

TRIBUTE TO MORLEY NELSON

HON. BILL SALI

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. SALI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable Idahoan and a place in my beautiful home State.

Today, the House is voting on renaming the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area—right outside my hometown of Kuna, ID—after a man named Morley Nelson. Morlan W. Nelson—everyone called him “Morley”—was born in North Dakota. Morley was fascinated by raptors from a young age as he grew up on a ranch in his native State. He earned a degree in soil science, engineering and nuclear chemistry from North Dakota State in 1938 and went on to serve with great valor as a captain in the 10th Mountain Division during the Second World War, the same outfit where our esteemed former colleague Bob Dole served with such distinction. Morley won a Bronze Star, a Purple Heart, and a Silver Star for his courage and indomitable spirit.

Morley moved to Idaho after the War. In 1948, he made his home in Boise and began serving as the Columbia Basin’s Snow Survey Supervisor and pursued his groundbreaking work with such raptors as the golden eagle.

To give a fuller account of Morley’s remarkable life, allow me to quote from a biography of Morley drafted for the Morley Nelson Elementary School in Boise:

Morley continued his work with raptors and, after relocating to Idaho, became interested in the golden eagle. In 1958 he influenced the State Legislature to enact a law protecting raptors in Idaho. In the early 1960s Morley began working for Walt Disney Production’s True Life Adventure Series training falcons, eagles, and hawks. He worked on numerous films with Walt Disney and Paramount Pictures as well as working with Marlin Perkins on the Wild Kingdom television series, and television programs for PBS and other networks. In the 1980s and 1990s Morley participated in many documentaries and videos featuring his birds. In the 1970s and 1980s Morley was instrumental in recognizing the importance of the Snake River Canyon as a haven for birds of prey and with the help of Governor Cecil Andrus, who was then Secretary of the Interior, and others, they establishing the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area. He also influenced the establishment of the World Center for Birds of Prey in Boise. Morley had a long and productive association with the Idaho Power Company and the Edison Electric Institute to help solve the electrocution of eagles problem. He designed nesting platforms that attach to large transmission lines which have helped to expand the nesting areas of Raptors. His power line corrections and nesting platform designs are now used worldwide.

Idaho’s rich natural heritage is exemplified by the raptors that make their homes in the Gem State. Thanks largely to Morley’s efforts, “Idaho hosts the densest population of nesting raptors in North America, and possibly on planet Earth,” according to writer Lee Foster.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of my great home State, let me say that we will remember this wonderful man, exemplary patriot and outstanding naturalist.

I also commend and thank my friend and colleague, MIKE SIMPSON, for introducing H.R.

3651, which renames the Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area the “Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area.” It’s a fitting tribute to a great Idahoan and a great American.

TRIBUTE TO KATIE EDWARDS

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Katie Edwards who will be inducted into the Dade County Farm Bureau’s distinguished Hall of Fame on Saturday April 26, 2008.

For more than four years, Katie has served as the Executive Director of the Dade County Farm Bureau. In that capacity, she has been a solid and steady voice advocating for the more than 4,000 members she represents. Under Katie’s exceptional leadership, the Dade County Farm Bureau received the President’s Award from the Florida Farm Bureau Federation in 2004 and 2007.

Katie has focused her efforts on a variety of issues facing South Florida’s diverse agricultural industry. She has consistently promoted and supported the economic viability of agriculture, the competitiveness for specialty crops, the need for agricultural disaster following numerous hurricanes, and increased funding for mitigating the risks associated with invasive pests and diseases.

This fall, Katie will start law school at Florida International University, where she plans to stay true to her passion and concentrate on agricultural law. Though her shoes will be difficult to fill, I know she has made a lasting impact on the Dade County Farm Bureau.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in congratulating Katie Edwards on her induction into the Hall of Fame.

RECOGNIZING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWNSHIP OF WEST BLOOMFIELD, MICHIGAN

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I want to recognize the Township of West Bloomfield, in Oakland County, MI, which is celebrating its 175th Anniversary on April 22, 2008. The township’s many beautiful lakes show why it continues to rank among Michigan’s loveliest communities.

In the early 19th century, a group of mainly Scottish Presbyterian settlers migrated to Bloomfield Township from New York, New England, and the United Kingdom. These settlers were attracted to the picturesque lakes that covered nearly 20 percent of the area, and many settled in and built sheep farms. By 1850, sheep by far outnumbered residents, with over 16,000 sheep contributing to the booming farm industry compared to only 940 people.

On April 22, 1833, West Bloomfield Township was formally established as a General Law Township by an act of the legislative

council which carved out 30 square miles from the western part of Bloomfield Township. Then on April 1, 1882, the council passed a resolution establishing West Bloomfield as a Charter Township.

Today, West Bloomfield, known as the “lake township of Oakland County,” is one of the most ethnically and religiously diverse townships in the country. Home to a large and active Jewish community, West Bloomfield opened the first Holocaust Memorial Center of its kind in 1981. It has since expanded and been moved to Farmington Hills, something I was proud to assist and support, but its roots are firmly planted with the residents of West Bloomfield. In addition, there is a growing Chaldean community that has worked to integrate fellow Arab immigrants into life in the United States.

Madam Speaker, today West Bloomfield is a vibrant, diverse community in Oakland County that is home to over 64,000 residents and 25 beautiful lakes. I congratulate them on their 175th anniversary and wish the residents many more years of prosperity.

IN RECOGNITION OF EUGENE STARKS ROBERTS, SR. AND HIS RUN ACROSS AMERICA FOR JESUS

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. MCINTYRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and welcome to our nation’s capital a special guest and great American hero named Eugene Starks Roberts, Sr. A former Marine, Vietnam veteran, and double amputee, Mr. Roberts joins us near the conclusion of his long and inspiring mission to run across America for Jesus. Mr. Roberts has run over 3,500 miles during the last nine months—miles that represent his commitment to Jesus Christ and the ideals central to his strong Christian faith.

Throughout his journey, Mr. Roberts has sought to raise awareness and money for the less fortunate and for medical research for diseases such as cancer and diabetes. Making the cross-country trek on prosthetic legs, Mr. Roberts has also made it his goal to inspire wounded warriors in their recoveries. Indeed, his endurance of both body and spirit should be an inspiration to us all.

Mr. Roberts has run through more than 80 different U.S. cities, including two in my district—Shallotte and Wilmington, North Carolina. Southeastern North Carolina is honored to have been included along the way. Mr. Roberts has reminded my constituents and countless other Americans, both those with and without disabilities, of the importance of perseverance. He serves as a testament to the phenomenal strengths and great characters of our men and women in uniform. Finally, he has reminded us of what it means to give of oneself in order to help others in need.

His wife of 40 years, Marian Alicia, his three daughters, one son, and 11 grandchildren should be extremely proud of the man they call husband, father, and “Poppop”.

Madam Speaker, I stand today to honor Mr. Roberts’ achievements not only over the last nine months, but also over his entire life, as

he approaches the end of his run across our great Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KIRSTEN E. GILLIBRAND

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Madam Speaker, I missed one vote on April 15, 2008. Had I been present, I would have voted the following way:

(1) Frank Amendment to H.R. 2634, rollcall No. 196—I would have voted “yea.”

HONORING E. YVONNE LEWIS

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to E. Yvonne Lewis as she is elevated to Supervisor of Women for the Michigan Southeast Jurisdiction of the Churches of God in Christ. A banquet will be held in her honor on April 28th in Flint Michigan.

E. Yvonne Lewis grew up in Saginaw Michigan. Her parents, the late Drs. Hurlley J. and Martha Coleman founded the Coleman Temple Church of God in Christ in Saginaw. As the 5th of 11 children, she earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration degree from Ferris State University, and from the University of Michigan-Flint a Bachelor of Science in Clinical Community Psychology degree and a Masters of Health Education degree. She is the mother of 3: Tiffanie, Tanya and Maurice.

She is now a member of the Greater Holy Temple Church of God in Christ. After receiving her license as an Evangelist of the Church of God in Christ in 1978, E. Yvonne became the Coordinator of the National Church of God in Christ Young Ladies for Scholastic Motivations, of the Auxiliaries in Ministry Convention. She also served as an active member of the Second Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of Southwest Michigan under the leadership of Bishop Earl J. Wright Sr. and Mother Francis Curtis.

Bishop Roger L. Jones selected her in 2007 to become the Supervisor-Elect for Women in the Michigan Southeast Jurisdiction. In this role she will serve as the leader of women and work closely with Bishop Jones guiding the Church through the coming year.

E. Yvonne Lewis is the Executive Director of Faith Access to Community Economic Development. She serves on the boards of the Greater Flint Health Coalition, the Michigan Cancer Consortium, Co-Founder and Past Chair of the National Community Committee for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Prevention Research Centers, founding member and Past Chair of the Caucus of Public Health and the Faith Community of the American Public Health Association, and the Advisory Board for the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating E. Yvonne Lewis as she is elevated to the posi-

tion of Supervisor of Women. May Christ continue to bless her in her work and leadership for many, many years to come.

IN HONOR OF THE AAA STATE CHAMPION KENDRICK LADY CHEROKEES BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the first girls' State championship basketball team from the city of Columbus, Georgia, the Kendrick High School Lady Cherokees.

On Saturday, March 8, 2008, the Lady Cherokees finished a perfect season with a 79–67 win over Carrolton High School. The victory followed three years of close calls for the Lady Cherokees—in 2005, 2006, and again last year in 2007—during which they found themselves in the finals or semifinals of the state basketball tournament, only to lose by slight margins.

However, 2008 proved to be the year of the Lady Cherokees. Their victory in this year's AAA State championship embodied 3 years of frustration, hard work, and determination bursting forth into a singular moment of athletic perfection and teamwork.

With a 32–0 record, the Lady Cherokees became only the third girls' basketball team in the last decade to complete a perfect season. Additionally, the team's seniors completed their high school career with an astonishing 121–5 record.

I cannot put into words the amount of pride that everyone in Columbus, and indeed in the Second Congressional District, has in being able to call this outstanding group of young women its own. They have accomplished a special goal, one that could not have been possible without the unrelenting support and encouragement from their coach, Sterling Hicks, as well as their families, schoolmates, and everyone in the community who believed in their ability to bring home a State championship trophy.

Madam Speaker, these special young women have worked hard, persevered, made sacrifices, and developed the character that will help them to succeed in other aspects of life.

I am proud to represent them and once again congratulate them on their history-making achievement.

EQUAL PAY DAY

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 22, 2008

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, today, on Equal Pay Day, Americans are reminded of how far we have to go in order to eliminate pay inequity between men and women in the United States. While our Nation has made many strides in the fight against discrimination, the struggle for equal

pay for equal work continues. On this day, we remind ourselves that much more work needs to be done.

Women have seen recent success shattering a number of glass ceilings within the ranks of corporate and government leadership. Yet the fact is that American women are still only being paid 77 cents for every dollar that their male counterparts earn with the same education, training, and experience. Any wage gap based on sex is unacceptable. The current one is staggering. As pay equity advocate Evelyn Murphy has calculated, the current wage gap means a woman with a high school education will lose \$700,000 over her lifetime. A woman with a college education will lose \$1.2 million over her lifetime. And a woman with a professional degree will lose \$2 million over her lifetime.

But unequal pay not only surfaces in workers' weekly paychecks, it also harms workers' retirement and health care security. Its sheer irrationality hinders the American economy as a whole. In the new global economy, those who stand in the way of equal pay are tying one hand behind America's back. Holding women back not only hurts workers, it's bad for business.

And even where progress is made on the most insidious forms of intentional discrimination, reactionaries are still trying to roll back these protections. Just last year, the Supreme Court did precisely that in the case of Ledbetter v. Goodyear. Lilly Ledbetter worked for nearly two decades at the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company plant in Alabama. She sued the company soon after learning that she was paid less than her male counterparts. A jury found that her employer had unlawfully discriminated against her on the basis of sex.

But, five members of the United States Supreme Court rejected longstanding law and said that Lilly Ledbetter did not file a complaint quickly enough, nullifying the jury's verdict. In fact, Ms. Ledbetter filed her complaint as soon as she learned of the pay discrepancy through an anonymous note in her mailbox.

However, the Supreme Court ruled that the clock on filing started to run when the employer made its discriminatory pay decisions, decisions which the employer effectively hid by explicitly forbidding anyone to discuss their pay. So despite finding that Ms. Ledbetter was unlawfully paid less than her male counterparts, she could not recover anything. The company that paid her less just because she was a woman owed her nothing. A slim majority of the Supreme Court shunned reason in order to satisfy its own narrow ideological agenda.

I am proud to say that just months after the ruling the House of Representatives repudiated the Supreme Court's decision by passing the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which would restore workers' right to challenge discriminatory paychecks.

Today should serve as a call to action to end the pay inequity that half of our country's workforce continues to endure. The Senate should pass and the President should sign the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. And the Congress should take up additional legislation to strengthen the Equal Pay Act.

I urge my colleagues to recommit themselves to the fight for equal pay. The wage gap between men and women must disappear. And the Congress has a very clear role to play in that effort.