wait, I can absolutely say with certainty there is another child who has asthma. There's another child who gets a brain tumor. There's another child who's ending up with an autoimmune disease that's very, very rare and caused by radioactive waste [exposure]."

- MissouriNet, April 15, 2017

"Politically Speaking: Sen. Chappelle-Nadal on radioactive waste, education policy and her legacy"

- St. Louis Public Radio, Nov. 15, 2016

"NO GOOD DEED: LEGALLY BLIND WHITE MAN ATTACKS BLACK POLITICIAN FOR TRYING TO HELP HIM"

- The Root, March 2, 2018

"A lot of people don't want to talk about radioactive waste because it's not a sexy issue to talk about."

- St. Louis Public Radio, Nov. 15, 2016

"It doesn't matter what the hell the standard is, if anybody is near that level of danger, whether it's industrial, residential, or the business sector, everyone should be made aware of that.' Chappelle-Nadal said. 'That information should be disclosed to everyone, even if it's half of what the dangerous levels are.'"

- The Grit, March 15, 2018

"TEMPERS FLARE AT MEETING OVER COLDWATER CREEK"

- KDSK, Feb. 23, 2018

"Missouri legislator compares Ferguson trauma to radioactive waste struggles"

- Missourinet, April 25, 2017

"Ignoring landfill problems is slow genocide for area residents"

- St. Louis Post Dispatch, Jan. 31, 2018

"Since 2015, I've held a hundred town hall meetings. I have interviewed nearly 1,000 people who in some way have been impacted by water and/or airborne contamination. I've spent almost every waking minute researching old documents — resourceful paper trails — that are usually hard or impossible to find online. It is extensive work and a complicated puzzle fitting multiple pieces of information in their proper place. The real story is dark and grim. For me, as a state senator who was

on the frontline in Ferguson, this matter is equivalent to 50 Ferguson-like events.

If the EPA does not want to take this matter seriously, at a bare minimum its officials should investigate the contents of two 18-wheelers that were buried in the landfill decades ago. We still don't know what was inside that was so important it had to be buried."

- St. Louis Post Dispatch, Jan. 31, 2018

"State senator claims Bridgeton, West Lake landfills pose national security risk"

-FOX 2, NOV. 15, 2015

"Through her meetings, Chappelle-Nadal tries to highlight what is known about the history of hazardous materials dumped in the area. Her accompanying slideshow includes historic and aerial photos, newspaper articles and government documents. She also shares anecdotes about area residents living near waste, including the health problems some face."

- St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Dec. 15, 2016

"Chappelle-Nadal presented her bill to the House Budget Committee Wednesday morning, explaining some of the major issues she has heard from constituents regarding West Lake Landfill. 'Do you care about finances or your child having a brain tumor?' she asked the committee. 'Do you care about finances or a 25-year old dying of leukemia?'"

- The Missouri Times, April 26, 2017

"They didn't anticipate buying a house or renting a house in a community that has a legacy of radioactive waste from the 1970s,' said Sen. Chappelle-Nadal, D-University. 'Who would buy a home like that?'"

- St. Louis Post-Dispatch, April 17, 2017

"Spanish Village Homeowners Hope For State Buyout"

-CBS ST. LOUIS, FEB. 17, 2017

"Chappelle-Nadal urges state to buy out Spanish Village homeowners"

-St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Jan. 11, 2017



"AS EPA STALLS ON WESTLAKE LANDFILL, CHAPPELLE-NADAL FILES MASSIVE HOME BUYOUT BILL"

- The Missouri Times, Jan. 19, 2017

"State Senate passes bill to buy homes near West Lake Landfill"

-KBIA, April 12, 2017

"A bill to create a buyout program for homes near the West Lake Landfill Superfund site in Bridgeton has been overwhelmingly approved by the state Senate.

Under the proposal, residents of the Spanish Village subdivision near the site could apply to sell their homes to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources. As many as 91 families could have the option to move away from the World War II-era radioactive contamination at the West Lake Landfill, which sits about 600 feet from the

underground smoldering fire at the Bridgeton Landfill. Many residents have expressed concern about the potential health risks of living there.

'Passing this bill is a big message to the Environmental Protection Agency to either do their job or let us do what we need to do for our own citizens,' said state Sen. Maria Chappelle-Nadal, the bill's sponsor."

-KBIA, April 12, 2017

“Editorial: A Good Faith Effort to help homeowners”

-St. Louis Post-Dispatch, April 19, 2017



Photo: The Grit

“Environmental racism in Robertson?”

- The St. Louis American, Nov. 30, 2016

“Massive Environmental Genocide Is Slowly Killing Off North St. Louis”

-Grit, March 15, 2018

“Who is responsible? There was a contract between the Department of Energy and Mallinckrodt that gave the company immunity in exchange for processing the uranium,’ said Chappelle-Nadal. ‘The government bears responsibility, for sure.’”

-Environmental Echo, March 10, 2016

“As a legislator, I see the way people couch language. It’s controlling. Part of racism is control. Controlling who is included in these lawsuits. Controlling who has access to remediation,’ she said. ‘People in the African American communities have a very high probability of contamination. In absolutely any home found with contamination, there should be at least the option of buyout if a person wants a buyout. If you don’t want a buyout, that’s fine.”

- The Grit, March 15, 2018

“The surviving residents of Robertson are getting older; we cannot allow their stories to be forever lost and never explored. It is my strong belief that the people of Robertson were victims of environmental racism.”

- The St. Louis American, Nov. 30, 2016





"Senator Maria Chappelle-Nadal reads about the Manhattan Project out loud after the house voted down a bill to create a fund to buy out dozens of homeowners near the West Lake Landfill."
-St. Louis Public Radio, May 12, 2017

"The Missouri House voted 65-79 (12 voted present) on Friday to kill off a bill that would have set up a special fund to buy out roughly 90 homeowners who live near the contaminated West Lake Landfill. The Superfund site, overseen by the federal Environmental Protection Agency, stores contaminated waste from the atomic bomb production during World War II. The neighboring Bridgeton Landfill is under the state's jurisdiction and has an underground smoldering fire that some fear could spread to West Lake."

-St. Louis Public Radio, May 12, 2017

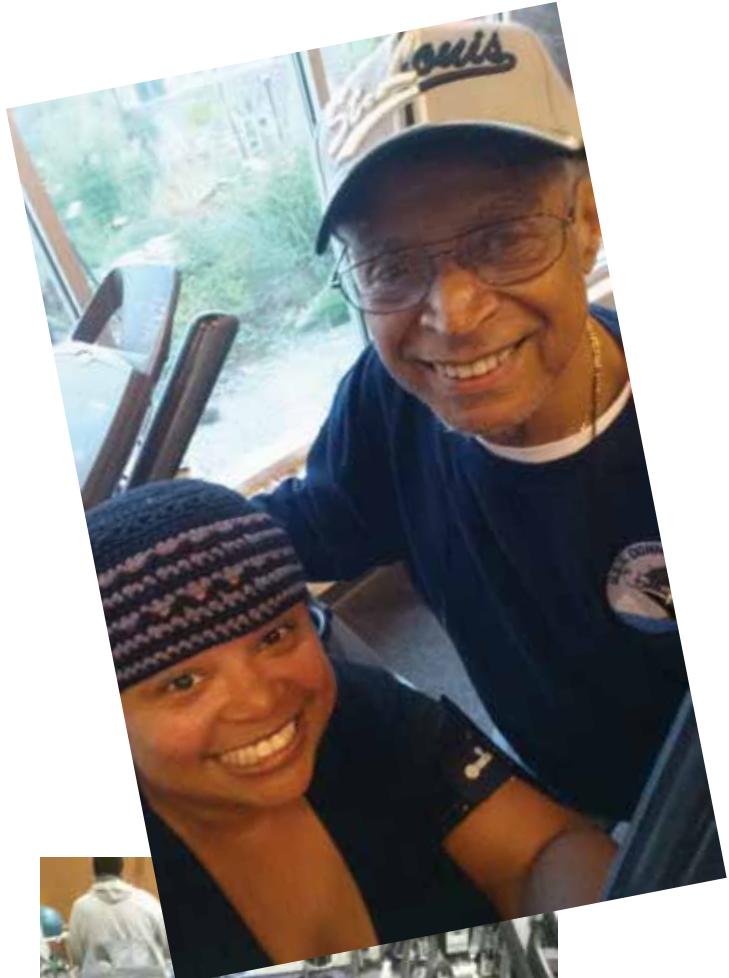
"Chappelle-Nadal pushes taxpayer buyout as fiscal discipline stressed"

-The Missouri Times, April 26, 2017



Thank you to the many University City residents that inspired me to stay healthy as I served in the Missouri Senate. We are not done!

#KeepGoing







Maria Through the Years



PRESORTED STANDARD
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Jefferson City, MO 65101
Permit No. 220

Senator Maria Chappelle-Nadal
201 W Capitol Ave. Rm 428
Jefferson City MO 65101