

HONORING ROB MC LIN ON HIS RETIREMENT

(Mr. MESSMER of Indiana was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. MESSMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a Hoosier leader and a man whose service to our community has had a great impact on all of Indiana and the healthcare industry of our country. After 34 fruitful years, Mr. Rob McLin will retire in January from Good Samaritan Hospital in Vincennes, Indiana, the hospital in which he was born.

Over the years, Rob has shown great leadership at every level he has worked, including 15 years as president and CEO.

His tenure brought some of the most transformative advancements in Good Samaritan history, including the Beacon Project, the Gibault Memorial Tower construction, implementation of the Epic medical records system, creation of the hospital's EMS program, expansion of the Family Health Center, and establishment of a residency program that now educates new physicians in southern Indiana.

Rob has led the hospital through immense challenges, including the disastrous COVID-19 pandemic. He is a well-respected healthcare advocate, having served as the chair of the Indiana Hospital Association in 2020; and this year receiving the distinguished service award, which is one of the highest honors in Indiana healthcare.

Rob retires, leaving not only his many accomplishments but also a legacy of compassion, excellence, and commitment to the people who he served. I congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement and wish him many happy adventures with his wife, Angela, and their children and grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Rob for his great service to our community.

HONORING ROCKPORT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS

Mr. MESSMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary group of young, Eighth District Hoosier artists from Indiana's Rockport Elementary School whose handmade Christmas ornaments are beautifully representing our great State at this year's National Christmas Tree Lighting Festival.

Each year, students from across the country are chosen to design Christmas tree ornaments that reflect the beauty and character of their home State.

This year, Rockport Elementary students in my district created wonderful ornaments that celebrate the spirit of Indiana, with some ornaments honoring our proud agricultural heritage and others displaying our State bird, the ruby red northern cardinal; and our State flower, the elegant peony.

Their artwork showcases everything from the Indy 500 race to our perpetual rolling cornfields and even pays tribute to Abraham Lincoln's boyhood home. These students just didn't create deco-

rations, but they captured the spirit of our Hoosier State for the whole Nation to admire.

When I landed in Washington, D.C., this week, I went straight from the airport to visit our special State tree nearby the White House Christmas tree. I was so proud to see the artistry of our students, and I am inspired by their talent and creativity.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate every student who contributed to this wonderful display, as well as the teachers and families who encouraged their education and talents. Rockport Elementary has made Indiana proud, and I am honored to recognize their achievements here today.

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REMEMBERING RICHARD BARBER, JR.

(Mr. LATIMER of New York was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to a remarkable man, a pillar of the community, and a devoted family man. Richard Joseph Barber, Jr., Esq., affectionately known as Dick, passed away on December 11. Dick's journey was one marked by dedication, service, and an unwavering commitment to the betterment of those around him.

A graduate of Archbishop Stepinac High School, Dick went on to further his education at St. Michael's College in Vermont, followed by St. John's Law School, which launched his career in the law.

Beyond the courtroom, Dick was a successful businessman, owning establishments such as the Coachman and Harbor Marine, which served as testaments to his entrepreneurial spirit and business acumen.

Dick's contributions went beyond law and business. He proudly served his country as a member of the U.S. Marine Corps, exhibiting a profound sense of duty. His dedication to duty and service was further exemplified through his attainment of numerous degrees and certifications in the New York State firefighting and hazmat world, ensuring that his community remained a safer place for all for over 60 years.

Left to cherish his memory are his beloved wife, Marilyn; his son, Richard III, and wife, Elaine, and their son, Richard IV; as well as his daughter, Deborah Rees, and her children, Nicole and Kimberly. Dick also leaves behind his siblings, Patricia Spacavento, Marylou Harvey, and Joan Syp. He was predeceased by his brother, Thomas Barber. He was the son of the late Richard Barber, Sr., and the late Frances Magnus Barber. His legacy will be felt not only by his family but by the countless lives he touched.

At this hour, there is a Mass of Christian Burial celebrated at the Church of the Resurrection in Rye, New York. In-

terment will follow at Greenwood Union in Rye.

May Dick rest in peace.

REMEMBERING KAREN V. HILL

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember the life and times of Karen V. Hill, who passed away in November.

Her accomplishments and achievements in her 72 years cannot be properly summarized in a minute or two. She lived a life of leadership and service for 30-plus years, serving the underserved in equity, housing, and much more. She was appointed by the Federal court to implement the desegregation of housing and was president and CEO of the Harriet Tubman Home to preserve that historical legacy. She was appointed by Senators CHUCK SCHUMER and KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND to the Women's Suffrage Centennial Commission. She served as program director for the National Urban League, chief executive of the American Homeowner Education and Counseling Institute, and chair of the National Low-Income Housing Coalition.

Through her sorority memberships, her faith in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, Order of the Eastern Star, and the love of her large family and extended friendships, Karen Hill left her mark. Her visitation this past weekend at Greater Centennial AME Zion Church in Mount Vernon was a time for celebration of her life and acknowledgment that she now rests with the Lord.

REMEMBERING SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, in the season where Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus, African Americans celebrate Kwanzaa, our Hispanic friends await the Three Kings Day celebration, our friends in the Jewish community commemorate Hanukkah and the historic celebration of light, the oil that lasted for eight nights, providing the menorah with light and warmth and survival.

With the horror of Sydney fresh at hand, a father and son using their weapons to systematically kill Jews celebrating Hanukkah at a beach event, it is a bittersweet month. Once again, we mourn unnecessary death motivated by intense hatred, fueled by the availability of weapons of death.

Over thousands of years of world history, Jews have been targeted in every land for death and for genocide, and this is just the latest such outrage.

As a Christian myself, I must let love rule, not hatred. We must end the manifestation of that hatred and violence. We must embrace our Jewish brothers and sisters, alongside those of every religion, that peace and tolerance are the only way to go, and it is a two-way street. All must commit themselves to tolerance and coexistence, and Almighty God will sort out the rest.

We mourn with the loss of the families in Sydney and all who suffer violence from anti-Semitism and hatred of any sort.

RECOGNIZING TERRY HANRATTY

(Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a Butler, Pennsylvania, native and former University of Notre Dame quarterback, a guy that I grew up with and went to grade school, high school, and college with.

Terry Hanratty set this standard as a precision quarterback in the 1960s, helping to usher in an era of high-powered passing under Hall of Fame Coach Ara Parseghian, cementing his legacy as one of Notre Dame's all-time greats.

The Butler, Pennsylvania, native now becomes the 50th Fighting Irish player to enter the College Football Hall of Fame.

A consensus First Team All-American in 1968, Terry led Notre Dame to a 24-4-2 record during his 3 years under center at South Bend, including a share of the national title in 1966. The Irish finished the 1966 season 9-0-1, tying Michigan State in what has been called the Game of the Century.

The Irish won 83.3 percent of their games with Terry as the starting signal caller, and the Irish boasted a final ranking of number 5 or better during all 3 years of his tenure. Terry finished third in the Heisman Trophy voting in 1968, ninth in 1967, and sixth in 1966.

Paired with wide receiver Jim Seymour as part of the duo dubbed "Fling and Cling," Hanratty set career records for pass completions, 304; passing yards, 4,152; and touchdown passes, 27, during his time in South Bend. He added 16 touchdowns and 586 yards on the ground. His 63 passing attempts against Purdue in 1967 still rank second in our school's annals. His 159.7 passing yards per game land him number 9 in school records. His pass attempts per game in a season, 28.1, and pass completions per game, 16.6, stood as school standards for more than 25 years.

In addition to Coach Parseghian, Terry will now join teammates Jim Lynch, Alan Page, and Joe Theismann as members of the College Football Hall of Fame.

Terry is also active in the community. He served as Allegheny County chairman of the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation, and he participated in the Jerry Lewis Telethon to support muscular dystrophy, as well as NFL events to raise funds for children with cancer.

Terry Hanratty spent his entire life helping other people. More than being a tremendous athlete, I think it is more important that he was a tremendous person. He is a guy people looked up to. Young people have to have someone to look up to. Terry Hanratty is certainly one of those people.

RECOGNIZING VERN LAW

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a Pittsburgh Pirates legend, Mr. Vern Law, who was inducted into the Pittsburgh Pirates Hall of Fame this summer. I had the

chance to join Mr. Law for this momentous ceremony in Pittsburgh.

Mr. Law was a key member of the Pirates 1960 World Series championship team, and he spent all 16 seasons of his Major League career in Pittsburgh. He was also a two-time All-Star and a Cy Young Award winner.

Off the field, faith was incredibly important to Mr. Law. He became a deacon in the Church of Latter-day Saints, a title he first earned at the age of 12 years old. He later became a teacher and was then ordained as a priest at age 17.

For 73 years, Mr. Law was married to his wife, VaNita, who passed away in 2023.

At age 95, Vern Law's legacy on and off the baseball field is etched in western Pennsylvania history forever.

HONORING MAYOR MOLLY COSTON

(Ms. PEREZ of Washington was recognized to address the House for 5 minutes.)

Ms. PEREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor someone who helped shape the city of Washougal for the better, former Mayor Molly Coston. Most folks in Washougal didn't call her Mayor Coston. They called her Mayor Molly because she exuded grace, tenacity, and friendliness.

Molly served her community for nearly a decade on the city council and then as mayor from 2018 to 2021.

Molly didn't sit on the sidelines. She rolled up her sleeves. She was involved in every effort, from revitalizing downtown Washougal to her service to local community groups, including 25 years in her local Rotary Club. If there was work to be done, Molly showed up.

Molly lived a big life outside of city hall, too. She was even a master scuba diver. She brought that same sense of curiosity and courage to her public service.

Mayor Molly Coston passed away this November at the age of 77. Washougal is better because Molly made it her home, and her impact will last for generations.

CELEBRATING CHRIS GUENTHER

Ms. PEREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a talented songwriter and Mossyrock native, Chris Guenther.

Southwest Washington is a place that is built on hard work, mills, farms, welding, logging, and small businesses. With that comes a certain kind of music. It is honest and real.

Chris Guenther has been carrying that sound for decades. This year, he was nominated by the International Western Music Association for both Songwriter of the Year and Western Album of the Year for his record "Singing to Cows."

I will admit that I have sung to cows. I have never thought about telling people I do that or writing a song about it. I have to ask Chris how his cows feel about Roy Rogers' lyrics: Beef, sweet beef, next week you will boil and fry.

That is exactly why people connect with him. He is genuine. He tells the

truth. He plays the kind of music that comes from living the life he sings about.

Mr. Speaker, Chris Guenther has a lot more ahead of him, and I am proud to recognize him today as one of the artists keeping the spirit of our district alive and well.

RECOGNIZING KELSO HIGH SCHOOL AND KELSO POLICE DEPARTMENT

Ms. PEREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight a powerful example in my district that shows how investing in career and technical education strengthens both our community and public safety.

In October of this year, students from Kelso High School's advanced welding class teamed up with the Kelso Police Department to fabricate, install, and reinforce pit bars on two decommissioned patrol vehicles, converting them to safe, durable training cars for officers to practice the precision immobilization technique.

I have to say, I am kind of jealous of the kids. Having kids be able to get real, tangible experience is something that cannot be duplicated in a textbook. That is what is so amazing about CTE programs. They are making resources and skills available that they cannot get elsewhere. They cannot get that online. This is an asset for them whenever they are ready to hit the workforce.

When I visited Kelso High School in April, I saw firsthand how welding, automotive, culinary, and other CTE courses give young people a pathway to good careers.

I am proud to represent a district that leads the hard way, the real way, with respect for how things used to be done and creativity in bringing those practices to bear today.

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY TO HARRY HUMASON

Ms. PEREZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a remarkable American hero, Mr. Harry Humason, who turns the vibrant age of 100 this December.

Harry volunteered to join the Army in December 1943. He valiantly fought in World War II, with Patton's 3rd Army, 5th Infantry Division, 2nd Infantry Regiment, helping to liberate Frankfurt, Germany, and towns in Czechoslovakia.

This year, his daughter raised funds to bring him to Europe and visit places that he had not seen since he was there in combat, and he was greeted as a hero. People remembered him and remembered what he had done for their country and the world.

After the war, Harry used the GI Bill to earn a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and went on to build missiles and rockets at the Naval Ordnance Test Station, a true example of American ingenuity and service after service.

I have had the honor of spending time with Harry, and I know him not just as a veteran but as a thoughtful, engaged public servant. Harry is an example of doing unto others as you would like to be done to you.