

School Division and congratulate the following educators on obtaining certification or recertification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. Founded in 1987, the National Board was established by teachers for teachers as the premier vehicle for defining and recognizing accomplished educators. Today, the independent nonprofit organization remains dedicated to supporting excellence in education and is governed by classroom teachers, school administrators, school board leaders, governors and state legislators, higher education officials, teacher union leaders, and business and community leaders.

A National Board Certification denotes the most respected professional certification available in the education field. Obtaining certification and completing the renewal process is a personal and public statement of one's commitment to the evolution of effective instruction methods. In order to obtain the distinction, teachers must display a mastering of the standards established by the National Board by successfully completing a rigorous multi-component assessment that demonstrates that he or she has acquired the knowledge, skills, and practices required of an accomplished educator. Certified educators support a vision of teaching based on the following five core propositions:

1. Teachers are committed to students and their learning;
2. Teachers know the subjects they teach and how to teach those subjects to students;
3. Teachers are responsible for managing and monitoring student learning;
4. Teachers think systematically about their practice and learn from experience; and
5. Teachers are members of learning communities.

I extend my personal congratulations and appreciation to the following 2016 National Board Certified Teachers for receiving their respective certifications and renewals:

Schenell Agee—Library Media Programs and Research
 Alise Brooks—Dale City Elementary School
 James Carroll—Freedom High School
 Melissa Dembele—Featherstone Elementary School
 Elise Dutton—Benton Middle School
 Rhonda Ellington—Mullen Elementary School
 Christy Katsourakis—Enterprise Elementary School
 Lauren Mack—T. Clay Wood Elementary School
 Karisa Marcy—Piney Branch Elementary School
 Christine Petrus—Haymarket Elementary School
 Jennifer Roberts—Patriot High School
 Carey Shenal—Stonewall Jackson High School

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending these teachers for their commitment to education, professional development, and the students of Prince William County Public Schools. The world-class education provided to our students is due to the tireless efforts of teachers who make excellence the standard and I thank them for their invaluable contributions.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WALL OF HONOR WITHIN THE FRESNO AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL MUSEUM

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2017

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the State Center Community College District's Wall of Honor within the Fresno African American Historical and Cultural Museum in celebration of its 20 year anniversary. As we celebrate Black History Month, it is important to note this important part of the museum which has highlighted successes in the African American community throughout the San Joaquin Valley.

The African American Historical and Cultural Museum was the creation of Jack Kelley, the first African American police sergeant in Fresno. Passionate about black history, Jack wanted to create a place where people could go to recognize and enjoy black history throughout our Valley. Jack and former State Center Community College District chancellor, Dr. Bill F. Stewart, coined the idea of creating a Wall of Honor within the museum, where exceptional African American leaders affiliated with the State Center Community College District could be recognized. Since 1996, the Wall of Honor has served as a platform to highlight the success of notable African Americans in our community. Each year, a committee of local leaders accepts nominations for the Wall of Honor and selects the inductees. Those inducted into the Wall of Honor must have attended, worked or served the State Center Community College District.

The Wall of Honor acts as a representation of the triumphs African Americans in the State Center Community College District have achieved. It will serve as a place for where the brilliance, accomplishments, and strength of our black community leaders will be honored. It is my great pleasure to honor the Wall of Honor for a successful 20 years. I also commemorate the services of all the staff of the museum and the State Center Community College District who have worked hard to educate our community and preserve our Valley's African American History. I send my best wishes for many years to come.

GINGER ONTIVEROS VICTOR VALLEY COLLEGE ALUMNI HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2017

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding service and induction of Ginger Ontiveros to the Victor Valley College Alumni Hall of Fame. Ginger was the previous Executive Director of Victor Valley College Foundation and was instrumental in changing the landscape of higher education within Victor Valley. As an alumnus of VVC, Ginger is extremely compassionate and thoughtful towards the needs of students and excelled in her role as Executive Director of the VVC Foundation.

During her 15 years with the Victor Valley College Foundation, Ginger provided Victor Valley College with vast opportunities through securing gifts for VVC, easing enrollment challenges for students, and assisted in the development of the renowned Dr. Prem Reddy Health & Science Building at VVC. This is only a few of the many programs that Ginger implemented which fostered mentors from the Victor Valley community to give back to students attending Victor Valley College.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I would like to thank Ginger Ontiveros for her tireless work and dedication to the students of the High Desert and faculty of Victor Valley College. Ginger Ontiveros' work has shaped education within Victor Valley and I am pleased to hear that she will be inducted in the Victor Valley College's Alumni Hall of Fame.

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2017 DALE CITY CIVIC ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2017

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of the 2017 Dale City Civic Association Community Awards.

The Dale City Civic Association represents the interests of the 70,000 residents of Dale City in a manner that benefits the entire community. Association members complete revitalization and beautification projects, advocate for land use projects, and volunteer in response to community needs.

Each year, the Association hosts a recognition banquet to honor individuals and organizations that have shown exemplary devotion to the betterment of the community through public service. It is my honor to include in the RECORD the names of the 2017 Dale City Civic Association Community Awards recipients:

Elementary School Teacher of the Year Award: Angela Hunt
 Middle School Teacher of the Year Award: Atif Qarni
 High School Teacher of the Year Award: Larry Baker
 Dale City Volunteer Fire Department, Firefighter of the Year Award: Matthew Werner
 Dale City Volunteer Fire Department, Emergency Medical Service Provider of the Year Award: Amanda Fleig
 Dale City Volunteer Fire Department, Officer of the Year Award: Thomas Mazzo
 Dale City Volunteer Fire Department, Cadet of the Year Award: Bradford Burgeson
 Department of Fire and Rescue Firefighter of the Year Award: Technician II John Malley
 Department of Fire and Rescue Emergency Medical Technician Provider of the Year Award: LT Brian Reader
 Police Officers of the Year Award: Officer Bryan B. Gee and Officer Tyler J. Reza
 Deputy Sheriff of the Year Award: Deputy Michael Shepherd
 Kathie Peeney Nurse of the Year Award: Aisha Sesay, BSN, RN
 Kathleen K. Seefeldt Community Service Award: Connie V. Andrews
 Business Owner of the Year Award: Deborah C. Roundtree

David G. Brickley Youth Environmental Conservation Award: Alexander Elvir-Herrera

John D. Jenkins Youth Citizen of the Year Award: Joshua Jones

Catherine Spellane Citizen of the Year Award: Albert Brooks

Ernestine S. Jenkins Lifetime Volunteer Achievement Award: Norman "Norm" Catterton

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending all of the volunteers and public servants and in congratulating the 2017 Dale City Civic Association Community Awards recipients. These remarkable individuals have dedicated themselves to the betterment of the Dale City community and the strengthening of this vibrant community. They have all made a lasting contribution to Dale City, and I hope their actions will spur others into serving our community to sustain this tremendous success.

HONORING ALCALDE AND ALCALDESSA TED AND PAT ELIOT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2017

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ted Eliot and his late wife Pat Eliot, who have been named Alcalde and Alcaldessa for the City of Sonoma, California.

The title Alcalde, or Alcaldessa is the Spanish word for Mayor. During the Spanish colonial period in California, the Alcalde was the primary civil authority. Today in the City of Sonoma, it is an honorary title and the contemporary Alcalde or Alcaldessa presides over ceremonial events for the city. Alcaldes and Alcaldessas are nominated by the community and are representative of individuals with a long record of volunteer work. By volunteering their time to protect the beautiful land for our community now and in the future, Ted and Pat Eliot have more than earned the titles of Alcalde and Alcaldessa.

Mr. Eliot has held an advisory role with Sonoma County's Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District and was a leader in its formation and reauthorization. This district permanently protects the diverse agricultural, natural resource, and scenic open space lands for future generations. Mr. Eliot is known for his calm, even-handed counsel. He has served on the boards of Community Foundation Sonoma County, the Todd Trust and the Sonoma Valley Fund, organizations which prioritize and support community ethics and projects.

Mrs. Eliot recently passed away. By honoring her as Alcaldessa, Sonoma celebrates her life and work to protect the land in our community. She helped to negotiate the protection of 600 acres of land which included the Grandmother Tree, the largest and oldest redwood tree in our Sonoma Valley. This land has become part of Jack London State Park. Ted and Pat also donated a forever-wild conservation easement over their property which allowed for the completion of the East Slope Sonoma Mountain Trail.

Mr. Speaker, Ted and Pat Eliot's work was essential to protecting our beautiful land and they are excellent role models for community

involvement and action. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor them here today as Sonoma's Alcalde and Alcaldessa for 2017.

CHLOE J. CONEY

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2017

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of a true champion of progress, Chloe J. Coney. She is retiring this month after 10 years of serving as my district director in Tampa. Her invaluable contributions to the Tampa Bay community are an inspiration to us all. Today, I am grateful to recognize her selfless dedication, honor her valuable service to our community and thank her for her daily efforts to serve our neighbors in Tampa.

Known as a woman who wears many hats, Mrs. Coney is a leader who serves with a spirit of love and excellence. When federal courts ordered Hillsborough County to desegregate its school system, even at an early age, Mrs. Coney became a leader. In 1963, she along with a brave few helped to integrate the school district. In turn, Mrs. Coney attended and graduated from Hillsborough High School with honors in 1968. Her determination to lead and serve pushed her to achieve a bachelor's degree in Sociology/Corrections from Florida A & M University, a master's degree in Biblical Counseling from Florida Beacon Bible College, and an honorary doctorate from Blessed Hope Bible College in Tampa, Florida.

Mrs. Coney's passion to lead and serve has followed her throughout her professional and personal career. In 1972, Mrs. Coney began her career as the first Black female Probation and Parole Officer in Hillsborough County. She would then continue as a pathbreaker by becoming Intake Counselor/Mediator with the 13th Judicial Circuit Court of Hillsborough County and Marketing Representative for Florida Power in Clearwater, Fla. She left the private sector in her calling to serve families, seniors and students as the Center Manager of the Lee Davis Neighborhood Service Center, leading the way for it to become a One Stop Social and Medical Center in Hillsborough County. She utilized her role as Center Manager to restore pride, ownership, and community in Tampa's Eastside neighborhoods. Mrs. Coney established the East Tampa Community School partnership and the Back to School Kick-off Fair. Mrs. Coney's passion inspired her to found the Corporation to Develop Communities of Tampa (CDC) in 1992 and become its first President/CEO, focusing on economic development. The CDC of Tampa's Nehemiah Project Community Building Brick by Brick has since expanded its strategic initiatives to provide job training, promote entrepreneurship and develop youth leadership programs, revitalizing commercial areas and build affordable housing.

In 2006, Mrs. Coney retired as the President of the CDC of Tampa to become a candidate for the local office. While she missed out on the opportunity to serve as Hillsborough County Commission, District 3, she found a new way to lead and serve the community as my District Director. In this capacity, she has addressed an array of constituent concerns, so-

licit citizen input, and performed community outreach activities, such as foreclosure prevention workshops during the economic downturn to help families stay in their homes and job fairs during the economic recovery to connect neighbors with local jobs. As District Director, Chloe Coney, will retire after serving the Tampa Bay community for more than 40 years, improving entire communities, leveraging economic impact and touching the lives of everyone she meets.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of the Tampa Bay community, I am proud to honor Mrs. Chloe J. Coney. We will miss her wisdom and experience, but most of all we will miss the encouragement she has been to us all. As Chloe would say "Teamwork Makes the Dream Work," and I am proud that she has been part of my team and, importantly, my friend, helping so many of our neighbors achieve their dreams.

RECOGNIZING THE NOMINEES FOR THE 2016-2017 TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY SCHOOLS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2017

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the nominees for 2016-2017 Teacher of the Year Award for Prince William County Public Schools. The Teacher of the Year Award recognizes excellence in teaching, to encourage creative and quality instruction, and to contribute in a substantive way to the improvement of education in Prince William County Public School System.

The Prince William County Public School System was established in 1869 and was originally managed by individual magisterial districts until the Prince William County School Board was founded in 1923. Today, there are more than 90,000 students in 97 schools within the Prince William County School Division—59 elementary schools, 16 middle schools, 12 high schools, one Governor's school, three special education schools, two nontraditional schools, two traditional schools, one special education school, and one K-8 school—making it the second largest school division in the Commonwealth of Virginia. In Prince William County Schools, each grade level of course study is grounded in a purposefully designed plan that frameworks the knowledge and skills that will be developed during the school year.

The winner selected will be named the Prince William County Teacher of the Year. Teachers who meet the criteria for the award are those who instill in students a desire to learn and achieve, understand the individual needs of students, and demonstrate a thorough knowledge of subject matter and have the ability to share it effectively with students.

I would like to extend my personal congratulations to the following 2016-2017 Prince William County nominees for Teacher of the Year Award:

Charles Aracich—T. Clay Wood Elementary School

Donna Atkins—Neabsco Elementary School

Larry Baker—Gar-Field High School

Jennifer Brown—Graham Park Middle School