

McDonald County is tucked away in the very southwest corner of my congressional district, bounded on the south by our good neighbors in Arkansas and our friends in Oklahoma on the west. McDonald County is noted for its friendly folks and scenic beauty. Clear streams and majestic limestone bluffs have long been attractions for sightseers and were prominent in the stories of early settlers. Add to that the booming economy and you have an All-American place to raise a family, start a business and put down or carefully nurture "roots." The population in McDonald County, now over 20,000, is growing at more than 14% a year making it one of Missouri's fastest growing counties in its 150th year.

Only a few hundred people called McDonald County, Missouri home when it was organized on March 3, 1849. It was named after Revolutionary War hero Alexander McDonald, a sergeant in the Continental Army. This year a series of events and observances will mark the county's milestone. March 3 is McDonald County History Day observed at all county buildings. Students will participate in art and history exhibits, and there are picnics, parades and festivities planned throughout the year.

The county seat at Pineville celebrates "Jesse James Days" in August by reliving the 1938 filming of "Jesse James," a movie production that brought stars Henry Fonda, Tyrone Power and Randolph Scott to McDonald County. In October the limestone bluffs and clear streams become the backdrop for some of North America's best fall foliage.

McDonald County is a place for families and small towns. Nearly 70 percent of the households are married families; half of those have children at home. The largest towns in McDonald County—Pineville, Anderson, Lanagan, Noel, Jane and Southwest City—had fewer than 2,000 people each at the last census.

McDonald County schools are meeting the growth in population with the construction of new schools all over the county—and they are doing it without federal handouts or new taxes (something Washington could learn from). The school system is financially stable and is "paying as it goes." County and city governments are also keeping up with the growth with a positive eye on the future. Economic development and infrastructure needs are constantly scrutinized and considered.

The economy is strong. A number of new businesses are springing up. A \$53-million poultry industry makes McDonald County the leading livestock producing county in Missouri. Many of its residents work in McDonald County, but some commute to work in other places in a growing Southwest Missouri.

McDonald County is in America's heartland. Within a hundred miles there are lakes and streams like Table Rock Lake and Roaring River, as well as the Mark Twain National Forest and live entertainment in Branson. There is a diversity of good jobs and professions, churches of many faiths and institutions of higher learning that abound in the region. McDonald County is a great place to live and work.

Happy Sesquicentennial, McDonald County, Missouri.

CONGRATULATING SANTA CLARA COUNTY HUMAN RELATIONS AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 1999

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to congratulate the exceptional people and groups in Santa Clara County who have earned the Human Relations Award. The award, presented last week by the Santa Clara County Human Relations Commission, recognizes their exceptional service to the community in the area of human and civil rights.

The honorees are a diverse group—people of different ages, nationalities, languages, colors, and cultures—united by their efforts to improve the lives of those in need. They make an important difference in the community and are an inspiration to us all.

The Human Relations Award recipients are: Mary Bernier, a full-time volunteer who works to make the community aware of major social and economic issues.

Cathy Bouchard, who assists people with developmental disabilities reach their potential and realize their dreams.

Meg Bowman, a true community activist, educator, and untiring advocate on behalf of women.

Don Burt, M.D., a doctor who volunteers regularly at the Rota Care Clinic in Morgan Hill and works to promote better relationships between various cultural and ethnic groups.

Rita and Larry Demkowsky, who serve the poor and needy through Loaves and Fishes.

Dzung C. Do, an attorney at Asian Law Alliance who has helped over 16 different language groups work toward citizenship.

Barbara Emerich, who advocates for children and quality public education as an active member of the 6th District PTA, League of Women Voters, and Violence Prevention Council.

Cliff M. Eppard, who works to assure that basic food, safety, and financial needs are offered to seniors and others.

Nancy Flanagan, who has united the board and staff of Alliance for Community Care, a consolidation of three major mental health agencies.

Experanza Garcia-Walters, who has made significant contributions through her years of community involvement with the Latino Nurses Association, Planned Parenthood, and the Hispanic Foundation.

Victor Garza, who has long shown true dedication to the community in a number of roles. He is a former member and Chair of the Human Relations Commission; founder and Chair of La Raza Roundtable; Vice Chair of the Mexican Heritage Corporation; and volunteer with the American GI Forum, America Heart Association, and E.O.P. Advisory Board of the Evergreen Valley-San Jose Community College District. Victor is always ready to work towards building a community of respect and concern for all.

Andrew Gonzales, the past president of La Raza Lawyers Association, has established a scholarship banquet for incoming law students at SCU, works closely with new law students, participates in career days, and works with community organizations.

Sparky Harlan, Executive Director of the Bill Wilson Center, has worked on behalf of homeless youth for over 25 years.

Dr. Robert Hersch has served on the board and worked with every aspect of Live Oak Adult Day Services.

Delia U. Jurado is a leader of Filipino community volunteers who works on behalf of seniors, new immigrants, and community groups.

Lor Layso, a leader in the local Cambodian community, has helped hundreds of Cambodian refugees adjust to life in America and eventually apply for citizenship.

Alette Lundeborg has helped Santa Clara County and the community assist welfare recipients from welfare to work.

Elizabeth Menkin, M.D., serves the community over and above her professional duties by volunteering with the Mother's Milk Bank, MADD, and child-care and hospice programs.

Ann Holland McCowan and John Holland McCowan. Six-year-old John worked with his mother, Ann, to found Kids Cheering Kids, an organization to better the lives of children with special needs in Santa Clara County.

Judy Nakano volunteers with the San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin and Girl Scouts, bringing the two groups together.

Dr. T.J. Owens, Dean of Students at Gavilan Community College in Gilroy, has devoted most of his life to education and community services. He is a former member of the Human Relations Commission and is the past president of the Friends of the Human Relations Commission.

Rolanda Pierre-Dixon, a Santa Clara County Deputy District Attorney, promotes a "no excuse for domestic violence" theme at court, community meetings, conferences, and task forces.

Robert Riordan plays the role of "grandpa" in the lives of many young people who do not have grandparents nearby.

Jerry Rosenblum, a senior partner in a San Jose law firm, uses his legal expertise to serve the community at places like Live Oak Adult Day Services.

Father Mateo Sheedy, Pastor of Sacred Heart Church in San Jose, is an inspiration to us all. In the words of Santa Clara County Supervisor Blanca Alvarado, "Everybody loves him; he is one of the best human beings."

Lillian Silberstein, Executive Director of the National Conference for Community and Justice, has initiated many civil rights programs and promotes understanding and respect among all races, cultures, nationalities, and religious affiliation.

Vicci Smith, a student at San Jose State University, volunteers as co-director of the university's Women's Resource Center.

George Soto, interim Director of Employment Benefit Services of the Santa Clara County Social Services Agency, brings honesty, integrity, fairness, and commitment to the human concerns of all.

Deborah Stinchfield has been a volunteer at the Mid-Peninsula Hospital Foundation for 21 years, where she promotes awareness of end-of-life issues and hospice care.

Colette and Frank Swaringen have developed the "Script for Safe Kids," a video used across the county to alert to the common lures used by child abductors.

Joseph R. Tembrock is a founder of Sacred Heart Community Services, the Rotating Shelter in Cupertino, and the Interfaith Hospitality Network.

Florence Trimble, known as the Mother Teresa of Gilroy, has dedicated her time and love to recruiting volunteers to address the needs of the homeless.

Forrest W. Williams provides valuable service to programs for young people. He has been a mentor for many years and serves on the San Jose Planning Commission and the United Negro College Fund Executive Advisory Board.

In addition, I would like to congratulate the six community groups who received the Human Relations Award. The groups are: AAUW Committee on Homeless Women and Children—Los Gatos/Saratoga Branch; Adelante Mujer Hispana of Santa Clara County; Almaden Council Pacific Bell Pioneers; Dispute Resolution Program Services Volunteers, Office of Human Relations; Filipino Youth Coalition; and Mountain View Diversity Forum.

SUPPORT AMERICAN STEEL

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 1999

Mr. McNULTY Mr. Speaker, I want to express my deep concern about the crisis facing our American steel industry. The continued dumping of steel is causing tremendous harm to the industry and forcing huge lay-offs of hard-working U.S. steel workers. Over 10,000 steel workers have been laid off in the past year as a result of the flood of under-priced steel coming into the United States.

As we all know, America was built on the backs of laborers. We cannot turn our backs on them now.

Although the actions taken by the steel industry and the Administration have caused the amount of dumped steel to drop, more needs to be done. We need to be firm and make it very clear to our competitors that we will not tolerate illegal dumping of any kind.

American Steel companies and organized labor have worked very hard over the last decade to restructure and to restore the integrity of this important industry. We cannot allow these sacrifices to be in vain.

I am a co-sponsor of Rep. VISCLOSKY's bill to reduce steel imports to 25% of the U.S. market. That is the level that prevailed in July 1997—before the illegal dumping began. I hope the House will adopt this measure in the near future.

Given the nation's strong economy, now is the time to deepen our commitment to ensuring that working families keep the well-paying jobs they deserve.

RECOGNITION OF THE COMMITMENT OF MR. WILLIAM C. "BILLY" SULLIVAN TO YOUTH ATHLETICS

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 1999

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the lifelong commitment to youth athletics in Western Massachusetts of Mr. William C. "Billy" Sullivan. For the

past fifty years, Billy Sullivan has been a fixture on the sidelines of playing fields throughout the Greater Springfield area. As a football, basketball, and baseball player, Billy displayed an unmatched drive to succeed. His dedication to fair play and high quality athletics has been evident since he was a young man, and has continued to this day.

Billy Sullivan's dedication to athletics as a coach, manager, and organizer is unparalleled. He has coached local youth teams for well over thirty years, including a stint as manager of the Sacred Heart Semi-pro baseball team. He has been a sitting member on the Catholic Basketball League Board of Directors, the Springfield Pee Wee Baseball Leagues Board of Directors, the Basketball Hall of Fame Tip-Off Committee, and the Basketball Hall of Fame Board of Trustees. He has been Chairman of John L. Sullivan Day at Pynchon Park, the NCAA Division II Elite 8 Basketball Championships, the Springfield Civic Basketball Committee, and the Springfield Peach Basket Festival Committee. His public service resume includes time as a Member of the Massachusetts General Court, City Clerk of the City of Springfield, and Mayor of the City of Springfield.

Billy Sullivan's commitment to youth athletics will be on display on the weekend of March 26–28, 1999. Over 1,500 children, ages 7–17, will descend upon Western Massachusetts to participate in the 40th annual New England Catholic Youth Organization Basketball Tournament. Proceeds generated by the tournament will be donated to Brightside for Families and Children in care of the Vinny Del Negro Endowment Fund. Billy Sullivan and Vinny Del Negro are the co-chairman for this popular event.

Mr. Speaker, allow me to pay tribute to the service, commitment, and character of Mr. William C. Sullivan. He has proved himself to be an indispensable member of his community, as a leader, an organizer, and an advocate of youth athletics in Western Massachusetts.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 1999

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, due to President Clinton's visit to the 2nd District of Arizona on February 25, 1999, I was unable to cast a vote on rollcall votes No. 27 and No. 28. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 27 and "yea" on rollcall vote No. 28.

TRIBUTE TO RICARDO ICAZA

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 1999

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, my colleagues, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. SHERMAN and I rise today to

pay tribute to our very good friend, Ricardo Icaza, President of United Food and Commercial Workers Local 770. This year Ricardo is receiving the International Humanitarian Award from the Israel Humanitarian Foundation. Having traveled outside the United States many times as a representative of the AFL–CIO, advocating on behalf of working people, it is no exaggeration to say that he is a perfect choice for this prestigious honor.

Ricardo joined Local 770 in 1956, when Dwight Eisenhower was President of the United States and Elvis Presley had his first hit records. In the ensuing 43 years, the fortunes of organized labor have ebbed and flowed, along with those of the American economy as a whole. Through it all Ricardo's commitment to the Union, its policies and its goals, has never wavered. He is too busy fighting for the rights of workers to worry about whether the role of unions is diminishing, or to fret over the standing of the labor movement in public opinion polls.

Ricardo has held many important positions with Local 770, including Research Assistant, Organizer, Business Representative and Secretary-Treasurer. He has been President of Local 770 since 1981.

Many of his duties have involved helping his brothers and sisters in foreign countries. In 1979, for example, he represented the Retail Clerks International Union as an advisory committee member in a delegation that went to Portugal, Spain and Brussels. He has also traveled to China, Geneva and Germany as a representative of the AFL–CIO. In 1998, Ricardo represented labor in Mayor Riordan's delegation that visited Japan for the purpose of encouraging business with the City of Los Angeles.

Ricardo's involvement with labor does not stop with Local 770. He is also President of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, Treasurer of the Food and Drug Council and Vice President of the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement and trustee of the Southern California United Food and Commercial Workers Unions.

We ask our colleagues to join us in saluting Ricardo Icaza, a man of integrity, compassion and justice. His unshakable commitment to improving the lives of working men and women inspires us all.

HONORING THE STUDENTS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FOUNDING OF THE CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION "CLOTHES, FOOD, AND EDUCATION FOR THE POOR AND NEEDY"

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 3, 1999

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of some distinguished South Florida students: Abhishek Gupta, Adam & Diana Deutsch, Connie & Hakeem Campbell, Shaun Krueger, Edward & Monique McDuffie, Laurel Stephenson, and Samantha Voehringer. Every one of these students in between the ages of 7–17 years old, and their outstanding community service has truly benefited both the South Florida community as well as the world at large.