

The Baron De Kalb Council No. 1073 has risen from its humble beginnings, when a small band of men met in Grand Knight Rikeman's house, to its present day thousands strong membership that meets at the "Baron-By-The-Sea", a property purchased by the Council in scenic Sheepshead Bay in 1949. In 1969 members were devastated to learn that a fire had destroyed their "Baron-By-The-Sea", but no fire could destroy the members commitment, dedication and desire to reach ever greater achievements for their beloved Council. In 1973 Grand Knight Gus Rogers proudly led his members into the newly built "Baron-By-the-Sea", the structure on Nostrand and Emmons Avenues that continues to provide invaluable services to its members and our southern Brooklyn community to this day.

Therefore, on Behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I congratulate the Baron De Kalb Council No. 1073 of the Knights of Columbus and all of its past and present members for 100 years of dedication and service to our community.

HONORING SCOTT MILLER

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to honor Scott Miller for his outstanding leadership and dedicated service to his community and his country.

As an active member of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC), Scott appreciates the important relationship between the United States and Israel. Scott knows that the nation of Israel is not only a shining example of democracy in the Middle East, it is one of our nation's most important allies. And Scott understands the enormous benefits of strengthening ties between our two great Nations.

Scott Miller and AIPAC are virtually synonymous. Scott is former chair of the Dallas AIPAC council, and a member of AIPAC's National Executive Committee. As the founder of AIPAC's young leader movement, Scott has helped expand the organization and its membership in Dallas. This Sunday, he will also be receiving the Sam Wolfson Distinguished Leadership Award.

But AIPAC is just one of Scott's many interests. He is a past President of Jewish Family Service of Dallas, the CFA Society of Dallas/Fort Worth and the Wharton Club of Dallas/Ft. Worth. He has served as the Secretary of the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas and currently serves on the boards of the American Jewish Committee and the Jewish Community Center.

Scott is also a leader in business, specializing in global investments as both the principal of Miller Global Investments, L.L.C. and founding member and partner of FCM Investments. Last but not least, Scott is also a dedicated family man. He and his wonderful wife Julie have three lovely children.

I am proud to call Scott my friend and it is my pleasure to recognize his distinguished service today in the U.S. House of Representatives.

LENEXA, KANSAS, POLICE CHIEF ELLEN HANSON WINS POLICE EXECUTIVE RESEARCH FORUM LEADERSHIP AWARD

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lenexa, Kansas, Police Chief Ellen Hanson, who last week was given the Police Executive Research Forum [PERF] Leadership Award. Presented annually since 1984, the Leadership Award has been given to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the field of law enforcement over the course of their careers, who exemplify the highest principles and standards of a true leader in policing on a national level, and whose efforts serve as a model to the law enforcement community. PERF is a DC-based nonprofit membership association committed to promoting innovative law enforcement practices through research and experimentation, management and technical assistance, training, publications, and advancing the national debate on public safety issues.

Chief Ellen Hanson has been the Chief of Police of Lenexa since 1991, and her strong leadership and innovative programs have enhanced the entire region in several fields of police work. She initiated the Safe School Program that became a model throughout the Kansas City Metropolitan Area in the mid 90s. After the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks she helped organize the Kansas City Metro Disaster Tactical Response Team, a multi-jurisdictional response to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, or explosive threats or attacks.

Following several officer-involved shootings in Johnson County, Chief Hanson developed a program called "Officer Involved Shooting Team" (OIST), made up of the most experienced commanders, investigators, and crime scene technicians in the county cooperating with the District Attorney's Office. She has also initiated a program to prevent underage drinking known as "Party Patrol," which received national attention on the CBS program "60 Minutes."

As PERF Board of Directors' President and Los Angeles Chief of Police William Bratton noted at her awards ceremony, "Both PERF and the police profession have benefited from Ellen's intense commitment to the continued advancement of the quality of law enforcement in this country. She has made outstanding contributions to PERF."

"Ellen Hanson is not only well known and respected by her peers in Kansas, but revered by colleagues around the country as an outstanding police chief and role model," added PERF Executive Director Chuck Wexler. "Her work with the Kansas City Metro Disaster Response Team is considered a model strategy for regional cooperation among law enforcement agencies."

Chief Hanson is also a board member of the Kansas City Metro Squad, another successful model of cooperation among regional law enforcement officials in major criminal investigations. She is an active member of the Metropolitan Police Chiefs and Sheriffs Association, has been involved in regional initiatives regarding racial profile training, and has led ef-

forts to establish child abuse prevention centers in her jurisdiction.

Chief Hanson graduated from the FBI National Academy in 1980 as one of the first female students, and was one of the founders of the National Association of Women Law Enforcement Executives (NAWLEE), which has provided support, training and mentoring to female law enforcement executives since 1995.

We are lucky to have Chief Ellen Hanson in Lenexa. Indeed, her career has been marked by her willingness to lead, not only her city, but our region, in cooperative efforts on a wide variety of law enforcement initiatives. I know I have certainly appreciated her work with me in instituting and maintaining an effective Amber Alert program in our two-state, multi-county area. I commend her for receiving this much-deserved national recognition of the essential role she plays in maintaining public safety within the Third Congressional District of Kansas.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 5216

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer my full support of legislation that Congressman TOM LANTOS, Congressman TOM DAVIS, and I have crafted entitled the Preservation of Records of Servitude, Emancipation, and Post-Civil War Reconstruction Act (H.R. 5216). This legislation would preserve and make more accessible important pieces of personal and American history.

By and large, Americans of non-African descent who research their genealogical history search through municipal birth, death, and marriage records. To the benefit of all Americans many of these records have been properly archived as public historical documents. However, African-Americans in the United States confront a unique challenge when conducting genealogical research due to the vestiges of slavery and discrimination.

Accordingly, African-Americans were denied many of the benefits of citizenship that generate traceable documentation such as voter registration, property ownership, business ownership, and school attendance. As a result, traditional genealogical research documents can at times be of limited value to African-Americans. Fortunately, slavery, emancipation, and post-Civil War reconstruction records have proven themselves to offer a wealth of useful genealogical information that African-Americans can utilize to better understand their history. Unfortunately, there is no comprehensive national effort to preserve these important pieces of history or to make them easily accessible to all Americans. In the absence of congressional action, these records will remain inaccessible, poorly catalogued, and subject to the deteriorating affects of decay.

The Preservation of Records of Servitude, Emancipation, and Post-Civil War Reconstruction Act would address this troubling situation. Specifically, our bill would require the establishment of an electronically searchable national database in the National Archives to preserve records of servitude, emancipation, and post-Civil War reconstruction. It would

also provide grants to State and local entities to establish similar local databases. The records that would be preserved and made more accessible include the Southern Claims Commission Records, Records of the Freedmen's Bureau, Slave Impressments Records, Slave Payroll Records, and Slave Manifests. This legislation would also authorize a total of \$10 million to establish this national database and provide grants to states, academic institutions, and genealogical associations.

Recognizing that we can ill afford to allow these irreplaceable stories to be lost to the withering decay of time, our bill takes meaningful steps to resurrect the rich history of African-Americans. Not only will it allow a means by which African-Americans can trace their lineage, but also as a means by which we can preserve historically comprehensive and accurate information about our collective history as a nation.

As Author Maya Angelou once said, "No man can know where he is going unless he knows exactly where he has been and exactly how he arrived at his present place." On behalf of all Americans, join us in forging that essential nexus between the past and the present by cosponsoring this bi-partisan legislation.

TRIBUTE TO RAYMOND C. CHURCH

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I rise today to honor Raymond C. Church, a life-long resident of the great state of Rhode Island, in recognition of his 16 years of service to the accounting profession and the Rhode Island Society of CPAs (RISCPA).

Ray has very ably led the RISCPA and its nearly 1,500 CPAs and affiliated professionals throughout Rhode Island, and he is considered a leader among his peers. It is on this day that we thank him for his service to the accounting profession, to the community and to his country, and wish him well in his retirement.

Ray has also worked diligently for the citizens of Rhode Island and particularly the residents of Rhode Island House District 48. Ray was elected to the State of Rhode Island's House of Representatives in 2004 and has been serving on the House Committee on Corporations and the Permanent Joint Committee on Economic Development. He also served as the North Smithfield Town Administrator from 1987–1989 and is the former Chairman of the North Smithfield Town Budget Committee.

Ray served his country honorably in the U.S. Army, and is a Vietnam War veteran. He attended Bryant College and graduated with a major in Accounting in 1982. Ray is not only dedicated to his profession but to his family as well. He and his wife Carol have been married for 33 years and have one daughter, Jennifer.

It is with great pleasure that we honor Raymond C. Church today, and congratulate him and thank him for all he has done for his hometown, the state of Rhode Island, the association community, and the accounting profession.

RECOGNITION OF LANCE CORPORAL NICHOLAS KLEIBOEKER

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Lance Corporal Nicholas Kleiboecker who was killed in action fighting for freedom in Al Hillah, Iraq on May 13, 2003.

Lance Cpl Kleiboecker was a 19 year-old from Irvington, Illinois and was assigned to the 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, based at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. He was a 2001 graduate from Odin High School in Odin, IL.

Kleiboecker made the ultimate sacrifice for his country. He is survived by Gary and Sheryl Kleiboecker of Iuka, Sam Clark of Sumner and many other family, friends and loved ones. I am proud of the service this young man gave to his country and the service his fellow troops perform everyday. It is soldiers like Kleiboecker that are risking their lives day in and day out to ensure our freedom here at home and to others throughout the rest of the world. I salute him and my best wishes go out to his family and all the troops fighting to ensure freedom and democracy. God bless them and may God continue to bless America.

CURT GOWDY POST OFFICE

HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a great American broadcaster who sadly passed away earlier this year but left an indelible mark on America as "a cowboy at the microphone." You may have known him from his coverage of some of America's most famous sporting events, including Joe Namath's famous "guaranteed" Super Bowl victory and Hank Aaron's 715th career Home Run to surpass Babe Ruth; or you may have learned about his love for fly fishing and the outdoors as host of The American Sportsman for 20 years.

A pioneer of TV sportscasting, Curtis Edward Gowdy was born July 31, 1919 in Green River, Wyoming to Edward and Ruth Gowdy. Schooled at the University of Wyoming, Curt got his start in broadcasting in Cheyenne, Wyoming. From there he went on to a career that spanned 7 decades, 16 World Series, 12 Rose Bowls, 9 Super Bowls, and 8 Olympiads resulting in admission to 20 different Halls of Fame. While his career took him all across our great country, we in Wyoming have always felt a special bond with him as one of our own. That's why I'm pleased to introduce legislation today to honor him by naming the post office in his birthplace after this cowboy, broadcaster, sportsman, husband and father. I would encourage my colleagues in the House to join me as a sponsor of this bill saluting Curt Gowdy, a man whose name is boldly etched in the pantheon of American broadcasters.

COMMEMORATING NATIONAL MINORITY HEALTH MONTH

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2006

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate National Minority Health Month. Celebrated during the month of April, the month highlights the importance of improving minority health through focusing on initiatives to eradicate health disparities.

The month was created by the National Minority Health Foundation in response to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Healthy People 2010 Initiative. Through the Foundation's efforts, and those of Representative DONNA CHRISTENSEN, Congress passed the resolution in 2001 during the 107th Congress.

Recognizing the disproportionate impact communities of color are burdened with pertaining to equitable access to health care resources, quality and outcomes, the month aims to eliminate health disparities through several mechanisms. These mechanisms focus on cultivating public and private partnerships among health care providers through enhancing social marketing, research, and legislative concerns as well as strengthening career training of professional health care providers to promote cultural competency.

Mr. Speaker, this is not a new issue for our Nation. In fact, in 1914, the state of African-American health was so dire that Booker T. Washington established National Negro Health Week (NNHW) in 1915. Additionally, in 1921, when the NNHW committee wanted to expand to reach a wider audience, the U.S. Surgeon General assisted them and together they published the Negro Health Week Bulletin.

In the same vein as these events, National Minority Health Month also serves as a reminder of how much work needs to be done to eliminate health and healthcare inequities. Although public health data dismisses overt prejudice within the health care profession, in reality what many minorities face is a less offensive, but equally deadly force. Borrowing a term often used by President Bush (in another context): We are confronting "the soft bigotry of low expectations."

Mr. Speaker, there is much research that supports the need for focusing on eliminating health disparities. In 2004, Dr. David Satcher, now Director of the National Center for Primary Care at Morehouse College, and Professor Stephen Woolfe, Director of Research at Virginia Commonwealth University's Department of Family Medicine, released mortality data that their research team had gleaned from the National Center for Health Statistics. During the 1990s, they concluded, more than 886,000 deaths could have been prevented if African Americans had received the same health care as White Americans.

Equally shocking are the findings released in the 2002 Institute of Medicine report—"Unequal Treatment: Confronting Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities", which concluded with great authority that Americans of color receive lower-quality health care than Caucasians. It further explains that African-Americans receive inferior medical care—compared to the majority population—even when the patients' incomes and insurance plans are the same.