

of the program, Winters Diallo and a student created "Branch Out" at Alonzo and Tracy Mourning Senior High, an effort that brings together students from diverse backgrounds who might not ordinarily socialize. At one "Branch Out" event, students wore masks and wrote how society views them on the outside of the mask and how they view themselves on the inside.

"I try to create a welcoming environment for my students and a safe place," Winters Diallo said. "I want my students to feel comfortable in my classroom and express themselves."

Winters Diallo was excited to learn that one of her former students, Karen Fernandez, won rookie teacher of the year at Melrose Elementary School in Miami this year.

"This is coming full circle, and it's a beautiful thing," she said.

CENTRAL REGION: AARON TAYLOR, HENRY E.S. REEVES ELEMENTARY

Aaron Taylor was working on a degree in criminal justice when he started substitute teaching to make some extra money. At the time, Taylor planned to join the FBI or the Secret Service after he finished his degree.

But Taylor quickly became a popular sub and before he knew it, he had a teaching gig lined up for every day of the week. After seeing him in action, one school principal encouraged Taylor to become a full-time teacher.

"It was like I had this gift," he said. "I fell in love with it."

Taylor went on to get two master's degrees, one in educational leadership and one in special education, and certifications in gifted education and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL).

"You never know what kind of student you're going to get so I try to prepare myself to deal with all types of students," he said.

Taylor currently teaches fourth-grade reading and language arts at Henry E.S. Reeves Elementary. He also serves as the school's site director for the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project, a mentoring program for at-risk boys. Taylor participated in the program when he was a student at Miami Central Senior High and said it had a positive impact on his life. Now, he's planning college tours for the students he mentors.

Taylor said it's important to show each child in his class that he cares about them. He makes a point of eating lunch with his students—and not talking about schoolwork.

"They're not just a test score," he said. When a student knows his or her teacher cares, "everything else follows."

SOUTH REGION: KATINA PERRY-BIRTS, FLORIDA CITY ELEMENTARY

Katina Perry-Birts didn't set out to be a teacher, but an experience volunteering in her son's kindergarten class sparked an interest in education.

"Hey, I can do this and impact the students," she remembers thinking. "It reminded me what I learned at an early age about the power of education."

That was roughly 20 years ago. Perry-Birts first worked as a substitute teacher for five years before completing her education degree in 2005. Then she got a job at Florida City Elementary, where she has taught ever since.

Many of her fourth-grade students face significant challenges at home, Perry-Birts said. More than 95 percent of the children at Florida City Elementary are low-income. Perry-Birts said she tries to instill in her students the power of change and teach them that they don't have to be a product of their environment.

In her classroom, the mantra is a Muhammad Ali quote: "Impossible is just a big word thrown around by small men who find it

easier to live in the world they've been given than to explore the power they have to change it."

"I embed that in my students," Perry-Birts said. "I tell my kids that on a daily basis."

She also works with Real Men Read, a national program that recruits men from the community to read to students. Recent guests at Florida City Elementary included a congressional staffer and a clergyman.

For Perry-Birts, teaching isn't just about learning gains. She also tries to develop a personal connection with her students.

"You've got to have a heart and a passion for the kids," she said. "You have to have that passion and if you have that passion, you can motivate them."

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION: JUDY RODRIGUEZ, C.O.P.E. CENTER NORTH

Judy Rodriguez's previous job could not have been more different. Before she became a Miami-Dade teacher, Rodriguez worked in the pharmaceutical industry as a quality assurance auditor, ensuring that batches of medication were safe to release.

Then Rodriguez had a son and her whole world changed. When she started looking for a daycare, she came to a frightening realization.

"It was like an awakening for me that I was going to have to trust somebody with my child," she said.

Rodriguez started teaching business part time for an adult education program before becoming a full-time business teacher at Miami Northwestern Senior High. Along the way, she's carried that realization with her. "I've always tried to treat my students as I would want my son to be treated," she said.

For the past eight years, Rodriguez has taught at C.O.P.E. Center North, a school that serves teen moms and pregnant teens. She currently teaches entrepreneurship, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and on-the-job training.

"It's extremely challenging, but it's extremely rewarding because you're impacting two generations simultaneously," she said.

The best part about her job, she added, is "when you ignite their fire for learning."

One of her students, a teen mom with a baby, recently traveled to New York to compete in a national business plan competition. When the student placed 12th, Rodriguez was worried that she would feel discouraged. But the experience had the opposite effect.

"Miss, so now what's next? 'Shark Tank?'" she asked Rodriguez after the contest, referring to the entrepreneurship TV show.

"My heart was full because she got it," Rodriguez said. "There's always something next."●

#### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message from the President of the United States was communicated to the Senate by Ms. Cuccia, one of his secretaries.

#### PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES

REPORT RELATIVE TO THE CONTINUATION OF THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY THAT WAS DECLARED IN EXECUTIVE ORDER 12947 WITH RESPECT TO TERRORISTS WHO THREATEN TO DISRUPT THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE PROCESS—PM 24

The PRESIDING OFFICER laid before the Senate the following message

from the President of the United States, together with an accompanying report; which was referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1622(d)) provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, within 90 days before the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. In accordance with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* for publication the enclosed notice stating that the national emergency declared with respect to foreign terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process declared in Executive Order 12947 of January 23, 1995, is to continue in effect beyond January 23, 2018.

The crisis with respect to grave acts of violence committed by foreign terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process that led to the declaration of a national emergency on January 23, 1995, has not been resolved. Terrorist groups continue to engage in activities that have the purpose or effect of threatening the Middle East peace process and that are hostile to United States interests in the region. Such actions continue to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security, foreign policy, and economy of the United States. I have, therefore, determined that it is necessary to continue the national emergency declared in Executive Order 12947 with respect to foreign terrorists who threaten to disrupt the Middle East peace process and to maintain in force the sanctions against them to respond to this threat.

DONALD J. TRUMP.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, January 17, 2018.

#### MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:10 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 117. An act to designate a mountain peak in the State of Montana as "Alex Diekmann Peak".

The message further announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 770. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of American innovation and significant innovation and pioneering efforts of individuals or groups from each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the United States territories, to promote the importance of innovation in the United States, the District of Columbia, and the United States territories, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1107. An act to promote conservation, improve public land management, and provide for sensible development in Pershing County, Nevada, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1532. An act to reaffirm that certain land has been taken into trust for the benefit of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2897. An act to authorize the Mayor of the District of Columbia and the Director of the National Park Service to enter into cooperative management agreements for the operation, maintenance, and management of units of the National Park System in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4318. An act to amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to modify temporarily certain rates of duty.

The message also announced that pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2903, and the order of the House of January 3, 2017, the Speaker appoints the following Member on the part of the House of Representatives to the Japan-United States Friendship Commission: Mr. HILL of Arkansas.

#### ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The President pro tempore (Mr. HATCH) announced that on today, January 17, 2018, he has signed the following enrolled bills, which were previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

H.R. 984. An act to extend Federal recognition to the Chickahominy Indian Tribe, the Chickahominy Indian Tribe—Eastern Division, the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, the Rappahannock Tribe, Inc., the Monacan Indian Nation, and the Nansemond Indian Tribe.

H.R. 4641. An act to authorize the President to award the Medal of Honor to John L. Canley for acts of valor during the Vietnam War while a member of the Marine Corps.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 770. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of American innovation and significant innovation and pioneering efforts of individuals or groups from each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the United States territories, to promote the importance of innovation in the United States, the District of Columbia, and the United States territories, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 1107. An act to promote conservation, improve public land management, and provide for sensible development in Pershing County, Nevada, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1532. An act to reaffirm that certain land has been taken into trust for the benefit of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R. 2897. An act to authorize the Mayor of the District of Columbia and the Director of the National Park Service to enter into cooperative management agreements for the operation, maintenance, and management of units of the National Park System in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 4318. An act to amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to modify temporarily certain rates of duty; to the Committee on Finance.

#### MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2311. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect pain-capable unborn children, and for other purposes.

#### EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-4041. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Report on Contractual Flow-Down Provisions in the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR) and Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS)"; to the Committees on Armed Services; and Appropriations.

EC-4042. A communication from the Secretary of Defense, transmitting a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Alan R. Lynn, United States Army, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4043. A communication from the Senior Official performing the duties of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Manpower and Reserve Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on the mobilizations of selected reserve units, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 10, 2018; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4044. A communication from the Alternate Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Establishment of TRICARE Select and Other TRICARE Reforms" (RIN0720-AB70) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 16, 2018; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-4045. A communication from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Treatment of Certain Communications Involving Security-Based Swaps That May Be Purchased Only By Eligible Contract Participants" (RIN3235-AL41) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 10, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4046. A communication from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Amendments to Investment Advisers Act Rules to Reflect Changes Made by the FAST Act" (RIN3235-AM02) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 10, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4047. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of the Deputy Secretary, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Streamlining Administrative Regulations for Multifamily Housing Programs and Implementing Family Income Reviews Under the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act" (RIN2577-AJ36) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 10, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4048. A communication from the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Adjustments to Civil Monetary Penalty Amounts" (Release Nos. 33-10451; 34-82455; IA-4842; and IC-32963) received in the Office of the President of the

Senate on January 10, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4049. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to operation of the Exchange Stabilization Fund (ESF) for fiscal year 2017; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4050. A communication from the Program Specialist (Paperwork Reduction Act), Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Community Reinvestment Act Regulations" (RIN1557-AE30) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 9, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4051. A communication from the Senior Counsel, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Civil Penalty Inflation Adjustments" (12 CFR Part 1083) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 12, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4052. A communication from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting a report relative to additional fiscal year 2018 funding for the Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4053. A communication from the Assistant Director for Regulatory Affairs, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Iraq Stabilization and Insurgency Sanctions Regulations" (31 CFR Part 576) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 2, 2018; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4054. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Priorities List" (FRL No. 9973-00-OLEM) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 12, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4055. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants; Delegation of Authority to Texas" (FRL No. 9972-28-Region 6) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 12, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4056. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Civil Monetary Penalty Inflation Adjustment Rule" (FRL No. 9972-92-OECA) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 9, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-4057. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Air Plan Approval; Rhode Island; Enhanced Motor Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program; Withdrawal of Direct Final Rule" (FRL No. 9972-87-Region 1) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on January 9, 2018; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.