



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Luci Johnson, left, describes her childhood in the Texas White House during a ceremony to commemorate the 100th birthday of her father, former President Lyndon Baines Johnson Wednesday at the LBJ Ranch, located near Stonewall, Texas. On the right is artist Leonard Bianco, who painted portraits of the family dogs.

Family, friends mark former President LBJ's centennial

BY KELLEY SHANNON
Associated Press Writer

STONEWALL, TEXAS | Former President Lyndon B. Johnson's family and admirers remembered his civil rights and education legacy during a celebration of the 100th anniversary of his birth and the opening of his Texas ranch office to the public.

Daughters Luci Baines Johnson and Lynda Johnson Robb and dozens of others gathered at his Hill Country ranch Wednesday for a wreath-laying ceremony at his grave along the banks of the Pedernales River.

Then they filed into the newly opened ranch house office. It's a small room restored to its look in the 1960s, complete with original leather recliner chairs, a horse saddle, an old-style television set and Johnson's eyeglasses placed on his desk.

"Are you paying your taxes?" Luci Johnson asked the first group of visitors. "Then welcome home. This is your place, and we're glad to have you."

At the family cemetery, where Johnson's wife Lady Bird Johnson was buried last year after her death at age 94, Luci Johnson told of her father being born a large baby in a nearby farmhouse a century ago and of his rise through political ranks to U.S. Senate leader and ultimately president.

Without mentioning the Vietnam war that plagued Johnson's administration, she listed his domestic accomplishments, such as the Civil Rights Act and education,

Medicare and clean air and water legislation. He called those initiatives his Great Society.

Luci Johnson said Democrat Barack Obama's acceptance of his party's presidential nomination fulfills the vision of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and her father.

"His Great Society legislation made it possible for children of color and of humble origins like Senator Obama to fulfill their dreams — dreams to get the best education, dreams for the chance to vote and be voted for," she said, to applause from the dozens attending the centennial birthday commemoration.

Beneath a canopy of oak trees, with a soft breeze blowing, the crowd completed the ceremony by joining in singing the "Battle Hymn of the Republic."

Johnson assumed the presidency in 1963 after President John F. Kennedy was assassinated. He won election on his own the following year and served until 1969. Johnson died in 1973.

The LBJ Ranch house, known during his presidency as the Texas White House, is gradually opening for public tours with the office as the first accessible room.

The Johnsons donated the ranch and its hundreds of acres of land as a national historic site in 1972. It is overseen by the National Park Service. The Johnsons retained a "life estate" in the 8,400 square-foot stone and wood home, allowing the family to remain there as long as Lady Bird Johnson was living.



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Luci Johnson speaks during a ceremony at the family cemetery to commemorate the 100th birthday of her father.

DEATH NOTICES

Ruth N. Deats

CORNING | Ruth N. Deats, 89, of Elmira, died Wednesday, August 27, 2008 at Founders Pavilion.

She was employed at Remington Rand until it closed and retired from Chemung County Nursing Facility.

Survivors include a daughter, NormaJo Carl of Corning; a son, John Deats of Lancaster, Pa.; two sisters, Norma Van Etten, Beatrice Butcher.

A memorial service will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday at Olthof Funeral Home, Inc., 1050 Pennsylvania Ave., Elmira, the Rev. Edward Crandall officiating.

Robert H. Hooley

HORSEHEADS | Robert H. Hooley, 84, of Horseheads died Wednesday, Aug. 27, 2008.

He was a US Army veteran of WWII.

He owned and operated Bob Hooley's Service Station in Elmira Heights for several years.

Survivors include his wife Irene Saylor Hooley of Horseheads; a daughter, Patricia Brown of Elmira; three sons, Edwin Hooley of Detroit, Mich., Robert L. Hooley of Horseheads, Wayne H. Hooley of Elmira Heights; two sisters, Helen Ebersole of Mechanicsburg, Pa., Jean Chamiedes of New Hartford, Conn.

Calling hours are 6-8 p.m. today at Lynch Funeral Home, 318 West Broad St., Horseheads.

Services will be held there at 10 a.m. Saturday, the Rev. Rick Price officiating.

Burial with military honors will be in Rural Home Cemetery in Big Flats.

Former 'Real World' cast member to run for Congress

BY MARCUS FRANKLIN
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK | Rep. Edolphus "Ed" Towns is a longtime congressman who has been such a powerful force in his Brooklyn district that he has gone most of his career without ever facing much of a re-election challenge.

But Towns is facing an aggressive fight this year from a former "Real World" cast member and community activist who is trying to stage an upset of the 26-year incumbent in the Sept. 9 Democratic primary.

Kevin Powell, who went on to become a well-known writer and public speaker after rising to prominence on the first season of the MTV reality show in 1992, has been trying to convince voters that Towns has severely neglected the district and allowed problems to fester.

The 42-year-old Powell, who has never held an elected office, has also injected age into the race as he has attempted to paint the 74-year-old Towns as part of an earlier generation of elected officials who have become ineffective. Powell has also drawn the support of big names such as Chris Rock, George Soros and Gloria Steinem.

"I have deep respect and appreciation for the civil rights movement," Powell said one recent morning after greeting commuters outside a Brooklyn subway station. "But

far too many of that generation who've been in office far too long have a sense of entitlement and privilege.

"This is someone who is completely disengaged from and invisible in the community," Powell said of Towns, adding that the incumbent has failed to address affordable housing, the mortgage crisis, HIV/AIDS, and unemployment.

Towns, a former Baptist minister from North Carolina, said he "works hard to provide services to the district." As an example, he said he introduced a bill to keep the 5,881-unit Starrett City, the country's largest federally subsidized housing complex, affordable.

Towns also attacked Powell's lack of legislative experience.

"He's never served in a legislative body," Towns said. "He's never been elected to the school board or even attended a PTA meeting. He has no idea how these things really work."

"It's no time to have a start-up" representing the district at a time when Democrats could win the White House, Towns said. With a Democratic president, Towns said he hoped to get legislation passed faster.

The candidates are vying to represent the 10th Congressional District, a solidly Democratic section of Brooklyn with about 685,000 residents. The district is so Democratic that the winner of the primary is essentially guaranteed victory.

KUHL

Continued from 3A

Kuhl has urged numerous responses to high energy prices, including the development of alternative energy sources such as biofuels. He has also called for more offshore drilling and drilling in the Alaskan National Wildlife Refuge, which are positions Greenpeace opposes.

Kuhl said he and

Greenpeace members agreed "inaction is the biggest threat."

"We need to take the necessary steps now to reduce our dependence on oil and achieve energy independence," he said.

Michael Deery, a member of the Greenpeace contingent, said after the meeting he hopes the U.S. moves quickly to reduce its dependence on fossil fuels such as oil and coal.

OBITUARIES



KYLE WESLEY ROWE

PAINTED POST, NY | Kyle Wesley Rowe, 20, of 240 Rafferty Rd., Painted Post, NY, passed away Tuesday, August 26, 2008 at his grandmother's house.

Born in Elmira, NY, he was the son of Harry Linwood and Rebecca (Fairchild) Rowe, Jr. Kyle liked to four wheel, guitars, video games, and hanging out with his friends. liked fishing and boats. The Philadelphia Eagles was his favorite NFL football team.

Kyle is survived by parents Harry Linwood and Rebecca

(Fairchild) Rowe, Jr., he is the brother of one sister, Sara (Sadie) Lynn Rowe of Painted Post, NY; maternal grandmother, Janet Fairchild; Paternal grandmother, Mildred Rowe of Corning, NY; Maternal aunts and uncles, Ann (Merle) Cummings of VA.; and Margaret "Meg" (Jim) Fairchild-Law; cousin, Andrew Cummings of VA.; cousin, Catie Cummings; cousin, Liz Fairchild-Law of Corning, NY; cousin, Rachel Fairchild-Law of Corning, NY; cousin, Janet Fairchild-Law of Corning, NY; Paternal aunts and uncles, Linda (Jack) Wilson of Gowanda; and Karen (Richard) Darcangelo of Mass. Kyle also is survived by many friends, among those are Mike Vandusen, Seth Griffin, Dave Patil, Kyle Griffin, Aaron Schrader, Brent Presley, Sean Blair, Kaila Koski, Melissa Shroust, and Lori Digiulio.

He was predeceased by his Maternal grandfather, W. Lee Fairchild and Paternal grandfather, Harry Linwood Rowe, Sr.

Friends may call Saturday, August 30, 2008 from 5 p.m.-7 p.m. at Carpenter's Funeral

Home, LLC, 14 East Pulteney Street, Corning, NY. A Funeral service will be held Saturday at 7:00 pm at the funeral home, immediately after calling hours.

In lieu of flowers, the family request memorial donations be sent to Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation, C/O Elizabeth Fairchild-Law, 68 Sterling St., Corning, N.Y. 14830 or Southern Tier Hospice, 11751 East Corning Rd., Corning, New York 14830.

KURT D. PRESLEY

HAMMONDSPORT, NY | Kurt D. Presley, 52, of Briglin Road, passed away suddenly Wednesday, August 27, 2008 in Cleveland, OH, as a result of a motorcycle accident.

He was born July 26, 1956 in Bath, the son of Samuel H. and Hilda Minson Presley, Sr.

Kurt drove truck and later did engineering work for the family business, Clark Specialty Co. After becoming disabled, he enjoyed life to the fullest, spending time with friends and always being

there for family. He enjoyed hunting, especially fishing with his best friend, Glenn French. Not only did he enjoy his motorcycle, but also NASCAR, drag racing and traveling. He had a taste for the good things in life.

Surviving are his loving companion and wife of 25 years, Susan Reynolds Presley; brothers and sister, Samuel H. (Vicki) Presley, Jr. of Kanona, Elizabeth S. Presley (Jessie) of Corning, James L. (Kimberly) Presley of Hammondsport, Thomas L. Presley of Hammondsport, Gene Patterson (Doreen) of Bath, and Dean Patterson (Denise) of Coopers Plains; stepmother, Ruth Presley; brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law, James and Renee Reynolds of Lockport, Patrick and Terry Reynolds of Lockport, Donald and Linda Reynolds of Albion, Shirley and Tim Putney of Dundee; nieces and nephews, Samuel H. Presley III, Erin Presley (Crystal), Chris Presley, Jamie Presley, Jenna Presley, Carly Presley, Jordan Presley, Jalen Presley, Danielle Presley, Loren Council, Emily Patterson, Jared Patterson,

Jillian Patterson, Mike Patterson, Stephanie, Alexandra, Patrick, Joshua, Sean (nephew and special friend), Laree Disparti (dear friend).

He was predeceased by his parents, Samuel H. Presley, Sr. and Hilda Grant; brothers-in-law, Charles and Ronald Reynolds.

Friends may call Monday, September 1, 2008 from Noon to 2:00 p.m. at the LaMarche Funeral Home, 35 Main St., Hammondsport. After calling hours, everyone is invited to

the Hammondsport American Legion for a luncheon and a time for fellowship and storytelling about Kurt.

In lieu of flowers, memorials should be made to the Pulteney Vol. Ambulance Corp., P.O. Box 56, or the Pulteney Vol. Fire Dept., P.O. Box 35, Pulteney, NY 14874.

Acly-Stover
Funeral Home
Direct Cremation
\$1,173⁰⁰
936-9531
aclystoverfuneralhome.com

OBITUARY & DEATH NOTICE POLICY

- The Leader publishes death notices free of charge. Obituaries are paid advertisements.
- The deadline for death notices is 8 p.m. every day. They may be faxed to 936-9939. Death notices will only be accepted from funeral directors.
- Paid obituaries may be submitted: Weekdays | Between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday, by calling 936-4651. Weekends and holidays | Between 9 a.m. and noon by calling 936-4651, Ext. 652.
- Paid obituaries may also be faxed during the above hours to 962-0782.
- To e-mail obituaries: c_service@the-leader.com