



Congressional Record

Proceedings and Debates of the 114th Congress, Second Session

WASHINGTON, D.C.

House of Representatives

April 3, 2016

RECOGNIZING THE 2016 FAIRFAX FEDERATION OF CITIZENS ASSOCIATIONS AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY OF VIRGINIA

MR. CONNOLLY: Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens' Associations and the honorees of its 66th Annual Awards Banquet. As a former two-term President of the Federation, I understand that those who volunteer their time, energies, and talents to civic activities play a vital role in making Fairfax County one of the best places in the nation in which to live, work, and raise a family. I am honored to recognize the following individuals for their service to our community:

2015 Citizen of the Year: Olga Hernandez

Olga Hernandez has been involved with the League of Women Voters in Virginia for over 20 years. Olga became a board member of the LWV of the Fairfax Area in 1996, the largest chapter in Virginia, and served as its president from 2000 to 2005. From 2005 to 2007, she served as the Vice President and director of the Virginia League of Women Voters and in 2007, she was elected president, where she served for four years. She also currently sits on the organization's state board.

Citation of Merit: Shirley Ginwright

Shirley Ginwright is the president of the Fairfax County NAACP and has long been active in Public Safety initiatives and programs. Ms. Ginwright served on the Fairfax County Chief of Police's Diversity Council in 2013 and has worked hard to increase diversity within the Police Department. Ms. Ginwright recommended the creation of a Committee to improve law enforcement and community relationships and communication. Shortly after this meeting, the Communities of Trust Committee (COTC) was established, bringing together law enforcement agencies and citizens to discuss community outreach and cooperation. In addition to her work with COTC, Ms. Ginwright served on the Ad Hoc Police Practices Review Commission organized by Chairman Bulova in 2015 to review police practices.

Citation of Merit: Jim Hart

Jim is an attorney with Hart & Horan, PC in Fairfax. Jim has been an at-large member of the Fairfax County Board of Zoning Appeals since 2000. He has served as an at-large member of the Fairfax County Planning Commission since 2004, including 2 terms as Parliamentarian, and its current Secretary, handling countywide zoning ordinance amendments. He has chaired its Environment Committee since 2007, developing the County's green building policy.

Citation of Merit: Phil Rosenthal

Phil Rosenthal graduated from WVU in 1964 with a business management degree. He has been the President of Nationwide Credit Corporation, a third party debt collection agency, since 1970. Under Phil's guidance, the company continues to grow and prosper. Phil also serves on the Fairfax County Community Action Advisory Board, Fairfax County A. Heath Onthank Memorial Awards Selection Committee and Good Shepherd Housing. He is deeply committed to help our area's low-income families in their struggles of finding adequate housing, food and caring for their children.

Citation of Merit: Doug Sanderson

Mr. Douglas Sanderson has tirelessly devoted 25 years of pro-bono legal service to the citizens of Fairfax County as legal counsel to the Arts Council of Fairfax County, Inc. The Arts Council is the non-profit organization that is Fairfax County's designated local arts agency. Doug's professional expertise has had and continues to have a direct and positive impact on the quality of life in Fairfax County.

Special Gratitude Award: Sally Sibley

Sally Sibley retired after 42 years as President and CEO of PHILLIPS Programs for Children and Families, a nonprofit serving youth with disabilities. During Sibley's time at PHILLIPS, the organization grew from serving four students in a small schoolhouse to serving over 500 children and families in five programs across the entire Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. A constant champion for children, Sibley was instrumental in the establishment of a

community network of associations who work together in advocating for the rights of children and their families.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking these incredible individuals and in congratulating them on their awards. Civic engagement is the foundation of a community, and Fairfax County residents enjoy an exceptional quality of life due in part to the efforts of these individuals. The contributions and leadership of these honorees have benefited our community greatly and truly merit our highest praise.