

CONGRATULATING CARL LAWRENCE ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM GILES COUNTY FARM BUREAU

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, a great friend of farmers in my district and across the Volunteer State retired from thirty years of dedicated service to the Farm Bureau this year. Carl Lawrence served the Giles County Farm Bureau with distinction in service to the hard working farmers of Tennessee, and I proudly rise today to commend him for a lifetime of work for our agriculture community.

After serving his country as a combat soldier in Vietnam, Carl returned to the state he honorably defended overseas and joined the Farm Bureau in Rutledge, Tennessee. There, he earned a reputation for dedicated management and quickly earned a promotion for his hard work and diligence. Carl's efforts helped swell the ranks at Giles County Farm Bureau, from 1,600 to nearly 5,000 members, and did a great deal to ensure that the local Farm Bureau did everything it could to aid farmers throughout the county.

For all he has done, I am proud to join the Farm Bureau of Giles County in wishing Carl Lawrence a happy retirement and recognize him for a career well spent in service to the farmers of Tennessee.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE LIFE OF HOWARD M. METZENBAUM

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker, Howard M. Metzenbaum leaves behind a legacy of commitment. His 19 years of service in the United States Senate demonstrates his commitment to the people of Ohio and to the legacy of democracy. He was not simply a legislator, but a statesman.

From a simple beginning to a self-made millionaire, Howard Metzenbaum knew the value of hard work and applied that knowledge to his political career. His character and determination drove him to succeed first in business and then in politics. He championed the working man and ensured government truly represented the people. His diligence ensured that the government was managed fairly and frugally. His determination saw through countless bills that have improved the lives of the public. It is through these traits that Howard Metzenbaum represented the best of a statesman and the best of Ohio.

Through his 90 years, Howard Metzenbaum lived a full life. His wife and four daughters remember a wonderful man and a loving father. I, along with the people of the 18th District of Ohio, also remember a true legislator and an effective statesman. It is in this spirit, that along with his friends, family and residents of the 18th Congressional District of Ohio, that we recognize in memorial, the wonderful con-

tributions that Howard M. Metzenbaum has given to his State and his country.

TRIBUTE TO 50TH ANNUAL SWALLOWS' DAY PARADE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an event that has been instrumental in shaping the community in southern California, the Swallows' Day Parade. The historic return of the swallows to San Juan Capistrano is celebrated each spring as the world focuses on this wonder of nature. This year, March 29, 2008, commemorates the 50th annual celebration of the Swallows' Day Parade in Orange County, California in the beautiful City of San Juan Capistrano.

Orange County's oldest city, historic San Juan Capistrano is home to the Mission San Juan Capistrano. The mission was founded more than 200 years ago in 1776 as the seventh of 21 California missions to serve as the center of the community, and stands today as a monument to the rich cultural history of southern California. The Mission San Juan Capistrano is believed to be the oldest church in California, and is one of only two standing chapels still in use where Father Junipero Serra is known to have celebrated mass.

The migration of the swallows of Capistrano has become a symbol for nature's changing of the seasons and welcoming of spring. The cliff swallows, upon their arrival begin building their nests under the eaves and ruins of the old stone mission and other buildings throughout the Capistrano Valley. The location has remained an ideal nesting place for the swallows because the area provides an abundance of insects on which they feed.

The species of cliff swallow, *Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*, a small, long-winged songbird, leaves Goya, Argentina at daylight around the 18th of February, arriving in Capistrano about the 19th of March. This 30-day journey covers nearly 7,500 miles, as the swallows continue through the Gulf of Mexico along Central America to the Yucatan Peninsula, turn west to the Pacific, fly over Baja California until they arrive in San Juan Capistrano and the agricultural valleys of southern California.

Each year on St. Joseph's Day, March 19th, the Fiesta de las Golondrinas celebrates the legendary return of the swallows to the Mission San Juan Capistrano. In 1936, the Fiesta de las Golondrinas was first celebrated when a popular radio host broadcasted from the mission to announce the return of the swallows. The Swallows' Day Parade during the Fiesta de las Golondrinas continues today as an integral part of the festivities, and is recognized as the largest nonmotorized parade in the country.

I take this opportunity to honor the historic city of San Juan Capistrano, as well as the tireless efforts of the San Juan Capistrano Fiesta Association and the overwhelming support of the community in southern Orange County, California. I ask you to join me in celebrating the return of the swallows to San Juan Capistrano and the rich cultural heritage of the 50th annual Swallows' Day Parade.

HONORING NURSES

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the essential role nurses play in providing quality health care across the country. Every day people with a variety of needs are served by legions of caring, qualified, and professional nurses. They are integral to our Nation's health care delivery system.

Every one can remember an experience when someone they know needed health care and a nurse was the first person by their side providing care and comfort. We all know someone who works in the field of nursing and the commitment they make to their profession, despite extraordinary challenges everyday.

More than 100 representatives of the nursing field are present in our Nation's capitol this week to give a voice to their professional needs and experiences. Nurses care for our children and serve more of our constituents than we will ever meet. Nurses deserve our time, our attention, and our respect for their views.

An adequate supply of nurses is essential to ensuring that all people receive quality care and that our Nation's public health infrastructure has the professionals necessary to respond to all natural and manmade disasters. The Department of Health and Human Services projects that the current 10 percent vacancy rate in the registered nursing professions will grow to 36 percent by 2020, representing more than 1 million unfilled jobs.

Additional congressional leadership, ongoing support, and federal funding is necessary to ensure that the Nation has an adequate supply of nurses to care for the patients of today and tomorrow.

RESOLUTION HONORING THE SERVICE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF WOMEN IN THE ARMED FORCES AND FEMALE VETERANS

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2008

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution honoring the service and achievements of women in the Armed Forces and female veterans. Every time I visit military installations, both at home and abroad, I am constantly impressed by the tremendous job our service members are doing.

I am particularly impressed by our brave servicewomen, whom I seek out at every chance. Almost 350,000 American women are currently serving in our Armed Forces, following in the footsteps of women who have voluntarily served in every military conflict in United States history since the Revolutionary War.

During the Revolution, women served on the frontlines as nurses, waterbearers, and even saboteurs. For years, women had to disguise themselves as men in order to enlist in our military.