

2013 Lifesaving Award Recipients: Officer Kristen M. Bennett, Police Officer First Class Kenneth M. Bridgeman, Police Officer First Class Alan C. Cordray, Police Officer First Class Timothy S. Evans, Police Officer First Class Dana V. Ferreira, Police Officer First Class Brooks R. Gillingham (2 Lifesaving Awards), Police Officer First Class Christopher B. Hutchison, Police Officer First Class Richard A. Juchnewicz, Police Officer First Class Christopher W. Munson, Police Officer First Class Brendan T. Murphy, Police Officer First Class Ali Sepehri (2 Lifesaving Awards), Police Officer First Class Robert E. Welch, Master Police Officer Maureen M. McKeon, and Detective Annie R. Mack-Evans (Retired)

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2013 Valor Award Recipients, and thank each of the men and women who serve in the Fairfax County Police Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of Fairfax County, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR FLIGHT OF OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2013

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 21 World War II veterans from Oregon who will be visiting their memorial this Friday in Washington, D.C. through Honor Flight of Oregon. On behalf of a grateful state and country, we welcome these heroes to the nation's capital.

The veterans on this flight from Oregon are as follows: James Chase, U.S. Army; Irene L. Christopherson, U.S. Army; Duane F. Goodman, U.S. Army; Charles V. Heaney, U.S. Army; John J. Kime, U.S. Army; Robert O. Phariss, U.S. Army/U.S. Air Force; Donald M. Rickard, U.S. Army; Donald S. Shilling, U.S. Army; Velma L. Sundet, U.S. Army; Ross A. Turkle, U.S. Army; Warren C. Gilfillan, U.S. Army Air Forces; Floyd E. Goldbloom, U.S. Army Air Forces; Elliot Lovelace, U.S. Army Air Forces; Leslie L. Lawrence, U.S. Coast Guard; Raymond H. Prescott, U.S. Marine Corps; Arthur Nelson Cauble, U.S. Merchant Marines; Arthur H. Cusson, U.S. Navy; Earl Garrett, U.S. Navy; Richard E. Mould, U.S. Navy; Charles A. Potter, U.S. Navy; Wayne W. Stram, U.S. Navy.

These 21 heroes join more than 98,000 veterans from across the country who, since 2005, have journeyed from their home states to Washington, D.C. to reflect at the memorials built in honor of our nation's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, each of us is humbled by the courage of these soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines who put themselves in harm's way for our country and way of life. As a nation, we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude owed to them for their honor, commitment, and sacrifice in defense of the freedoms we have today.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their exemplary dedication and service to this great country. I especially want to recognize and thank Gail Yakopatz for her tireless work as president of Honor Flight of Oregon.

RECOGNIZING THE FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT RECIPIENTS OF THE 2013 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VALOR AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of men and women in Northern Virginia. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety agencies and their commitment to the community. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. This year's ceremony will recognize 36 individuals in a variety of categories including: the Lifesaving Award, the Certificate of Valor, and the Bronze or Silver Medal of Valor.

Five members of the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I submit the names of the following award recipients:

2013 Bronze Medal of Valor Recipients: Captain II Jerome Williams, Technician Rudy Iturriño, and Volunteer EMT Brandy L. Walker.

2013 Certificate of Valor Recipients: Captain I Timothy O. Barb and Captain I William S. Moreland.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2013 Valor Award Recipients, and thank each of the men and women who serve in the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of Fairfax County, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

HONORING THE WORK OF LEGACIES OF WAR

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2013

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of Legacies of War, a project that continues to raise public awareness about the unexploded ordnance (UXO) in the country of Laos dropped by the U.S. Air Force during the Vietnam War.

Between 1964 and 1973, the U.S. Air Force dropped more than two million tons of bombs on Laos; about a third of those bombs failed to detonate. Today, those bombs remain lethal and embedded the ground, where they continue to maim, injure and kill civilians. Each year, hundreds of civilians, children, women and farmers get injured, maimed or killed by UXO. I witnessed many first-hand accounts of tragic stories from UXO survivors in December 2006 when I visited the Xiengkhoung Province in Laos, an area that was heavily contaminated by UXO. While progress has been

made in recent years, we must continue clearance efforts until UXO are no longer a threat.

Legacies of War is a compelling and powerful educational program that provides needed attention to the suffering of the thousands of UXO victims in Laos. This month, Legacies of War is bringing two demining advocates from Laos to share their stories about the senseless deaths, injuries and tragic consequences caused by UXO. I commend Legacies of War for sponsoring this nationwide speaker tour series in cities across the U.S. to rally public support for increased urgency in the removal of UXO in Laos. This tour also provides an opportunity to promote healing and hope by creating a brighter and safer future for the people of Laos.

I strongly urge my colleagues to attend any events in their district and support UXO clearance programs in Laos and around the world. Children should not live in fear of the lethal remnants from a long-past war.

RECOGNIZING THE FAIRFAX COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2013 FAIRFAX COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VALOR AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding group of men and women in Northern Virginia. These individuals have demonstrated superior dedication to public safety and have been awarded the prestigious Valor Award by the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce.

The Valor Awards recognize remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety agencies and their commitment to the community. Our public safety and law enforcement personnel put their lives on the line every day to keep our families and neighborhoods safe. This year's ceremony will recognize 36 individuals in a variety of categories including: the Lifesaving Award, the Certificate of Valor, and the Bronze or Silver Medal of Valor.

Five members of the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office are being honored this year for their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I submit the names of the following award recipients:

2013 Silver Medal of Valor Recipient: Master Deputy Sheriff Curtis A. LeMay

2013 Life Saving Award Recipients: Correctional Technician Mark J. Richey, Private First Class Brandon A. Pitts, Private First Class Morgan R. Walker, and Master Deputy Sheriff Dwight D. Greear.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2013 Valor Award Recipients, and thank each of the men and women who serve in the Fairfax County Sheriff's Office. Their efforts, made on behalf of the citizens of Fairfax County, are selfless acts of heroism and truly merit our highest praise. I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding this group of remarkable citizens.

THREE CHAMPIONSHIPS FOR
VANDALIA CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2013

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, there is a school in the Sixth District of North Carolina that just won its third state championship this school year. Vandalia Christian School of Greensboro won state titles in basketball, soccer and cheerleading. I would like to take this time to congratulate all their squads.

The story of the boys' basketball team from Vandalia Christian School is all but ordinary. On February 23, the Vikings capped off the 2013 season with a 13-point win over Raleigh Christian Academy resulting in their first NCCSA Class 2-A championship in 28 years. The road was not easily traveled; they lost in the championship game the year before and one of their players, Will Zimmerman, was diagnosed with leukemia and had to undergo chemotherapy treatments through the rest of 2012. Considering the circumstances of making it deep into the playoffs just to meet defeat, and the tragic diagnosis of a teammate, you would have expected to see a demoralized team the following year. The Vikings, however, did the opposite. They turned defeat into a learning experience—and the strength of Zimmerman into spirit—and they carried his jersey to every game to lay over an empty seat on the bench giving them the desire to make a run at the title.

Lead by Head Coach Tommy Adams and Assistant Luke Adams, their hands were full with an incredibly tense game. Raleigh Christian nearly overcame a 20-point deficit despite having one of its senior players go down with an injury and transported off the court by medical personnel. Vandalia would hold on for the win thanks to the supporting cast of players including Tyler Metcalf, Houston Miller, Michael Fields, Andrew Owen, Chase McNeil, Aaron Whittman, Christian Gravely, Tyler Christian Daniels, Zachary Dark, Brandon McDowell, James Wagner, Ethan Willis, Will Zimmerman, and Nathaniel Hobbs. And behind the scenes, managers Kloe Atkinson, Kani Totten, Storm Somers, and Gabriel Fields aided the cause. Coach Adams said the circumstances surrounding Zimmerman gave the team added motivation to get back to the championship game. With his cancer in remission, we are proud to announce that Will sat courtside to motivate and cheer his team to victory.

Vandalia's varsity boys' soccer team also experienced success when it won the NCCSA 2-A state championship. It was the Viking soccer team's first title since 1994. They were coached by true Viking blood, VCS alumnus, Coach Jason McCall. With goalie Jeffrey Welker accounting for six saves, the Vikings took on Wilmington Christian on October 27, 2012, with a stifling defensive approach, shutting out Wilmington 2–0.

VCS scored both goals in the first half with a header by Houston Miller and then a put back by Joshua McClelland. Both goals were only separated by 10 minutes, giving Wilmington Christian an early uphill battle from which they could not overcome.

Assistant Coach Junior Hannig accompanied Coach McCall in their quest for the elusive state title with the assistance of first team

all-state Joshua McClelland, second team all-state Michael Matthews and Houston Miller, along with Tyler Metcalf, Jasper White, Zachary Dark, Jake Stone, Cates Banner, Jeffrey Welker, Matthew Hobbs, Arthur Ascensio, Will Zimmerman, Andrew Strickland, Colton Toft, and Bradley Casey.

Every team will tell you that they need people cheering for them in their quest for glory. In the case of Vandalia Christian School, the teams with Vikings on their chests were supported by a cheerleading squad that also was crowned state champion this school year.

Lead by head Coach Kim Hazelwood, the VCS cheerleaders included Ally Crook, Morgan Kennedy, Alyce Lentz, Morgan McDowell, Victoria Johnson, Ali Willard, Leanne Powell, Grace Wilson, Lauren Michaels, and Ashley Pollard.

All in all, it has been quite a year for the students, faculty, staff, and families of Vandalia Christian School. On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we congratulate Principal Jeremy Cordova, Athletic Director Luke Oates, and the basketball, soccer, and cheerleading squads of VCS for their state championships.

COMMENDING CATE FULKERSON FOR RECOGNITION AS THE RESTON CITIZEN ASSOCIATION CITIZEN OF THE YEAR FOR 2013

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2013

Mr. CONNOLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend Cate Fulkerson of Reston for her recognition as the Reston Citizen Association Citizen of the Year for 2012.

The Reston Citizens Association was founded in 1967 to promote and protect Reston's founding principles by serving as a non-partisan forum for all residents and as an advocate for the community with County and State governments.

The RCA Citizen of the Year award dates back to 1976 and is awarded to someone whose actions are consistent with the goals of Reston and the RCA. Recipients are recognized for contributing to the quality of life in Reston and for helping people in need.

Cate Fulkerson, a Reston native, is best known throughout the community for her various roles on the staff of the Reston Association, where she has worked since 1991 and now serves as second in command of an 80-person staff. Countless Restonians have benefitted from her outstanding customer service, efficiency, and professionalism. Cate insists that no one who contacts her organization with a problem or question is ever told to "call someone else."

Cate's service also extends deep into the community and she is well known as a "powerhouse of enthusiasm" in many endeavors. She has led the effort to bring the Character Counts program and Ethics Day to Reston schools, helped plan Reston's annual Martin Luther King Day celebration, organized walks to help the homeless, collected Christmas presents for needy kids, and served as Board President of Leadership Fairfax. Her dedication to Reston has been recognized by multiple community organizations, including the

Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, which presented Cate with its Volunteer of the Year for 2012.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise to join me in congratulating Cate Fulkerson for this award and thanking her for her committed and selfless service to our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF COMMUNITY INVOLVED IN SUSTAINING AGRICULTURE (CISA) SOUTH DEERFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2013

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding work of Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture throughout western Massachusetts for the past twenty years. The organization has grown from a small group of farmers to a community of restaurants, farmers, neighbors, and local businesses. CISA has increased the visibility of locally produced food through its highly successful "buy local" campaign—the longest running in the country—and supported the growth of farmers' markets in Franklin, Hampden, and Hampshire counties to include over 50 local produce markets including seven winter markets.

The Pioneer Valley, and the nation as a whole, Mr. Speaker, has benefitted greatly from the contributions of CISA. Over five years, CISA helped to increase the total acreage of farmland in Franklin, Hampshire, and Hampden counties by four percent and doubled the annual total dollar amount of agricultural products sold by local farmers to the community to nearly eight and a half million dollars.

Mr. Speaker, western Massachusetts is blessed by some of the most picturesque landscapes in this country. Because of CISA's commitment to supporting farmers and preserving these farmlands, we can pass this incredible resource on to the next generation.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture on twenty years of vital service to the community of western Massachusetts.

TO ACKNOWLEDGE VOLUNTEER FAIRFAX AND THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2013 SERVICE AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 15, 2013

Mr. CONNOLY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize and give thanks acknowledge and give thanks to Volunteer Fairfax and the extraordinary honorees of the 21st Annual Fairfax County Volunteer Service Awards.

Volunteer Fairfax matches the skills and interests of volunteers to the needs of local non-profit organizations. Volunteer time and services valued at nearly \$1 million are contributed annually to more than 900 public and