

Irene is known as the ombudsman of the Glen Forest community and is often called the mayor of Glen Forest. She knows all of the children's names, she can tell you who lives where, and she knows everyone from the surrounding neighborhoods that work with the Glen Forest Civic Association. Irene's love for people has helped Glen Forest remain a tight knit community where the people look out for one another and work together to make the neighborhood a better place to live. She has been the keeper of the oral history of Glen Forest for more than 30 years and has passed on neighborhood legends to successive generations of children.

Irene is and has been involved in every aspect of the Glen Forest community. She has been active in community affairs since the early 1960's. For 15 years, she held the community rummage sale that raised money for the neighborhood pool. People would donate items for the sale throughout the year and Irene would sort and price them for the annual event. She has also run the summer program for Glen Forest for 28 years. This duty includes the opening and closing pool picnics for which she buys and prepares 100 chickens. Irene has always done this because she believes it brings the community together. This is also why she has worked tirelessly to improve the community pool for the past 25 years.

Irene has mowed the pool lawn for the past 24 years and she is the oldest licensed pool operator in Fairfax County. Irene has maintained the pool by painting the bath houses inside and out every year as well as tarring and repairing the roof. Many in the community do not even know that she has done all of this, even though she hates to swim. Irene was also a mainstay of the Garden Club for the 20 years of its existence. Every year, no matter the weather, she sold Christmas wreaths to raise funds for the Garden Club.

Irene's many accomplishments include work outside the Glen Forest Civic Association. She has worked with all of the Mason District supervisors to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors for the past 30 years, including myself when I held that position from 1979 to 1991. Irene often appeared before the Board of Supervisors to testify about issues affecting the community. She has held the Membership Chair for the Civic Association for the past 10 years and has worked ceaselessly to keep the Glen Forest neighborhood a nice place to raise children. Irene helped keep Glen Forest Street from becoming a through street from Route 7 to Carlyn Springs Road so parents did not have to worry about speeding traffic when their children played outside. She also rid the neighborhood of a pornographic book store by going down to the store to confront the owners and customers.

I know my colleagues will join me in saluting a woman who has made her neighborhood a beautiful and better place to live. Irene Shuman is a remarkable individual who has an energetic spirit that inspires those around her to become involved. I share the celebration of her 80th birthday and her lifetime of civic achievements.

IN RECOGNITION OF OCTOBER AS
NATIONAL MEDICAL LIBRARIANS
MONTH

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize October as National Medical Librarians Month, and to honor the more than 5,000 medical librarians working in hospitals, academic health centers and libraries across the country for their role in improving the health of all Americans by increasing access to health care information.

As a former librarian, I can appreciate the specialized skills needed in today's electronic information age to access, filter and evaluate the most up-to-date medical information for the medical community and for the general public. The ability of medical librarians to maneuver quickly through the wealth of health care information on the Internet, and to identify the most credible, relevant and appropriate sources of information for each request, underscores the increasing importance medical librarians will play in the future.

Studies show information provided by medical librarians improves patient outcomes. Physicians report a reduction in mortality, hospital admissions, surgery, and hospital acquired infections due to information obtained by medical librarians. They say information from the medical librarians allows them to make more accurate diagnoses, reduce unnecessary tests, select more appropriate drugs, and give accurate and current information and advice to their patients.

As we celebrate National Medical Librarians Month, I also honor the longstanding partnership between the medical library community and the National Library of Medicine [NLM] at the National Institutes of Health. For over a century, medical librarians have benefitted from the extraordinary work being done at NLM, the world's premiere medical library. Through access to NLM's state-of-the-art medical databases and telemedicine project sites, medical librarians are able to provide doctors and patients, often in underserved rural and urban areas, with the most current and accurate health-related information.

Mr. Speaker, as we move into the 21st century, it is clear that the advancement of telecommunications technology will continue to revolutionize the delivery of health care in America. I believe by being wired to the world, medical librarians will lead the health care industry in this revolution.

During the month of October, I ask all Members to join me in saluting this county's medical librarians for their role in keeping America better informed about health care and encouraging more active participants in the health status of this country.

HONORING BENNY MARTIN

HON. VAN HILLEARY

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. HILLEARY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the man whom Country Music

Magazine has called the "World's Greatest Fiddle Player," Mr. Benny Martin.

Benny recently added another honor to his very long list of impressive accomplishments when his hometown of Sparta, TN, dedicated new city limit signs which designate the town as the "Home of Benny Martin." When you look at everything Benny Martin has done over the course of his distinguished musical career, it's easy to see why Sparta is so eager to call him a native son.

Benny began his musical career in his childhood more than 50 years ago, and he became a member of the Grand Ole Opry in 1946. Since then, he has performed in person on at least three continents on some of the world's most prestigious stages, including Buckingham Palace in London, Carnegie Hall in New York, and of course, the Grand Ole Opry House in Nashville. Benny has also performed on many television shows, including "The Steve Lawrence Show" and Dick Clark's "American Bandstand."

But perhaps the most important impact Benny Martin has had is on the musical heritage of the great State of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I think my home State of Tennessee has the richest musical heritage of any State in our Union. From old-time mountain bluegrass in east Tennessee to the soulful blues of west Tennessee, from the Grand Ole Opry in Music City to Elvis Presley in Memphis, Tennessee's musical roots run deep.

Mr. Speaker, Benny Martin and his fiddle have a very prominent place in that rich history, and I'm proud to call him a Tennessean, a constituent, and like the residents of Sparta, I'm also proud to call him a native son.

SISTER JOHN MARIE SAMAHA
HONORED FOR COMMUNITY
SERVICE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 9, 1997

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to commend the work of Sister John Marie Samaha of the Sisters of the Holy Family of Nazareth.

Sister Samaha entered the Sisters of the Holy Family on July 2, 1943. Sister Samaha began her ministry at a day care center, and soon afterward served as religious instruction teacher at various locations in northern California. In 1960, she became supervisor of religious instruction for the Archdiocese of San Francisco. In 1967 she became supervisor of religious education for the Sister of the Holy Family. From 1970 to 1975, Sister Samaha served as the superior of Holy Family Convent in San Jose, and from 1975 to 1979 she was the vice president of the Sisters of the Holy Family Community.

Sister Samaha is currently pastoral associate at St. Joseph Parish in Mission San Jose. She has cared for the sick and visited the terminally ill. She has planned activities for seniors, and helped families deal with the death of loved ones. She has encouraged a spirit of family among parishioners, and assisted the needy with food, rent, and bill payments.

Through groups like the Tri-City Homeless Coalition, the Centerville Free Dining Room, Second Chance, SAVE, and CAUS, Sister