

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF CAREY HIGH SCHOOL FOR WINNING THE DIVISION VI STATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, it is with a great deal of pride that I rise to pay a very special tribute to an outstanding high school football team in Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. The young men of the Carey High School football team have represented their school ably on their way to becoming the Champions of the Division VI State Football Championship tournament. The Carey Blue Devils overcame the challenges of intense competition on the path to reach the championship playoffs, capping off an outstanding season with their noteworthy performance.

In pursuing the State Championship, the Carey Blue Devils defeated their outstanding competitors to win the state football title. The Blue Devils played an impressive final game that highlighted the teamwork they have demonstrated throughout their trip to the playoffs. Each member of this very special team has shown the individual effort that their sport requires for a successful team result. As a direct consequence of their hard work and dedication, both on and off the field, they achieved an impressive season record that brought pride to their community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to the Carey High School football team. On behalf of the people of the Fifth District of Ohio, I am proud to recognize this great achievement.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF GREGORY RONALD "RON" HERRING, SR.

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Gregory Ronald "Ron" Herring, Sr. Ron spent his life dedicated to his family and the people of the Northern Neck. He was the kind of person who never met a stranger.

Ron graduated from Hargrave Military Academy in 1968 and went on to apprentice and graduate from Newport News Ship Building in 1972. He met the love of his life, Linda Lee, and they were married on March 14, 1970. Together they started the Home Crafters in 1987 where they erected more than 300 homes and completed countless renovations.

Throughout his life, Ron was very involved with the Morattico Baptist Church, the Northumberland County Republican Committee, the Northern Neck Home Builders Association, and the Northumberland County school system. Ron was also an avid outdoorsman with a deep love for the Northern Neck's waters. He enjoyed spending his time fishing, boating, and advocating for commercial and sport fishermen.

Ron is survived by his wife and sweetheart, Linda; sister, Georgena Herring Strawderman; daughters, Angela (Shawn) Clarke and Sara

Bishop; son, Greg (Shannon) Herring; grandchildren Madison, Bobby and Jacob Clarke, Luke and McKenna Dooley, and Danielle Thompson.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me and countless others as we recognize the life of Gregory Ronald Herring, Sr.

RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT VETERAN SUICIDE

HON. BARRY MOORE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Madam Speaker, today I would like to bring to your attention Operation Iron Ruck, an event led by the University of Alabama and Auburn University's Student Veteran Associations to raise awareness of the critical issue of veteran suicide. Operation Iron Ruck is held every year ahead of the Iron Bowl, the classic football game where the Auburn University Tigers face off against the University of Alabama Crimson Tide.

Unfortunately, each day, twenty-two veterans and active-duty service members take their lives. To raise awareness of this tragedy, Operation Iron Ruck participants hike 151 miles from Tuscaloosa, Alabama, all the way to Auburn. Participants carry twenty-two pounds of gear to represent each of those fallen warfighters.

Once at Auburn, the items inside the rucks are then donated to Alabama State Veteran homes and to Three Hots and A Cot, a non-profit organization committed to securing housing for veterans in need. Additionally, over \$5,000 was raised this year to further support these organizations and other support groups, such as Mission 22 and the student veterans' associations of both universities.

Madam Speaker, we owe it to every American who has ever worn a uniform in military service of our great nation to honor their sacrifices and ensure that they never face a scenario where they falsely believe their last option is to tragically take their own life. As a country, may we renew our dedication to these men and women and care for those who have put their own lives on the line for our liberty and safety. Let this commemoration forever be preserved in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD of the United States, and may the world never forget the sacrifices of these brave men and women.

HONORING MARTHA BARRA

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Congressman MIKE THOMPSON in recognition of the 80th birthday of Martha Barra and her lifetime of work building the Barra family wine business of Mendocino County into an industry leader in sustainable, organic wine production.

Born on December 14, 1941, Martha's career in the wine industry began in 1980, when she married the late Charlie Barra, a trail-

blazer in Mendocino County's early wine industry. Under the stewardship of Martha and Charlie Barra, Barra of Mendocino and Girasole Vineyards broke new ground, setting the standard for ecologically friendly wine grape growing and wine making techniques, and becoming leaders in Mendocino County's nascent environmentally conscious 'green' wine industry.

Martha Barra learned the wine business from the inside out, exploring ecologically conscious agriculture and production methods long before these practices were well known. She went on to directly-manage the winery's organic certification process herself for nearly 30 years. Today, all of the grapes grown on the 325 acre Barra vineyard in Mendocino County's inland valley are 100 percent certified organic. Thanks to her pioneering efforts in eco-friendly agriculture, close to 25 percent of the vineyards in Mendocino County are also certified organic.

Barra of Mendocino and Girasole Vineyards remains an independent, family-owned and operated business under Martha Barra's leadership. As the matriarch of a multi-talented family, Barra employed the skills of her adult children to continue to elevate the business. Today, her son and daughter assist her in growing nine different varietals, producing and marketing two wine brands, operating a 2.8 million gallon custom crush facility, and running a uniquely charming events center located along Highway 101.

Originally designed to look like an inverted wine glass, the 5,000 square foot Barra Winery Event Center hosts private events enjoyed by both Mendocino County residents and visitors from near and far. The Barra Winery Event Center reflects Martha Barra's community-minded values by also providing a uniquely beautiful space for fundraising opportunities to support local nonprofits, and her BARRA of Mendocino donates to a range of charitable organizations, with a special dedication toward causes of promoting and supporting the needs of children, cancer research, awareness, and patient support and improving our local community.

In the face of changing and challenging times including the COVID-19 pandemic, Martha Barra has led the family business to continue to prosper, offering COVID-safe wine tasting to guests at their winery, as well as virtual tasting events and wine distribution in 35 states and several countries.

Martha Barra currently spends most of her time overseeing the vineyard operations, doing local tastings and events, working with the winemakers to set flavor profiles, and managing the organic certification processes. At wine events, she is known fondly for handing out shiny stickers of bees, representing her commitment to the importance of sustainable agriculture. From learning the intricacies of organic wine production, to food and wine pairing, studying architecture and remodeling houses, Martha Barra is a person of many talents.

Martha Barra's enduring commitment to protecting the environment and the people of Mendocino County, while also producing premier, award-winning wine, is remarkable and a benefit to the region. Madam Speaker, please join us in recognizing Martha Barra for her many contributions and wishing her a wonderful birthday.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FAMILY TREE CLINIC

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the staff, volunteers and patients of Family Tree Clinic on its 50th anniversary of service to the Saint Paul and Minneapolis communities. As a nonprofit community clinic in the Twin Cities metropolitan area, Family Tree provides education and high-quality, affordable, and affirming health care centered on each person they serve.

With its deep roots in Saint Paul, Family Tree began in 1971 when community volunteers and health care workers came together to fill a gap in access to reproductive health care that was brought to light by a neighborhood needs assessment. Family Tree responded by offering non-judgmental and patient-centered care, regardless of an individual's ability to pay. Early on, Family Tree mostly served students from five nearby colleges. Over the years, it has grown to reach people throughout the Upper Midwest.

Family Tree is a leading reproductive and sexual health clinic that has strengthened its services to vulnerable and marginalized populations throughout its five decades of service. It operates the Minnesota Family Planning and STD Hotline, which was established by the Minnesota Department of Health in 1978. Through the hotline, Family Tree provides reliable and accurate medical information and education across Minnesota. Family Tree's health education program in schools reaches more than 15,000 students and parents each year. In 2004, Family Tree pioneered a new health education program—still the only program like it in the U.S.—that provides free, comprehensive sexual health education and advocacy services to 800 people each year in Minnesota who are Deaf, DeafBlind, DeafDisabled, Hard of Hearing, and LateDeafened. Its creation of the LGBTQ Health Access Initiative in 2009 increased Family Tree's percentage of patients who are LGBTQ from 9 percent to 60 percent. Family Tree also partners with the University of Minnesota to train medical students in LGBTQ-inclusive health care services.

Today, Family Tree has more than 35 staff members and 50 volunteers who reach over 22,000 people per year through its many programs and services. With the growth of the clinic and increased demand for comprehensive health care, Family Tree Clinic kicked off its next 50 years of service by recently moving into a new clinic and education center in Minneapolis. The new building provides space for

more exam rooms and staff, continued expansion of community programs, the addition of telehealth capabilities, and the potential to serve an additional 10,000 patients each year.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Family Tree Clinic's caring and steadfast staff and volunteers—as well of the patients they serve—on the 50th anniversary of the clinic's success at cultivating a healthy community through comprehensive sexual health care and education.

LIFE AND LEGACY OF HON. GREG HOBBS

HON. JOE NEGUSE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember the life of Justice Greg Hobbs who we lost on Monday, November 29th.

As a former Supreme Court Justice in Colorado, Justice Hobbs was a mentor to countless Coloradans, our state's preeminent authority on water law and relied on by many for his expertise and leadership.

He was caring and compassionate, a friend to many and a vibrant member of our community.

The impact of his work will continue to be felt throughout the state of Colorado for years to come, and his legacy will not soon be forgotten.

My thoughts and prayers are with Emily, Bonnie and Dan and all of Justice Hobbs family and friends, and the community that loved him.

This week and in the weeks to come we will mourn his passing, remember his life and be inspired by his wisdom and leadership.

RECOGNIZING THE ARCHER CENTER'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I rise along with my colleague, Rep. COLIN ALLRED, to recognize the Archer Center at The University of Texas System and The University of Texas at Dallas on the occasion of its 20th anniversary.

In 2001, Bill Archer of Houston, Texas, retired from the United States House of Representatives (TX-07) where he had served for 30 years, including a six-year tenure as Chairman of the U.S. House Ways and Means

Committee. Immediately upon his retirement, Congressman Archer and his long-time chief of staff, Don Carlson, established the Archer Center and the Bill Archer Fellowship Program. The University of Texas at Dallas, which is in our congressional districts, is the academic home for the Archer Center.

As the Washington, D.C., campus of The University of Texas System, the Archer Center provides talented undergraduate, graduate, and medical students from across the U.T. System's thirteen academic and health institutions with the opportunity to live, learn, and intern in the nation's capital.

The Archer Fellowship Program is a unique academic and experiential learning program that introduces highly accomplished students from the State of Texas to the federal policy-making process. Archer Fellows spend a transformative semester interning for a variety of public and private organizations including the White House, Congress, and the U.S. Supreme Court. More than 1,500 students have participated in the Archer Center's semester-long and summer programs in the past two decades. Over the years and at present, we have each hosted Archer Fellows in our offices. We have even hired Archer Fellow alumni to join our official staffs.

The Archer Fellowship continues to elevate the reputation of the U.T. System and its students. It has served as a springboard for graduate and professional careers at prestigious universities and medical centers such as Harvard University, Yale University, and the University of Oxford, as well as virtually every U.T. institution. The program has also enabled students to enter high-impact careers in the public and private sector. Archer Fellows have been awarded many distinguished scholarships, including the Harry S. Truman Scholarship, the Marshall Scholarship, the Rhodes Scholarship, the Schwarzman Scholarship, and the Fulbright Scholarship.

Today, Archer Fellow alumni continue Congressman Archer's legacy of public service by working in all branches of state, federal, and local government, and by serving in the military. These young people represent the very best of North Texas and there is no doubt some future members of Congress among them.

As the Archer Center celebrates its twentieth anniversary, we wish to express our gratitude to Congressman Archer and Don Carlson for their vision and enduring support for Texas students. The Center's growth and continued success is fueled by the dedication of the U.T. System leadership, including Chancellor J.B. Milliken, the Board of Regents, and U.T. Dallas President Richard Benson, and steadfast supporters and alumni of the Archer Center.

We send our best wishes to the Archer Center on this important milestone.