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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of Illinois House of Representatives
3 wish to congratulate Mr. Florian J. Barbi on receiving the Man
4 of the Year Award presented by the Italo-American Soccer and
5 Cultural Club, the "Maroons"; and

6 WHEREAS, Mr. Barbi is the chairman of the board, president,
7 and CEO of First Nations Bank of Wheaton (FNBW), FNBW-Bank
8 Chicago, and Bank of Bourbonnais; and

9 WHEREAS, Mr. Barbi was born in Fornaci Di Barga near Lucca,
10 Italy; he came to the United States with his parents when he
11 was a child; the family eventually settled in Elmwood Park,
12 where Mr. Barbi's mother and father, Anna Maria and Luigi,
13 owned and operated an Italian deli know as Alpine Food Store,
14 which flourished under their proprietorship for 45 years; and

15 WHEREAS, Mr. Barbi went to work at the family business at
16 an early age, helping his parents after school and on weekends;
17 after graduating from Benedictine University in 1970, he
18 embarked on what would become a highly successful career in
19 banking, holding positions at Capitol Bank in Chicago and later
20 at First State Bank of Chicago; he headed up lending
21 departments at those institutions, actively assisting many
22 Italian Americans, some of them immigrants and
23 first-generation customers; and

24 WHEREAS, Mr. Barbi is treasurer of the Edison Park Chamber
25 of Commerce and also sits on the Board of Directors of the
26 Illinois Banking Association; he is the third vice president of
27 the Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans, a council
28 member of Casa Italia, and other various Italian-American
29 organizations, including the Maroon's Soccer Club; he was also
30 co-recipient of the Joseph Cardinal Bernadin Humanitarian
31 Award in 2002; and

1 WHEREAS, Mr. Barbi and his wife, Dora, live in Deerfield
2 and have three children; and

3 WHEREAS, The Man of the Year Award will be presented to Mr.
4 Barbi on April 17, 2004 by the Maroons Italian American Soccer
5 and Cultural Club; the Maroons Club sponsors players and teams
6 and recognizes their outstanding play by awarding scholarships
7 to various universities and colleges in Illinois; their players
8 have been named National Collegiate Players of the Year,
9 members of Olympic Teams, National Youth Teams, Midwest
10 All-Star Teams, and Pan American National Teams; and

11 WHEREAS, The Maroons Club also works to advance the
12 interest of the local Italian American community and to provide
13 the opportunity for children of all nationalities to play a
14 sport loved by millions; members perform volunteer work as
15 coaches in many communities in the Chicagoland area; therefore,
16 be it

17 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
18 NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
19 congratulate Florian J. Barbi on being honored with the 2004
20 Man of the Year Award by the Italo-American Soccer and Cultural
21 Club, the "Maroons", and recognize his unswerving devotion to
22 the people of the Italian American community; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
24 presented to Florian J. Barbi as a token of our respect.