

IN RECOGNITION OF MARILYN PRYLE, 2019 PENNSYLVANIA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Marilyn Pryle, who was named the 2019 Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year by the Pennsylvania Department of Education at their annual professional development conference on December 10, 2018. Marilyn was selected as the Teacher of the Year from a competitive field of twelve finalists for her dedication to students, unparalleled commitment to her field, and her innovative methods of pedagogy.

After receiving her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Scranton, Marilyn began her teaching career with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps in Kathmandu, Nepal. In 1996, she received her Master's degree in education, also from the University of Scranton. While teaching in Braintree, Massachusetts, Marilyn earned her Master of Fine Arts in creative writing from Emerson College. She is a National Board Certified teacher in secondary English and reading instruction and has experience teaching at the middle school, high school, and college levels.

In addition to extolling the virtues of literature and the art of writing to high school students, Marilyn has devoted much of her career to educating educators. She is steadfastly dedicated to the field of teaching and has challenged educators to "create an inspired classroom." She is also an advocate for the indispensable place the humanities have in our education system. Marilyn is the author of seven books about teaching reading and writing, and she speaks regularly at local, state, and national conferences. As Teacher of the Year, she will continue to speak, educate, and inspire both pre-service teachers and experienced teachers at events and meetings across Pennsylvania.

In addition to her work in the classroom and many speaking engagements, Marilyn is an ardent community volunteer and advocate. Together with Catholic Social Services, she facilitates an English-as-a-second-language conversation group for refugees in the Scranton area.

It is an honor to recognize Marilyn Pryle as the 2019 Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year. Her level of dedication to her students, her profession, and her community has been remarkable. Marilyn has always possessed an unwavering zeal for teaching and a belief that, with the right tutelage, any student can succeed, and that has produced wonderful results. May she continue to energize and inspire students and teachers alike for many years to come.

HONORING DR. CASSANDRA NEWBY-ALEXANDER FOR RECEIVING THE TIDEWATER CHAPTER HUMANITARIAN AWARD

HON. ELAINE G. LURIA

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Dr. Cassandra Newby-Alexander on receiving the 2019 Humanitarian Award for the Tidewater Chapter of the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities. This is an amazing accomplishment.

This award recognizes Dr. Newby-Alexander's lifetime of service and commitment to the promotion of respect among people of diverse backgrounds. Her thought-provoking books, such as *Virginia Waterways* and *the Underground Railroad*, have educated many on the importance of the Underground Railroad for freedom seekers in our state. Dr. Newby-Alexander's input on the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Virginia Law Foundation, and the Historical Commission of the Supreme Court of Virginia is invaluable.

Dr. Newby-Alexander's work shows her dedication to strengthening bonds among people of different racial, ethnic, and religious backgrounds. I am proud to honor and recognize Dr. Newby-Alexander's leadership and the role she plays in making our community a better place. The Tidewater Region has significantly benefited from her presence.

CONGRATULATING SENIOR OFFICER SCOTT RHODES ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OF GRAPEVINE, TEXAS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Scott Rhodes on his well-earned retirement from the City of Grapevine, Texas Police Department after twenty-nine years of dedicated service as a law enforcement officer.

Scott is a hardworking and highly respected officer of the Grapevine Police Department. He has honorably served his community since beginning his distinguished career with the Paris, Texas Police Department in 1990. Scott would go on to serve as an officer in Grand Prairie, Texas and then Glen Heights, Texas until joining the Grapevine Police Department in 1996 as a patrol officer.

Throughout his twenty-two years as an officer in Grapevine, Scott has received 34 police commendations as evidence of his outstanding service and professionalism. Furthermore, he has earned meritorious service bars for Special Service, Certificate of Merit, Good Conduct, Safe Driving, Police Service, FTO Officer, Honor Guard Member, Crime Prevention, Police Instructor, Police Diver, and U.S. Presidential Protection.

Scott is a Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) instructor, Firearms Instructor, Crime Prevention & Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Spe-

cialist, and Mental Health Peace Officer. He also holds certifications in ATV, Advanced Diver, Dry Suit Diver, and Nitrox Gas Diver and specializes in active shooter preparedness and asset protection training. Additionally, Scott served on the Board of Directors for the Texas Crime Prevention Association Inc. (TPCA) as Treasurer, Sergeant at Arms, and President. He serves as Chairman of the TCPA/TCOLE Training Advisory Review Board and has been instrumental in the inception, planning, collaboration, and implementation of the statewide TCOLE recognized Certified Crime Prevention Specialist Certification. In 2012, Scott was awarded Life Membership to the organization and received the Overall Crime Prevention Specialist Award in July of 2014. Scott is a member of the Texas Chisholm Trail Crime Prevention association and was awarded their Crime Prevention Specialist of the Year award in 2012.

Scott's contributions to the law enforcement operations in the City of Grapevine and beyond have helped to ensure countless officers were adequately trained and prepared for the challenges they face in their everyday duties. His legacy will leave a lasting mark on the City of Grapevine and the Grapevine Police Department for many years to come.

Madam Speaker, it is a pleasure to recognize the exhaustive efforts Scott has contributed to the City of Grapevine, and the State of Texas. I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing Senior Officer Scott Rhodes for his many years of service.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR ULISSES TAYMES

HON. AUMUA AMATA COLEMAN RADEWAGEN

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight the service of Major Ulisses Taymes, who was the Executive Officer for the 9th Mission Support Theater Support Group—Pacific Battalion located in American Samoa.

In American Samoa, our men and women of the Armed Forces are very important to us. The people of our islands take great pride in being patriotic Americans and our people are known for a high rate of service in our military. In particular, our U.S. Army recruiting center ranks number one in the nation in enlistment rate.

To that end I would like to recognize all the work Major Taymes has done to prepare our Army Reserve Soldiers for success by providing them with the necessary resources and guidance, and for his efforts to instill pride and professionalism in the units.

He has an extensive list of military awards and decorations including the Bronze Star, two Meritorious Service Medals, a Joint Service Commendation Medal, and numerous other awards. He is a graduate of the prestigious Harvard University.

In honoring this outstanding officer today, we also express our deep appreciation to all who serve, including the many in uniform from American Samoa serving with distinction all over the world.

In American Samoa, we've come to appreciate Major Taymes as one of our own, and