

Peter Stroh was a lifelong Michigander. Born in Detroit in 1927, he returned to the city in 1951 after completing his education at Princeton. He had hoped to join the United States Foreign Service, but circumstances forced him to take over the family's brewery. While our diplomatic corps will never know its loss, the people of Detroit and Michigan will never forget his contributions.

The Stroh's Brewery was founded in Detroit in 1850. Peter Stroh was able to turn his family's brewery into the third largest beer maker in the nation. But business success was not the focus of Peter's life. He understood that the true measure of a successful life was not the bottom line of a balance sheet, but rather the legacy of one's contribution to their community.

Standing on the roof of the Detroit brew house in 1967, he mournfully watched as riots burned the city that he loved. At his retirement he recalled, "I felt that we, as Detroit stakeholders, had to take some responsibility for what happened in Detroit, and our company would have to take some responsibility for helping to prevent it from happening again." He dedicated the final thirty-five years of his life to that proposition.

He served on the board of almost every organization that was working to solve Detroit's problems and build a new future for the city. He was on the Board of the Urban League of Detroit, Detroit Renaissance, and chaired the NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner. He helped create the Detroit Medical Center and later served as its chair. He spearheaded the development of River Place. That project has grown to 600,000 square feet of office space, 350 residential units and the OMNI/River Place Hotel.

Mr. Speaker, it was Peter's love of the natural world that brought us to work closely and collaborate on the creation of the Detroit River International Wildlife Refuge. He was an avid fisherman, he loved the water and would spend much of his free time either fishing the waters of Michigan or going to the best fishing spots around the world. He recognized that as Detroit and southeastern Michigan developed, it had the unintended effect of cutting people off from the natural beauty of the river and the surrounding lakes.

The Detroit River Refuge will be at the center of the national celebration for the 100th birthday of the National Wildlife Refuge System. Secretary Norton will be there, as well as hundreds of dignitaries, community and business leaders, and many more people from the area who fish, hike, and boat along the Detroit River every day. The Wildlife Refuge is Peter's living legacy. Without his steadfast commitment this natural jewel might have been lost to development, pollution, and neglect.

Mr. Speaker, Peter left us a year ago. His life was a testament to the positive influence that one person can make, not only in the lives of those who knew him, but to future generations who will enjoy his legacy. Years from now, people will find homes in the communities he built, jobs in the institutions he founded, and enjoy nature in an ecosystem he preserved. I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the life of a remarkable man, Peter Stroh.

TRIBUTE TO BEN PEREA

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise before this body of Congress today to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen from my district. Ben Perea of Pueblo West, Colorado selflessly dedicates his time and services to helping the children of a Mexican orphanage. His hard work and dedication are an inspiration, and I am honored to recognize him here today.

Once a month for the past two years, Ben has made the long trip from Pueblo West to Chihuahua, Mexico to deliver clothing, food, and supplies to the 120 children of the Casa Hogar Misericordia (House of Mercy) orphanage. His devotion and selflessness have improved the lives of countless children.

Ben collects all of the supplies that he can and then takes them himself to the children of Chihuahua. Though Ben helps the children obtain more than just food and clothing, in November of 2002, he was able to secure a 72-seat school bus for the orphanage to help these children attend school.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand and recognize the selfless actions of Ben Perea. His dedication and service have improved the lives of hundreds of children. I join with my colleagues in commending Ben for his endless work and wish him the best of luck in all of his future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF MAUREEN WALLISER

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Maureen Walliser for her tireless commitment to community service. She was presented the Memorial Mary T. Norton Award by the United Way of Hudson County on September 16, 2003, at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Secaucus, New Jersey.

For over 30 years, Ms. Walliser has been working to improve the lives of individuals living with disabilities. She has been a leader in her field, and continues to promote employment for individuals with disabilities.

Currently, Ms. Walliser serves as the governmental affairs chairperson of Access New Jersey, a statewide community-based employment service organization that serves individuals with severe disabilities. Previously, Ms. Walliser served as vice president and two terms as president of Access New Jersey. Ms. Walliser was also a co-founder of one of the first thirteen charter schools in New Jersey.

Ms. Walliser began her career as a rehabilitation counselor for the New Jersey Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Services. She then began working at the Occupational Center of Hudson County, where she has served as president for the last 15 years. Under her direction, the Center has flourished into an organization that provides a wealth of services beyond rehabilitation. Now known as Hudson Community Enterprises, the organization provides school-to-work programs, job training and placement, and is creating social enter-

prises that will open up further opportunities for individuals with disabilities seeking to gain employment.

Committed to expanding the field of vocational rehabilitation, Ms. Walliser has been an adjunct professor at Saint Peter's College and New Jersey City University, and was a vocational expert for 5 years at the Social Security Administration. She continues to be an active member in her church in Woodbridge, where she provides support and services for individuals with disabilities. She also works with many professional groups in Hudson County, including the Private Industry Council and the Hudson County Human Services Advisory Council.

A native of Jersey City, Ms. Walliser received her bachelor's degree from the College of Saint Elizabeth, and her master's degree in Special Education from New Jersey City University.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Maureen Walliser for her commitment to community service and for her advocacy and support of people with disabilities.

HONORING SUGAR SHANE MOSLEY

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with tremendous pride that I rise today to honor Sugar Shane Mosley, for his impressive win against Oscar de la Hoya on September 13, 2003 in Las Vegas. This hard-fought victory made Mosley the super welterweight world champion for the third time in his spectacular professional career. This was his second world championship win against Oscar de la Hoya; the first was in 2000. Mosley entered this year's contest as a 2-to-1 underdog, but his hard work and determination led to his 12-round victory by unanimous decision.

Mosley hails from Pomona, California, the largest city in my 38th Congressional District, and I am honored to count him among my constituents. He started boxing at the age of eight under the guidance of his father, who continues to coach him to this day. He had an outstanding amateur career with 250 wins out of 260 fights. He had an amateur win against Oscar De La Hoya in Pasadena when he was 12 years old. Mosley also traveled with De La Hoya as part of the U.S. national team.

Sugar Shane Mosley has been in 42 professional fights, winning an impressive 39. A three-time world champion and veteran of 16 world championship fights, he is a true boxing superstar and recognized as one of the best fighters in the world. Mosley's extraordinary offensive and defensive skills, quick reflexes, superb mobility, excellent physical conditioning and will to succeed contribute to his remarkable career and winning record.

Outside of the ring, Mosley is a devoted son, husband and father. He is married to Jin Mosley, a native New Yorker. Together, the couple has two sons—two-year-old Najee and one-year-old Taiseki. Sugar Shane Mosley also has a 13-year-old son, Shane Mosely, Jr., who is affectionately known as "Little Shane".

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a role model, husband, father and super

welterweight world champion Sugar Shane Mosley. I wish him all the best for his future.

SET ASIDE RELIGION IN PUBLIC DEBATE

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, last month the Kansas City Star carried an insightful guest column by Rabbi Mark Levin of Congregation Beth Torah of Overland Park, Kansas, which is located in my congressional district.

Rabbi Levin's column addresses the increasingly corrosive blending of religious doctrines with policy discourse in our Nation's public life. I commend his views to you and to the membership of the House and I hope we all can follow the guidelines he suggests.

[From the Kansas City Star]

SET ASIDE RELIGION IN PUBLIC DEBATE

(By Mark H. Levin)

As a member of a minority religion, I know that in order to enter the public square with my deeply held religious beliefs I must frame arguments in ways that address a commonly held language of all members of this society, no matter what their religion might be.

If I engage in a public debate I cannot quote Jewish literature and expect my fellow citizens of different religions to feel commanded to act, or even persuaded for that matter, because they do not accept the authority of the argument.

I may argue out of the American legal tradition or on philosophical grounds, but I cannot expect to have others respond to my arguments simply because I say that God commanded such and such, or because the Jewish traditions say so.

A terrible confusion occurred last week with the insulting debate in the Senate regarding the nomination of Alabama Attorney General William Pryor to a federal appeals court. Some felt that he was being excluded by his Catholic religious values. Or, as one advertisement put it, "Catholics need not apply."

Pryor's religious affiliations should be inconsequential to his possible role as a judge. Even if Pryor came to his conclusions because he is a Catholic, he, as well as those who support him and those who oppose him, must publicly debate those values as part of their nonsectarian, American philosophy, not based upon their religious beliefs, no matter how fervent.

Thus in a multicultural, religiously diverse society, religious values must be translated into general philosophical principles. All those who argue in the public square are obligated to state their principles and values in terms of our common philosophical heritage.

To oppose a person's personal religious conclusions is not to oppose his religion. The issue is not how a person arrives at his or her conclusions, but how she or he defends those conclusions in the nonsectarian language that forms the core of public debate in this democracy.

Arguing on religious grounds, we do not share philosophical assumptions and therefore the debate will never be truly joined. We will be speaking only to our co-religionists, while feigning a public debate.

Our politicians should know and understand that their personal lives and values remain their own, but their public debates must be based on the nonsectarian assumptions of philosophical argument that all citizens can accept.

RECOGNIZING JOHN M. CONNOLLY'S TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITY OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the twenty years of service that Ward 6 Alderman, John M. "Jack" Connolly, has selflessly given to the city of Somerville, Massachusetts.

Alderman Connolly was born and raised in Somerville and has become a pillar of the community and a champion of the people. Dedicated and hardworking, he has always had the best interests of Somerville at heart.

As a true public servant, Alderman Connolly has been a consistent supporter of affordable housing and was instrumental in bringing subway service to Somerville's Davis Square, which aided in revitalizing the city in the 1980s.

As a member of the Somerville community, Alderman Connolly is better known as "Jack." In addition to his position on the Board of Alderman, he has been a referee for youth soccer and basketball leagues and is also active in the local chapter of the Kiwanis Club. It should not be a surprise that the proceeds from a celebration of his service to the city are being donated to benefit a free performance series for Somerville's children.

Alderman Connolly is currently the Chair of the Board of Aldermen's Licenses & Permits Committee, and he has served twice as the Board's President and Vice President.

Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I recognize and honor Alderman Jack Connolly's efforts and achievements.

A TRIBUTE TO RODNEY C. GILLIS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in memory of Rodney C. Gillis, in recognition of his dedication, his heroism, and his ultimate sacrifice for his city and Nation.

Rodney was a man of purpose, integrity, intelligence, and compassion in both his professional and personal life. He was born on September 26, 1967 at St. Mary's Hospital in Brooklyn, New York and along with his beloved family, he grew up in the Crown Heights, Williamsburg, and Brownsville sections of Brooklyn.

Rodney had a distinguished academic career, graduating from the Park West High School in Manhattan and later, earning a Sports Management Certificate from St. John's University. Afterward, he studied at the Island Drafting and Technical College and received a diploma for studies in mechanical and electrical drafting and an Associate Degree in Computer Aided Drafting and Design. He also graduated with a diploma in Law, Police Science and Social Science from the New York City Police Department Police Academy.

In 1983, he began his professional career working as a manager at the Cooper Lantern

Restaurant and then at Gibbs and Cox Naval Architects and Marine Engineers Inc., as a C.A.D.D. Supervisor. Later, Rodney joined the New York City Police Department and was assigned to the 71st precinct. He later served as a Patrol Officer in the 79th precinct and in the Emergency Service Squad 8. Additionally, he served at the 77th precinct as the FTU Supervisor. He eventually returned to Emergency Service as a Sergeant, initially in squad 4, and finally in squad 8.

His life long dream became a reality the day he got assigned to the New York City Emergency Service Unit. He quickly excelled, becoming proficient in every aspect of his new job. From taking down a jumper from the Brooklyn Bridge to extricating a victim from a vehicle, Sergeant Gillis always exuded passion and dedication in his job.

He was certified as an Emergency Medical Technician, Hazardous Materials Technician, Emergency Psychological Technician, P.A.D.I. Certified Diver, Rescue Level I Repelling, Jaws of Life Rescue System Operator, and a New York City Special Weapons and Tactics Member and Supervisor. He was also a member of the Guardians Association, the Police Benevolent Association, the Honor Legion of the Police Department of the City of New York, and the Fraternal Order of Police and Sergeants Benevolent Association.

Rodney's hard work earned him numerous medals and honors including the Excellent Police Duty award seven times, a Meritorious Police Duty award twice, and a Commendation. He was also awarded, posthumously, the prestigious Medal of Honor.

Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Rodney C. Gillis served his city in exemplary fashion as a member of the New York City Police Department, and on September 11, 2001, he gave the ultimate sacrifice to New York and the Nation. As such, he is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly remarkable person.

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF NAPA'S PARAMEDIC PROGRAM

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 25, 2003

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Napa City Paramedic Program as it celebrates its 25th anniversary of service to the community.

In 1973 the standard level of care for emergency responders in Napa as in many communities throughout the nation, mirrored the advanced first aid training taught by the American Red Cross. Acknowledging a need for a higher standard of care, all Napa City Fire Department personnel were provided with EMT-1 training beginning in 1974. While this was seen as a positive first step, there was a recognized need for a full EMT/Paramedic Unit.

In 1976 the Napa City Council submitted Ballot Measure C to voters to authorize a tax levy for paramedic services. Measure C was approved by a 2 to 1 margin in November 1976.

The first four firefighters, Don Barstad, Steve Butter, Bob Putney and Kim Suenram