

The Cool Counties Initiative to help address climate change at the local level and the development of a regional energy strategy were other important elements in that ongoing struggle. All of these initiatives have improved our quality of life and ensured that future generations can continue to have that same quality of life that we currently enjoy.

Another area we have seen a tremendous return on investment is in demographic research. NVRC was among the first regional bodies to seriously study the coming demographic changes to our region. When I first moved to Fairfax County, the population was 3 percent foreign-born. Today that number is over 30 percent. This diversity has become one of Fairfax County and Northern Virginia's greatest strengths. However, such a rapid demographic change in a relatively short time period could have led to serious disruptions if the region's infrastructure was not prepared to accommodate it. Thanks to cutting-edge research by NVRC, we were able to foresee these changes and plan to accommodate them as they occurred.

Madam Speaker, bodies like NVRC are a testament to good government and all of the benefits that good government can bring. I commend my colleagues on NVRC and all the other regional boards and commissions in the National Capital Region for the work they do every day on behalf of the greater good. I ask my colleagues in this body to join me in congratulating NVRC on its 50th anniversary and in thanking them for their continued service to all our communities.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA DISTRICT PTAs AND PTSAs

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the 2019 Northern Virginia District PTA Annual Award recipients. Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) and Parent Teacher Student Associations (PTSAs) in Northern Virginia serve a critical role in helping to provide the best possible educational environment for our students.

The Northern Virginia District PTA represents a region with 225 schools representing over 50,000 members. Maintaining a healthy and strong organization is an important part of allowing these groups to have the greatest possible impact on the students they serve. To encourage such strength, it is important to note the individual PTAs that excel in this mission, as well as the individual Volunteers of the Year.

I am pleased to congratulate the following PTAs and individuals on being recognized by the Northern Virginia District PTA for their immeasurable contributions to the education of our children:

NOVA District PTA Elementary School Volunteer of Year Finalists: Lisa Farkas, Belvedere ES PTA; Iris Rossiter, Fairview ES PTA; Sandra Honeysett, Little Run ES PTA; Kathy Hughes, Little Run ES PTA; Meera Pillai, Olde Creek ES PTA

NOVA District PTA Secondary School Volunteer of the Year Finalists: Carrie Holmes,

Lake Braddock SS PTSA; Jennifer Downs, Lake Braddock SS PTSA; Kris Whitridge, Mt. Vernon HS PTSA; Sherry Nachnani, Mt. Vernon HS PTSA; Hamid Munir, Mt. Vernon HS PTSA

NOVA District PTA Outstanding Local Units of the Year: Union Mills ES PTA; Laurel Ridge ES PTA; Lake Braddock SS PTSA

NOVA District Outstanding PTA STEAM: Centreville ES PTA

Military Family Engagement: Hayfield SS PTSA

NOVA District Outstanding Educator of the Year: Margaret Summers, Belvedere ES PTA

NOVA District Outstanding Staff Members of the Year: Rosa Landeros, Mt. Vernon Community School PTA; Aida Joranko, Little Run ES PTA

NOVA District PTA Power Partner Principal Finalists: Dr. Diane Leipzig, Canterbury Woods ES PTA; Principal Monica Mohr, Little Run ES PTA; Principal Penny Gros, Lake Braddock SS PTSA; Dr. Anthony Terrell, Mount Vernon HS PTSA

NOVA District PTA Power Partner Superintendent: Dr. Scott Brabrand, Fairfax County Council PTA

Male Engagement of the Year Finalists: Lake Braddock SS PTSA; Union Mills ES PTA

Diversity & Inclusion of the Year Finalists: Buzz Aldrin ES PTA; Hollin Meadows ES PTA

Family Engagement of the Year Finalists: Canterbury Woods ES PTA; Cherry Run ES PTA; Churchill Road ES PTA; Cunningham Park ES PTA; Hollin Meadows ES PTA; Lake Braddock SS PTSA; Laurel Ridge ES PTA; Little Run ES PTA; Mount Vernon Community Schools PTA; Mount Vernon HS PTSA; Olde Creek ES PTA; South Lakes HS PTSA; White Oaks ES PTA

A special note of appreciation is extended to Debbie Kilpatrick, NOVA District Director, Tony Shivers, District Assistant Director, Denise Bolton, District Secretary/Treasurer, along with honored speakers Jim Accomando, National PTA President and Donna Colombo, Virginia PTA President.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing the outstanding achievements of the individuals, PTAs and PTSAs that are being honored tonight. Dedicated involvement from so many parents reflects a strong commitment to public education and community service that students in our schools are fortunate to experience. I offer my strong support for these organizations and their dedicated members and volunteers.

RECOGNIZING THE 2019 LORDS AND LADIES FAIRFAX

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize a dedicated group of men and women in Northern Virginia. Every year, each member of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors selects two people from his or her district who have demonstrated outstanding volunteer service, heroism, or other exceptional commitments and contributions to our community. Since the program's inception in 1984, approximately 600 individuals have earned the honor of being named a Lord or Lady Fairfax

by his or her representative on the Board of Supervisors

This year, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors will recognize those individuals who have made tremendous impacts through their support of our public schools, parks, youth sports leagues, arts community, public safety, and human service programs. It is nearly impossible to fully describe the diversity of accomplishments of the honorees. Their efforts contribute greatly to the quality of life for the residents of Fairfax County and are worthy of our praise and sincere appreciation.

It is my honor to include in the RECORD the names of the 2019 Lords and Ladies Fairfax:

At-Large: Lady Pam Michell and Lord Randy Sales

Braddock District: Lady Jeanne Kadet and Lord Mike Perel

Dranesville District: Lady C. Melissa Jonas and Lord Wayne Winston Sharp, PhD

Hunter Mill District: Lady Janet Bradshaw and Lord Francis Steinbauer

Lee District: Lady Phyllis Walker Ford and Lord Joe Blackwell

Mason District: Lady Elizabeth "Libby" Novak and Lord Victor Nguyen

Mount Vernon District: Lady Jan Vaughan and Lord William "Bill" Vaughan

Providence District: Lady Janet Kerr-Tenner, PhD and Lord Charlie Hall

Springfield District: Lady Jenee Lindner and Lord Jim Kirkpatrick

Sully District: Lady Audrey Farrar Morton and Lord Brian Aiello

In addition, a number of other awards are being given to individuals for their service to the community and to the Celebrate Fairfax! Festival, including four members of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors who are retiring at the end of this year. I am pleased to include in the RECORD the names of the following individuals:

James M. Scott Community Spirit Award: Cathy Chianese and Lynn Strobel

Celebrate Fairfax Volunteer of the Year: Faiyaz Faruque

Celebrate Fairfax Ambassador Award: Chairman Sharon Bulova, Supervisor John Cook, Supervisor Cathy Hudgins, and Supervisor Linda Smyth

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending and expressing our gratitude to these men and women who volunteer their time and energy on behalf of our community. Their efforts, which are deserving of our highest praise, provide immeasurable benefits to their fellow residents and serve as a reminder of why Fairfax County remains such a great place to live, work, and raise a family.

RECOGNIZING THE VFW POST 7327 AMERICANISM AWARDS RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 12, 2019

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7327 in Springfield, Virginia and the winners of its 2019 Americanism Awards.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) traces its beginnings to 1899 when veterans of the Spanish American War established local organizations to bring awareness to their service