

ceremony will present ninety-one awards to recognize extraordinary actions above and beyond the call of duty in a variety of categories, including the Lifesaving Certificate, the Certificate of Valor, and the Bronze, Silver, and Gold Medal of Valor.

Fourteen awards will be bestowed upon first responders who serve with the Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department, in recognition of their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I include in the RECORD the names of the following Valor Award Recipients:

Gold Medal of Valor:  
Virginia Task Force 1  
Silver Medal of Valor:  
Chief (Ret.) Tyrone Harrington  
Lieutenant Jay Smith  
Bronze Medal of Valor:  
Cpt. Barry J. Rathbone  
Lieutenant Scott Kraut  
Master Technician Daniel Thompson  
Firefighter Jeffrey W. Cockey  
Certificate of Valor:  
Master Technician David J. Higgins  
Acting Fire Technician James A. Wellig  
Firefighter David P. Eimers  
Firefighter Jacob C. Brendel  
Investigator Timothy Nicholson  
Fire Inspector LaTycia Tanks  
Fire Inspector Raymond Figueroa

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2018 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 our community, 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 CARSON FISHER

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Carson Fisher of Panorama High School. Carson was recently honored for outstanding academic achievement at the Sixteenth Annual Governor's Scholar Recognition on April 29, 2018.

This statewide program is sponsored by the Iowa Governor's Office, the Iowa High School Athletic Association and the Iowa Farm Bureau. Each Iowa High School was invited to select a senior with the highest academic ranking. Not only are they academically gifted, but the selected students are often the youth who are successful in extra-curricular activities and community endeavors.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Carson Fisher in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to reach her goals. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Carson on receiving this esteemed designation, and wishing her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ROD BLUM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, due to flight complications, I was unable to arrive in Washington in time to cast my vote on June 19, 2018.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 269; YEA on Roll Call No. 270; and YEA on Roll Call No. 271.

#### IN HONOR OF SENATOR BETTE LASKY

### HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize State Senator Bette Lasky, who will retire from the New Hampshire Senate after nearly two decades of service to her hometown of Nashua.

During her time at the Legislature, Senator Lasky has been a leading champion for voting rights, marriage equality, and the fight to bring commuter rail to New Hampshire. She has been a friend to local business and labor, assisted students and schools, and worked to ensure equal pay for women. In addition, she has been an active volunteer in her hometown community, serving as the Chair of the Nashua City Planning Board, a member of the Nashua City Selectboard, a board member of the New Hampshire Association for the Blind, and so much more.

On behalf of my constituents across New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I thank Senator Lasky for her many years of service and for being a part of what makes the Granite State so special. Her legacy will continue through the work she has been able to accomplish as a representative. I am honored to recognize and congratulate Senator Lasky on her retirement and I wish her the best of luck in the years ahead.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. BETO O'ROURKE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from the Chamber on Thursday, June 14, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call vote 265 and "nay" on Roll Call vote 266.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 2018 DALE CITY MULTICULTURAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS & SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the recipients of the thirty-fourth

annual Dale City Multicultural Achievement Awards & Scholarship Banquet hosted by the Dale City Christian Church. The 2018 banquet theme is, "This is your Season for Favor and Increase," highlights the continued emphasis placed on educational advancement in fostering personal autonomy and success.

Under the leadership of Bishop Patrick O. Thomas and Mrs. Rhonda Pittman, the Dale City Multicultural Achievement Foundation has provided more than \$320,000 in scholarship funds. In addition to providing financial resources, the foundation celebrates the achievements of community activists for their efforts to improve the lives of area residents while serving as positive role models leading by example and encouraging students to seek out educational enrichment opportunities under the core mission of educating the youth of today to become engaged citizens of tomorrow.

It is my honor to include in the RECORD, the following names of the recipients of the 2018 Dale City Multicultural Achievement Awards & Scholarship Fund:

Pastoral Leadership Award:  
Pastors Sam & Valena Metacalfe  
Religious Leadership Award:  
Rev. Naomi Gibson  
Educational Leadership Award:  
Mrs. Dorothy Passawe  
Mrs. LaVonda Wortham  
Professional Leadership Award:  
Mr. Corey Holeman  
Community Service Award:  
Mrs. Vielka Gary  
Ms. Ashley Johnson  
Business Achievement Award:  
Jewelry by Design, Mrs. Jenny Caro  
Mr. Adrian Vaughn  
Youth Christian Service Award:  
Mr. Carlos Chavez  
Mr. Andrew Reese  
Mrs. Beverly Scott  
Christian Service Award:  
Mr. Carlos Chavez  
Mr. Andrew Reese  
Mrs. Beverly Scott  
Faithfulness Award:  
Mr. Errol & Mrs. Maudine Graham  
Mrs. Astrid Inabinet  
Mrs. Athena Powell  
Dedicated Christian Family Award:  
Mr. & Mrs. Maverick Powell & Family  
Distinguished Senior Leadership Award:  
Miss Troi Stubblefield  
2018 High School Scholarship Recipient:  
Mr. Joshua Curtis  
Mr. Cameron Harris  
Miss Karina Jackson  
Miss Troi Stubblefield  
Mr. Riley Mitchell

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the 2018 Dale City Multicultural Achievement Awards & Scholarship recipients, and in thanking them for their individual efforts to ensure we each maintain a quality life and live a better tomorrow.

#### SHOWING SUPPORT FOR DEDE PHILLIPS AFTER BOBCAT ENCOUNTER

### HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 21, 2018

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the courage of Ms. DeDe Phillips of Hart County. On June 7, Ms.

Phillips faced a dangerous, rabid animal with unselfish resolve.

That day, Ms. Phillips walked into her own yard to an unusual discovery. A bobcat stood by her car for a moment before lunging at this grandmother.

Knowing that her five-year-old granddaughter was safe just inside her home, Ms. Phillips decided not to call for help. Instead, she wrestled with the bobcat until she pinned it down and suffocated it with her hands.

Only after the animal's death did Ms. Phillips learn that it was rabid and that she would have to undergo a series of rabies shots and medical care to address her broken fingers and other wounds left by the cat's claws and teeth.

Mr. Speaker, I grieve with the Phillips family for this attack, and at the same time I want to celebrate the strength and selflessness that Ms. Phillips displayed by protecting her family from any possible harm.

Northeast Georgia is full of courageous, capable people, and Ms. DeDe Phillips exemplifies their spirit. As she recovers, men and women in our region and around this country are recognizing her for the hero that she is.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS HOME RULE ACT

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 21, 2018*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Courts Home Rule Act. This bill would give the Council of the District of Columbia authority over the jurisdiction and organization of the local D.C. courts. The 1973 Home Rule Act (HRA) expressly prohibits D.C. from enacting any law with respect to any provision of the D.C. Code title that relates to these matters.

Forty-five years after the passage of the HRA, matters involving the D.C. courts almost never come to Congress, so Congress knows almost nothing about the District's courts. Notwithstanding the importance of D.C.'s courts to District residents, the D.C. Council, which is the repository of knowledge and experience for the District's criminal and civil justice systems and the accountable body to our residents, is irresponsibly left on the sidelines while Congress remains the sole entity to correct flaws in the District's courts.

Under the HRA, the D.C. Council has no authority to "enact any act, resolution, or rule with respect to any provision of title 11 of the District of Columbia Code (relating to organization and jurisdiction of the District of Columbia courts)." Matters in title 11 include rules of criminal and civil procedure, court administration, the number of authorized judges, the branches of the courts, the rules of jury service and admission to the bar. The bill would strike this limitation on the D.C. Council's authority.

The District has never had authority over its local courts, even when it was responsible for paying for their operations. Under the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997, the federal government assumed the costs for several state-level functions, including the courts. This bill would

not affect the authority of the President to nominate, or the Senate to confirm, local judges.

This is an important step to increase home rule for the District, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

#### HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL SHAUN EASLEY

#### HON. DENNY HECK

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 21, 2018*

Mr. HECK. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Department of Defense and Intelligence Overhead Architecture Subcommittee, I rise today to congratulate United States Air Force Lieutenant Colonel (Lt. Col.) Shaun Easley for his exceptionally meritorious service while serving as a Congressional Liaison Officer at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) from December 2015 to June 2018.

While at NGA, Lt. Col. Easley exhibited superior leadership and became a well of institutional knowledge for the organization. Thanks to his exemplary work, the relationship between Congress and NGA is stronger than ever. He is a force-multiplier, widely known for the quality of his work by officials across the government.

Lt. Col. Easley has a knack for making the seemingly inaccessible, within reach. When I have worked with the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, I find them to be professional and informed on parliamentary procedure, which enhances productivity between the legislative and executive branches of government. The high level of detail in the discourse between the NGA and me reflects back on Lt. Col. Easley's extensive experience and expertise, which he clearly provides to key agency stakeholders informing them on the intricacies of the legislative process.

I watched closely when the NGA Director, Robert Cardillo, testified during the agency's first open hearing in front of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence in 2016. The Director's comprehensive Statement for the Record helped enrich transparency, and drive understanding of NGA's unique capabilities and mission with members of Congress and the American public. It came as no surprise to me that Shaun supported that mission, continuing the high standards set by the NGA personnel. Shaun's impact will long be appreciated by the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and by my fellow members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Lieutenant Colonel Easley for his dedication and service on behalf of the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency and the United States, and to wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 2018 FAIRFAX COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT VALOR AWARD RECIPIENTS

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 21, 2018*

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 Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce.

This is the 40th Annual Valor Awards sponsored by the Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce. This event honors the remarkable heroism and bravery in the line of duty exemplified by our public safety officers. 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 present ninety-one awards to recognize extraordinary actions above and beyond the call of duty in a variety of categories, including the Lifesaving Certificate, the Certificate of Valor, and the Bronze, Silver, and Gold Medal of Valor.

Sixty-nine awards will be bestowed upon first responders who serve with the Fairfax County Police Department in recognition of their exceptional service. It is with great pride that I include in the RECORD following Valor Award Recipients:

Silver Medal of Valor: 2nd Lt. Michael D. Gubesch, MPO Douglas E. Middlebrooks, PFC Ali Sepehri, Ofc. Isa L. Martin, Pilot Garret G. Wymer.

Bronze Medal of Valor: 2nd Lt. Scott F. Moskowicz, 2nd Lt. Peter J. Massaro, MPO Brian E. Plaugher, PFC Robert A. Wardrop, PFC Jose R. Morillo, PFC Gary Moore, Jr., PFC Lindsey M. Memenza, PFC Eric L. Harte, PFC William W. Daugherty, Ofc. Andrew H. Snow.

Certificate of Valor: 2nd Lt. Edward S. Rediske, MPO John E. Alford, PFC Nicholas D. Taormina, PFC Timothy B. Schilling, PFC Michael D. Scatchard, PFC Ryan M. Saupp, PFC James F. Sadler, PFC Todd C. Owens, PFC Michael W. Greene, PFC Edward K. George, PFC Colby B. Cooman, PFC Stephen P. Cicinato, PFC Aaron M. Ciarrochi, PFC Morgan N. Blumer, PFC Kenneth D. Baxter, Det. Paul H. Cable, Ofc. Michael A. Stirling, Ofc. Frank J. Kopeski, Ofc. Joseph S. Hensley, Ofc. Alicia A. Adkins, Pilot Andrew J. Wiseman, APO Dennis M. Staten, Dispatcher Jill Velez, K9 Bolt.

Lifesaving Award: 2nd Lt. Daniel B. Spital, MPO Erik S. Stallings, MPO Bryan V. Smith, MPO Brian A. Ritter, PFC Cameron York, PFC Kurt T. Woodward, PFC David M. Winter, PFC Jon David F. Tiedemann, PFC Philip C. Stone, PFC Shannon L. Sams, PFC Gregory J. Salino, PFC Kevin L. Reynolds, PFC Steven L. Randazzo, PFC Gershon L. Ramirez, PFC Kory A. Pfeiffer, PFC Paul J. Notarianni, PFC Christopher W. Munson, PFC Katherine A. Montwill, PFC Kelly E. McElligott, PFC Young H. Lee, PFC Matthew R. Kourt, PFC Casey C. Johnson, PFC Nicole A. Hunt, PFC Timothy M. Henderson, PFC Kyle R. Bryant, PFC Kurt A. Bowers, PFC Morgan N. Blumer, Det. Brian C. Christian, Ofc. Devin T. White, Ofc. Matthew D. Erd.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the 2018 Valor Award Recipients, and thank each of the men and women who serve in the Fairfax County