

right now. I will graduate this year, and I have been trying to get together finances to go to college and I am just realizing how hard it is. Yes, there are a lot of scholarships out there today. I have actually a book about this thick.

Unfortunately, once you start whittling down parents, grandparents, what activities you are involved in, your heritage, all of a sudden you find out the white male does not have to many scholarships out there, and then not only to top that off, but he has got to compete with everybody else in the state for the exact same scholarships.

Also my parents and great grandparents started a college account for me. They started saving up money for me. My parents were severely penalized for having a college savings account. I think that is totally wrong. You and people in Congress, people in government want teenagers and high school students to be able to go on to college to get a better education, and in this day and age you need a better education to get a good job. Yes, there are thousands of jobs out there for \$6 an hour.

Unfortunately, you are never going to make it out of that gene pool without a college education. Unfortunately, a college education is very expensive. Take UVM here, for instance. I work here as a temporary helper in the summer. This college just recently raised its tuition. Colleges all over the state are raising their tuition. It is harder and harder to get into a college. You want us to get a better education but are denying us the ability to do that by not giving us the funds. And when colleges are constantly bringing up their tuition to get in, it makes it all that much harder. When parents are being penalized for having the accounts for the children to set aside money to go to the college it is even worse.

In this day and age if you are on welfare you're better off. You can get into a college, no problem on welfare basically at this point because they will pay for everything to go to college. A friend of mine is on welfare right now and she got accepted to the university here, UVM, and she basically does not have to pay a thing while she is here the entire time. She has lower grades than I do, she is not involved in the community nearly as much as I am. I applied for the same place here, but I cannot get in even though I have better academic grades and I am involved in more things. That does not really matter to me, I do not care about their selection process. It is the fact that people like me are getting denied money for setting aside money for this time and because just the raising of funds to get into a college and the expenses. We need to get a better education but in order to do it we need to have the funds. The problem is we do not have the funds.

HON. BERNARD SANDERS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ON BEHALF OF KATHY UNGER, MEREDITH BLESS, CULLEN BOUVIER AND SCOTT WARD

REGARDING CIVIL UNIONS—MAY 26, 2000

KATIE UNGER: I am going to begin. Okay. We are here to support the Civil Union Law that Vermont passed recently, but we are of the opinion that it should have gone further, and we think that—basically we think that everyone should have a right to be joined in marriage. And when you define marriage it is sort of a celebration of life and of loving another person and it is just something that everyone should be able to do whether or not their partner is male or female.

MEREDITH BLESS: We also think that it should be forced on the church to marry two people. It should be separate from the church because it is kind of against the church for

that. But somebody who could do it like a justice of the peace.

SCOTT WARD: As Katie said, we commend Vermont for taking the steps that it has, but we feel that it is more of a national issue and that other states need to be involved in this also. So we really feel it does need to be taken further and not just Vermont.

CULLEN BOUVIER: I take the standpoint of Scott as well. I think that Vermont is doing a great job taking the first steps in the Civil Union Bill and doing great things for people, but you see different things in the papers about—last week I can recall a man putting out a sign by his driveway that was not very kind words toward homosexual people, and you just realize that there is a lot more that can be done.

HON. BERNARD SANDERS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ON BEHALF OF THALIA SPARLING AND KATE EARLEY

REGARDING BIOENGINEERING—MAY 26, 2000

THALIA SPARLING: I wanted to raise the issue of genetically modified food which the FDA has refused to label on products. Genetically modified food has been on the market for six years now and there is very little awareness from the common people, the public about this issue. And there is a really strong grass roots movement in Vermont right now over this issue, and it is an issue that really needs to be addressed.

KATE EARLEY: I feel that we do not know enough about this issue that they should not be able to label it, because basically they are just feeding us things we do not know thinking about. And if they have to say how much of what is in certain foods and they have to label food now, they should not be able to not label this, because it does not give a person a choice of what they are putting in their body. And they do not know enough of what could happen 20 years from now from doing this or 30 years from now or generations from now how it could effect us physically or in the environment or anything. We need to do a lot more testing before they can be allowed to put this in the food, or label it, at least label it.

“THE GREAT HUNGER” MEMORIAL AND THE IRISH POPULATION IN NORTHEAST OHIO

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 2000

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize Cleveland's new memorial, “The Great Hunger,” and honor the entire Northeast Ohio Irish community.

Mr. Speaker, as you are aware, the Irish Famine of 1845–50, known as “An Gorta Mor,” or the “Great Hunger,” was devastating to the people of Ireland. One-hundred fifty years ago, during the Irish Potato Famine, Ireland was exporting tons of grain and cattle to great Britain during the industrial revolution. This left most Irish peasants feeding on one crop—the potato. When the potato famine broke out, the majority of Irish went hungry or starved to death; those lucky enough to make the voyage across the Atlantic often died in the coffin ships common of the time.

Of those who survived, many fled to the United States for freedom from the poverty, disease and hunger which claimed as many

as one million lives. Large quantities of settlers, moved to the Cleveland area, where they were relegated to the swampy banks of the Cuyahoga River, an area which came to be known as “The Irishtown Bend.” Many died here, succumbing to cholera, tuberculosis and infections while living a harsh existence in terribly inadequate, tarpaper shacks.

In memory of those who died and in recognition of the many who survived the horrors of poverty and disease, the memorial of “The Great Hunger” will be dedicated on September the sixteenth. After years of work, the Monument will finally be erected on the banks of the Cuyahoga River. Thanks to the effort of many Northeast Ohioans who worked earnestly on ‘Cleveland's Memorial to the Great Hunger Committee,’ led by co-chairs Bishop James Quinn and former Congressman and Commissioner Robert E. Sweeney, this 11-ton monument will be a source of pride for all Clevelanders. Because of the work of countless county and city officials, especially Cuyahoga County Commissioners Jane Campbell, Jimmy Dimora and Tim McCormack, we can appropriately honor the Irish who enrich our Cleveland shores.

Today, many of the two million Ohioans who claim Irish Ancestry are descendants of those brave souls who struggled through a famine and made the long journey to the United States. For the courage displayed by the Irish, and for the rich tradition they have provided the Cleveland area, I ask that my colleagues to honor with me and recognize these great peoples and the great monument, “An Gorta Mor.”

TRIBUTE TO JOE C. FOWLER

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 2000

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, Joe C. Fowler has just retired after more than 50 years of service to this Nation in law enforcement.

He served as a Patrolman, Detective, and Chief of the Knoxville Police Department, Sheriff of Knox County, and for the past six years as United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Tennessee.

Marshal Fowler has served in each of these positions with great honor and distinction.

More importantly, he has never lost his humility and has always supported and remembered the importance of the officer on the beat.

As high as Marshal Fowler rose, he never became too big to help serve pancakes at the annual fund raising breakfast for the Northside Kiwanis Club.

He is a dedicated family man, having been married to his wife Sue for 44 years, and they have two sons and four grandchildren.

This County would be a much better place if we had more men like Joe Fowler.

I submit for the RECORD an article about Marshal Fowler's career from the September 18th issue of the Knoxville News-Sentinel and call it to the attention of my Colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

[From the Knoxville News-Sentinel, Sept. 18, 2000]

FOWLER RETIRES AFTER 50 YEARS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

(By Laura Ayo)

It was a Sunday morning in August 1974 when one of Chief Joe C. Fowler's Knoxville Police Department officers was shot in the chest while struggling with a burglary suspect.

"By the time they got me to the hospital, he was already there," the officer, John Guider, recalled about the man who went on to head two more law enforcement agencies in Knoxville.

Guider, now senior deputy U.S. Marshal in the Knoxville district office, described the incident as his fondest memory of Fowler.

"No one could have asked for anything better than the way he treated my family," Guider said. "He really took care of my mother and (ex) wife, more than you'd expect somebody would."

On Aug. 31, Fowler retired as U.S. Marshal for the Eastern District of Tennessee, ending a unique, 50-year career in law enforcement that saw him hold the titles of police chief, sheriff, state warden and federal marshal—the only man to do so, according to colleagues.

Fresh out of the military and not finding what he wanted in college, Fowler found his calling with a badge and uniform.

"It's been a very interesting career," the 73-year-old Knoxville native said. "I wouldn't trade it for anything."

In 1970, the year he became chief of the KPD, Fowler hired 21-year-old Phil Keith as a rookie officer.

"I grew up in this police department," said Keith, who is now police chief. "Next to my dad, Joe Fowler was right up there at the top."

At an Aug. 28 retirement party Keith presented Fowler a citation of merit for distinguished service in law enforcement and one of the department's millennium badges with the word "chief" on it.

Mayor Victor Ashe proclaimed Aug. 28, 2000, Joe Fowler Day in Knoxville.

"He told me one time the most important goal you can have in life as a police officer is to make a difference, not just with citizens, but also with police officers," Keith recalled.

Keith credited Fowler with giving him the opportunities, skills and friendship that enabled him to work his way through the ranks to chief.

"He always told me to be responsible to the citizens and try to better the profession," Keith said. "He's one of these fellows who didn't have to speak the loudest in the room. I learned from that. He taught me a lot of tolerance and being compassionate."

Much of what Fowler set in motion as chief through resource building, planning and setting standards has made the police department what it is today, Keith added.

"He was not afraid to go against the grain if it was the right thing to do," he said.

Deputy U.S. Marshal Chuck Pittman worked as a sheriff's deputy for four years while Fowler served as sheriff in the 1980s.

"First of all, the thing he brought to the sheriff's department was a sense of integrity," Pittman said. "He's always been an honorable, honorable man."

After being defeated by Tim Hutchison in 1990 for a third term as sheriff, Fowler served as warden of a state-operated work-release facility in Knoxville.

Pittman and Guider were pleased when they heard their former boss would again be their boss in the Marshals Service. President Bill Clinton appointed Fowler in 1994 to his last post, where he oversaw the protection of the federal courts, judges and witnesses, and the custody of federal prisoners.

"He's the first good marshal I've worked for, and he's my third presidential appointee," Guider said. "He has good investigative experience. But what I liked about him best was he was new to the Marshals Service and if he didn't know something, he would ask somebody instead of making snap judgments and I like that."

Guider said Fowler knew how to show he cared about his employee's personal lives

without interfering. He drank coffee with his staff each morning and loved to discuss the University of Tennessee football team.

"The whole office is going to miss him," Pittman said.

Looking back on his career, Fowler said his most rewarding times were when he worked with juveniles or got to hand over a large forfeiture check to a small, poorly funded sheriff's department involved in an arrest.

"It gives your heart a good feeling when you can be there and help," he said.

At one time, college party raids were the most frustrating thing an officer had to endure. Now, Fowler said officers have to worry about making split-second decisions they'll likely have to defend in a courtroom later.

"When I came in on the police department, the general public and even criminals respected you for what you were," the white-haired, gentle-voiced Fowler recalled. "We didn't have the problems we have today."

Fowler said he'll miss the deputies, judges, court staff and people in the various agencies the Marshals Service works with daily.

"These are just great people," he said. "They're dedicated; they love their job."

Chief Deputy U.S. Marshal Don Benson will serve as interim U.S. Marshal until a new appointment is made, Fowler said. It's not known how long it will be until a new marshal is appointed, but he said probably nothing will happen until a new president is elected.

Although Fowler described his years as a motorcycle officer as the most fun he had in law enforcement, he won't be jumping on a bike and hitting the open road any time soon. Other than getting to odd jobs around the house and spending time with Sue, his wife of 44 years, two sons and four grandchildren, Fowler has no specific plans for how he'll spend his retirement.

"I've got things to do," he said. "I'm looking forward to relaxing."