

TRIBUTE TO EARL STERNKE, MILWAUKEE, WI, IN RECOGNITION OF 40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE BOY SCOUTS

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Mr. Earl Sternke. Mr. Sternke is a model of service to his community, having provided leadership and mentoring to youth for over 40 years.

Mr. Sternke is a distinguished exemplar of the American spirit of generosity. A veteran, husband and father, Mr. Sternke has made a commitment to the Boy Scouts from the earliest days of parenting his own children. As a troop leader, he raised his two sons in Scouting, helping both achieve the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout. But his work did not stop there. He continued to lead troops long after his children were grown, training boys to follow the same Scout Oath that he lived every day of his life.

Mr. Sternke also contributed to the strength and development of the Boy Scout institution in innumerable other ways. As a trainer and training chairman, Mr. Sternke was responsible for helping many young Scouters become leaders. He helped design emblems, certificates and badges, some of which are still used by troops today. His award-winning design for the Boy's Life Display for the 1981 National Jamboree brought national attention to the Milwaukee Boy Scouts Council.

Throughout the period of his involvement, Mr. Sternke received numerous awards from the Boy Scouts. I am especially impressed that Mr. and Mrs. Sternke were awarded the Silver Beaver Award in 1975 as a tribute to their work together in training young Scouters. Clearly, these two provided a model of leadership that could inspire youth to dedicate themselves to family, community and country.

It is a distinct pleasure to offer my thanks to Mr. Sternke for a lifetime of service. He has been unselfish in volunteering his time, his experiences, his resources and his money to improve the community in which he lives. Our community and Nation are better places because of his work.

RECOGNIZING VICTOR MARCUS OF SAN FRANCISCO, CA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to join with my colleague Democratic Leader NANCY PELOSI to honor our friend, Victor Marcus, on the occasion of his 90th birthday.

Victor Marcus was born in 1915 in Berlin, Germany. He escaped Nazi Germany in 1936 and immigrated to America.

He is one of San Francisco's most prominent residents and has been president of a real estate firm, the Victor L. Marcus Company, for the past 52 years. He serves on numerous committees and boards and actively participates in a variety of civic and political

endeavors. His leadership and vision have no doubt strengthened his beloved home, San Francisco, California.

In 2003 Victor Marcus received the Distinguished Leadership Award from the Jewish Committee of San Francisco for his immeasurable contributions to San Francisco's business world, cultural institutions, and the Jewish Community. He has generously and enthusiastically supported the Jewish Community with particular expertise in issues relating to Israel, foreign affairs and diplomacy.

Victor Marcus is a connoisseur and patron of the arts and one of his greatest passions, music, is demonstrated by his support of the San Francisco Opera and Symphony. His loves in life are music, fine wines and wonderful food. He is the proud uncle of three nephews from South Africa who have traveled to the United States to celebrate this milestone with him.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, we join Victor Marcus's family and friends in congratulating him on his 90th birthday and extend our best wishes to him.

TRIBUTE TO YWCA OF ESSEX AND WEST HUDSON—CELEBRATING NINE DECADES OF EXCELLENCE

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize a valued institution in my Congressional district. For the past ninety years, the YWCA of Essex and West Hudson has been dedicated to the empowerment of women and girls as well as the elimination of racism. Founded at a time when women suffered through inhospitable working and living conditions, the YWCA of the USA was founded, in 1858, in order to fight for gender parity. The early pioneers of the organization realized that they could overcome racial and gender discrimination by banding together to form strong alliances of determined women.

Since 1914, the Essex and West Hudson affiliate of the YWCA has provided the highest quality in health and fitness, recreation, education, child development and social services programming. Over nine decades, it has evolved from offering camping activities to providing childhood development classes to pregnant and parenting teens. Currently, the Essex and West Hudson affiliate serves nearly 200 children in its after-school programs, over 500 children in its summer camps and over 200 birth through 5 year-olds in its early childhood education programs.

In commemoration of 90 years of service, on May 19, 2005, the YWCA of Essex and West Hudson will celebrate the grand opening of its new state-of-the-art building. This facility will house amenities such as a computer learning center and an Aquatics & Fitness Complex.

I salute the YWCA of Essex and West Hudson as they "celebrate nine decades of excellence" for their dedication to women, girls and the community at-large. I am proud to have this organization in my district and I wish them continued success in their future endeavors.

WHATEVER IT TAKES TO REBUILD ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Whatever It Takes To Build Act" with Representatives OWENS, ISRAEL and SERRANO of New York.

This legislation would remove a \$5 million cap placed on the Community Disaster Loan program that provides communities with lost tax revenues following disasters. This cap was added in 2000. Prior to 2000, no cap was in place and several communities received in excess of \$5 million from the Federal Government for lost tax revenues, to recover from disasters.

Right after 9/11, the President promised New York City that he would do whatever it takes to rebuild. While he and the Congress has provided billions in relief, much more still needs to be done to make New York City whole. The new GAO report shows that we are still suffering significant tax losses. Lack of this revenue forces New Yorkers to payout of their pockets again and again for the attacks of 9/11 or suffer the loss of essential services. New Yorkers should not be forced to bear this burden alone. That is why I am introducing the Whatever It Takes to Rebuild Act and I implore the Congress and the President to support this legislation. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

A TRIBUTE TO THE FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE OF PASADENA

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the First Church of the Nazarene of Pasadena, California. During the months of February and March, the First Church of the Nazarene of Pasadena will be celebrating its 100th Anniversary.

The church began in 1905 and was led by Founding Pastor Dr. John W. Goodwin with 54 members that met in each others' homes. As the congregation grew, the church moved to Mary Street in 1906, then Raymond Avenue, Mountain Street, and finally Sierra Madre Boulevard, where it resides today. Today the church has over 2,000 members, which includes a congregation with nine different cultural backgrounds.

First Church of the Nazarene of Pasadena had several Pastors, including Pastors J.W. Ellis, Earl G. Lee, H.B. London, Jr., Dr. Stephen Green, Dr. Jeff Crosno and the current Pastor, Jay Ahlemann. One of the church's notable members was James Dobson, Founder and Chairman of Focus on the Family, and his wife Shirley, who were members for over 30 years.

The church has many programs that serve the community. The Compassionate Ministries program consists of: Helping Hands—a food and clothing facility on the church campus, Church in the Park—service to the homeless on Sunday mornings, El Centro Trabajo—an

advocacy organization for day laborers, and a South Central Los Angeles food distribution center. Compassionate Ministries fed and clothed more than 22,000 people last year.

Other programs include PrimeTime which provides fellowship for seniors and Loveline, a phone ministry for homebound seniors. In His Image serves families of special needs children on a weekly basis, providing Sunday School classes, parent connections and support groups, respite events for the parents, an all-inclusive sports programs for the entire family and special events like the Special Olympics Unified Basketball event, San Gabriel Valley Region. Parent Education Seminars, Support Groups through the Recovery Ministries, Sunday School, Sunrise Preschool and Academy of the Arts are also among the many services that the First Church of the Nazarene of Pasadena offers to its members and the community.

I am proud to recognize the First Church of the Nazarene of Pasadena for its 100 years of offering a place of loving care and joyous worship to the people of the San Gabriel Valley and I ask all Members to join me in congratulating the congregation for their remarkable achievements.

IN MEMORY OF CAROL SEAVER,
MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and accomplishments of Carol Seaver. Ms. Seaver, a Milwaukee-area activist and advocate for victims of domestic abuse, enjoyed a life of service and compassion. She died February 10, 2005.

Born Carol Zagar, Ms. Seaver was raised on the south side of Milwaukee and went on to the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she met her husband, Ted Seaver. She was active in the civil rights struggle in other parts of the country, but moved back to Milwaukee in 1968, where she continued her education and focused her work on service to the elderly. She worked as the director for the Interfaith Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, serving senior citizens throughout Milwaukee, before working for the Milwaukee Women's Center.

At the Milwaukee Women's Center, Ms. Seaver was the founder and director of the Older Abused Women's Program, the first of its kind in the nation. The program, which offered counseling and support services to elderly women suffering from abuse by partners or caregivers, celebrated its 10th Anniversary in 2002. That same year, Ms. Seaver was honored with the National Sunshine Peace Award, presented in recognition of extraordinary efforts in the field of domestic violence.

In 2004, the Carol Seaver Suites at the Milwaukee Women's Center were dedicated in her honor, providing emergency housing for older or disabled women fleeing domestic abuse.

Friends and colleagues of Ms. Seaver credit her with enormous compassion and dedication to the cause of elder abuse. It saddens me to note the passing of such a committed and caring individual. I am honored to have known

Carol Seaver, and to have this opportunity to celebrate the many contributions she made to the lives of residents of the Fourth Congressional District.

HONORING BRIAN JAMES MCINNIS
FOR INNOVATIVE VOTING
PROJECT AT UC DAVIS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of Brian James McInnis, a student at the University of California, Davis, to increase student participation in the electoral process. In 2004 Brian McInnis conceived and coordinated with the Yolo County Clerk/Recorder, the first UC Davis Early Voting Satellite Station which had the effect of increasing student participation in the 2004 Presidential Election by 100 percent, resulting in 3,000 more students voting.

Brian took full responsibility for every aspect of the UC Davis Early Voting Project, was faultless with regard to dependability and fairness, and made the program so successful that early voting will be extended to other satellite locations.

Brian, who was reared in Marin County, California, has been enrolled at UC Davis since 2002, majoring in history and economics. He has been active in the Associated Students of UC Davis where he has served in numerous capacities, including Founder and Chair of the Associated Students of UC Davis Lobby Corps Program. Currently Brian is Director of External Affairs for ASUCD.

Nominated by UC Davis Chancellor Larry Vanderhoef, Brian was the honorable mention recipient of the 2005 USA Today's All-USA College Academic Team program which recognizes students who excel in leadership roles both on and off campus. Brian was also recently recognized as "Advocate of the Year" for his work with the California State Legislature and the University of California Board of Regents.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we commend Brian James McInnis for his outstanding record of community service and dedication to the democratic process, and who serves as an inspiration for all young people who may want to become more effectively involved in public service.

TRIBUTE TO ANTOINETTE "TONI"
DENISE WILLIAMS-MCCEARY

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today in memory of Antoinette Denise Williams-McCeary who was a life long resident of my Congressional district. Mrs. Williams-McCeary, lovingly known by friends and family as "Toni", was the third of 10 children and a mother of one.

In 1982, she began work in the financial services field. Unfortunately, that career came

to an abrupt halt after developing pulmonary sarcoidosis, a multi-system disorder that currently has no cure. Yet as the saying goes, "when one door closes another one opens". Instead of resigning in defeat, she became a champion of the less fortunate through volunteer work.

She served as coordinator of the Self Help and Resource Exchange (SHARE), a program that is engaged in self-help food distribution systems, economic development, community service and educational programs. Mrs. Williams-McCeary also gave of herself by feeding neighborhood children and assisting her church in various capacities.

Ms. Williams-McCeary passed away on April 9, 2000. Her family created the Antoinette Denise Williams-McCeary Foundation in order to carry on her legacy of giving. The organization's primary focus is to provide financial assistance to the National Sarcoidosis Resource Center which conducts research in hopes of finding a cure.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues here in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring Antoinette Denise Williams-McCeary, who in life and death continues to help others in need. I am proud to have had her in my Congressional district and wish her foundation never-ending success in its future endeavors.

9/11 CAN YOU HEAR ME NOW ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 21, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the 9/11 Can You Hear Me Now Act with Representatives CHRIS SHAYS of Connecticut, ANTHONY WEINER, MAJOR OWENS, and CAROLYN MCCARTHY of New York.

The attacks on the World Trade Center in 1993 and on September 11, 2001, exposed serious communication problems for the New York City Fire Department, FDNY. Since these attacks, there have been major efforts to improve the FDNY's communication system, but much more needs to be done.

As we all know New York City is repeatedly mentioned as a top terrorist target and the lack of a fully-functional communications system is a threat not only to FDNY and New York residents lives, but also to all those who visit there.

The terrorist attacks were not just attacks on New York City, but on the Nation. With New York as a continuing top terrorist target, the protection of New York City is becoming a national responsibility. Other cities with tall buildings throughout the country face the same challenges with their communication systems and will need the same upgrades. Improvements in New York will lay the groundwork for improvements to communications systems across the country.

Recognizing this need, the 9/11 Can You Hear Me Now Act instructs the Department of Homeland Security, DHS, to provide the FDNY with a communication system that must be capable of operating in all locations and under the circumstances we know firefighters face and will continue to face when responding to an emergency in New York City.

This bill would require a communication system that includes three components—radios,