

Over the decades, the North Ward Center expanded to include the Newark Business Training Institute, the North Ward Child Development Center, the Robert Treat Academy, and Casa Israel, a state-of-the-art wellness and medical center. The initiatives and services of these five institutions are widely recognized as among the finest, and the center has received many accolades over the years. Yet, true to the standards of its heart—Geno Baroni—the center has never wavered from its mission and founding principles, and it continues to celebrate the diversity of its people. The North Ward Center hosts “the society of Italians who celebrate St. Patrick’s Day” with prominent Italian-Americans honoring Irish-Americans, an annual Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. remembrance, and a Puerto Rican scholarship dinner recognizing four outstanding north ward students.

Geno Baroni was a many-faceted man, a gifted and passionate leader, a builder, a doer, and thoroughly committed to Christ’s message of social justice. The North Ward Center reflects this charismatic man and his life’s work. Msgr. Geno Baroni’s impression on the lives of those of us privileged to know him and those whose lives he touched through his work is indeed profound. As the North Ward Center honors this extraordinary man by celebrating his birthday, the final words in the Shaker hymn Lord of the Dance seem most fitting: “. . . they buried my body and they thought I’d gone, but I am the dance and the dance goes on.”

TRIBUTE TO THE SUN DIAL CHAPTER OF THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Sun Dial Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution on their 100th anniversary. The chapter has been organized in Ames, IA since October 7, 1907.

The Sun Dial Chapter is named in honor of one of the original members, Hattie Willey, who had a sun dial that belonged to a family ancestor who was a pastor of the Plymouth Colony. A duplicate of that original sun dial was marked in 1914 and is displayed in the Ames Cemetery.

Ada Hayden, one of the most notable members of the Sun Dial Chapter, received her doctorate from Iowa State University in 1918 and was the first woman to do so. Many founders of the chapter left a boundless impression on the community and the state of Iowa. These distinguished names include Adams, Agg, Knapp, Kellogg, Marston, Stanton, Tilden and Willey.

The early goals of the organization remain the same today. They include promoting historic preservation, education and patriotism. During the years of war and depression, Sun Dial collected money, clothing and other necessary items to give to the poor and send to the soldiers serving abroad. Today the chapter contributes to National Daughters of the American Revolution projects and gives an award annually to an outstanding ROTC student at Iowa State University.

Again, I congratulate the Sun Dial Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution on this historic anniversary. It is an honor to represent this historic chapter and her members in Congress, and I wish them an equally storied future.

HONORING JOYCE M. TAYLOR

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary accomplishments of Ms. Joyce M. Taylor. As she retires from an illustrious and dedicated career in the communications industry, we have the opportunity to reflect on her achievements and thank her for her years of service.

Joyce was born in Muskogee, Oklahoma. She graduated from the University of Oklahoma at Norman with a bachelor’s degree in journalism. From this early beginning, Joyce began her long career, traveling and working throughout the Nation, assuming leadership positions in some of our most influential communications companies.

Ms. Taylor first served as the public relations manager in Oklahoma City for Southwestern Bell Telephone. After that, she held a number of communications positions, which included assuming responsibilities in advertising, employee information, news relations, public policy development and federal relations. Her capacities have taken her from Oklahoma City to St. Louis to Washington, D.C. Finally, she came to California, during an important merger between SBC and Pacific Telesis.

At the time of the merger, Ms. Taylor was serving as the executive director of external affairs for SBC Communications, Inc. Her work during this delicate moment in the communications industry directly helped earn the support from many Bay Area community and consumer organizations for the merger. This resulted in Ms. Taylor’s appointment as AT&T’s Senior Vice President for External Affairs—Northern California.

During all of this time, and throughout her professional endeavors, Joyce has always contributed to her community. Joyce has used her extraordinary talents to contribute to a number of worthy causes. From the arts to education, from industry to our neighborhoods, Joyce has always given back. It is our great fortune that the 9th Congressional District and the greater Northern California Area became her community as she grew in her capacities at AT&T.

In April 1997, Joyce Taylor was appointed to oversee regulatory, legislative, governmental and external affairs activities for AT&T in Northern California. Continuing her natural enthusiasm and belief in charity and the growth of communities, Joyce has become integrally involved in many boards and organizations in the Greater Bay Area.

Joyce serves on the Board of Directors of the Bay Area Council, the Bay Area Economic Forum, First Tee of San Jose, the San Francisco School Alliance Foundation, the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, the Tech Museum of Innovation, United Way of the Bay Area, and Women’s Forum West. In addition, Ms. Taylor is a member of the Northwestern Regional Board of Operation Hope.

Dedicated to the arts and education, Ms. Taylor also serves on the Board of Trustees of the San Francisco Ballet and as a member of the Executive Campaign Advisory Board of the United Negro College Fund.

It certainly is not difficult to see how this remarkable woman has become such an invaluable part of our community.

On behalf of California’s 9th Congressional District, I would like to thank and applaud our beloved Joyce M. Taylor on the occasion of her retirement. I am sure that her contributions to our community, and the value that she brings to the young leaders following in her example, are only just beginning.

HONORING ROBERT E. BONNELL

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Robert E. Bonnell of Toledo, Ohio. Toledo has been called a community of families. Bob Bonnell, an esteemed citizen of that community, seemed to have been born to create and embody “Fireman Freddie, a friendly, caring, and wise man, who assumed a larger meaning as a loving father for all our community’s children. Bob’s vocation as a teacher and firefighter saved countless lives as children learned how to save themselves and the lives of their loved ones. They learned new lessons from a Santalike man who cared for them as he would his own children.

Robert E. Bonnell remains a legend in the Toledo Community for his dedication to his community as a firefighter and to the education of the youth of Toledo about the value of safety. Mr. Bonnell became the department’s first “Fireman Freddie” in 1973. It happened soon after the idea of a fire safety program—and the birth of Fireman Freddie—originated in 1972 when Mr. Bonnell was a ladder truck driver at Station 6 at Starr and Euclid avenues, where he seemed to have a special rapport with school groups who came to tour the firehouse. He was asked to start the educational program and thought it would be a six-month assignment. But Mr. Bonnell hadn’t stopped his two-schools-a-day, five-day-a-week visits since January 1973, he told The Blade in an interview in December 1980, just before he retired.

“To tell you the truth,” Mr. Bonnell said in a 1974 Toledo Blade article, “children understand more than you think they do. I never have to talk down to them. I just talk to them in the same way that I talk to adults. For some reason, it works.” By the time he retired, Mr. Bonnell talked to more than 125,000 elementary students in Toledo public and Catholic schools and the Washington Local school district about fire prevention and fire safety.

Robert E. Bonnell at age 80, passed away Monday, October 29, 2007 in St. Charles Mercy Hospital of congestive heart failure. He will be fondly remembered by the residents who recall being taught by the fireman about fire safety when they were in the fourth and sixth grades.

Mr. Bonnell joined the Toledo Fire Department in 1956 and then served for 25 years, most of them as the department’s “Fireman Freddie” until his retirement in 1981. During

his early retirement he worked as a funeral attendant for the Eggleston Meinert Pavley Funeral Home in Oregon. "He was a good old country boy, and he liked kids," retired Toledo Deputy Fire Chief Robert Schwanzl said. "He was a storyteller and he had a special knack for telling stories and talking to children. And he was very dependable."

Born in Weston, West Virginia, on February 22, 1927, to Onal and Genevieve (Beamer) Bonnell, Mr. Bonnell, graduated from Lewis County High School in 1945, when he enlisted in the Army. During the last months of World War II, he was a staff sergeant in Germany. After his honorable discharge in 1947, he returned to West Virginia and later that year married his high school sweetheart, JoAnne Teter. A short time later, the couple settled in Toledo.

In his free time, Mr. Bonnell, who in retirement lived in Northwood and most recently in Walbridge, enjoyed collecting cuff links, of which he had 4,000, and marbles, of which he had more than 50,000. He also liked visiting garage sales, hunting, and fishing. He loved spending time with his family and being "Pudding Papa" to his great-grandson.

"Dad had a zest for life," his son, Gregory, said "He loved people, loved his family, and he loved to have a good time. [And] he was a hard worker and a dedicated individual." Mr. Bonnell was a funeral attendant for the Eggleston Meinert Pavley Funeral Home in Oregon during his early retirement years.

His memberships included the Arthur Daly American Legion Post, the National Rifle Association, Paragon Lotus Lodge F&AM, Zenobia Shrine (Stewards, Hillbillies and Wood County) VFW Post #2510 and 40-8 Society of the American Legion, and the Scottish Rite, all in Toledo. In 1988, he received the Meritorious Service Award from the Scottish Rite where he had life membership.

Surviving are his loving wife, JoAnne, with whom he just celebrated 60 years of marriage (June 28, 1947); children, Gregory (Mary) Bonnell and Beverly (Kevin) Sawyer; grandchildren, Angie and Brianne Sawyer, Rob, Mike, Adam and Brian Bonnell and great-grandchildren, Kleiston and Ria. Bob was preceded in death by his parents, his two brothers and a sister.

He will be missed by the Sisters of Notre Dame especially Sister Mary Theresa. He will be sorely missed and fondly remembered by all the lives he touched in our Toledo community. The world was made a better place by the life of Bob Bonnell. May his works inspire others who follow in his golden steps.

TRIBUTE TO VAN HARDEN AND BONNIE LUCAS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Van Harden and Bonnie Lucas of the "Van and Bonnie in the Morning" radio show. Van and Bonnie are Iowa radio icons and winners of multiple Marconi Awards, including the 2007 "Personality of the Year" among medium-sized market radio stations.

Van Harden was raised in Adel, Iowa, where he developed a deep love for small Iowa communities and dreamt of being on the radio when he grew up. His dream became a reality after graduating from Drake University in 1973, where he majored in broadcast journalism and got his first on-air job with KDLS-AM in Perry, Iowa. After jobs in Tulsa, Oklahoma at KWEN-FM and KRNT-AM in Des Moines, he became the host of the morning program at 1040 WHO-AM in Des Moines in 1986.

Van's current co-host, Bonnie Lucas of Monroe, Iowa, has been with the WHO morning program for 13 years. Bonnie's first job in radio began in 1979 at KRNT, where she was a former co-worker of Van's. In the seven and a half years Bonnie spent at KRNT, she worked in the traffic department, served as secretary to the General Manager, worked as the Assistant Sales Manager and finally went into sales for KRNT. After Bonnie started her own small fitness center business and worked for a communications company, she tried out for Van's co-host position in August 1994 and has been with the program ever since.

Van and Bonnie are up every morning by 3:30 a.m. and on the air at 4:59 a.m. Their creativity, family-friendly humor and enthusiasm have made WHO's morning show the most listened to in the state. They do a phenomenal job at connecting with Iowans and starting their day off with a smile.

Van and Bonnie provide a valuable service to the state of Iowa, and I am honored to recognize this most recent accomplishment. I wish Van, Bonnie and all of their coworkers at WHO the best of luck and continued success.

HONORING JOE MORGAN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2007

Ms. LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the legendary Joe Morgan as the Board of Directors of Alameda County Youth Development, Inc. (ACYD) come together in the 9th Congressional District to pay tribute to Mr. Morgan and celebrate his impressive legacy.

Many are aware of Joe Morgan's incredible athletic accomplishments. His life has served as an inspiration to our youth, especially in communities of color, where Mr. Morgan's example has served as a symbol of the power of perseverance in overcoming obstacles and living up to one's great potential.

Even though Mr. Morgan has made significant contributions to our world in his capacities as a role model through sports, his contributions to our community as a steward of our youth programs and charitable causes has created an equally positive impact on thousands of people. Mr. Morgan has been one of the most generous and committed supporters of youth programs in Oakland, California for over four decades.

Joe Morgan was born in Bonham, Texas in 1944. At the age of 10, he moved to Oakland with his family, and has called the East Bay his home ever since. Mr. Morgan is a true product and member of the Oakland family.

He attended Brookfield Elementary, Elmhurst Junior High, and graduated with recognition for his academic and athletic prowess from Oakland's Castlemont High School in 1961. Mr. Morgan went on to receive an Associate's Degree from Merritt College in 1963.

After graduating from Merritt College, Joe Morgan quickly rose to prominence as he launched one of the greatest careers in Major League Baseball. In 1963, Mr. Morgan signed his first professional contract with the Houston Colt 45's. A year later, he emerged as a key member of the Houston Astros, eventually going on to be named the National League Rookie of the Year in 1965. He remained with the Astros until 1972, when he was traded to the Cincinnati Reds, one of the all-time great teams that was given the moniker "The Big Red Machine" after the franchise strung together a series of World Series Championships during the 1970s, an accomplishment that continues to be recognized as one of the great achievements in American sports history.

After completing a successful career in professional baseball that eventually led to Mr. Morgan being inducted in the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame, he returned to school. This act of personal determination exemplified his unwavering dedication to education and personal growth. Mr. Morgan received a B.S. in Physical Education from California State University, Hayward, just as he had promised his mother he would do many years ago.

These tremendous accomplishments, however, were just one aspect of Mr. Morgan's capacities as an extraordinary person. Fame and fortune were not satisfying for Mr. Morgan if he was not able to use his experience and energy to give back to his community. Mr. Morgan has always displayed incredible dedication to his family, an unwavering love for children, and a personal concern with those around him and his community. Mr. Morgan continues to actively support the Young America Baseball Program and the Oakland Unified School District Sports Program, doing what he can to ensure that those institutions have the resources necessary to serve the youth of our community.

Harnessing so much compassion for his community, Mr. Morgan was compelled to create the Joe Morgan Youth Foundation. His Foundation provides many much needed services for our youth, including scholarships, financial support programs, and innovative community initiatives.

This year, in recognition of his extraordinary life, accomplishments, and dedication to our community, ACYD has presented Mr. Morgan with its first George P. Scotlan Outstanding Citizen Award. Mr. Morgan is certainly one of Oakland's most outstanding citizens, and an excellent choice for such a prestigious honor.

On behalf of the residents of California's 9th Congressional District, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Mr. Morgan as he receives due recognition for his contributions. The community of Oakland, especially those impassioned about the well being and future of our youth, salute Joe Morgan today, and we look forward to witnessing his lasting and positive impact on the lives of our children.