

was also an advocate of the Head Start program.

Johnson's press secretary from 1963–1969 was Liz Carpenter, a fellow University of Texas alumna. Carpenter was the first professional newswoman to be press secretary to a First Lady, and she also served as Lady Bird's staff director.

In 1970, *A White House Diary*, Lady Bird Johnson's intimate, behind-the-scenes account of Lyndon Johnson's presidency from November 22, 1963 to January 20, 1969, was published. Beginning with the tragic assassination of John F. Kennedy, Mrs. Johnson recorded the momentous events of her times, including the Great Society's War on Poverty, the national civil rights and social protest movements, her own activism on behalf of the environment, and the Vietnam War. Indeed, Lady Bird Johnson and her husband were champions of civil rights and were instrumental in the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965. I know that her comforting words and her encouragement were part of the decision making of President Johnson as he made some critical decisions during some difficult times regarding the civil rights of individuals who had been discriminated against for most of the history of this country. Long out of print, the paperback edition of *A White House Diary* will be available again through the University of Texas Press in Fall 2007.

She was acquainted with a long span of fellow First Ladies, from Eleanor Roosevelt to Laura Bush, and was protected by the United States Secret Service for forty-four years, longer than anyone else in history.

Lady Bird Johnson was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by Gerald Ford on January 10, 1977. The citation for her medal read:

"One of America's great First Ladies, she claimed her own place in the hearts and history of the American people. In councils of power or in homes of the poor, she made government human with her unique compassion and her grace, warmth and wisdom. Her leadership transformed the American landscape and preserved its natural beauty as a national treasure."

Johnson then received the Congressional Gold Medal on May 8, 1984. In addition to the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, her name has been lent to the Lady Bird Johnson Park on Columbia Island in Washington, D.C., which was founded as a result of her efforts as First Lady to beautify the capital.

After former President Johnson died in 1973, Lady Bird Johnson remained in the public eye, honoring her husband and other Presidents. In the 1970s, she focused her attention on the Austin riverfront area through her involvement in the Town Lake Beautification Project. From 1971 to 1978, Johnson served on the board of regents for the University of Texas System.

On December 22, 1982 (her 70th birthday), she and actress Helen Hayes founded the National Wildflower Research Center, a nonprofit organization devoted to preserving and reintroducing native plants in planned landscapes, located east of Austin, Texas. The Center opened a new facility southwest of Austin on La Crosse Avenue in 1994. It was officially renamed The Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in 1998. On June 20, 2006, The University of Texas at Austin announced plans to

incorporate the 279 acre Wildflower Center into the University.

For twenty years Lady Bird Johnson spent her summers on the island of Martha's Vineyard renting the home of Charles Guggenheim for many of those years. She said she had greatly appreciated the island's natural beauty and flowers.

On October 13, 2006, Lady Bird Johnson made a rare public appearance at the renovation announcement of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Library and Museum. Sitting in a wheelchair and showing signs of recent health problems, Lady Bird seemed engaged and alert, and clapped along with those present at the ceremony.

Mr. Speaker, in the last year the state of Texas has lost several of its greatest sons and daughters: Governor Ann Richards; Senator and Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen; columnist and progressive icon Molly Ivins; and now Lady Bird Johnson.

The Lone Star State mourns the loss of our favorite daughter and it will be grieving for some time. But the memory of Lady Bird Johnson will never be forgotten so long as the flowers bloom in the capital city of our nation and along the highways and byways of the several states, especially her beloved Texas.

I strongly support H. Res. 553 and urge my colleagues to do the same.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 553.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF RENOWNED ARTIST TOM LEA ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS BIRTH

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 519) honoring the life and accomplishments of renowned artist Tom Lea on the 100th anniversary of his birth.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 519

Whereas, 100 years ago on July 11, 1907, Tom Lea was born in El Paso, Texas, to former El Paso Mayor Tom Lea, Sr., and his wife Zola Utt Lea and spent the majority of his life in El Paso;

Whereas Tom Lea served as an accredited war artist correspondent for Life magazine during World War II, traveled over 100,000 miles as an eye-witness reporter, landed with the First Marines on Peleliu during 1942, and accompanied American forces in the North

Atlantic during 1941, fighter pilots aboard the USS Hornet in the South Pacific during 1942, and American forces in China during 1943;

Whereas many of Tom Lea's paintings from World War II are in the United States Army Center for Military History in Washington, DC, and are loaned to exhibitions worldwide;

Whereas, when accepting the Republican nomination for President of the United States in 2000, George W. Bush quoted Tom Lea about living on the "sunrise side of the mountain";

Whereas Tom Lea's painting *Rio Grande* today hangs in the Oval Office at the White House;

Whereas Tom Lea's works are found throughout Washington, DC and Texas, including in the Rayburn House Office Building, which displays his portrait of Sam Rayburn; the Smithsonian American Art Museum; the Dallas Museum of Art; the El Paso Museum of Art; the University of Texas at El Paso; Texas A&M University; and the University of Texas at Austin;

Whereas Tom Lea painted several notable murals, including the Texas Centennial mural and, under the Department of Treasury's Section of Fine Arts mural competition programs, The Nesters mural for the Benjamin Franklin Post Office in Washington, DC; the Pass of the North mural for the Federal Courthouse in El Paso, Texas; the Stampede mural for the Odessa, Texas Post Office; the Comancheros mural for the Seymour, Texas Post Office; and the Back Home mural for the Pleasant Hill, Missouri Post Office;

Whereas Tom Lea was also an accomplished author and illustrator whose works included the two-volume annotated history *The King Ranch* (published in 1957), in addition to four novels and two non-fiction books, of which, *The Brave Bulls* (published in 1949) and *The Wonderful Country* (published in 1952), were adapted as screenplays for motion pictures;

Whereas Tom Lea during his life was honored with several awards, including the Navy Distinguished Public Service Award, the United States Marine Corps' Colonel John W. Thomason, Jr. Award, and the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum's Great Westerners Award;

Whereas President and Mrs. George W. Bush are serving as Honorary Chairs of the International Advisory Board for the 2007 Tom Lea Centennial Celebration, a month-long series of events in the Southwest that seeks to ensure that the richness and diversity of Tom Lea's legacy will nourish generations to come; and

Whereas Tom Lea's war diaries are to be published by Texas A&M Press in 2008: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives honors the life and accomplishments of Tom Lea.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague in the consideration of H. Res. 519, a bill that honors the life and accomplishments of renowned artist Tom Lea on the 100th anniversary of his birth.

H. Res. 519, which has 79 cosponsors, was introduced by Representative SILVESTRE REYES on June 26, 2007. H. Res. 519 was reported from the Oversight Committee on June 19, 2007, by a voice vote.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague, Representative SILVESTRE REYES, for seeking to honor the life and accomplishments of renowned artist Tom Lea, and urge the swift passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the birth of Tom Lea, I ask Members to join me in honoring the life and accomplishments of this remarkable American. Tom Lea was a painter, muralist, illustrator, writer and war correspondent, whose work continues to captivate and inspire us today.

Born in El Paso, Texas, in 1907, he showed an early talent for art and left home to study at the Art Institute of Chicago. While this began a pattern of world travel he continued throughout his life, Tom Lea's home was always Texas and the American Southwest. His paintings capture the spirit of the West and show a vibrant life that thrives in seemingly barren land.

Lea put his education to good use as a muralist for the Works Progress Administration. His works include the award winning "The Nesters," which adorns the Post Office Department Building here in Washington, and the portrait of Sam Rayburn on display in the Rayburn House Office Building, and I think on display right now in this Chamber. Additionally, the Smithsonian American Art Museum, numerous public buildings in Missouri, and educational and government facilities throughout Texas exhibit his work.

In 1942, Time magazine hired Lea to cover the war in the Pacific. Finding paint inadequate to capture the full story, Lea began his career as a novelist while on assignment. He continued writing after the war, and published six works of fiction and nonfiction, including a two-volume annotated history of the King Ranch.

Fans of his work are numerous and include President George W. Bush, who honored Lea by using a quote from an autobiography while accepting the Republican nomination for President in 2000. Shortly before his death in January of 2001, Lea had the great satisfaction of delivering one of his paintings,

"Rio Grande," to the President, so he could hang it in the Oval Office. The painting remains there today.

In addition to great critical acclaim, Lea's lifetime of work has earned him the Navy Distinguished Public Service Award, the United States Marine Corps Colonel John W. Thomason, Jr., Award, and the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum's Great Westerners Award.

Therefore, let us show our respect and gratitude for this great American by passing H. Res. 519 to honor the life and accomplishments of Tom Lea.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES), the sponsor of this resolution.

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairman and the ranking member for their support of this resolution.

As a representative of the 16th District of Texas, I rise today in honor of a great El Pasoan and a great American.

I have on the floor beside me two pictures of paintings by this great American. His name is Tom Lea. He hails from my district of El Paso, Texas, and has left a lasting impression on the Nation as a whole.

One of these paintings, "Rio Grande," this one right here, was specifically chosen, as has been stated by my good friend from Connecticut, by President Bush to hang in the Oval Office. As you can see, this is a beautiful representation of the rugged landscape and the environment of our wonderful Southwest.

The other is a portrait of Sam Rayburn. It is probably the most familiar to many of you, as it hangs in the foyer of the Rayburn House Office Building. I venture that you would be hard-pressed to find another artist who could so capture the tenacity and formidable nature of this great Texas lawmaker and former Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Lea's legacy extends beyond the paintings that you see here, and I rise today because this month marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of this acclaimed El Pasoan. The 2007 Tom Lea Centennial Celebration, which is a month-long series of events, is currently underway all along our beautiful Southwest.

Mr. Lea is a celebrated illustrator, novelist, historian, war correspondent and muralist. His assignment with Life magazine in the 1940s to draw a cavalry trooper at El Paso's Fort Bliss led to his role as an accredited artist correspondent during World War II. Traveling over 100,000 miles through very dangerous and faraway theatres of war, he captured the American forces in the North Atlantic, the South Pacific, China, and Peleliu for the American public and for those of us that appreciate his great artistry today. While overseas, he also painted a portrait of China's Chiang Kai-shek.

From painting national and world leaders to his celebrated painting of his wife, Sarah, which includes El Paso's Franklin Mountains as the backdrop; from his critically acclaimed novels to motion pictures based on his written works; from his depictions of the heroism and harrowing circumstances of World War II to his award-winning murals in post offices in El Paso and across the country, Tom Lea has left a lasting impact on our Nation as a whole.

Obviously, Tom Lea is a national treasure and a creative genius. I want to thank my 79 colleagues who have signed on as cosponsors to this legislation.

So today, Mr. Speaker, I urge all colleagues to join me in honoring him by passing this resolution. My community of El Paso, Texas, was lucky to be home for such an icon, and the Nation as a whole is a richer, more interesting and more beautiful place because of his vision and his mastery.

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Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as the most distinguished gentleman from Texas (Mr. SESSIONS) would like to use.

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Connecticut. I also rise with my colleagues who are here from El Paso, Texas, and also the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Tom Lea's birth. As a person who lived in El Paso, Texas, for a number of years, I also became aware of Tom Lea from living in San Antonio. Much of his artwork was displayed in San Antonio on a regular basis.

Tom Lea for many years painted pictures of the mountains and beauty that surrounds not only west Texas, but southern New Mexico also. El Paso is the beginning of what is called The Pass of the North, where two great countries come together, the history of Mexico and the history of the United States, and where these two great countries meet at the Rio Grande River. Tom Lea spent a lot of time writing, talking, thinking, pushing forward thoughts and ideas about these two great nations, and embodied a lot of that in artwork that I have several copies of. I have bought Tom's books over the years.

So today it is right and fitting that the United States Congress in its looking back, as we do on a regular basis, over many great Americans who have added not only to the artwork of America and the thought process, but also to the lives that they lived. Tom Lea, a great Texan and American, who added not only a spirit to the men and women who fought for this country in World War II, but also brought that beauty forward in artwork, the Franklin Mountains and places in New Mexico with just stunning beauty that have sustained so many people. It gives us an idea about why America is a great Nation and why we must continue to protect her.

Mr. Speaker, I stand today in support of this 100th anniversary of Tom Lea, a great man from El Paso and a great community, and people who loved him a great deal and miss him even more. It is a great day to say thank you to Lady Bird Johnson and Tom Lea, both great Texans, on a beautiful day in Washington, D.C.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 519.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

COMMEMORATING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF NEW YORK

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 345) commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Archdiocese of New York.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 345

Whereas it is a tradition of the House of Representatives to honor and pay tribute to those places and institutions within the United States whose historic significance has contributed to the culture and traditions of our citizens;

Whereas, in accordance with this tradition, the House of Representatives is proud to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Archdiocese of New York and its history of faith and service;

Whereas the Archdiocese of New York has planned a year-long series of events beginning in April 2007 to celebrate their bicentennial;

Whereas the Archdiocese of New York is also coordinating with Catholic Charities of New York to institute an Archdiocese of New York Day of Service, to celebrate its history of serving the broader community;

Whereas, on April 8, 1808, Diocese of New York was established with the Most Reverend R. Luke Concanen as its first Bishop, and was elevated to an Archdiocese in 1850;

Whereas, on March 15, 1875, His Eminence John Cardinal McCloskey, the second Archbishop of the Archdiocese of New York, became the first Cardinal Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Church in America;

Whereas the Archdiocese of New York has welcomed three Papal visits, Pope Paul VI on October 5, 1965 and Pope John Paul II on October 7, 1979 and again on October 5, 1995;

Whereas Elizabeth Ann Seton, a member of the Archdiocese of New York and founder of

today's Catholic education parochial school system, was named the first American-born Saint on September 14, 1975; her name appears on the front doors to St. Patrick's Cathedral describing her as a "Daughter of New York"; and several schools are named after her, including Seton Hall University in South Orange, New Jersey;

Whereas the Archdiocese of New York is currently under the spiritual guidance of His Eminence Edward M. Cardinal Egan, who was installed on June 19, 2000, and elevated to Cardinal on February 21, 2001;

Whereas the Archdiocese of New York was originally comprised of the entire states of New York and New Jersey, an area that now covers twelve dioceses;

Whereas, with 2,500,000 Catholics in its fold, the Archdiocese of New York consists of 402 parishes, 278 elementary and high schools, and 3,729 charitable ministries, which include Catholic Charities, hospitals, nursing homes, and outreach programs; and

Whereas, throughout its rich historical past and up to the present day, the Archdiocese of New York has been sustained by the beneficent efforts of countless parishioners and ministries, past and present, who have generously supported their community with abundant kindness and good deeds: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives commemorates the 200th anniversary of the Archdiocese of New York.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Connecticut (Mr. SHAYS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague in consideration of H. Res. 345, a resolution that commemorates the 200th anniversary of the Archdiocese. H. Res. 345, which has 61 cosponsors, was introduced by Representative VITO FOSSELLA on April 30, 2007. H. Res. 345 was reported from the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform July 19, 2007, by a voice vote.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague Mr. FOSSELLA for seeking to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Archdiocese of New York, and urge swift passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today we honor the 200th anniversary of the Archdiocese of New York, an institution that has contributed to the good of the region it covers as well and the Nation in a way

that people of all political and religious backgrounds can join in applauding.

Founded on April 8, 1808, the Diocese of New York has grown to over 2.5 million Catholics who are led by nearly 1,500 priests. The Diocese of New York was established with the Most Reverend R. Luke Concanen as its first bishop, and was elevated to an Archdiocese in 1850. Upon its origination, the diocese included the entire State of New York and New Jersey, an area that now covers 12 dioceses. In this vast organization, the Archdiocese of New York includes 402 parishes, 278 schools, and 3,729 charitable ministries including Catholic Charities, nursing homes, and outreach programs.

The Archdiocese of New York has been the site of three papal visits and is home to the first Cardinal Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Church of America, John Cardinal McCloskey. The first American-born saint, Elizabeth Ann Seton, was a member of the archdiocese and founder of today's Catholic education parochial school system.

In commemoration of their bicentennial, the Archdiocese of New York has planned a year-long celebration of activities to bring together the entire community, including an Archdiocese of New York Day of Service.

It is with great respect for the ongoing service to their parishioners and the greater community of New York that I ask you to join in commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Archdiocese of New York.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from New York (Mr. CROWLEY).

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

I want to thank my friend from Connecticut for managing the time on the minority side for this important resolution. In particular, I want to thank my good friend from New York State, Vito Fossella, for introducing this important resolution commemorating and celebrating the 200th anniversary of the Archdiocese of New York, a history that is replete with so many tales, not tales but facts, about the contribution of Catholics in New York, in particular about the institution known as the Archdiocese of New York, having at one time encompassed the entire State of New York and New Jersey, and now having a smaller imprint, but no less significant an imprint today.

We think of the storied individuals who fervently shepherded their flock in the Archdiocese of New York, starting with R. Luke Concanen in 1808-1810; to present day, Edward Michael Cardinal Egan, who took the reins of control in 2000 and continues to this day.

We look back historically, particularly during the Civil War, the Archdiocese had a very long history going back to that point in time, and during