

Florida since 2004 and is the proud mother of Alexander. Her grandson Elijah is the apple of her eye.

I am honored to recognize Lizy Price for her service to my office and the constituents of Florida's Ninth Congressional District.

MICHELLE POOLET

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud Michelle Poole for being recognized by the West Chamber as a 2016 Celebrate Women Honoree. Celebrate Women Honorees are known for their perseverance, accomplishments, generosity, and dedication to their passions and their community.

Michelle is the Co-Founder and President of Mount Vernon Data Systems LLC which focuses on database administration, OLTP engine performance tuning, database architecture and data modeling. She has created and delivered courseware on all facets of database systems for academic environments and corporate training facilities. Michelle has been part of IT and database management systems since 1965, on computers ranging from mainframes to PCs and beyond. She pioneered the computer programming world in the Master of Computer Information Systems program at the University of Denver and as a Zachman-Certified Enterprise Architect.

Michelle has been teaching and training since 1989 as adjunct faculty at the University of Denver and as a technical trainer with ProTech and UCI/AmeriTeach. She is the author of 13 books, almost 200 database articles, and innumerable white papers and blog posts on database design and programming. Michelle's technological endeavors make it easier and quicker for businesses to progress in the modern age of communication.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Michelle Poole for this well-deserved recognition by the West Chamber.

IN MEMORY OF CATHY
BLACKBURN NOVINGER

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, South Carolinians are mourning the recent passing of Cathy Blackburn Novinger who achieved the highest levels of business, civic, and philanthropic success. Her affection for the citizens of South Carolina is evident from the following obituary published in The State newspaper of Columbia, South Carolina on November 29, 2016:

CHERAW.—Cathy Blackburn Novinger passed away November 27, 2016 at her home in Cheraw, SC after a heroic battle with ovarian cancer. She was the CEO of Palmetto AgriBusiness Council and President and CEO of Novinger QTR, Inc.

Born April 7th, 1949 in Portsmouth, Ohio, she was the daughter of Leona Collingsworth Blackburn and the late Donald Everett Blackburn. She is survived by her mother;

her husband of 48 years, Robert L. Novinger; her son, Dr. Travis Novinger and daughter in law, Laurie Novinger; grandchildren, Taylor Novinger and Abbey Novinger; sister, Donna Blackburn Jumper and brother in law, Henry Jumper; niece, Cristie Russell; nephew, Tyler Russell (Sarah); great niece, Emma Grace Russell; and brother in law Dean Novinger (Lisa).

Cathy received her Business Administration Degree from Southeastern Business College and was a graduate of the Edison Electric Institute's Electric Utility Executive Management Program. She moved to her adopted city of Columbia, SC in 1968 where she went to work for SCANA Corporation as a file clerk and rose to Vice President at the early age of 32, retiring as Senior Vice President in 1999. Her career as a Senior Officer and Senior Public Policy Maker for SCANA included roles in economic development, communications, labor relations, governmental affairs, strategic planning, human resources and public relations. After retiring from SCANA, she was chosen to lead the state's new agribusiness association, Palmetto AgriBusiness Council and under her leadership for 16 years, the Council became a unified voice for South Carolina's largest industry of agriculture and forestry. It was also at this time she formed her consulting company, Novinger QTR, Inc.

After her diagnosis of ovarian cancer and seeing the need to educate women about this deadly disease, Cathy founded an ovarian cancer organization, today known as the Ovarian Cancer Coalition of Central SC, which brings awareness to the symptoms and the importance of early detection. She served as the organization's Board chair since 2006. She began the Coalition's signature event, the Ovarian Cancer Butterfly Release which is held every September at the State House to honor and remember those affected by ovarian cancer. She became a symbol of inspiration and hope to women who were battling this disease.

An advocate for improving the quality of life in her community, Cathy earned a lifetime of achievements and honors including: the University of South Carolina Honorary Doctorate Degree of Public Service, 2011 Humanitarian of the Year, 2010 Ag Advocate of the Year, 2010 West Metro Chamber Lifetime Achievement Award, 2006 Ambassador of the Year, 1999 Order of the Palmetto, SC Historical Foundation Society Businesswoman of the Year, SC Schools Public Relations Association Outstanding Leader in Education, Ohio Council of Colleges Outstanding Private Career Graduate, SC Business & Professional Women's Career Woman of the Year, Columbia Metropolitan Magazine's Five Women of the Decade and Midlands Top 25 Influential Leaders. During her professional career, Cathy served on numerous Boards and Commissions including: Midlands Business Leadership Group, Advocates for Agriculture, SC Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, SC Office of Rural Health Board, SC State University Board of Trustees, USC School of Medicine Partnership Board, SC State Board for Technical & Comprehensive Education (past chair), Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors (past chair), Lexington Medical Center Foundation Board, SC Civil Justice Coalition (past chair), SC Department of Commerce Executive Committee, Midlands Housing Alliance (past chair), The River Alliance Executive Committee, USC Dean's Council-College of Hospitality, SC Research Authority Board of Trustees (past chair) and Cultural Council of Richland and Lexington Counties (past chair). On the national level, she served on the White House Council on Rural America as chair, Southern States Energy Board Utility Advisory Council, the U.S. Business

& Industry Council Board of Trustees and the Junior Achievement National Liaison.

Cathy lived her life devoted to her God, her family and her community. As much as she loved her work, she loved her family even more. Her legacy will live on in the paths she has blazed, the many lives she has impacted and her profound sense of service to others. We will miss her goodness and grace. The family would like to thank Dr. Greg Konduras, Lexington Family Practice; the staff at SC Oncology Associates, especially Dr. Terry Smith and Dr. William Merritt and nurses, Kathy Chavis and Mary Leitch; Ultra Med Plus, Cheryl Evans; Gentiva and the staff at Embrace Hospice, especially Jamie Perkins, Cathy's Administrative Assistant, NRS Sandy Boozer and the Eleventh floor, Palmetto Health Richland.

Funeral service will be held Sunday, December 4, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church, 2003 Charleston Highway, Cayce. Burial will be in Elmwood Cemetery, Columbia. A visitation will be held Saturday, December 3, 2016 from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. at Trinity Baptist Church. In lieu of flowers, memorial may be made to the Ovarian Cancer Coalition of Central SC, 602 Meeting Street, Suite B, West Columbia, SC 29169.

RECOGNIZING THE AWARD RECIPIENTS OF THE CENTREVILLE IMMIGRATION FORUM ANNUAL DINNER

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Centreville Immigration Forum on the occasion of its 2nd Annual Dinner. The theme of this year's gala is "Our Global Community" and will celebrate the rich diversity of cultures in Northern Virginia.

Northern Virginia is blessed by its diversity. In Fairfax County, nearly 1 in 4 residents were born in another country, more than 100 languages are spoken in our schools, and we are home to more minority-owned technology firms than anywhere else in the nation. Our different cultures and heritages do not divide us; they make us stronger.

Three exceptional individuals will be honored during this gala who have gone above and beyond in ensuring that everyone, regardless of their country of origin, has full access to the benefits and opportunities this community and our nation provide. I am pleased to include the names of the following 2016 Annual Dinner honorees.

Walter Tejada, Former Chairman of the Arlington County Board of Supervisors. Mr. Tejada is well known for his extensive knowledge and experience on the issues of cultural outreach and public service. He has served in numerous leadership roles including as Chairman of the Arlington County Board of Supervisors and with the National Council of La Raza. Prior to his election to the Board, Mr. Tejada served in various positions with the League of United Latin American Citizens, Virginia Coalition of Latino Organizations, the American Salvadoran Association of Virginia and the Virginia Latino Leaders Council, where he currently serves as President. He has received several awards for his work, including the Phyllis Campbell Newsome Award from the Center for Non-Profit Advancement