

Throughout the years, AKA's purpose has expanded as it strives to promote high scholastics and ethical standards, vocational and career guidance, health services and the advancement of human and civil rights. Led by national Basileus, Norma S. White, Alpha Kappa Alpha focuses on five national targets including: education, health, the black family, economics, and the arts. Most importantly the women of AKA seek to make a difference in our communities and to be of supreme service to all of mankind.

When you look at AKA's distinguished membership it is easy to see its impact on America. Amongst these women are: Coretta Scott King, Rosa Parks, Maya Angelou, Toni Morrison, Ella Fitzgerald, and Dr. Mae Jemison—just to name a few.

The impact of black fraternal, social and civic organization is truly immeasurable. They have brought together and inspired the leaders that have made America what it is today.

CONGRATULATING ALFRED K.Y. LAM ON BEING NAMED GUAM'S 2006 MINORITY SMALL BUSINESS CHAMPION OF THE YEAR

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and commend Mr. Alfred K.Y. Lam, affectionately known to everyone on Guam as "Uncle Alfred," on being named the 2006 Minority Small Business Champion of the Year by the United States Small Business Administration Guam Branch Office.

Alfred's entrepreneurial spirit, diligence, and perseverance have made him a successful businessman on Guam, but his commitment to the development and promotion of other minority businesses over the last 30 years makes him deserving of the Minority Small Business Champion of the Year award.

Since coming to Guam in 1972, Alfred has operated his own business, finding a wealth of business opportunity in Guam's burgeoning shipping industry. Even in those early days, Alfred saw the need to nurture other small businesses for the benefit of the entire community.

From 1974 to 1976, he served as the vice president of the United Chinese Association, and was the charter president of the Asian Pacific Lions Club in 1982. During this time, Alfred also helped form the Sea Transport Association, which was created to promote and stabilize the shipping market between Guam and the Far East for the benefit of Chinese merchants and Guam's economy as a whole.

For the last two years, Alfred has also served as president of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce, which has begun to form alliances with other Chinese Chambers of Commerce in Hong Kong, Mainland China, and Los Angeles.

Alfred is a proven business leader, and continues to be an inspiration to the next generation of businessmen on Guam, including the 2005 Small Business Person of the Year, George Lai of Quality Distributors.

I congratulate Alfred for being selected as the 2006 Minority Small Business Champion of the Year for Guam. Our island celebrates

his recognition with his wife Kathy and his children. Uncle Alfred, we are all proud of you and we wish you continued prosperity.

IN RECOGNITION OF MILLER ELECTRIC CREDIT UNION

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to recognize before this House Miller Electric Credit Union, which was recently awarded the Desjardins Youth Financial Education Award for its extraordinary service to its members and the community of Appleton, Wisconsin.

Helping young people learn the value of money is one of the most significant social and economic challenges we face as a nation. Despite the principles of thrift and prudence embraced by our parents and grandparents, today the importance of saving is being overshadowed by the ease at which folks can spend. And, as a result millions of Americans have charged and financed their way into a life of debt and financial turmoil.

Fortunately, there are folks out there working to break the spending cycle. Miller Electric Credit Union spends hours upon hours teaching individuals lessons on financial education. They've created innovative programs to help their members, young and old, learn how to budget and save for important purchases down the road. One program in particular—the Undersea Saver's Club—gives prizes to kids who make a habit out of depositing, rather than withdrawing, money in their savings account.

Mr. Speaker, Miller Electric Credit Union has been a valued member of the Appleton community for nearly 60 years, and its 2,800 member-owners are a testament to its success. I congratulate them on receiving this outstanding honor, and wish them continued success in the years to come.

TRIBUTE TO BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am most pleased to join my colleagues and millions of Americans in commemorating African-American History Month and particularly this year's theme "Celebrating Community: A Tribute to Black Fraternal, Social and Civic Institutions". This theme as announced by the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History (ASALH) is most appropriate and timely as we enter a new millennium and hopefully a new and even brighter era of African-American progress.

Mr. President, I rise today to recognize February as Black History Month and to honor the rich cultural heritage of African-Americans in Dallas and my State of Texas. In the arts or letters, history, business, sport, or education, Greater Metroplex's African-American community has made a significant and lasting impact on our Nation's culture.

This evening, in honor of Black History Month, I would like to call the House's attention to four distinguished African-Americans entities that made major contributions to my congressional district, city of Dallas as well as the State and our country.

First, Mr. President, I would call your attention to Dallas Black Dance Theatre celebrates its 29th season as the oldest, continuously operating professional dance company in Dallas. The ensemble, a contemporary modern dance company, consists of 14 professional dancers performing a mixed repertory of modern, jazz, ethnic and spiritual works by nationally and internationally known choreographers which include: Alvin Ailey, Talley Beatty, Donald Byrd, Alonzo King, Milton Myers, Elisa Monte, Donald McKayle, Kevin Jeff, Christopher Huggins, Jessica Lang, Bruce Wood, David Parsons and Darryl Sneed. The company and company's dancers have studied, trained and performed with some of the pre-eminent performers and teachers in the American dance world.

Second, Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the African American Museum which has more than 25 years, has stood as a cultural beacon in Dallas and the Southwestern United States. Started in 1974 as a part of the Bishop College Special Collection, the Museum has operated independently since 1979.

The African American Museum is the only museum in the Southwestern United States devoted to the preservation and display of African American artistic, cultural and historical materials. It also has one of the largest African American folk art collections in the United States. The African American Museum incorporates a wide variety of visual art forms and historical documents that portray the African American experience in the United States, Southwest, and Dallas.

The main objective of the Museum is the presentation of meaningful experiences for children and adults who would not ordinarily visit a museum. The rich heritage of black art and history is housed in four vaulted galleries, augmented by a research library. Living African American culture is experienced through entertaining and educational programs presented in the theater, studio arts area and classrooms. The Museum's permanent collections include African art; African American fine art; magazine, historical, political and community archives.

Third, I would like to recognize the Black Academy of Arts and Letters, Inc. (TBAAL) is a Dallas-based multi-disciplined cultural arts institution. TBAAL's primary objectives have been to stimulate an increased awareness of Black artistic accomplishments rooted in the African culture among the races; to honor those who have made significant and continuing contributions in the arts and letters of the past and present and; to identify, encourage and support young, promising talented artists and scholars in Black arts and letters.

After more than two decades of producing and presenting programs in music, theater, dance, film, television and video, literature and visual arts throughout the United States, TBAAL has continued to create strong ties among many emerging and well known artists and scholars. In the organization's early history (1977), it established a professional Resident Touring Company called the Third World Players. Renowned actress Regina Taylor was a member of that company in 1978 and other