

RECOGNIZING BROTHER TIMOTHY DIENER FOR HIS OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF NAPA COUNTY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2003

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Brother Timothy Diener for his outstanding commitment to serving the Napa Valley community in my home state of California.

June 2003 will mark the 75th anniversary (diamond jubilee) of Brother Timothy's entry into the De La Salle Christian Brothers.

Brother Timothy, a lifelong Catholic and the son of German immigrants, was born in 1910 in New Jersey. In 1918 his family moved to Los Angeles, where he graduated from Cathedral High School. He joined the Christian Brothers in 1928 and made two significant discoveries, wine and teaching.

At the age of 25, Brother Timothy became heavily involved in the new Christian Brothers winery. Officially his title was "wine chemist" but it was common to find him performing such additional duties as digging ditches, being the hose dragger, scrubbing the tank, driving the trucks and operating the cement mixer. Half a century of hard work and excellence have since passed and today Brother Timothy is considered a pioneer in the Napa Valley wine industry and is treasured as a master vintner.

Much like the spectacular wine he makes, Brother Timothy gets better with age. Though he turns 93 in November, Brother Timothy maintains an enthusiasm for life and a deep dedication to serving others. Not surprisingly, he continues to serve the cause of Christian Brothers' education as an honorary founding member of the Lasallian Education Fund. He uses his position to assist the underserved youth of our community.

Mr. Speaker, Brother Timothy represents much more than Napa's wine roots or our communities commitment to promoting education. Quite simply, Brother Timothy represents the heart of the Napa Valley. His life has been a legacy of hard work, faith and passionate living. For all of these reasons and countless more, it is most appropriate that we honor Brother Timothy Diener at this time and congratulate him on 75 years with the De La Salle Christian Brothers.

CONGRATULATIONS TO
NORTHWEST INDIANA EDUCATORS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2003

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and enthusiasm that I wish to congratulate an exceptional group of Northwest Indiana educators. The Indiana State Teacher's Association will present these outstanding individuals with the 2002–2003 Crystal Apple Award for excellence in education during a banquet on Wednesday, May 7, 2003 in Schererville, Indiana. This year's recipients are: Darlene M. Vassil, Linda Johnson, Estelle

Becke, Judith Thayer, Renee Kouris, James Crist, and Sherry Peters.

Darlene Vassil is a 22-year veteran of art education, and she effectively uses this wealth of experience to enrich the lives of her students. She was awarded a grant from the Indiana Department of Education to develop an electronic portfolio program so that her students can learn to enhance creativity through technology. Darlene's enthusiasm and dedication for her work led to her involvement in the Fine Arts and Music Education (FAME) organization. She was instrumental in the organization of the Northwest Indiana FAME Festivals Imaginarium for the past two years, and has been responsible for various art displays from other cultures being brought to her community.

Linda Johnson has served in the Hanover Community School Corporation for 28 years, and her dedication and professionalism is unsurpassed. She has taught students at various grade levels throughout the elementary and intermediate system. She currently teaches fifth grade at Lincoln Elementary and will retire after the school year is completed. Known for her intelligence and wisdom, Linda is a source of advice for both her students and her peers. Her devotion and humor will be greatly missed.

Estelle Becke began her career as an elementary school teacher in the Highland school system, and currently teaches seventh grade geography. She is a bold, strong, and loyal person who has a passion for both her subject area and her craft. Estelle has sponsored her school's Geography Bee, and has also emceed the school-wide event. She has spent her career teaching her students tolerance for those from diverse cultures and backgrounds.

Judith Thayer has dedicated 30 of her 34½ years of teaching to the Lake Central School Corporation. She currently teaches fourth grade at Kolling Elementary School in St. John, Indiana. Her efforts and excellence in the classroom have undoubtedly contributed to the status of Kolling as one of Indiana's Four Star Schools. Although Judith has a principal's certificate, she chooses to be in the classroom because of her love for the students.

Renee Kouris has touched the lives not only of her theater students, but also the lives of those who watch their performances. Her compassion for her students and her desire to include every student in her productions has made Renee one of the most popular teachers at Munster High School. Last year, her theater class participated in a state-wide competition and placed second for the original work that they wrote, produced, and presented. Her ability to challenge students and faculty while remaining humorous, compassionate, and sincere makes her an excellent choice for the 2002–2003 Crystal Apple Award.

James Crist is known for his ability to connect with students in a way that few other teachers are able to duplicate. He directs the Pupils Reached by Individual Direct Education (PRIDE) program, which reaches out to students who have difficulty adapting to standard teaching methods. He teaches them to take pride in themselves and their work. James promotes fairness, acceptance, and stability to students who otherwise would have given up on their education. His adaptability to meet the needs of his students is remarkable, and we are deeply indebted to him for his dedication to his pupils.

Sherry Peters uses her work ethic, dedication, and creative spirit to improve her teach-

ing methods and effectiveness. She does not simply rely on her lesson plans from previous years, but she constantly updates her materials and evaluates her methods in an attempt to reach her pupils. She has the ability to understand her students and connect with them in the classroom, and she uses this ability to take them far beyond their previous limitations. She uses creative strategies to enrich the lives of her students, and the seniors at Lowell High School have elected her the Most Influential Teacher on many occasions.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these tremendous educators as they accept the 2002–2003 Crystal Apple Award from the Indiana State Teacher's Association. Their tireless dedication to enriching the minds of today's youth is invaluable, and I am proud to represent these outstanding teachers in Congress.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF
MIKE REINERI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Mr. Mike Reineri—family man, friend, and outstanding radio personality.

Mr. Reineri had a long and distinguished career within the broadcasting industry. He was sworn into the Radio & Television Broadcasting Hall of Fame in November of 2001, and throughout his career, he served in every aspect of broadcasting in cities across the country.

Mr. Reineri's first major appearance on radio was in 1959 with WFVG in North Carolina. He stayed there for about a year and soon moved to WKIK, where he did a rock-n-roll show from 7–11 pm at a remote studio at the Piggy-Park Drive-In in Raleigh. His highly entertaining style of broadcasting drew crowds from across the Carolinas.

Besides his natural ability to entertain, Mr. Reineri also possessed a kind and generous heart. While broadcasting in Cleveland, he created and promoted the very successful "Shoes for Kids" program that provides underprivileged and homeless children with footwear. This annual campaign grows stronger every year, and continues to assist Cleveland's neediest children.

Wherever he's lived, Mr. Reineri always sought to be of service to others. He was deeply dedicated and civically active in Miami. For more than two decades, Mr. Reineri served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Boys and Girls Club of Miami and was awarded the Service to Youth Award and Service Bar. In 1991 he was awarded the Easter Seals Man of the Year Award in Miami and the Miami Power Squadron Award for Outstanding Contribution to Safe Boating.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Mr. Mike Reineri. I extend my sincerest condolences to his family and friends, especially to wife Barbara. Mr. Reineri's exceptional broadcasting talents and achievements will be known for generations to come. Moreover, his exceptional sense of kindness and compassion for others—through word and deed—will live on forever.

HONORING ROBERT B. HILLE

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2003

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend of mine and of the Bergen County community, Robert B. Hille, who is about to become the 105th President of the Bergen County Bar Association. Robert Hille and I began our careers together as young lawyers in the Bergen County Bar Association. It was there that I got to see firsthand what a remarkable person Robert Hille is. He has been and continues to be an extraordinarily gifted attorney and loving husband of Leslie and father of Erin and Tara.

Throughout the course of his career, Robert Hille has handled himself in a highly professional and dignified manner that has won him the great admiration and respect of his peers. His election as the 105th Bergen County Bar Association President is a reflection of the high esteem that not only I have for him, but that everyone in the Bergen County legal community has for him.

Robert Hille is a man who strives to do what is right and just in his profession. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to him and his family on his election as President of this most prestigious organization, I wish him the very best.

SUPPORT FOR H.R. 832, PERMANENT PARTNERS IMMIGRATION ACT

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2003

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 832, the Permanent Partners Immigration Act would allow US citizens and lawful permanent residents, who are in a permanent partnership, to sponsor their partner for immigration purposes in the same way that opposite-sex spouses now can. This proposal would also hold these partners to the same legal commitments of a legal marriage, in that if a person is found to have entered into a fraudulent permanent partnership for the purpose of obtaining a visa for another person, they will be subject to the same five year maximum imprisonment, or \$250,000 maximum fine, or both.

According to the Human Rights Campaign, this legislation would affect the status of thousands of couples who currently are separated or risk permanent separation from the ones they love. Fourteen countries—including Belgium, Canada, Denmark, France, Israel, the United Kingdom and South Africa—recognize same sex partnerships for purposes of immigration.

I have co-sponsored H.R. 832 because I strongly believe in its purposes and I am confident that its text will be fine tuned as it goes through the legislative process. I called upon the Congressional leadership to begin that process.

HONORING NINE NEW MEMBERS OF THE INDIANA FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2003

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great joy and enthusiasm that I wish to congratulate the nine new members of the Indiana Football Hall of Fame. The 2003 honorees for this prestigious designation include: Louie (Lou) Karras, Mike Jennings, Bob Johnson, Larry L. Johnson, Keith A. Johnson, John Forchetti, Tom Herbert, Roderick G. Moore II, and George Pappas. These men have shown a commitment to high school and collegiate football programs across Northwest Indiana, and they will be honored at a reception on May 18, 2003 in Merrillville, Indiana.

Mr. Speaker, Lou Karras graduated from Gary Emerson High School in 1945 after earning All-State honors for three years. He went on to have an outstanding career at Purdue University from 1946–1950. As a senior, he was chosen as the Most Valuable Player and was selected to play in the East-West Game, the Hula Bowl, and in the Chicago All-Star game against the Philadelphia Eagles. He started for the Washington Redskins as a rookie before an eye injury cut his career short. Lou's mother is the only woman inducted into the National Football League Hall of Fame for raising three NFL players: Lou Karras, Alex Karras, and Ted Karras. After his playing career, Lou served as President of the Purdue Alumni Association in Lake County, Indiana. He also presided as the Democratic City Chairman in Gary, Indiana, as well as President of the Gary City Common Council.

Mike Jennings attended Gary Wirt High School and excelled in football, basketball, and track. He graduated in 1957 having earned All-City, All-Conference, and All-State honors. He went on to attend Southwestern Missouri University, where he was a four-year letter winner and a three year starter as a full-back and linebacker. He also attended Texas A&M, where he honed his skills under the legendary coach Paul "Bear" Bryant. After his playing career, Mike became the head coach at Chesterton High School, where he amassed a record of 95–81–1 in 18 seasons.

Bob Johnson was an outstanding football player for Valparaiso High School until his graduation in 1976. He was named the Most Valuable Player in 1975, and was named to the Duneland All-Conference Team, the All-Area Team, and the All-State Team in 1974 and 1975. Bob's excellence on the field also earned him a position on the North-South All Star Team in 1976. After high school, Bob attended Manchester College, where he was named to the All-Conference Team in 1978, 1979, and 1980. He was also named an NAIA All-American in 1980, and was named the Most Valuable Player for that season.

Larry L. Johnson was a standout at Munster High School in football, wrestling, and track. By the time he graduated in 1970, he had been named the captain of his football and wrestling team. He was named to the All-Conference Team in football, as well as the 1st Team All-State. He also played in the North-South All-Star game. He attended the University of Michigan, where he was a four-year

letterman and was awarded the Arthur Robinson Award for Most Outstanding Student Athlete on the football squad. In 1975 he was awarded the prestigious Fielding Yost Award.

Keith A. Johnson attended Munster High School and was a three-year letterman. He was awarded All-Star honors in 1971 as a defensive back while leading his team as a captain. He went on to attend the University of Michigan, where he was a three-year letterman at wide receiver. His team was named the Big Ten Conference Co-Champion in 1973–1974, and he was a participant in the Orange Bowl on New Year's Day in 1976.

John Forchetti has been the team physician for Chesterton High School for over 37 years. He graduated from Villanova University in 1958 and Jefferson Medical School in 1962. He served as a medical doctor for the United States Navy from 1963 to 1965, when he began his career as the Trojan's team physician.

Tom Herbert graduated from Gary's Lou Wallace High School in 1965 and went on to attend Ball State University. Considered the dean of Big Ten officials, Tom has been with the prestigious conference for 25 years, and has officiated in ten bowl games. His most recent game was the Holiday Bowl in San Diego on December 27, 2002.

Roderick Moore has spent his career as an athletic trainer with the Valparaiso community. He was the athletic trainer for all of the high schools and junior high schools in Valparaiso from 1972–1976. He was associated with the 1975 State Championship Team and the 1985 State Runner-up Team. He is currently the head athletic trainer for his alma mater, Valparaiso University, and was a charter member of the Indiana Athletic Trainers Association.

George Pappas played high school football for Hammond High School and was twice selected as an All-State player. In 1960, George was chosen as a High School All-American. He played on two undefeated teams, and in four years his teams lost a total of two games. He was named the Most Outstanding Lineman in 1959 and 1960. George went on to attend Purdue University, where he was selected by his teammates as the Most Valuable Player and Outstanding Freshman Lineman. After his playing career, George became a Graduate Assistant at Purdue from 1965–1966. He was an assistant coach at North Central High School in 1969, and he became the head coach at North Central in 1975. During his 17 years as head coach, George compiled an impressive record of 126–53.

Mr. Speaker, at this time I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating these nine men for their achievements within the Indiana football system. Their success serves as an inspiration to those involved in Indiana athletics, and our youth can be proud to have them as role models after whom to pattern their careers.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF EDWARD JOHN WOJNIAK, SR.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 1, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Edward John