

a myriad of people. We gather this noon to pay our last earthly respect and tokens of love to Adolph Weil, Jr.

To paraphrase the words of King David at the time of his sorrow: "Know ye not that there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in our community?"

Bucks was a gentleman and a gentle man with few peers.

First and foremost was Jean, the love of his life. Indeed, a more beautiful love affair is not found even in the pages of a novel. Their lives were intertwined always. Now we pray that her heart will be filled with beautiful memories to bring her a measure of comfort.

And his family * * * Children who not only loved him but also respected him. Children who admired him and learned from him the highest degree of ethics and their responsibility to the community. They and we all were taught by him that living is giving.

You, his grandchildren * * * Do you know what a sparkle you put in his eyes every time he mentioned your name? And what a sense of pride you put into his heart because you loved him? His life was fuller because you were * * * because you wanted to be * * * such an integral part of his life. Your love of him only testifies to his loving kindness and beauty of character.

Bucks was a devoted and caring brother, working so closely these many years with his brother, and he was a devoted and caring brother to his sisters. He was a brother, a friend, a partner.

So close, too, to all his family members, wherever they lived and always enjoying being with them on special occasions.

You, gathered here this noon, testify to a warmth of friendship, wider than any embrace could hold, and a respect for a man who has earned that respect throughout his life.

So much has been said and printed these past few days about what Bucks has done for the community and his many achievements. For Bucks this was what was supposed to be as he gauged his life by the words of the poet, Browning: "Ah, but a man's reach should exceed his grasp, or what's a heaven for?"

Bucks lived by the teachings of his faith and by the words of the prophet, Micah, he quoted so often: "And now, O Israel, what does the Lord require of thee? Only to do justice, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God."

Forgive us please, Bucks, for all of this praise. It is never your wish or your style. Please understand that it helps us to alleviate some of our grief and helps to heal our broken hearts.

We are all richer because Bucks was among us, and we are all the poorer because his life on earth has been taken from us.

Yet, after the tears of separation have been shed, and after the shock of the sudden loss has been absorbed, there is a void to be filled, and we, we alone, can in some measure, large or small, fill that void, the psalmist has told us: "We bring our years to an end as a tale that is told"

The story of Bucks' life is one of love, friendship, service, leadership and concern for others. We can honour that memory best by giving of ourselves as he gave of himself, of learning to love without conditions, of extending our hands in true warmth of friendship, of acts of loving kindness that that is commonly called "charity." For Bucks it was always an act of loving kindness.

Bucks wrote his book of life in beautiful verse. Now it is the task of the living to live up to the standards he set and take up the challenge. His soul is immortal, his memory eternal, is love without earthly bounds.

"Good night, sweet prince. And flights of angels sing thee to thy rest."

REPUBLICAN MEDICARE BILL
WILL COST SENIORS \$6.8 BILLION
IN EXTRA DOCTOR CHARGES

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 29, 1996

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, the Republican Medicare bill will cost the Nation's seniors an extra \$6.8 billion per year in doctor's bills. This is the same rate of balance billing we had before 1985, the year that Congress started to encourage doctors not to charge seniors extra. A return to this previous level of balance billing will cost the Nation's seniors at least \$6.8 billion extra per year.

The Republican Medicare bill allows doctors to set up fee-for-service plans with no limit on how much can be charged. It allows HMO's to extra bill for the basic package of Medicare services. It permits specialists outside of a beneficiary's managed care plan to charge unlimited amounts. Those who elect the Medical Savings Account option will also lose all protection against the-sky's-the-limit billings. The Republican plan reduces payments for traditional Medicare programs to the point doctors will switch to new systems that allow unlimited fees.

Beginning in 1985, Congress passed a series of laws designed to encourage doctors to accept as payment in full the amount proposed by Medicare. As a result, Medicare beneficiary liability for excessive doctors' bills fell from \$2.8 billion in 1985 to \$1.3 billion in 1992. In current 1995 dollars, that is a decline from \$5.5 billion to \$1.5 billion. When you factor in the growth in Medicare and assume a return to the old ratio of balance billing, you get \$8.3 billion in extra charges. Subtract the current \$1.5 billion in extra billing, and you have an additional cost of \$6.8 billion from the Republican plan.

Seniors have been paying less out of pocket for medical bills in recent years, because assignment rates—the number of doctors who accept the Medicare fee as payment in full—has gone up, from 70 percent in 1986 to 92 percent in 1993. Balance billing—charging seniors more than the Medicare fee schedule—has also declined dramatically. When a senior goes to a doctor, he or she doesn't have to pay more than 20 percent—the coinsurance—of a set fee. There are no extra charges.

The Republican bill changes all that.

The GOP returns to the rate of extra charges existing in 1985. This will increase costs to seniors \$6.8 billion per year, or an increase of \$187 per senior in out of pocket expenses. The Republicans will also charge seniors \$120 more per year in part B premiums. Put the two together, and seniors will see an increase over the Clinton budget of \$614 a couple.

Managed care should be encouraged. Medicare currently offers many choices of managed care plans to seniors. We should not return to wallet biopsies and price gouging.

Whatever Medicare changes are made, we should preserve the limits on doctors' extra charges.

TRIBUTE TO MAE POWELL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 29, 1996

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, Mae Powell of Brooklyn is an exceptional human being and educator. Born in North Carolina, Mae has resided in New York most of her life. She is a graduate of Brooklyn College, and currently serves as a special education teacher in district 13. Mae has been an educator for over 30 years. An innovative educator, she subscribes to the shared learning approach.

Mae's colleagues have elected her to serve as a U.F.T. union delegate and as district screening committee member for the selection of school administrators. A crowning achievement in Mae's portfolio is her dedication to fostering the entrepreneurial abilities of young people.

Mae is the mother of three children and four grandchildren, and embodies the attributes of academic achievement, community service and professional dedication. I am pleased to recognize her selfless efforts.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO LEONARD
FALCE

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 29, 1996

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, a picture captures a moment in time, whether traumatic or exhilarating, momentous or trivial. A single photograph can cause emotional heartbreak or outfelt joy. A compilation of photographs can create a history for our family, or our country. Photographers who take these pictures work tireless hours to capture just the right moment.

I rise today to pay tribute to one such photographer. Leonard Falce who has spent 39 years with the Bay City Times as staff and chief photographer and photo editor, is retiring this month. Leonard has had a career filled with award-winning photography and has had a strong impact on aspiring photographers.

Born in Brooklyn and raised in the Bronx and Hell's Kitchen area's of New York City, Leonard served his country for 4 years in the U.S. Army. He began his exemplary photography career as a photographer's assistant with the Tommy Weber Studio in New York. Following a stint with the United Press International Newspictures in New York City, he was appointed as the newspapers manager in Madison, WI. While in Wisconsin, he covered the State capitol and many celebrities, including poet Carl Sandburg, Architect Frank Lloyd Wright, and controversial Senator Joe McCarthy.

His professionalism and keen eye ignited his passion for creating prize-winning images. One of his most notable photographs was while he worked in Fort Wayne, IN, for Carl Hartup at the Fort Wayne News Sentinel, in 1955. He photographed a virtually unknown musician, Elvis Presley.

In 1957, Leonard moved to the Bay City Times where he has earned several recognitions for his exceptional work. Shortly after he started, Leonard and the newsroom staff were