

Thanksgiving and Christmas time, donating money and services to the Community Chest, now United Way, Red Cross, American Field Service, American Cancer Society, Alzheimer's, Salvation Army, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Special Olympics, AIDS, Abused Women's Centers, Children's Crisis Centers, Meals on Wheels and many other organizations which have needed our help over the years. Omega Nu also provides clothes for destitute families, dental and eye care for young people and contributes money, services, and materials to all levels of the educational system. Many chapters also give scholarships to high school graduates, college students and reentry students to help finance their college education.

Each year, the 13 chapters of Omega Nu compile a journal of all the activities we have taken part in. The number of organizations which have benefited from their years of philanthropic commitment is unbelievable. In the last 50 years, we have given back to the community over \$4,100,000. Besides dollars, the members have also contributed countless hours of their own time and a vast amount of energy, fulfilling the needs of those less fortunate.

It is my pleasure to recognize such a fine organization that has worked so very hard to make a difference in the community in which they serve.

A TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA O'BRIEN,
THE ARGO-SUMMIT CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE VOLUNTEER OF THE
YEAR

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 4, 1997

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to an outstanding woman who has dedicated much time and effort in bettering the lives of her fellow citizens—Ms. Patricia O'Brien.

Ms. O'Brien's efforts will also be recognized Feb. 21, 1997 by the Argo-Summit Chamber of Commerce as she is the organization's Volunteer of the Year.

A resident of Summit, IL, Ms. O'Brien has been active in collecting food, especially in her place of work, United Parcel Service, where she is a truck driver. Three years ago, she began a food drive at UPS, and in 1996, Ms. O'Brien and her co-workers collected more than 1 ton of food. Last summer, she helped collect and deliver more than 10,000 pounds of extra food from the Taste of Chicago festival, and regularly retrieves leftovers from the McCormick Place Convention Center for area food pantries and homeless shelters.

Ms. O'Brien has received the Casey Award from UPS and the Tom Shay Award from the International Brotherhood of Teamsters for her community service.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the selfless efforts of Patricia O'Brien and extend to her my best wishes for continued success in the future.

THANK YOU TERRY WATSON

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 4, 1997

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, in 1776, 13 colonies declared their independence to form a new nation. They put their convictions to pen and the Declaration of Independence was signed on July 4, 1776. Two hundred years later, we continue to celebrate the birth of our Nation. Parades, picnics, marching bands, and barbecues are arranged all over the country. However, the Fourth of July weekend would not be complete without fireworks.

Terry Watson, president of the Bay City Fireworks Festival, founded the festival in 1983 and has contributed to a Fourth of July fireworks display that astounds and astonishes. Terry took a well deserved 2-year break from his hard work and commitment to entertaining Bay City's families. The festival went on without him. However, they experienced financial trouble. The citizens requested that Terry return to revitalize the festival. Terry was elected president in the fall of 1995. Writing new bylaws and forming the board of directors, Terry returned full swing with his commitment to improving and refining the festival operations.

Through several fundraisers, the generous support of Tom LaPorte, president and CEO of Mortgage America, the overwhelming support of the community and the dedication of Terry Watson and the volunteer board of directors, the Bay City Fireworks Festival, retired the nearly \$120,000 debt, and the festival continues to thrive and grow, showcasing Bay City and all of mid-Michigan. Plans are already under way and the work has begun for the 1997 Bay City Fireworks Festival. The citizens of Bay City can look forward to a spectacular display because Terry's motto is "Bigger is Better."

Terry is not only committed to entertaining the people of Bay City but, as a Bay City police officer, he has protected and served the citizens of Bay City for 25 years. He also served as the chairperson of the Fraternal Order of Police Fireworks Programs for 22 years.

I urge my colleagues to join me in sending congratulations and thanks to Terry for his commitment to help fellow Michiganders celebrate our Nation's birthday. He has provided people of all ages enjoyment and awe.

TRIBUTE TO HERB CAEN

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 4, 1997

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, the relationship between elected officials and the media has historically been one of love and hate. Those of us in the public eye realize that by entering into the arena we are subject to criticism and commentary from the media. After you have spent time in public life you learn to accept the fact that there are going to be those who disagree with you on a variety of issues. Some commentators can give fair, and well-reasoned arguments for why they

have a difference of opinion, and some choose to just throw mud. Herb Caen never threw mud.

On Saturday, February 1, the people of northern California lost one of its most beloved figures. Herb Caen was more than just a columnist, he was a towering figure in the city where he wrote for the San Francisco Chronicle for almost 60 years. Every morning thousands of people in the bay area and beyond awoke to read Herb's unique blend of local news, gossip, jokes, one-liners, and political commentary. In May 1996, Herb was awarded a special Pulitzer Prize for his "extraordinary and continuing contribution as a voice and a conscience of his city." In addition to his column for the Chronicle, he also wrote magazine articles, and 12 books including, "One Man's San Francisco" and "Don't Call it Frisco."

In fact, the people of San Francisco admired him so much that upon his public announcement last summer that he had inoperable lung cancer, the city of San Francisco dedicated a 3.2-mile promenade stretching from China Basin to Fisherman's Wharf as Herb Caen Way. Besides being an entertaining writer, and political watchdog, Herb was a crusader, who used the power of the pen to tackle injustice, and to fight for what he believed in. Many credit Herb with saving the cable cars, and preventing the Golden Gate Park from being paved over by a massive highway project. But more than anything, it was the way in which Herb lived his life that he will be most remembered for. Whether it was dancing the night away to a jazz band, or just strolling along his beloved waterfront, he always had a good time. I am sure that I am joined by all of northern California in saying that we will miss Herb Caen.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE CHARLES
P. HOWARD, JR.

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 4, 1997

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay a special tribute to the late Charles P. Howard, Jr., a lawyer and a great civil rights activist in Baltimore, MD.

Charles Preston Howard, Jr. was born in Hampton, VA, the son of Charles Preston Howard, Sr., an attorney, and Louisa Maude Lewis. The family moved to Des Moines, IA, when he was a child, where he graduated from high school in 1939.

While in high school, Mr. Howard and his two brothers, Joe and Lonnie, founded the Iowa Observer, a neighborhood newspaper that grew into a network of four weekly papers that were also published in Indiana and Wisconsin. The three youths were greatly influenced by their great-uncle, Henry McNeal Turner, a turn-of-the-century African Methodist Episcopal bishop whose newspaper, the Voice of the People, crusaded against segregation.

Charles Howard, Jr. began studying journalism at Drake College in 1940 and transferred to Howard University, where he entered an Army training program for journalists. As a reporter for the Army Times during World War II, Mr. Howard displayed his disdain and outrage for segregation which would mark his entire