

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.