

An ordained minister with the Memphis-based Church of God in Christ, Elder Stanton has earned a special place in the heart of his community for his service to others. Having served our country faithfully in both World War II and the Korean War, Elder Stanton carried this superior level of dedication into his 25 year tenure with the U.S. Postal Service and into his role as Assistant Pastor of Temple Church of God in Christ. His commitment is further observed in his longstanding devotion to his wife of over 50 years, Helen, as well as his entire family.

Elder Stanton's faith in action has been a guiding force for people across the Memphis community. In addition to his volunteer efforts as a District Chief Probation Officer with Memphis's Juvenile Court system, Elder Stanton has earned a special place in the hearts of many for his work to help the homeless and destitute citizens of his community. For a number of years, he owned and operated a boarding house that took in homeless individuals and others who lacked housing options. In an act of Christian love, Elder Stanton helped to manage the finances of many of these individuals and provided all of the residents with an array of amenities and free-of-charge services in an effort to help these individuals reach a better quality of life. For these services, the Memphis City Council has appropriately named the street on which this facility was located in honor of this noble man.

However, even with the street renaming, one of the most fitting and profound credits to the legacy of service he continues to bequeath is that Elder Stanton's family has followed in his sizeable footsteps by positively impacting the civic, political, non-profit, educational, business, and religious communities in Memphis.

For his over 40 years of service to his denomination and his example of leadership for his family and city, I would ask my colleagues in the U. S. House of Representatives to join with me in honoring Elder Edward Stanton, Sr.

TRIBUTE TO RAYMOND FRANCIS ROURKE

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to Raymond Francis Rourke who passed away on Monday, May 24 at the age of 86. Ray was a loving father and husband, an outstanding public servant, and friend and mentor to many including myself.

I ask unanimous consent to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the Lowell Sun's Editorial from May 26:

RAY ROURKE. 1917-2004

If Lowell could build a pantheon to its all-time great civic leaders, a statue of Ray Rourke would stand on a pedestal alongside those of Paul Tsongas, Telemachus "Mike" DeMoulas and others.

Rourke, who died Monday at the age of 84, was a Mill City icon and a throwback to an era of Irish gentlemen who succeeded in combining a valued family life with an equally strong commitment to public service.

In his essence, Rourke was a good listener and a specially good adviser. He never told people how to think; instead he kindly coun-

seled them as to the importance of what they should be thinking about. It was a philosophy that won him hundreds, if not thousands, of lifelong friends.

Of all his many accomplishments, Rourke considered his greatest legacy to Lowell and the state of Massachusetts to be his seven children. "I added to the economy seven times," he would proudly say at Mr. Al's Barbershop on Middlesex Street.

Rourke will go down in political annals for his long and distinguished public service as a city councilor, mayor, state representative and state Deputy Secretary of Transportation in both the Dukakis and King administrations. Yet if we could write a fitting epithet for his statue, in our pantheon of Lowell greats, it would read:

"Ray Rourke [1917-2004], one of those humble yet great working-class men from Lowell's 'Flats' neighborhood who decided to do something good for the community and succeeded."

Ray is survived by his wife, Rita; his two daughters, Maureen A. Cohen and Nancy L. Vieira; his three sons, Raymond R., Richard P., and John P.; and his sixteen grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BRENT CURTICE

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Brent Curtice of Paonia, Colorado, on being recognized by the Colorado Association of Secondary School Principals as the Colorado High School Principal of the Year. The award acknowledges leaders who have provided high quality learning opportunities for students. In honor of Brent's award, the Town of Paonia also declared April 7 as "Brent Curtice Appreciation Day." This award is a well-deserved testament to his achievements in education.

Brent began his career in education twenty-two years ago as a teacher and athletic director at Hotchkiss High School. Thirteen years later he accepted a position at Paonia High School. His leadership and dedication have helped to take the school to the upper echelons of academic excellence, including achieving a top five ranking among 2A schools in Colorado for the ACT college entrance exam. Brent, however, is quick to note that it is the work of the students and teachers that really make the school a success.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the service and achievements of Brent Curtice before this body of Congress and this nation. His efforts to continually challenge his students through a demanding curriculum is truly remarkable, and the recognition he received from the Colorado Association of Secondary School Principals as their 2004 Colorado High School Principal of the Year is a well-deserved testament to his tireless efforts. I sincerely thank Brent for his service.

HONORING MR. KENT GIBBS

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Kent Gibbs of the Orange County Council Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. Gibbs became President/Scout Executive of the Orange County Council Boy Scouts of America in 1982. Immediately after he assumed his new post, his organization was faced with severe funding cutbacks and a forced thirty percent staff reduction. Despite all of these hardships, Mr. Gibbs was still able to provide services for young men and women across Orange County.

Mr. Gibbs was also heavily involved in the undertaking of a \$21 million Major Gifts Initiative to provide funding to support outreach efforts into the inner city communities and needed capital improvements.

The Orange County Council has been recognized as a Quality Organization by the national organization of the Boy Scouts of America, and Mr. Gibbs was a recipient of the James E. West Fellowship and Heritage Society Award.

I would like to extend my best wishes to Mr. Gibbs on the occasion of his retirement and thank him for his service to the communities of Orange County.

2004 ENERGY STAR FOR HOMES—OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the following homebuilders from in or around my congressional district for their recent recognition as Oncor 2004 ENERGY STAR for Homes—Outstanding Achievement Award: Ashton Woods Homes; Beazer Homes of Dallas; Buescher Homes; Coleman Homes; D.R. Horton; David Weekly Homes; Highland Homes, LTD; History Maker Homes; KB Homes; Landstar Homes; Legacy Homes; Lennar Homes; Mercedes Homes; MHI; Morrison Homes; Oak Creek Homes; Optima Homes; Paul Taylor Homes, and Ryland Homes.

Forty-six builders participated in the 2003 Oncor ENERGY STAR Homes program. Each of the Award recipients registered with the EPA and constructed at least 50 ENERGY STAR homes in 2003. Collectively, winners built 11,505 ENERGY STAR qualified homes.

The ENERGY STAR program is a government industry partnership for promoting energy efficient products. ENERGY STAR eligible homes use considerably less energy than standard homes. Because of lower energy usage, ENERGY STAR homes save homeowners money because they cost less to heat and cool. In addition, they help to reduce air pollution—a particular concern in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Nationwide almost 20 percent of air pollution results from energy used in homes. Just one ENERGY STAR home can

reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 4,500 lbs per year.

Energy efficiency is an important part of a balanced energy policy. That is why President George W. Bush and the U.S. House of Representatives included a provision in H.R. 6, The Energy Policy Act of 2003, which would expand the ENERGY STAR program.

The homebuilders who participate in the ENERGY STAR program recognize the importance of energy conservation. Once again, I would like to thank these 21 North Texas homebuilders for their commitment to constructing ENERGY STAR qualified homes.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KENTUCKIANS OF NEW YORK

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of The Kentuckians of New York. This congressional recognition will be presented on June 3, 2004 in New York City to a gathering of more than 325 persons at a Gala Dinner Dance. On the occasion, the following six Kentuckians will be honored for their distinguished careers in their chosen field, for their contributions to their community for public service, and their impact both nationally and globally: Owsley Brown II, John Y. Brown, Jr., Martha Layne Collins, Bob Edwards, Phil Simms, and Bill Samuels, Jr.

The Kentuckians of New York was organized on April 27, 1904. The first president was John C. Carlisle, who served six years. During the turn of the century, several state societies were formed. Those who had chosen New York as their new home longed to maintain contact with persons from their home state. The Kentuckians of New York is one of the few, which remain today and have reached this milestone. In the early days, it was a men's organization, which met periodically to enjoy fellowship and sampling of some of the principal Kentucky products, tobacco and bourbon.

During the term of President James C. Bowling (1974–76), Peggy Silhanek and Myra Leigh Tobin became the first two women members. I joined the organization soon after membership was opened to women. I met, not one, but all four criteria for becoming a member: born in Kentucky, lived in Kentucky for at least five years, graduated from a Kentucky college or university, and a son or daughter of a Kentuckian.

The society currently has both resident and nonresident members. The primary purpose of the organization is to share fellowship and the love of our Kentucky heritage at two dinner meetings each year. At these meetings, a reception is followed by dinner and a talk about some aspect of Kentucky by a distinguished speaker from Kentucky or with ties to Kentucky.

I was invited to be a speaker in October 2001, which followed the terrorist acts on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. It was a very somber time in New York City and in the country. The Kentuckians of New York lost two of its members, James R. Paul and Thomas W. Hohlweck, Jr., who worked in the World Trade

Center. My remarks focused on re-assuring members that Members of Congress were addressing terrorism and were concerned about the safety and security of its citizens, and in bringing justice to those who committed the terrorist acts of 9/11.

Many illustrious speakers have addressed the organization. One memorable evening was the time when former Governor A.B. "Happy" Chandler was speaker, following his induction into the Baseball Hall of Fame. Former President Richard Nixon came to the reception unannounced to extend his congratulations to "Happy" Chandler and to extend greetings to The Kentuckians of New York.

Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of The Kentuckians of New York's 100th Anniversary, I join with its members and other Kentuckians who will celebrate in its contributions to New York, to Kentucky, and to our nation.

TRIBUTE TO RALPH LIBERTO

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a dear friend and selfless public servant, Ralph Liberto. Ralph's dedication to working families spanned a lifetime, from his early days as a Marine Raider in World War II, through his service as a union leader, and finally as a trusted County Commissioner representing southwest Warren for the past 14 years. Ralph died on March 15th at the age of 80, after quietly battling leukemia.

For more than 30 years, Ralph played a major role in defining and changing Macomb County. Ralph Liberto distinguished himself as a friend to the working families and senior citizens in Macomb County, a friend to military veterans, and as an honest, dedicated and respected public servant.

After proudly serving his beloved country from 1940–1946 in the United States Marine Corps, he began working at a Chevrolet Gear and Axle plant. He quickly earned the respect of his fellow union employees, who elected him to the highest UAW office in the plant, shop chairman. He continued to champion labor rights as UAW Local 160's first president, then union leader for the AFL–CIO, and government relations director for AFSCME.

Ralph Liberto saw public service as a way to continue his deep sense of duty to the community and to his fellow citizens. A spirited political leader, he began cooking spaghetti for countless political and charitable fund raisers, providing his famous pasta at events from the shores of Lake St. Clair to Lansing.

In 1990 he was elected to Macomb County's Board of Commissioners, where he served on a variety of committees. His colleagues relied on his negotiation and debate skills, eventually electing him Vice Chair of the Board from 1996–2001. As a member of the Parks and Recreation Board and a fan of big band music, he started senior citizen swing dances held at the Freedom Hill Park and Metro Beach. To honor Commissioner Liberto's legacy, Independence Hall at Freedom Hill County Park was recently renamed "Ralph A. Liberto Independence Hall."

Later in life, Ralph continued to fight for causes he believed in. He diligently worked to

raise funds for Washington D.C.'s World War II Memorial honoring his fellow veterans.

Whatever endeavor or job Ralph took on, he did it with his whole heart and a deep sense of duty for serving those around him. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Ralph Liberto for all his tireless work on behalf of our community and citizens.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, had I been present yesterday during rollcall No. 210, I would have voted "aye." During rollcall No. 211, I would have voted "aye." And, on rollcall No. 212, I would have voted "aye."

RECOGNIZING THE WINNERS AND SPONSORS OF THE 24 CHALLENGE MATH TOURNAMENT IN SAN DIEGO, CA

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the winners of the 24 Challenge Math Tournament in San Diego, CA and to express my appreciation to the sponsors who helped to make the tournament possible.

The 24 game is played with decks of cards with each card displaying four numbers. The numbers vary in complexity from single digits to fractions, decimals and exponents. Students combine the numbers to make 24 by using basic math operations and mental calculations. The 24 Challenge involves tournament-style programs using the 24 game to spark in-class, school wide and regional mathematics competitions. Students prepare for tournament play by practicing games both in and outside the classroom for eight to twelve weeks prior to year-end regional championship competitions.

In San Diego, the regional tournament is held each year during the Congressional Memorial Day recess at the San Diego Aerospace Museum. This year's tournament was held on Wednesday, May 26. I would like to recognize the winners of San Diego's 24 Challenge: (Alvin Balmeo of Las Palmas E.S., Grade 4/5 winner; Ling Yeung of Del Mar Hills E.S., Grade 6 winner; Sofie Christlieb of Standley M.S., Grade 7/8 winner; and Michael Kim of Standley M.S., Platinum Master.

I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding these dedicated and hardworking students. I also encourage my colleagues to host tournaments in their Congressional districts. Over the years, this exciting math program has engaged millions of students from all backgrounds. The 24 Game provides students with a common ground for developing math fluency and game play helps children develop skills such as number sense, pattern sensing, problem solving and mental math. At the same time, the 24 Challenge math tournaments encourage students to embrace the spirit of competition.