

Boy Scouts of America. The Eminent Eagle Award recognizes an Eagle Scout from Northeastern Pennsylvania who is a role model for all Scouts who aspire to achieve the rank of Eagle.

An Eagle Scout since 1966, Larry has long been a leader in his community. Throughout his life, he has been devoted to service and committed to excellence. In 1972, Larry graduated with the highest honors from Penn State University with a degree in Transportation/Traffic Management and Labor-Management Relations. He received his Juris Doctorate from the Temple University School of Law in 1977. Larry is admitted to the Pennsylvania Bar, New York Bar, and admitted to practice before the District Court in Eastern Pennsylvania and Northern New York.

Larry is the President of the Pennsylvania Northeast Regional Railroad Authority, which manages the region's 100-mile railroad system. Formed in 2006, the Pennsylvania Northeast Regional Railroad Authority was established by the merger of Lackawanna and Monroe Counties' Rail Authorities. Before the merger, Larry served as Lackawanna County Railroad Authority's Executive Director and General Counsel for twenty-two years. He also consulted with the Monroe County Railroad Authority, advising them on transportation funding, policy, and administration. Throughout his career, Larry has been a leading figure in the effort to reinstate commuter rail in between northern New Jersey/New York City and the Poconos and greater Scranton/Wilkes-Barre.

Larry has a long record of service to his community. He is one of fifteen members of the Surface Transportation Board (STB) Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council. The Council often advises the Secretary of Transportation, Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and the STB Chairman on matters of regulation, policy, and legislation. Larry currently serves as Chairman of the Pennsylvania Rail Freight Advisory Committee. Appointed by Governor Casey in 1989, Larry has helped that statewide committee advise the governor, legislature, and PennDOT on rail freight preservation and development in Pennsylvania. He has also served on the boards of the County of Lackawanna Transit System, the Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce Transportation subcommittee, the Scranton Lackawanna Industrial Building Company, the PennDOT Lackawanna/Luzerne Transportation Study Committee, the Economic Development Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania, the Bi-State Rail Project Technical Committee, and Penn's Northeast industrial development corporation.

It is an honor to recognize Larry Malski for upholding the values of the Boy Scouts of America. I extend my warmest congratulations to him for receiving the Eminent Eagle Award for 2017.

IN RECOGNITION OF ASIAN RESOURCES INC.'S 15TH ANNUAL LUNAR DINNER

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 30, 2017*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Asian Resources, Inc. as they cele-

brate their 15th Annual Lunar Dinner and tonight's honorees. As the members of Asian Resources, Inc. mark this momentous occasion, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring them for their long history of service to youth, immigrants, and refugees in our community.

Since 1980, Asian Resources, Inc. has served as an invaluable organization for members of disenfranchised communities in our region. Their work providing social services has empowered countless individuals and families in our region who have turned to them for support. Asian Resources, Inc. has helped individuals obtain jobs, improve their language skills, and become pro-active citizens. I am incredibly grateful to have a community partner like Asian Resources.

Tonight, Asian Resources, Inc. will also recognize community members and leaders who have contributed to the mission of Asian Resources. I would like to offer my congratulations to Elaine Abelaye-Mateo, who is receiving the May O. Lee Award for her work with Asian Resources and as one of the Founding Committee members of their RISE fund. I would also like to say congratulations to Marielle Tsukamoto, who is receiving the Community Impact Award. As the past president of JAAL, Florin Chapter, Murielle has been a strong leader, a dedicated educator, and a community advocate. Finally, I would like to offer my congratulations to Sacramento County Supervisor, Patrick Kennedy who is receiving the Community Partners Award for his work with Asian Resources, Inc. Each of these leaders truly makes a difference in our community every single day.

Mr. Speaker, as the members of Asian Resources, Inc. celebrate their 15th Annual Lunar Dinner and honor tonight's awards recipients, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring them for their dedication to serving new Americans and established citizens in the Sacramento area.

HONORING DR. AARON THORNTON

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 30, 2017*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Aaron Thornton, whom the Napa and Solano County Medical Societies have nominated for its Physician of the Year Award. Dr. Thornton has worked in our community for over 25 years. He previously worked in the Vallejo Medical Center as a hospitalist, and now works as a general internist in the Permanente Medical Group.

The Napa County Medical Society has named Dr. Thornton as the Napa County Physician of the Year based on his tireless dedication to patients and the advancement of the medical profession. Dr. Thornton exemplifies these attributes and is very deserving of this award and recognition.

In addition to his service to our community as a medical health professional, Dr. Thornton is a prolific volunteer in our community. Every year, he can be found assisting runners in the Napa Marathon medical area. He has served as a local scout master and instructor with the Boy Scouts of America. Dr. Thornton works with Napa County's Managing Pain Safely

Project, which ensures that clinicians prescribe opioids safely and appropriately.

Dr. Thornton also regularly volunteers abroad. For the past 15 years, he has partnered with missions in Haiti to care for hundreds of people who live in cities without access to hospital services. Dr. Thornton even enlists volunteers to accompany him on these trips and collects supplies needed to provide important medical services to Haitians. Recently, Dr. Thornton also traveled to Kenya to provide medical training to local students.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Thornton has dedicated his time and knowledge to the medical field and some of the most vulnerable people in our community and across the world. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor him here today and congratulate him on this well-deserved award.

DAZZLERS AND JV CHARMS  
DANCE AT BLACK TIE AND  
BOOTS INAUGURAL GALA

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 30, 2017*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the lessons learned through the advice of a mentor or coach is often invaluable. For those involved in dance, a director's guidance reaches far beyond the performance. The leadership of a director not only improves a dancer's performance but works to instill values of hard work and discipline. I would like to honor identical twins from Baytown, Texas, Marisa and Larisa Coy, for representing the state of Texas and our country, with honor and dignity during the Black Tie and Boots Inaugural Gala in Washington, D.C. on January 19, 2017.

Under the sisters' direction, all state dancer Jailene Marquez, was selected and performed at the Black Tie and Boots Inaugural Gala. Jailene is the captain of the Goose Creek Memorial High School Dazzlers. Marisa and Larisa are the co-directors of the Dazzlers and JV Charms. They prepared Jailene for her performance and helped fund this once in a lifetime trip. Their support says volumes about their generosity and spirit.

Marisa and Larisa graduated from Ross Sterling High School in Baytown. They continued their education at Lee Community College then transferred to the University of Houston where they both earned a bachelor's degree in education. After college, they returned to their hometown to teach math at Goose Creek Consolidated Independent School District.

While attending college, the sisters decided to try out for the Houston Texans cheerleading squad. They both made the squad! Through hard work and determination they juggled appearances, community events, charity functions, and team practices for the next five years. During this time, they had the opportunity to go overseas to visit our troops in Iraq. Being from a patriotic family the sisters were honored that the National Football League included them in this tour.

I commend these remarkable women for their exemplary service and dedication to teaching our nation's youth and for aspiring dancers to follow their dreams. I wish them both the best of luck as they continue on their journey. I am always proud to see fellow Texans succeed.