

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