

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.

RECOGNIZING MR. SCOTT GRAVES

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2017

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Scott Graves, staff director of the House Agriculture Committee. After ten years of service on the Hill, Scott is leaving his post at the committee.

I met Scott four years ago when I was a freshman member of the committee and he was Chief of Staff for Chairman CONAWAY. Our staffs worked together closely, and Scott became a trusted advisor to our team as we navigated passage of the Farm Bill. When Mr. CONAWAY became chairman of the committee, I was pleased that he elevated Scott to staff director. Scott has gone above and beyond to make the Agriculture Committee one of the best run committees in the House. Under his leadership, Chairman CONAWAY has passed every bill up for reauthorization and held an unprecedented number of hearings in his first two years. I am grateful to have worked with Scott as a Subcommittee Chairman during the last two years and to be part of this dynamic team.

I wish Scott and his family well as he pursues the next chapter in his career and look forward to seeing the work he will continue to do on behalf of our country's farmers. Good luck Scott and thank you for your service to the House.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF BEN
RUSSO**HON. JACKIE WALORSKI**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2017

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Ben Russo. When Ben passed away one year ago today, Elkhart lost a devoted member of the community, and I lost a good friend.

Ben found great success in the private sector, working in various sales and management positions, including as vice president of E.J. Nagy and Associates. In retirement, Ben became quite active in the community, being elected to the Osolo Township Board and later becoming the Trustee of Osolo Township. He sat on the boards of The Boys and Girls Club of Elkhart, Council of Aging, and Riverview Adult Day Care Center. Finally, he was vice president of Elkhart Vintage Auto Club and president of Glenwood Park Civic Association, as well as an active member of Elkhart Trinity United Methodist Church.

Always looking to give back to the community that he loved, Ben became a household name in Elkhart as someone who would do his best to help those in need. In the Trustee's office, he worked tirelessly on behalf of Osolo Township residents, and was determined to treat everyone with respect. Even when out with his beloved family, he would find people he knew and could help, and he would drop everything to see that their needs were met.

As a recognition of his service to the community, Ben was honored with the prestigious Sagamore of the Wabash Award, the highest

civilian honor bestowed by the State of Indiana. Despite his distinguished career and place in the community, Ben was a humble and kind man. Today Elkhart is better for his public service, and his legacy of hard work and giving back to the community will not be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the life of Ben Russo and his service to the northern Indiana community. His passion for helping others strengthened Elkhart and improved the lives of everyone he knew. I am honored to ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating his life and recognizing his outstanding public service.

RECOGNIZING MS. LACEY BROWN
AS THE 2016-2017 ESCAMBIA
COUNTY TEACHER OF THE YEAR**HON. MATT GAETZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2017

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ms. Lacey Brown as the 2016-2017 Escambia County Teacher of the Year. For four years, Ms. Brown has served the Escambia County School District with exceptional passion and an unwavering commitment to serving others.

In Northwest Florida, we are fortunate to have some of the best teachers in the Nation. It is recognized that the teaching profession is one of the most difficult yet rewarding professions in existence. Ms. Brown has exceptionally performed her teaching duties, while also striving to be an active and supportive member of her community.

Ms. Brown is revered by her principal and colleagues at Jim Allen Elementary in Cantonment, Florida. She was chosen to receive this honor because of her exemplary classroom management, thoughtful employment of unique teaching techniques, and her effective engagement of students through the use of technology in the classroom. Her support and outreach extends far beyond the walls of her third grade classroom through her willingness to serve as a supervising teacher to University of West Florida Student Teachers. Through her position as grade level chair, Ms. Brown has also displayed remarkable leadership and dedicated teamwork. I commend her for her steadfast willingness to serve those that matter most, the students and youth of our Nation.

For all of her admirable contributions, I am truly proud to have Ms. Brown as a constituent in Florida's First Congressional District.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Ms. Lacey Brown for her accomplishments and her commitment to excellence in the Escambia County School District. I thank her for her service and wish her all the best for continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF CRISPY'S BAR
AND GRILL**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 30, 2017

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Crispy's Bar and Grill for their serv-

ice and contributions to our community. I would like to congratulate owner Greg Helmandollar on the success of the restaurant and its upcoming inclusion on the Travel Channel's Food Paradise, a show which highlights some of the most unique restaurants in the country.

Located in Kannapolis, North Carolina, Crispy's is a local favorite that features a twist on traditional southern comfort foods and isn't for the faint of heart. Almost everything on its legendary menu is wrapped, covered, or topped with crispy bacon. Since Crispy's opened in 2015, it has been a popular spot for people to gather to connect and share in their love of bacon.

Mr. Helmandollar first began pushing the limits of bacon in 2013 when he created the MasterBacon food truck. After receiving an overwhelming response from the community, he opened Crispy's to expand his offerings and push the boundaries on how many things he could possibly pair with bacon. The menu now contains almost every treat imaginable including bacon wrapped pecan pie, lasagna, and even ice cream sprinkled with bacon.

By following his passion, Mr. Helmandollar has created a brand and achieved success. More importantly, he is a shining example of the American spirit and the type of small business owner that makes our community special. His innovative approach should be an example to others to follow their dreams and pursue what makes them happy. I look forward to joining the nation in watching Food Paradise when their episode airs.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Mr. Helmandollar and his staff on their continued success and wishing them well in the new year.

HONORING DR. EDWARD MARTIN

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. Edward Martin, whom the Napa and Solano County Medical Societies have awarded the honor of Professor Emeritus for his years of work as a pediatrician and an educator.

Dr. Martin has worked with the Permanente Medical Group for 16 years. He has served as both Chair of Pediatrics for Napa and Solano and Chair of the Chiefs of Pediatrics for the Northern California region.

The Napa and Solano County Medical Societies award this distinction to medical professionals who have a demonstrated commitment to service and teaching. Dr. Martin exemplifies these attributes and is very deserving of this award and recognition.

Dr. Ed Martin graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles School of Medicine in 1980. He completed a residency in Pediatrics in 1983 and has been certified by the American Board of Pediatrics since 1986. He served as an Adjunct Clinical Professor of Pediatrics for Touro University, where both his students and colleagues recognize him as an excellent teacher and leader within their institution.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Martin has demonstrated an incredible commitment to his students and