

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES GIPP

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dedicated servant to the people of Iowa—Charles “Chuck” Gipp. Chuck, who has served the people of Iowa in the state legislature for the past 18 years, is retiring from that body this year.

Chuck was born and raised in Winneshiek County in Iowa—the same county that he and his wife Ranae raised their two children, Allison and Barrett, and where they still reside today.

Chuck has spent his legislative career as a true leader throughout. After serving 12 years in the Iowa Legislature, Chuck was unanimously chosen to serve as the Majority Leader of the Iowa House in 2002. From 1992–1993, he served as a House Assistant Majority Leader. In 1994, the position of House Majority Whip was created, where Chuck served until 1999. Chuck was then selected by House leadership in 2000 to Chair the Transportation, Capitals and Infrastructure Committee. In 2001, Chuck was selected once again to serve as a House Assistant Majority Leader while continuing to serve as Chair of the Transportation, Capitals and Infrastructure Committee.

Long before I was elected to serve in Iowa’s Fourth Congressional District in 2002, I knew Chuck and of his reputation as a leader who was highly respected by the people he was elected to serve as well as his colleagues in Des Moines. Chuck has been a valuable advisor and resource to me on the many issues and concerns important to our shared constituents in Iowa’s 16th District.

Chuck has often said that he never thought about pursuing a career in the politics when he was growing up on the family farm or even during his days at Luther College in Decorah. Chuck got involved in the political process for the same reasons any true dedicated servant of the people does—because of the circumstances that directly impacted his family and neighbors. Chuck Gipp wanted to make a difference in the lives of Iowans, and he has accomplished that goal and made a positive difference in the lives of countless people throughout the years.

President Abraham Lincoln said it best when I think about what Chuck Gipp has done for Iowa. He said, “Whatever you are, be a good one.” And, while during his younger days Chuck may not have envisioned one day becoming a legislator, he did. And he was more than a good one—he was a great servant of the people.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in congratulating Chuck Gipp on a remarkable career in the Iowa Legislature and wishing him and Ranae all the best throughout their future endeavors.

THE DAILY 45: JASMINE THURMAN’S LOST DREAMS

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2008

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, the Department of Justice tells us that, everyday, 45 people, on average, are fatally shot in the United States. No community is exempt from the carnage. Last weekend, in the Detroit suburb of Royal Oak Township, 18-year-old Jasmine Thurman, a recent graduate of Ferndale High School, was shot to death in what police describe as a feud between teenage girls from a nearby public housing complex.

Jasmine Thurman had a family. Jasmine Thurman had dreams. Jasmine Thurman had a bright future that was snuffed out in an instant by a gun. Jasmine, the grand-niece of township Trustee Francine Thurman, was dead on arrival at an area hospital and leaves behind a grieving family and friends.

Her cousin, 16-year-old Chanique Stone, said this to investigators on the scene, “If that happened to her, what’s going to happen to me?”

Americans of conscience must come together to stop the senseless death of “The Daily 45.” When will we say “enough is enough, stop the killing.”

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2008

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I was unable to have my vote recorded on the House floor on Monday, June 23, 2008, having remained in my district to assist my constituents with the severe flooding that recently struck Wisconsin. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H. Res. 1242 (roll No. 438), H. Con. Res. 372 (roll No. 439), and H. Res. 1051 (roll No. 440).

HONORING JIMMY SCURLOCK FOR A DISTINGUISHED CAREER IN PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2008

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge my friend Jimmy Scurlock, who is retiring from 25 years of public service to the town of Dover, Tennessee, which I am proud to represent in this chamber.

Jimmy has served as City Administrator in Dover since 1983 and also currently serves on the board of Local Government Data Processing. He was elected to two terms on the Tennessee Municipal League Board of Directors and served as President of the Tennessee City Management Association in 2001 and 2002. He was honored statewide last year when he was elected city manager of the year by the Tennessee City Management Association.

Over the years, Jimmy has been instrumental in enacting the infrastructure improvements that we know are so important for our families’ quality of life and to support economic growth. Jimmy has worked closely with others to upgrade Dover’s water and sewage facilities and revitalize the downtown business district. I am proud of the progress made in Stewart County over the years, and I know our families there will continue to see the benefits of Jimmy’s hard work.

Before Jimmy became City Administrator, he was associated with his mother Mary Ann in the family’s florist business. Many of us who have known the family for years know that Jimmy inherited his flair for public service from his father, the late J.T. Scurlock, who represented a portion of northern middle Tennessee in the Tennessee General Assembly with distinction for a number of years. Betty Ann and I have had the opportunity to spend a great deal of time with Jimmy and his wife Nan as Jimmy and our friend Don Cherry have been among my closest advisers in northern middle Tennessee. We have frequently turned to Jimmy and Don for leadership and guidance in working with the people of Stewart County.

Madam Speaker, I hope you and our colleagues will join me in thanking Jimmy Scurlock for his long service to our community and State and wish him and his family all the best as he begins his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a milestone that will be celebrated this weekend by the people of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Webster City, Iowa. This Sunday, June 29th the people of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the dedication of its current location at 1229 Kathy Lane.

The congregation will recreate the May 25, 1958, processional walk from the original location on Des Moines Street just as it was done a half century ago. Trinity’s oldest confirmed member, Dimple Raven, who was part of the original procession, will join fellow members as they duplicate the walk. Ashlyn Sue Hill, Trinity’s youngest member, will also play an important role in the 50th anniversary celebration with her baptism during Sunday’s special worship service.

Also joining in the celebration will be former Trinity pastors Raymond Roden and Doug Tiffany.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in congratulating the Reverend Dr. Mike Kroona, the staff and the congregation of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church on this milestone and wishing them grace and peace throughout the following years.