

WHAT YOU'LL FIND INSIDE:

- Awards winners share comments
- Say "Yes" to CHIP at new Willy-West Co-op location
- Meet our Backyard Advocate: Tracy Washington Stewart

Also at the Awards Event . . . in addition to the award winners featured inside, here are two other awards that were presented:



CSW Board Member Debby Meyer presented the Open Door Award to Mary Prescott of Raven Software.



Recognition for CHIP fundraising—which reached \$100,000 last year—went to Anya Firszt and Lynn Olson from Willy Street Co-op.

BUILDING SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC EQUITY AND A HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT

WWW.COMMUNITYSHARES.COM | 608.256.1066

BackyardNEWS

A PUBLICATION OF COMMUNITY SHARES OF WISCONSIN

FALL 2010

2010 AWARDS EVENT RECOGNIZES COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS

"Actually I'm a very shy person." If you know something about Caryl Terrell's numerous accomplishments—and her passion in speaking out about environmental protection—you'll know why that comment of hers at the Community Shares of Wisconsin (CSW) Awards Event was received with laughter.

Caryl's next line not only described her, it perfectly described all three award winners:

“ But when you have a great cause, there's nothing like standing up for it. ”

Below are some of the comments from the three accomplished award winners at our recent event, all talking about the great causes they work for.



Shahla Werner (Director) and award winner Caryl Terrell, from the Sierra Club Foundation.

Caryl Terrell — Winner of the Liesl Blockstein Community Leadership Award

The Sierra Club Foundation, John Muir Chapter, nominated Caryl for her 40-year career on behalf of environmental protection.

I see lots of friends and acquaintances and peers here tonight who do as much as I do or more—so receiving this award is very humbling. We are all passionate about our causes, we're all dedicated, and we're all enthusiastic about our work. We all take heart from Margaret Mead's quote: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

Among those committed citizens I should thank is my husband Bob, who likes to say that whenever someone asks me to do something, instead of saying "no" I say "no problem." All of you here tonight know that you're inspired by other people to do the work you do. Early on I was inspired by Mary Lou Munts, Nan Cheney, Becky

Young, Connie Threinen, and Kathleen Falk. So let's remember to thank our mentors.

My work at the Sierra Club has not only been fulfilling, it's been a continuing learning experience. And CSW has been a great home for us and for so many groups that are committed to environmental work and social and economic equity.

AWARDS EVENT RECOGNIZES COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS [continued]



Mary Beth Schlaghech, award winner Barbara Munson, and Judy Miner of the Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice.

Barbara Munson — Winner of the Sally Sunde Family Advocate Award

The Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice nominated Barbara for her work as an artist-educator, an arts advocate, and her leadership on Act 250, recently signed into law.

As an artist, and a supporter of the art of storytelling, I'll share a story with you about this legislation—Act 250, the Race-Based “Indian” Nicknames, Logos, and Mascots Law. It took 17 years of hard work by the Wisconsin Indian Education Association (WIEA).

Along the way we had marvelous allies. While we native people led this struggle, we've been helped by an amazing coalition of citizens. Among them are the two champions who sponsored the bill: Rep. Jim Soletski, who is here tonight, and Sen. Spencer Coggs. They deserve a great deal of thanks for

what they did in getting this bill passed. With all of us working together, it clearly shows the best spirit of Wisconsin in action.

I also want to thank my husband Robert, the love of my life. I thank my daughter Chris—whose complaint about her school logo nearly 20 years ago was what led me into advocacy on this issue. And I thank my granddaughter Rio who's my inspiration because, in the end, the work we do is for the young. As we say in the Oneida Thanksgiving address, “We give thanks to our Grandmother the Moon, we work hand in hand with her, for the future faces that are coming.”



Award winner Erin O'Brien and Becky Abel (Executive Director), from Wisconsin Wetlands Association.

Erin O'Brien — Winner of the Linda Sundberg Civil Rights Defender Award

Wisconsin Wetlands Association nominated Erin for her work in helping concerned citizens raise their voices to help preserve our state's wetlands.

One of our mantras at Wisconsin Wetlands is: no matter who you are or where you live, wetlands affect your life. Wetlands make our water cleaner, whether we're talking about drinking water or places to fish and swim. Wetlands provide habitat for plants and animals—many of them endangered—and protect us from floods. We work hard to enable individuals, organizations, and community leaders to protect these wetland functions which, in turn, will improve their own communities.

I like to think that Linda Sundberg, for whom this award is named, would embrace a conservation group being named a Civil Rights Defender. Clean drinking water, protection from floods, and the ability to swim in or fish from healthy waters are basic human rights. And participating in decisions affecting these resources is a civil right . . . in the same way that any democratic process is a civil right.

Because wetlands store and slowly release rain and snowmelt, you only need to look as far back as the 2008 floods to see how loss of wetlands affects communities—and conversely how their preservation can improve our communities. For me and for many other people, wetlands are a quality of life issue and a justice issue. Our environment doesn't have a voice unless we provide one.

SUPPORT CHIP AT NEW WILLY WEST STORE



You can not only shop at the new Willy Street Co-op location in Middleton—**6825 University Avenue**—you can CHIP there and support all of the 66 member groups that are part of Community Shares/Community CHIP.

When you CHIP at either Co-op location, 1% is added onto your bill (for example, a dime for a \$10 purchase). But the dimes add up. Last year the original east-side location of the Co-op raised over \$100,000 to support CHIP nonprofits. Our member groups appreciate it each time you say “yes” to CHIP.

BACKYARD ADVOCATE



Tracy Washington Stewart
Tracy Stewart gives financial gifts to Community Shares of Wisconsin (CSW) and also donates her time as a member of the Board, serving as one of CSW's Community Representatives.

Tracy along with her children Malcolm (balancing a stuffed animal on his head) and Marissa.

What's your philosophy on giving?

“What you give comes back to you 100-fold.” That's what my grandmother, Mary Pickford Rogers, used to say about donating either time or money, and it's still one of the reasons I give to nonprofits today.

I look back on so many things—people who've helped me and given me their time, or people who've helped my friends or family. My work with CSW is one way I repay that generosity.

Why give to CSW in particular?

CSW's commitment to social justice nonprofits and advocacy nonprofits is really important. Many people like to give to direct-service organizations. But advocacy and social justice work is also critical since it focuses on the larger picture. By helping to change the framework, these groups can prevent social problems from occurring.

My belief is that as advocacy and social justice work addresses the root causes of today's serious social ills, we may someday see that direct-service groups have an opportunity to change their focus.

I know that CSW is a good steward of the funds it receives. And I've seen how Community Shares' nonprofits and volunteers make a difference in both small and significant ways. After all, we make progress one positive change at a time!

OUR MEMBER NONPROFITS

- 1000 Friends of Wisconsin
- ABC for Health
- ACLU Foundation of Wisconsin
- Arts Wisconsin
- Bayview Foundation
- Bicycle Federation of Wisconsin
- Center for Family Policy and Practice
- Center for Media and Democracy
- Chrysalis
- Citizens for Safe Water Around Badger
- Citizens Utility Board
- Clean Wisconsin
- Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups
- Common Wealth Development
- Community Action on Latin America
- Community GroundWorks
- Dane County TimeBank
- Disability Rights Wisconsin
- Fair Housing Center of Greater Madison
- Fair Wisconsin Education Fund
- Freedom Inc.
- Friends of Wisconsin State Parks
- Gathering Waters Conservancy
- Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) for Safe Schools
- Grassroots Empowerment Project
- Grassroots Leadership College
- Housing Initiatives
- Interfaith Coalition for Worker Justice
- League of Women Voters of Wisconsin Education Fund
- Legal Action of Wisconsin
- Madison Area Community Land Trust
- Madison Audubon Society
- Midwest Environmental Advocates
- Madison HOURS *
- NARAL Pro-Choice Wisconsin Foundation
- New Harvest Foundation
- Nuestro Mundo Inc.
- OutReach
- Physicians for Social Responsibility – Wisconsin
- The Progressive
- Project Home
- Rape Crisis Center
- REAP Food Group
- River Alliance of Wisconsin
- Sierra Club Foundation, John Muir Chapter
- Sustain Dane
- Tenant Resource Center
- UNIDOS Against Domestic Violence
- Wheels for Winners *
- Wisconsin Apprentice Organizers Project
- Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault
- Wisconsin Community Fund
- Wisconsin Council of the Blind and Visually Impaired
- Wisconsin Council on Children and Families
- Wisconsin Democracy Campaign
- Wisconsin Early Childhood Association
- Wisconsin Family Ties
- Wisconsin League of Conservation Voters
- Wisconsin Literacy
- Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice
- Wisconsin Wetlands Association
- Wisconsin Women's Network
- Women in Transition
- Working Capital for Community Needs
- WORT 89.9 FM Community Radio

* CHIP-only groups

To read more about each recipient, go to our website at www.communityshares.com