

America and some of the great developments in the oil industry and some of the great philanthropic works in California, we know very well who Henry Salvatori was. He was a great American, and it is an honor today for us to say a few nice words about him and to recall him for the American people, because he added so much to our way of life.

Henry Salvatori died over the Fourth of July weekend at age 96. That date was fitting, because Henry was a man whose life epitomized what being an American is all about.

He was, like many American patriots, a man who came to the United States from another country. Henry came to us from Italy. He came here when he was 5 years old, and during his lifetime, he enthusiastically embraced the ideals that are at the foundation of our country. Thus, he epitomized what being an American is all about, because we have always said that these American values are not just for the people of the United States and people born here, but being an American means those things that our Founding Fathers fought for and sought after.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. ROHRBACHER. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. DREIER. Madam Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding, and I would first like to congratulate him for taking out this time to talk about a great American hero, Henry Salvatori.

I think the last point that my friend has made is really right on target here, because many have said that the very best citizens in this country are those who become American citizens by choice. Henry Salvatori really epitomized that, having been a member of Ronald Reagan's Kitchen Cabinet and having played such a key role in the conservative movement. He established at my alma mater the Salvatori Center, which has done a great deal of research.

So, rather than simply being involved in politics, not a lot of attention has been focused on his tremendous philanthropic involvement and his support of education. He has provided to my friend and to me and many others tremendous inspiration, and a great deal of advice and counsel and support.

I would simply like to join my friend and say Henry Salvatori will be sorely missed by so many of us. It is a great loss for the United States of America.

Madam Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding.

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Madam Speaker, we will be benefiting from his not only generosity, but the standards that he set for us. Henry Salvatori was a man who believed in free enterprise and free speech. He believed in honor, in truth, in decency and hard work and responsibility, and he took these principles to heart and into his hands. With them he built a very successful life, and this success Henry shared with everyone.

Henry Salvatori's motto was "whoever crosses my path, I will leave them at least as well off, or, if possible, better off than he was before." Henry's life is an inspiration, and he tried to follow that formula, not through one career, but through three careers. In each one of those he tried to better people's lives.

Henry's first career was in the oil business, when as a young man he pioneered a new oil exploration technology of charting geological structures by sending shock waves through the ground. Inspired by the spirit of enterprise that he found in America, Henry invested all of his assets into a company based on the seismic method and the company, Western Geophysical, grew into a multibillion dollar corporation and he became its leader. The business remains a leader today even as Henry passes on.

Henry's second career was that of an philanthropist. He believed that the best way to help others is not with Government entitlements, but through the private sector, through caring individuals who are taking the responsibility to help others. In this, he lent a hand to so many people to try to help them get the basics, but at no time trying to make any individual dependent on the Government or someone else's largess.

He demonstrated this belief time and again by bestowing gifts on universities and colleges, hospitals, children's clubs, community groups, and the arts. He also supported civic education organizations which put forth ideas of limited Government and expanded individual opportunity, ideas that guide our society today.

In particular, Henry supported the youth organizations like the Young Americans for Freedom and the Young Republicans and others. This helped a whole generation of young people meet the responsibility of picking up the torch and caring the torch of American freedom as it was passed from one generation to another. I am a beneficiary of that largess, as was Ronald Reagan and many others, as Henry Salvatori engaged himself in the political process in the United States he loved so much, and it was a tribute to all Americans at all times.

It was during his third career—his career in politics—that I was fortunate enough to come to know Henry. He never sought, won or held elected office, but Henry served his fellow Americans honorably by effectively using one of the most powerful rights that the U.S. Constitution bestows upon its citizens: free speech. He engaged in debate on State and national issues, and financially supported candidates who shared his beliefs in freedom. In hindsight, Henry spoke out for some of America's greatest leaders.

Henry became a respected and trusted advisor to Barry Goldwater, Gerald Ford, and Richard Nixon. But he was best known for launching the career of the man who has ignited the political spirit of the modern generation: Ronald Reagan.

Henry enticed Reagan to enter politics with two simple promises that to this day resonate

with courage and integrity. He promised to take care of the campaign funding and promised to take nothing in return: no favor, no office, no appointment. Henry supported Reagan from the Governor's Mansion to the White House, and today the history books show he kept both promises.

He remained close to President Reagan as part of a so-called Kitchen Cabinet. Though Reagan entertained all ideas, in the end the President made the decisions. Of course, it was through the support and dedication of patriotic Americans like Henry Salvatori that Ronald Reagan ever had a chance to lead.

Henry did himself, his neighbors and this country many great services. He expanded access to our national energy supply. He funded charities that help people in need. He supported political ideas and candidates who brought our country closer to freedom, and expanded the opportunities available to average people.

In doing so Henry Salvatori crossed all our paths. And rest assured, we are much better off.

As we close this today, I would hope all people on the next Fourth of July will remember the great contributions this man made to our country.

CONGRESS NOT BEING KIND TO SMALL FAMILY FARMERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 21, 1997, the gentlewoman from North Carolina [Mrs. CLAYTON] is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mrs. CLAYTON. Madam Speaker, this Congress has not been very kind to small family farmers this year as the Agriculture Appropriation bill cuts funding by \$3.7 billion over last year's bill. That cut is on top of a \$10.3 billion cut last year, and an additional \$5.8 billion less than the year before.

In addition, we will face an amendment later that, if it passes, small tobacco farmers could be the sole category of farmers effectively barred from obtaining Federal crop insurance, even though the purchase of crop insurance is mandatory for all farmers through the passage of the Federal Crop Insurance Reform Act of 1994.

Later today, we will also face an amendment that targets peanut farmers. That amendment will help large corporations with moneys earned at the expense of small family farmers.

But inattention to a situation that has plagued small family farmers for more than four decades is one of the biggest acts of omission of this Congress. The farmers and ranchers of America, including minority and limited resource farmers, through their labor and hard work sustain each and every one of us and maintain the lifeblood of our Nation and the world. These people do not discriminate; their products are for all of us. Therefore, it is important that we do all within our powers to ensure that each and every producer is able to farm without the additional burden of institutional racism rearing its ugly head.

Madam Speaker, it has greatly concerned me that in my home State of North Carolina, there has been a 64-percent decline in minority farmers just over the last 15 years, from 6,696 farmers in 1978 to 2,498 farmers in 1992.

There are several reasons as to why the number of minority and limited resource farmers are declining so rapidly, but the one that has been documented time and time again is the discriminatory environment present in the Department of Agriculture, which was the very agency established by the U.S. Government to accommodate and assist the special needs of all farmers and ranchers.

On February 28, 1997, the Civil Rights Action Team [CRAT] report was issued, a report entitled "Civil Rights at the United States Department of Agriculture." It was done by the Civil Rights Implementation Team at USDA under the direction of Secretary Don Glickman, which documents the decades of discrimination against minorities and women within the Department. Ninety-two recommendations for change were made in the report, 13 of which required legislative action.

I have introduced a bill which seeks to implement most of the legislative recommendations within the CRAT report. This is a beginning, not complete.

My bill achieves this goal by first, changing the structure of county committees; second, changing the status of county employees from non-Federal to Federal; third, making sure that socially disadvantaged farmers can obtain credit and other assistance to maintain their farms as other farmers are able to do; and, fourth, making sure USDA has sufficient funds to carry out its loans, technical assistance, and outreach programs. The bill is H.R. 2185 and is entitled the USDA Accountability and Equity Act of 1997. I urge all of my colleagues to join in support of this bill.

Farmers and ranchers are an invaluable resource to all of us. American producers, who now represent less than 3 percent of the population, provide more than enough food and fiber to meet the needs of our Nation and most nations overseas. Twenty-two million Americans are employed in the processing, selling, trading of our national foods and fiber. Seventy-five million Americans are recipients of USDA benefits. Crops are produced, the soil and water are cared for, and the most available, highest quality and the least expensive food supply in the world is provided through agriculture and related programs.

The Food Stamp Program, the School Breakfast and Lunch Program, meat and poultry inspections and the world's greatest quantity of agricultural exports as well as the world's largest donations of foreign food aid also result from agriculture programs.

In rural communities, agriculture programs dispense loans and grants for housing, utilities, and economic development. Forest protection and preservation is another important product of such programs.

And so, Madam Speaker, I would ask my colleagues that, as we consider the Agriculture appropriations bill, think of small farmers, their families, and the communities they serve.

As debate continues on peanuts and tobacco, bear in mind the burden small farmers have carried in recent years in budget matters.

When we vote on the tobacco amendments and peanut amendment, do not be blind to who we are helping and who we are hurting.

And, finally, I urge each of my colleagues to consider cosponsoring H.R. 2185, the USDA Accountability and Equity Act of 1997.

Small family farmers, particularly socially disadvantaged and minority farmers deserve a chance.

This bill, H.R. 2185 begins to give them that chance.

Madam Speaker, I would urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2185, the USDA an accountability act, and remember that all of our farmers, minority and disadvantaged farmers, deserve the protection of the U.S. Constitution and of this Congress.

A FRESH LOOK AT THE ANTI-TOBACCO CAMPAIGN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 21, 1997, the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. McGOVERN] is recognized during morning hour debates for 5 minutes.

Mr. McGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise to welcome my friends and constituents from the Greater Fall River-Fresh Air Kids Program to Washington, DC and to the U.S. Congress. This community youth group has put the phrase, Think Globally/Act Locally, into action with their efforts to combat environmental tobacco smoke. I continue to support the thousands of youthful volunteers whom the Fresh Air Kids have recruited as they use direct action to combat the tobacco industry's advertising campaign against the young people in America.

Within 25 years, tobacco-related illnesses are expected to overtake infectious disease as the leading threat to human health worldwide. In spite of this fact, tobacco companies continue to produce cigarettes at the rate of 5.5 trillion a year. That is nearly 1,000 cigarettes for every person on the planet, including our young children.

Every day, over 3,000 kids become regular smokers, despite laws in every State that prohibit tobacco use by minors. Every year, 1 million young children start using tobacco, with the average teenage smoker starting at 13 and becoming a daily smoker by 14½.

An estimated 419,000 Americans die each year from diseases caused by smoking. That number is more than die from AIDS, alcohol, illegal drugs, fires, car crashes, suicides, and murder combined. Tobacco use is the No. 1 cause of preventable disease and death in my State of Massachusetts, taking 10,000 lives every year.

Ninety percent of all adult smokers begin smoking before the age of 18. In my own family, I watched my mother-

in-law, a lifetime smoker, recently become one of the hundreds of thousands of Americans to die annually from lung cancer. My grandfather continues to suffer daily from emphysema, the product of years of smoking.

In light of these sad but very real statistics, the Fresh Air Kids have made remarkable progress in the 2 years since their organization was founded by Maureen Glisson of Citizens for Citizens of Fall River, Joseph Borges of the Fall River Tobacco Control Program, and Jacqueline Goyette of the Swansea/Somerset Board of Health Tobacco Control Program.

With the encouragement and support of parent groups, educators, community leaders, and members of the media, some 3,000 volunteer youth have fueled the local movement against tobacco in their community.

The Fresh Air Kids have spoken to Massachusetts, and their voices have been heard loud and clear. In a community where 34 percent of residents smoke, these youngsters have pledged never to start, and to work to keep others tobacco-free.

Last October, I had the privilege of joining with the Fresh Air Kids in a march that celebrated their successful campaign to create the first smoke-free mall in southeastern Massachusetts. The kids marched to the mall with placards and petitions from their many supporters in the community. They obtained permission to set up a store front to display signs and collect signatures of support.

At the end of the victory march, I watched with pride as the mall manager stood up and declared this mall is smoke free due to the efforts of the Fresh Air Kids.

Currently the Fresh Air Kids are conducting a billboard campaign encouraging local businesses to buy back billboards which feature tobacco advertising like Joe Camel signs, replacing them with pro-health messages of the Fresh Air Kids. We hope these efforts will encourage Congress to address other such harmful advertising practices, such as tobacco product placement in movies.

The Fresh Air Kids understand and have articulated what I believe is the very foundation of an effective democracy, that informed and active citizens, willing to stand up for causes they care about, really can make a difference.

Here in the U.S. Congress we can try to pass laws that we hope will keep our children healthy, but it is up to the efforts and actions of grass-roots groups in every community across America to take up the fight in keeping our children safe and healthy.

The Fresh Air Kids are a shining example of what citizen action and grass-roots community effort can accomplish. That is one reason why they have been selected as a National Pilot Program by the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids, a national antismoking group that has set the standard for keeping our kids healthy.