

Springfield Civic Association on the occasion of its 60th anniversary.

North Springfield was forest and meadows when developer Edward R. Carr received the permits to create a community here. Construction started in 1954, and the first homes were occupied around July 1, 1955. The North Springfield Civic League (later renamed Association) was formed shortly thereafter with the first official meeting on January 25, 1956.

Over the last 60 years, the North Springfield Civic Association has led the effort to promote civic pride among its residents, inform the community about local and regional issues that affect the residents, and advocate for land use policies and public service investments that benefit the community. The quality of life and community spirit enjoyed by the residents now is a testament to their success.

As the former president of my own civic association, I know firsthand that when residents invest their time, care, and energies in their communities, it benefits us all. Fairfax County is considered one of the best places in the nation in which to work, live, and raise a family, largely because of the willingness of so many to become actively involved.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the North Springfield Civic Association on its 60th anniversary and in thanking all of the residents for their tireless efforts and dedication to the community and region.

TRIBUTE TO ROCKY HEIGHTS MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rocky Heights Middle School for being designated as a School to Watch by the National Forum to Accelerate Middle-Grades Reform this year. This designation recognizes Rocky Heights Middle School, as well as 145 other schools nationwide, as being on-track to fulfill the requirements to be designated as a school of high performance.

Rocky Heights Middle School's designation as a School to Watch places it in an elite tier of adolescent education institutions. The National Forum sets criteria for high performance in middle schools, which includes, creating an environment that challenges all students, setting up structures that address and account for the significant and unique challenges of students in early adolescence, and ensuring that students have access to high-quality teachers and resources. Rocky Heights Middle School, as a School to Watch, is well on its way to meeting these criteria.

Its high level of academic achievement and its strong community have fostered an excellent educational environment for the students of Rocky Heights.

This designation is an affirmation of the excellent achievements of Rocky Heights' students, as well as the continually improving work being done by the faculty. I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to the students and teachers of Rocky Heights Middle School for being one of the nation's premier adolescent education institutions.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2016

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, on June 10, 2016, I attended a funeral and I was unable to vote on H.R. 5325, H. Con. Res. 89, and H. Con. Res. 112.

If present, I would have voted "yea" on Ellison of Minnesota Amendment No. 2, "nay" on Blackburn of Tennessee Amendment No. 6, "yea" on Takano of California Amendment No. 11, "nay" on Pearce of New Mexico Amendment No. 13, "yea" on the Motion to Recommit H.R. 5325 with Instructions, "nay" on passage of H.R. 5325, "nay" on H. Con. Res. 89, and "nay" on H. Con. Res. 112.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2016

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, I regretfully missed the following roll call votes on Thursday, June 23, 2016. Had I been present I would have voted "NO" on the following roll call votes: Roll Call 341—H. Res. 797, the rule for the Conference Report for H.R. 2577. Roll Call 342—H.R. 2577, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017 and Zika Conference Report.

RECOGNIZING THE 2016 INSTITUTE FOR EXCELLENCE IN SALES & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT LIFE- TIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RE- CIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2016 recipients of the Lifetime Achievement Awards presented by the Institute for Excellence in Sales & Business Development (IES).

IES was created to foster excellence in business sales and development practices and to help sales professionals and organizations maximize their efforts. IES conducts a variety of workshops and programs designed to provide the knowledge and tools necessary to advance the careers and growth of those who attend. Each year, IES recognizes individuals, teams, and organizations throughout the United States who demonstrate exemplary performance through leadership, risk taking, innovation, vision, and customer development. Awards are presented in categories including Excellence in Sales Innovation, Excellence in Sales Training, Excellence in Sales Management, Excellence in Customer Partnering, and Excellence in Strategic Alliances. In addition, Lifetime Achievement Awards are bestowed to a select few who have demonstrated continued success and have made significant contributions in their fields.

The recipients of the 2016 Lifetime Achievement Awards are the founders and leaders of immixGroup, a government contract management firm based in McLean, Virginia in the heart of the 11th District. I am pleased to congratulate Art Richer, Steve Charles and Jeff Copeland on receiving this prestigious award.

Mr. Richer currently serves as Vice-President, Arrow ECS. An accomplished sales and business development executive who has spent more than 25 years selling information technology products and services within the government sector, Mr. Richer has extensive experience working with technology manufacturers of all sizes, ranging very large and established companies to numerous high growth and emerging technology firms.

Mr. Charles co-founded immixGroup in 1997. Over the past two decades he has helped hundreds of technology manufacturers succeed in the government marketplace. Mr. Charles is actively involved in government-industry associations including TechAmerica, ACT-IAC, Coalition for Government Procurement, and the National Contract Management Association. A recognized expert in every dimension of the government technology ecosystem, he meets regularly with leaders in government and industry to increase understanding and positive action.

Mr. Copeland began his career with immixGroup as co-founder of the company along with Mr. Charles. Beginning in 1997, he served as Chairman and CEO before transitioning to Executive Chairman in 2013. Mr. Copeland has earned a reputation for building and managing highly effective government teams that set records for revenue and profitability.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Art Richer, Steve Charles and Jeff Copeland for their innovative and effective leadership and in congratulating them on receiving the 2016 IES Lifetime Achievement Awards.

RECOGNIZING FATHER GEOFFREY BARAAN ON HIS SERVICE

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 24, 2016

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Father Geoffrey Baraan in celebration of over a decade of dedicated service as Pastor of St. Anne Catholic Church in Union City.

Before Father Geoffrey became a priest he was a counselor, a role that helped him understand the many needs and concerns of the people to whom he has ministered.

He entered St. Joseph College Seminary in Los Altos in 1990 and completed his studies at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park. Diocese of Oakland Bishop John Cummins ordained him to the priesthood in 1997, and he began serving as parochial vicar at St. Augustine Parish in Pleasanton. Later he was appointed parochial vicar at St. Joseph Parish in Pinole and then as parochial administrator at St. Ignatius Parish in Antioch in 2001. In 2005, he assumed the role of Pastor at St. Anne.

During his time as Pastor, Father Geoffrey was a beloved figure who inspired countless people. His compassionate communal leadership fostered unity in one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse parishes in the