

100th birthday. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing her many more years of health and happiness.

HONORING 50 YEARS OF MARDI GRAS HIDDEN FIGURES: THE COLOMBOS

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 5, 2018

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of two prominent individuals of Carnival Season, Suzie and Anthony Colombo, for their tremendous contribution of costume-making. The Colombos will be celebrating their 50th anniversary of costume making this upcoming Mardi Gras season 2018.

Mr. Colombo first began designing costumes nearly five decades ago. He believes that the importance of a costume is to bring it to life as if it was telling a story, and that is exactly what Mr. Colombo executes with each headpiece he designs. Mr. Colombo has also been able to transcend from the original size of collars to much larger, ornate pieces. His dazzling designs have become very distinctive among krewes as they would gleam along the parade routes being worn by many notable clubs such as Zulu, Endymion, and Caesar just to name a few.

Working alongside Mr. Colombo is his daughter, Suzie Colombo. Suzie would often joke about her father's concept of size when it comes to his head piece designs due to them constantly getting bigger and bigger. Suzie is known as the brain in the family business. She puts together costume design ideas and executes them thoroughly. From the head piece on down to the shoes, she has it all planned out and ready within a year.

The designs created by this father and daughter team have caught the attention of many and contributed to the excitement of Mardi Gras. Mr. Colombo, who is now 83 years of age, is often asked how long he plans to continue this business. In response, he'll always reply, "For as long as God allows me to."

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to celebrate the legacy of Mr. Anthony and Ms. Suzie Colombo, two Mardi Gras legends.

CONGRATULATING BOBBY HAGER ON BEING NAMED TO TEAM USA

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 5, 2018

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to recognize Bobby Hager, an ex-

ceptionally talented young man from the Sixth District of Illinois. Bobby was recently selected to compete for Team Illinois in the 2018 Special Olympics USA National Games.

As the first student ever chosen from Barrington High School, Bobby is one of the 46 Special Olympic athletes from Illinois selected to compete in the Special Olympics USA National Games. Bobby will join with more than 4,000 athletes and coaches from across the United States in Seattle for the games.

After winning a gold medal at the district tournament in May followed with a bronze medal at the statewide competition in June, Bobby has earned his way to Seattle. He will be competing in the track and field portion of the Olympics. His event is throwing a softball for distance. His athletic prowess does not end there. He is also a member of the Special Olympics basketball team and has been active in the Special Olympics since the 5th grade. Bobby serves as a role model to all those with a dream and I look forward to following his progress come the Olympics in July.

Bobby has immense potential and a strong work ethic. I have no doubt these traits will serve him well this summer. Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Bobby Hager for his remarkable achievement.