

Sorority and YWCA; life memberships—the NAACP, National Council of Negro Women, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and Tougaloo National Alumni Association. She is the recipient of numerous awards and honors. Included are: Delta Woman of the Year (1965); Tougaloo Alumna of the Year (1975); Mississippi Chapter Social Worker of the Year (1976); Black Women's Political Action Community Service Award (1990); Howard University School of Social Work Outstanding Alumna (1998); Tougaloo Hall of Fame (1992); the Tougaloo Meritorious Leadership Award (2003); and the Outstanding Greenwoodian in Community Service Award (1998). She is active in her church, Farish Street Baptist, and the Jackson Chapter of the Links, Inc. She enjoys spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Gwendolyn Nero Loper for giving back to the community.

RECOGNIZING THE 2015 TOWN OF HERNDON POLICE DEPARTMENT VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS PRESENTED BY THE FAIRFAX COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of men and women in Northern Virginia. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce.

This is the 37th Annual Valor Awards sponsored by the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce. This event honors the remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety officers. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. This year's ceremony will recognize 93 individuals in a variety of categories including: the Lifesaving Certificate, the Certificate of Valor, and the Bronze, Silver, or Gold Medal of Valor.

Four members of the Town of Herndon Police Department are being honored this year for their exceptional service.

It is with great pride that I submit the names of the following Valor Award recipients:

Bronze Medal of Valor Recipients:

Police Officer Eliezer Calo

Special Police Officer Warrie Proffitt

Certificate of Valor Recipients:

Special Police Officer Mark Butler

Corporal Steven Brown

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2015 Valor Award Recipients, and thank each of the men and women who serve in the Town of Herndon Police Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of our community, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

IN HONOR OF THE CARIBOU FIRE AND AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT

HON. BRUCE POLIQUIN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. POLIQUIN. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to congratulate the Caribou Fire and Ambulance Department on earning the 2015 Congressional Fire Services Institute/Masimo Excellence in Fire Service-Based Emergency Medical Services Award. This brave team of volunteer Mainers represents sound practice and dedication to protecting others day in and day out.

This top-tier department is tasked with covering 348 square miles, amounting to nine towns and 14,000 residents. The fire and medical units handle first response services for a vast rural district that houses sporting activities such as boating, hunting, ATV trails, and winter sledding. Furthermore, the department conducts emergency transfers by land and air from a local hospital to a trauma center 175 miles away.

Under Chief Scott Susi, the Caribou Fire and Ambulance Department boasts three five-person crews, along with 15 full time paramedics—a crowning achievement for a department hoping to expand without a corresponding financial burden on the communities it serves.

Community engagement directly corresponds to the success of this department. Sensitivity to the taxable impact of its operations and attendance at local council meetings are just two of the multitude of ways in which this department actively and uniquely works together with the region in which it serves.

The Caribou Fire and Ambulance Department serves as a model of efficient success for fellow Maine fire and Ambulance departments and for service men and women across our country.

RECOGNIZING NICOLE SHAH'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND DEDICATION TO COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nicole Shah for her outstanding service in the Springfield, Missouri, community and to congratulate her on receiving one of two 2015 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards for the state of Missouri and the President's Volunteer Service Award.

Nicole is president and co-founder of Every Teen Helps Inspire Change, also known as ETHIC. ETHIC was formed to help sick children and others suffering from serious illness. She and friends founded the non-profit two years ago while planning a service project for her school. She saw the need for teenagers in the community to have a constant opportunity for service. In the two years since ETHIC's founding, the group has raised \$75,000 and has put the funds toward the purchase of a frozen treat machine at Springfield's Mercy Hospital for children undergoing chemotherapy

to relieve pain from mouth sores. Other efforts have included organizing a fundraiser to help pay for 10 Nepalese patients' major surgeries as well as a painting project and auction to raise funds for Mercy Children's Hospital, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and its local Ronald McDonald Houses.

The powerful impact ETHIC has had on the community continues to expand as more Springfield teenagers from area high schools join the cause. Nicole is responsible for recruitment, budgeting, group promotions and event planning for the non-profit and hopes to further spread the influence at the college level next year.

It is an honor to represent such fine young people as Nicole Shah. Nicole, at the age of 16, has had a positive impact on lives around the world. I look forward to hearing many more great stories from ETHIC and Nicole as the group moves forward. I congratulate her on this phenomenal achievement.

RECOGNIZING AUXILIARY BISHOP ROBERT EARL SMITH, SR., FOR HIS 49 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE WHITE CLOUD EMPOWERMENT CENTER CHURCH OF GOD

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 15, 2015

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to recognize Bishop Robert Earle Smith, Sr., for his commendable service to The White Cloud Empowerment Center Church of God and for his elevation to the Office of Auxiliary Bishop in the Church of God in Christ. It is fitting that we take a moment to recognize Bishop Smith's accomplishments and contributions to spreading the word of God all over Michigan and the United States.

Throughout his life, Bishop Smith has been deeply committed to serving God and his people. He moved to Michigan at the age of 14 and began attending Saint James Church of God in Christ. After graduating from Flint Northern High School, Bishop Smith served his country in the United States Air Force. Next he took college courses at the University of Maryland, Mott Community College, and the University of Michigan, Flint, where he continued to wholeheartedly pursue his ministry ambitions. He went on to serve as the Dean of the Flint branch of the C.H. Mason Bible College where he integrated faith and education. Bishop Smith recalls sharing his faith with thousands of people in an arena in Memphis, Tennessee, when he served as the vice-president of the Sunday School Convention.

Today, Bishop Smith serves as the pastor and preaches in two different Church of God in Christ locations in Michigan. For nearly fifty years, Bishop Smith has traveled 300 miles round-trip from his home in Flint to White Cloud in order to serve as the pastor of The White Cloud Empowerment Center Church of God in Christ. His devout dedication to the Lord is evident as he reaches out to pray for and assist the homeless, needy, youth, and the lost. His mission is to give love and compassion to anyone in need, which is reflective of the very walk of Jesus Christ.

Throughout his life and ministry, Bishop Robert Earle Smith, Sr., has been a shining