

their classes, and the teen who set the bar on test scores and class projects.

"As a teenager, he was very focused and very hardworking," Whitely said.

"He was shaping education in Loudoun County back in 1962," Mohler said, "and here we are 52 years later—he's still setting the standard of excellence."

He spent his entire educational career in Loudoun's public schools, first on the payroll as a school bus driver during his senior year in high school. He graduated from Loudoun County High School in 1963 and returned to his alma mater after four years of college to teach English.

He especially loved teaching British literature, former Broad Run High School teacher Jo Ann Pearson recalled. So much so that he required one of his senior classes to memorize the bulk of the Canterbury Tales Prologue in Middle English.

Hatrack commented on this bit of leaked information later in the evening, saying, "In my defense, I listened to each of them recite it."

He served as assistant principal at Broad Run High School from 1969 to 1970, and as principal of Loudoun County High School from 1975 to 1978. He moved up the administration ranks to positions that had him overseeing special education, foreign language, instruction, planning and pupil services before he was named superintendent in 1991.

He served as superintendent under five school boards, and three former School Board members—Joe Vogric, John Andrews and Robert DuPree—did not hesitate to say that the superintendent was stubborn when it came to fighting for funding for public education.

Whether board members wanted it or not, he gave them his opinion, Vogric said, "and it wasn't always done in a way that we liked it . . . but it was about setting policies and taking actions to ensure the best education of our children."

Most of the stories shared well beyond dinnertime Friday described Hatrick as a colleague, a mentor and a friend.

Whether a custodian or a principal loses a loved one, the superintendent can usually be seen at the funeral. Plays, football games, science fairs, club dedications, essay contests and, yes, retirement dinners, he's been there.

"We always knew that he cared about us," Pearson said.

"There's still a family feel about this district because that's how he wants it to be," Sharon Ackerman, who worked alongside Hatrick as assistant superintendent of instruction for 15 years, said.

W. John Brewer, principal at Dominion High School, joked that the school administration office, while called the Taj Mahal or "the palace" by some, "from time to time it's simply the woodshed." He said Hatrick didn't scold principals or teachers but he used those moments to teach. "He helped us grow personally and professionally," Brewer said. "We've become better educators, and we've become better people."

Whitely, who attended high school with Hatrick and later taught under his leadership, told a story about the superintendent's impression at their class's recent 50-year reunion. After a friend greeted Hatrick, she leaned over to Whitely and said, "You know, success hasn't spoiled him one bit. He's still Skip."

Eric Williams will officially take the helm of the school system as superintendent Tuesday.

## HONORING HOOVER CASE

### HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2014*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Hoover Case on having the Ozark Empire Fair Foundation's annual Gold Buckle Gala dedicated in his honor.

The Ozark Empire Fair Foundation was established in 2003 as a non-profit organization working to preserve Southwest Missouri's vast agricultural history and to sustain and better the Ozark Empire Fairgrounds.

Since 2004, the Foundation has held an annual gala to recognize the efforts of outstanding 4-H and FFA livestock exhibitors and to award grants and scholarships to local youths. In the ten years the event has been held, the Foundation has awarded almost \$600,000 to local youths and raised over \$521,000 in funds to be used for fairground improvements.

Each year, the Gold Buckle Gala is dedicated to a philanthropist that has shown outstanding support of the Foundation's goals. This year's recipient, Hoover Case of Marshfield, MO, has proved more than deserving. Case, a longtime auctioneer, created a mentoring program, Brangus for Kids, as a way of giving back to the purebred world and connecting kids with potential show animals. Case has also shown great support and love for the annual fair by being an involved volunteer. It is because of Case's continued dedication and commitment that the Foundation is able to impact the lives of so many.

I would like to thank Hoover Case for his continued support and devotion towards the Ozark Empire Fair and Ozark Empire Fair Foundation and congratulate him once again on having this year's Gold Buckle Gala held in his honor.

## RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF INTERNATIONAL ADOPTION

### HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2014*

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the importance of international adoption. Adoption is an important building block that contributes to strong and loving families for children and parents alike.

I recently met with a family from my congressional district which adopted a young girl from Nepal. The family experienced a great deal of difficulty throughout the adoption process, as evidenced by the numerous administrative roadblocks they encountered. However, the family persevered through the adversity and eventually completed the adoption process, welcoming a new daughter into their family.

The family's dedication to providing a better life for an orphan born into poverty on the other side of the world exemplifies the spirit of international adoption. The family's perseverance is a symbol of hope for the thousands of children living in orphanages around the world who yearn to become part of a loving and nurturing family. No matter the country or con-

continent, children in each corner of the globe deserve to be part of a family.

As Americans, we should take every opportunity to offer a helping hand to those who are less fortunate. Today, there are thousands of orphanages with a growing number of children waiting to be adopted by a loving family that will provide sustenance, support, and stability. By providing these underprivileged children with the American ideals of hope and opportunity, we not only brighten their future, but America's future as well.

## TRIBUTE TO DR. VINCENT HARDING

### HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2014*

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself, Congressman JOHN LEWIS, and Congressman RUSH HOLT, I rise to honor the life of one of Colorado's most respected and honorable residents, Dr. Vincent Harding, who passed away May 19 at age 82. This remarkable man merits both our recognition and gratitude for his unwavering efforts to improve our society. He leaves behind an impressive record of leadership in social justice and education, and he made an enormous impact on many lives.

Vincent Harding lived a life of compassion and was committed to the "beloved community" that his friend and colleague, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., dreamed this country could become. We are fortunate to have been touched by such an intellectually gifted man. He was an historian, theologian, teacher, social justice activist, author, and much more. The legacy that Dr. Harding leaves behind should inspire us all to continue to build on the foundation of nonviolence, justice and equality. The passion and dedication with which he labored is evident in his life's work.

Born in 1931 in Harlem, Vincent Harding attended City College of New York, earning a BA in history. For the following 15 years he demonstrated his dedication to education as he earned a master's degree in both journalism and history as well as a PhD in history. Dr. Harding, along with his first wife, the late Rosemarie Freeney, a writer and activist in her own right, moved to Atlanta in 1961 to become involved in the American civil rights movement. There, he fought for equality as an advisor to Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. Harding drafted several of Dr. King's speeches and is best known for writing his "Beyond Vietnam" speech, a landmark 1967 anti-war sermon. Following Dr. King's death, Dr. Harding wrote a book, Martin Luther King: The Inconvenient Hero, and he served as the first director at King's memorial center.

As a professor, Dr. Harding had an impact on countless students. He taught at a number of universities, including the University of Pennsylvania, Spelman College and Temple University, and he spent nearly three decades teaching at Denver's Iliff School of Theology. He founded the Veteran's Hope Project in order to preserve the lessons we have learned from social justice leaders. Dr. Harding's dedication did not end with his retirement. He still worked to achieve his vision of utilizing social justice activism to connect spirit, creativity,