

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-

licited 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

Meredith Brewbaker—Buckland Mills Elementary School

Jonathan Bukva—Reagan Middle School
Carlos Castro—Woodbridge High School
Maria Centini—Hylton High School
Scott Cloud—Reagan Middle School
Cynthia Cole—Marshall Elementary School

Anna Collins-Walker—T. Clay Wood Elementary School

Karen Dominick—Loch Lomond Elementary School

Carla Drew—Osborn Park High School
Carolyn English—Ashland Elementary School

Corey Finn—Patriot High School
Jennifer Fisher—Alvey Elementary School
Donna Garzione—Loch Lomond Elementary School

Lisa Keen—Ashland Elementary School
Rebecca Kronthal—King Elementary School

Cesar Maisonet—Gainesville Middle School
Tiffany McLeod—Enterprise Elementary School

Elizabeth Paiz—T. Clay Wood Elementary School

Linda Poole—Ashland Elementary School
Kristen Putman—T. Clay Wood Elementary School

Eileen Rakshys—Bennett Elementary School

Holley Scheffel—Potomac High School
Natalia Shamshyna—Forest Park High School

Deborah Tekampe—Alvey Elementary School

Nick Thompson—Osborn Park High School

Cynthia Treichler—Hylton High School
Sarah Willey—Henderson Elementary School

Elizabeth Williams—Battlefield High School

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the nominees for 2016–2017 Teacher of the Year Award in Prince William County and in thanking them for their dedication to our children. Their continued service will ensure that Prince William County students receive world-class education in a more vibrant learning community.

DENNY AND CAROLL YULE RECEIVE PRESIDENT'S AWARD FROM THE VVC FOUNDATION

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 of Denny and Carroll Yule who will be presented the President's Award from the Victor Valley College Foundation on February 25, 2017.

Dennis and Carol were nominated for this award for their collaborative impact and contributions to Victor Valley College education and the Victor Valley Community. Dennis and Carol have sponsored numerous college scholarships that have enabled students, who otherwise could not afford a degree, to pursue higher education. Without such generous donations from the Yules to the college foundation, some VVC students would not have received their associate degrees. Besides their monetary donations, Carol has volunteered many hours of personal time to guest lecture at Victor Valley College. As described by Victor Valley College Foundation President, the

Yules are "irreplaceable members of our community."

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I would like to thank Denny and Carroll Yule for their tireless work and dedication to the students of the Victor Valley. I congratulate the Yules on receiving the President's Award from the Victor Valley College Foundation.

HONORING THE NAPA OPEN SPACE DISTRICT

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 the Napa Open Space District which is celebrating its 10th Anniversary. This special District has played a vital role in conversation and recreation in our community for the past decade and will continue to protect open spaces for future generations.

Napa County residents voted to establish the Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District in November 2006 with the goal to preserve wildlife habitat and nature areas. The District does so by conserving open space and creating recreation opportunities including a system of public parks, trails, outdoor recreational facilities for Napa County residents.

The District has had incredible success during its first decade of operation. It has preserved over 5000 acres of open space and parks and maintains over 100 miles of multiuse trails in our community. Community education programs are a major priority for the District, and it runs outdoor science and conservation education programs to reach people of all ages. The District has also facilitated and funded outdoor field trips for thousands of Napa County children, allowing them the opportunity to experience and learn about their local environment.

The parks and recreation opportunities provided by the Napa Open Space District have been tremendously successful and popular. The District's work enhances current Napa's quality of life and also ensures that future generations have the ability to experience the outdoors. Through its work, the District fosters a greater sense of community and pride within our Napa Valley.

Mr. Speaker, the Napa Open Space District conserves our natural resources and provides residents with magnificent open spaces and an enhanced quality of life. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor Napa Open Space District here today.

RECOGNIZING THE NOMINEES FOR THE 2016–2017 PRINCIPAL 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 Principal of the Year Award for Prince William County Public Schools.

The winner will be named the Prince William County Principal of the Year. Principals who meet the criteria for the award are those who manage effectively, demonstrate and encourage creativity and innovation, foster cooperation between the school and community by maintaining a continuous dialogue with students, parents, faculty, and staff, demonstrate leadership, and exemplify commitment.

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.

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

Connie Balkcom—Buckland Mills Elementary School

Neil Beech—Osborn Park High School

Mark Boyd—Vaughan Elementary School

Marlene Coleman—Dumfries Elementary School

Susan Danielson—Rosa Parks Elementary School

Jodi Pankowski—PACE East School

Nathaniel Provencio—Minnieville Elementary School

Barry Rosenberg—Swans Creek Elementary School

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the nominees for 2016–2017 Principal of the Year Award in Prince William County and in thanking them for their dedication to leadership in our school system. Their continued service will ensure our Prince William County students are provided with a world-class education in a more vibrant learning community.

TRIBUTE TO ROY JOHNSTON THE WINNINGEST BOYS BASKETBALL COACH IN MICHIGAN HIGH SCHOOL HISTORY

HON. JOHN R. MOOLENAAR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 27, 2017

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Roy Johnston, the Head Coach of Beaverton High School and the winningest boys basketball coach in Michigan high school history with 729 wins and counting.

Born in his grandparents' farmhouse near the Lake Huron shores, Roy Johnston never forgot his Michigan roots as he moved up the ranks to the title he holds today. Roy was raised in the Crosswell-Lexington area of Michigan and received honorable mention All-State as a guard at his high school. After graduating from Eastern Michigan University with a degree in teaching, Roy's passion for guiding