

Dr. Coon led the College of Marin into a new era. He fostered positive relationships with students, staff, and trustees. He oversaw two community-funded facility modernization projects with a budget of more than \$515 million. Under his leadership, the college developed innovative programs including COM-PASS and Summer Bridge that are models for other community colleges throughout California. He developed partnerships with Marin County's primary and secondary schools and nonprofits to strengthen pathways to higher education. Dr. Coon responded to many challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic with innovative solutions and calm and collaborative guidance.

Dr. Coon has a deep commitment to equity and inclusion which extends beyond his work with the College of Marin both as the co-chair of the Marin Promise Partnership and member of the Board of Directors for the San Rafael Chamber of Commerce. His accomplishments earned both the College of Marin and Evergreen Valley College prestigious accolades, including the Dr. John W. Rice Diversity & Equity Award.

Known for his thoughtfulness, integrity, collaboration and good sense of humor, Dr. Coon exemplifies what it means to be a public servant. And it is no surprise that his years of service more than double the average tenure for community college superintendents. Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you join me in expressing gratitude to Dr. Coon for his enduring commitment and invaluable contributions to the College of Marin and greater community.

RECOGNIZING EDWARD VINER, MD

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 2023

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Edward Viner, MD on his Retirement.

Dr. Edward Viner, a graduate of Harvard College, earned cum laude status before continuing his education at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine. During his time at the University, he was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Society. For two years following the completion of his residency, Dr. Viner completed a fellowship in Hematology/Oncology with his alma mater at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Edward Viner is a trailblazer and leader. Through his own personal experience as a critically ill-patient a few years prior, Dr. Edward Viner roughly 50 years ago decided to begin the first hospice program in the entire Philadelphia region. A major step toward his mission of improving end of life care throughout the nation. Through his expertise and hard work, Dr. Viner was invited to testify before the House of Representatives Select Committee on Aging only 10 years after starting the program.

Dr. Edward Viner stepped into the role of Chief of Medicine at Cooper University Hospital in 1987 and remained in the position for another twenty years. During his tenure, he led the development of an academic Department of Medicine and created Cooper's Suburban Practice Network. Under his guidance,

Cooper University Hospital adopted a hospitalist system to care for patients and is recognized as the first in the Philadelphia region to do so.

Today, he is recognized for his unrelenting effort toward the creation of the Cooper Medical School of Rowan University, the 135th allopathic medical school in the United States. For his efforts, he was honorarily named the first Dean of the school in 2009. He is a board member of the New Jersey Council for the Humanities and is the recipient of several awards dating back to 1984 when he received the Philadelphia Caring Award for his work to provide hospice care to the region.

Dr. Edward Viner has been listed in Who's Who in America and has been acknowledged several times as one of the nation's best doctors. Dr. Viner received Laureateship from the American College of Physicians in 2003 before achieving Mastership within the college as well. He has been recognized with the Lifetime Achievement Award for Humanism in Medicine from the school he fought so hard to create as well as, the prestigious Strittmatter Award from the Philadelphia County Medical Society.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring and commending Dr. Edward Viner of Cooper University Hospital, a practitioner dedicated to his community and who has thoroughly served his patients to the best of his ability.

CELEBRATING RITA JOSEPHINE
LYNCH ON THE OCCASION OF
HER NINETY-FIFTH BIRTHDAY

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 2023

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the birthday of Rita Josephine Lynch, who on October 27th reached the incredible milestone of her 95th birthday.

Rita Josephine was born one of seven children to Behia and James Thomas, who emigrated from Lebanon in the early 1920s to pursue the American Dream. Rita graduated from Olean High School, attended Canisius College, and is a proud graduate of Mercy School of Nursing in Buffalo, New York. Before meeting the love of her life, Thomas "Tom" Meecham Lynch, she worked at hospitals in Olean and Buffalo, New York.

Rita and Tom married in 1955 and later moved to Dunkirk, New York, where Rita worked as a nurse and Tom as a pharmacist. Rita and Tom grew their family to six children, even as Rita continued to pursue her career in nursing for local families and friends.

Throughout her life, Rita has always been a committed volunteer for many selfless causes. Rita has volunteered with the Red Cross, providing blood pressures appointments at local drugstores, she has served on the Altar Rosary Society at her local Catholic church, and the Brooks Hospital Auxiliary Board.

Rita has always helped others; from caring for her mother and mother-in-law to her youngest brother, Rev. Donald N. Thomas, after his retirement and her late husband until his passing.

Today, friends, family, and her faith continue to be focal points in her life as she stays in contact with old friends from nursing school

along with her six children and their families, which includes 18 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

While at home, if she isn't watching EWTN, she is watching Fox News, TMC, or her favorite sports—football, hockey, or golf. In her free time, she loves to go for drives around the Point and Dunkirk Pier—sometimes, she looks for bargains at T.J. Maxx.

She loves to see her great grandchildren and watch them compete in baseball, football, volleyball, and dance performances every opportunity she has. Every week, when she is able, you can find her in a pew at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Fredonia, New York.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and my colleagues in celebrating the wonderful occasion of Rita Josephine Lynch's 95th birthday. I cannot wait to wish her a happy 100th.

HONORING JOSEPH ARENA, JR.

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 2023

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to honor the life and remarkable contributions of a South Jersey native, who has dedicated himself to his community and the local industry, Mr. Joseph Arena, Jr. The roots of his family's business run deep in the community. In 1920, his grandfather had the vision to establish the enterprise of Arena Automotive, and it quickly became a local institution. As time passed, the torch of responsibility was passed down to the next generation. When his grandfather and uncle chose to retire, it was in 1978 that he and his father assumed the mantle of sole ownership of the business, solidifying their commitment to its enduring legacy. In 1992, he embarked on another significant journey when he married his wife, Rose. Together, they have been blessed with two sons, Andrew and Nicholas, who have undoubtedly inherited his values and sense of community. Throughout his entire adult career, he has remained steadfastly dedicated to Arena Automotive. This unwavering commitment has not only enriched the local industry in South Jersey but has also fostered deep connections within the community. Mr. Arena's contributions to the community of Hammonton were so outstanding that he was honored by the New Jersey Sons of Italy at this year's Christopher Columbus celebration. His remarkable dedication and commitment have made him a pillar of the local industry, earning him the respect and admiration of his peers. It is essential to acknowledge and honor individuals like him who have made a lasting impact on their community, and I thank Mr. Arena for his dedication. God Bless Joseph and God Bless the United States of America.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF ALVA
GREENE

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 2023

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize longtime Detroit and 12th District