

Brenda Hewitt

From: Peter Marshall, M.D. <docmarshall@mosquitonet.com>
Sent: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 8:35 AM
To: Rep. Peggy Wilson
Cc: Rep. Doug Isaacson; Brenda Hewitt
Subject: Writing in support of HB 94

Dear Peggy Wilson:

I am writing in support of HB 94, a bill to name a local landmark - the flood control bridge on the Richardson Highway just outside our town of North Pole, after Conrad and Nellie Miller.

THE FOUNDING FATHER OF OUR TOWN

Conrad Miller actually invented the City of North Pole, the town where I live and practice as the town's only medical doctor. When he arrived in 1950, North Pole was just a wide spot on the Richardson Highway, at that time a winding 2-lane road. Gradually over the years he made it *the* community where people preferred to live, even those who worked in Fairbanks. During his years of service as mayor he established many of the traditions, landmarks and amenities which make North Pole the attractive city that it is today. Because of this alone, he richly deserves this honor, but there is more.

A REMARKABLE FAMILY

Con & Nellie's sons Terry and Mike continued the tradition of public service established by Con himself when they became members of the legislature. Terry went on to distinguish himself as Lt. Governor. In addition the family has carried on with the store that Con & Nellie founded which is an landmark and a destination for both visitors and locals. Santa Claus House, was built and continues as the embodiment of Con Miller's dream to make North Pole a unique and special place.

A PERSONAL RECOLLECTION

During the first decade of my 28 years of practice in North Pole, it was my privilege to know the Millers and to be their physician. I have personally observed Con Miller's passion and dedication to the cause of beautifying, publicizing and improving the town that he founded. It is seldom that we encounter a man like Con Miller, a man who had the vision and the motivation to create something of lasting value. This initiative to name this landmark, twin bridges over the Chena Flood Control Project for Con and Nellie Miller is a fitting tribute to this distinguished Alaskan couple.

Sincerely,
Peter Marshall

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