

**RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF
THE 2025 STEPHEN A.
MCLAUGHLIN FAIRFAX COUNTY
CHAMPIONS OF CHARACTER
AWARDS**

HON. JAMES R. WALKINSHAW

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2025

Mr. WALKINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of the 2025 Stephen A. McLaughlin Fairfax County Champions of Character Awards. Since 2001, these awards have been presented to athletes, coaches, and parents in our region who exemplify the tenets of teamwork, leadership, good sportsmanship, and community service during athletic competitions.

It is my honor to include in RECORD the following names of the 2025 Stephen A. McLaughlin Fairfax County Champions of Character Awards recipients:

BRADDOCK DISTRICT

Male Athlete: Tillman Abeyta, Football, Braddock Road Youth Club; Female Athlete: Norah Garcia, Soccer, Annandale Boys & Girls Club; Coach Carlos Santizo, Soccer, Braddock Road Youth Club, Parent: Angela Santizo, Soccer. Braddock Road Youth Club.

DRANESVILLE DISTRICT

Male Athlete: Brady Britt, Football/Baseball, Great Falls Little League/Langley High School Braddock Road Youth Club; Female Athlete: Ayla Sayd, Volleyball, Marshall High School/Coach Khayla Williams, Basketball, Herndon Optimist Club; Parent: Martine Silve, Field Hockey, Herndon Reston Youth Field Hockey.

FRANCONIA DISTRICT

Male Athlete: Bowen Kirui, Soccer, Lee-Mt. Vernon Sports Club; Female Athlete: Vivienne Jensen, Soccer, Lee-Mt. Vernon Sports Club, Coach Russell Balikian, Soccer, Basketball, Lee-Mt. Vernon Sports Club; Parent: Tara Suga, Baseball, CSL/Patriot/Hayfield High School.

HUNTER MILL DISTRICT

Male Athlete: Teddy Gill, Football, Reston Youth Association-, Female Athlete: Sienna McIntyre, Ice Hockey, Reston Raiders; Coach Terry Redican, Football, South Lakes High School/Parent: Walid Choueiri, Basketball/Swim/Football.

MASON DISTRICT

Male Athlete: Makai Carothers, Football, Annandale Boys & Girls Club; Female Athlete: Michelle Soto, Soccer, Annandale Boys & Girls Club; Coach Alicia Hopkins, Basketball/Soccer/T-Ball/Football, Annandale Boys & Girls Club; Parent: Maria Colbert, Soccer, Premier Athletics Club.

MOUNT VERNON DISTRICT

Male Athlete: Tate Allen, Basketball, Lee-Mt. Vernon Sports Club; Female Athlete: Zoe Tickner Soccer, Lee-Mt. Vernon Sports Club/West Potomac High School, Coach Garrett Kell Basketball, Lee-Mt. Vernon Sports Club; Parent: Michael Day, Basketball. Lee-Mt. Vernon Sports Club.

PROVIDENCE DISTRICT

Male Athlete: Ben Ochsendorf Basketball, McLean Select/Nova Cats AAU; Female Athlete: Ryan Elizabeth McIntosh, Swimming, Poplar Heights Crush/Coach Mark Cruz, Volleyball, Vienna Youth Inc. Parent: Mary Wong, Volleyball, Vienna Youth Inc.

SPRINGFIELD DISTRICT

Male Athlete: Simon Fischer, Baseball, Central Springfield Little League; Female

Athlete: Valeria Morales, Soccer, Braddock Road Youth Club; Coach Dan Walsh, Baseball, Central Springfield Little League, Parent: Kwame James, Basketball, Cross-Training Athletes into Believers.

SULLY DISTRICT

Male Athlete: Otto Hutchins, Soccer, Southvester n Youth Association, Female Athlete: Quinn Crozier, Softball, VA Glory, Coach Javier Alarcon, Soccer, Southwestern Youth Association, Parent: Dan Mac, Soccer, Southwestern Youth Association.

I would also like to give special recognition to the 2025 Champions of Character Award recipient, Harold Leff, who is recognized for his 33 years of dedicated and tireless service to The Fairfax County Athletic Council.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of the 2025 Stephen A. McLaughlin Fairfax County Champions of Character Awards and commend them for their exemplary sportsmanship character, and values, which serve as a source of inspiration for their peers and community.

**RECOGNIZING NATIONAL
CUSTODIAN APPRECIATION DAY**

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2025

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to rise today to recognize school custodians on National Custodian Appreciation Day. Celebrating the tireless work of our school custodians is immensely important, for they are the quiet champions of our schools working diligently, day in and day out, to ensure that our learning environments remain clean, safe, and welcoming. They are often the first to arrive and the last to leave, faithfully fulfilling their duties with dedication and pride. National Custodian Day was first established in 1972, when a group of educators and school administrators recognized the vital contributions of custodians in creating safe and healthy spaces for students to learn. They wanted to show appreciation for the hard work and steadfast commitment of custodial staff to their school communities.

By 1998, custodian appreciation efforts had expanded beyond expressions of gratitude to raise awareness about the critical role custodians play in maintaining cleanliness, hygiene, and order in every setting. People have begun to acknowledge the often-overlooked impact custodial workers have on our daily lives.

Since then, custodian appreciation initiatives have continued to grow and gain global recognition. Planned events and gestures have grown, promoting respect and recognition, and emphasizing the significance of the contributions of school custodians. School custodians are our children's first line of defense against germs and illness. Through their consistent and tireless efforts, they ensure that our schools remain places where students can thrive. From before the first bell rings until long after the last student leaves, custodians work to create an environment where learning and growth can flourish.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the custodians in our schools throughout the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the entire United States. I ask that my colleagues in

Congress and friends throughout Massachusetts join me in celebrating school custodians on National Custodian Appreciation Day as we honor their dedication and their many contributions to our school communities.

**RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN FLOYD
BLAIR**

HON. KAT CAMMACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2025

Mrs. CAMMACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Captain Floyd Blair of Marion County, Florida, who celebrated his 105th birthday on November 15, 2025.

Captain Blair's life is a complete representation of the American spirit—characterized by courage, service, and an enduring commitment to his country. He was born in a 1920, a defining moment in history when the world faced the threat of tyranny and oppression. Answering his Nation's call to service, Captain Blair served honorably in the United States Army Air Forces during the Second World War, where he demonstrated the incredible valor that were the hallmarks of America's Greatest Generation.

Throughout his service, Captain Blair embodied the values of duty, honor, and sacrifice. As a fighter pilot in combat operations across Europe, he placed himself in harm's way to defend the cause of liberty and ensure a future of peace for generations to come. His courage and leadership remain an inspiration to all who cherish freedom and understand the profound cost at which it is preserved.

Following his military service, Captain Blair continued to exemplify these same values in civilian life. For decades, he has been a devoted member of the Marion County community, respected for his humility, integrity, and steadfast patriotism. Even in his later years, Captain Blair has continued to inspire others through his quiet strength and lifelong commitment to his fellow veterans.

This year, as family, friends, and community members join together to celebrate this remarkable milestone, we pause to reflect on the profound legacy of a man who has given so much to his Nation. Captain Blair's story reminds us of the resilience and selflessness that define America's veterans and the importance of honoring those who have safeguarded our freedom.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Florida's 3rd Congressional District, I extend my deepest gratitude and warmest congratulations to Captain Floyd Blair on his 105th birthday. May his life continue to be blessed with health, joy, and the enduring appreciation of a grateful Nation.

**RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF
THE 2025 ARTSFAIRFAX ARTS
AWARDS**

HON. JAMES R. WALKINSHAW

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2025

Mr. WALKINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize ArtsFairfax and the recipients of the

2025 ArtsFairfax Awards. These awards recognize the extraordinary contributions of artists, arts organizations, individuals, and businesses in Fairfax County, the City of Fairfax, and the City of Falls Church that support the arts in our community.

Founded in 1964, the formally named Arts Council of Fairfax County is a non-profit organization designated as Fairfax County's local arts agency. Today, ArtsFairfax operates programs and initiatives that include grant opportunities, arts advocacy, education, and professional development opportunities for arts and culture organizations.

ArtsFairfax envisions a thriving arts and culture community accessible to all of Fairfax County. To support this vision, ArtsFairfax awarded a total of \$799,026 in 82 Awards to over 65 local arts organizations across its three grant programs for FY2026. Among those awardees, 82 percent are led by women, 30 percent are led by people of color, and 23 percent are led by veterans. These figures reflect ArtsFairfax's commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility when it comes to the arts.

The Arts Awards honors supporters of the arts in four categories: the Jinx Hazel Arts Award, the Philanthropy Award, the Impact Award, and the Education Award. It is my honor to include in the RECORD the following names of the 2025 Arts Awards Recipients:

The 2025 Jinx Hazel Award will be presented to General (retired) Lester L. Lyles.

The 2025 Philanthropy Award will be presented to Tim Rizer.

The 2025 Impact Award will be presented to IACC—Pars Place.

The 2025 Education Award will be presented to Marco Rando.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of the 2025 Arts Awards and recognizing the visionaries, leaders, and supporters who help to make our Northern Virginia communities rich with cultural opportunities.

HONORING CICELY MULDOON

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2025

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Cicely Muldoon upon her retirement from the National Park Service after 40 years of extraordinary public service.

A Bay Area native, Cicely was born on the Presidio Army base in San Francisco. Her father was a World War II Army infantryman. She grew up in Sausalito and after earning her bachelor's degree in zoology from the University of California, Davis, began her first job with the National Park Service (NPS) in 1985 as a ranger at the Sitka National Historic Park in Alaska. During her tenure, Cicely had the wonderful opportunity to work in many parks across the United States, including Buffalo River National Park in Arkansas and the San Juan Island National Historic Park in Washington, before being appointed Superintendent of Pinnacles National Park in San Benito County in 2002. After three dedicated years, and significant progress in expanding the condor release program, Cicely became a deputy regional director for NPS. For five years she

oversaw community partnerships, fire and safety initiatives, and education programs across the region while providing direct management of 10 parks including Death Valley and Joshua Tree.

In 2010, Cicely was named Superintendent of Point Reyes National Seashore (PRNS), a position she held for a decade. My staff and I worked closely with her in this role on many challenging matters including the aftermath of the Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar's decision to let the NPS lease to Drakes Bay Oyster Company expire and the ensuing years trying to deliver on the directive to pursue 20-year leases to the historic working ranchers in Point Reyes National Seashore. During her time in PRNS she also managed several vital infrastructure renovations, including the restoration of the 150-year-old Point Reyes Light-house.

In January 2020, Cicely left PRNS to assume the role of acting superintendent of the iconic Yosemite National Park. After 10 months, she was promoted to permanent superintendent, overseeing the 750,000-acre park, its 1,200 employees, and more than 40 million visitors annually. The second female superintendent in Yosemite's 156-year history, Cicely led the park through historic reforms and unprecedented challenges. At the start of her tenure, she skillfully navigated the pandemic, successfully preventing any major COVID-19 outbreaks among visitors or employees. She also managed Yosemite as it faced wildfire challenges, an unexpected winter closure in 2023, and the introduction of the new day-use reservation system to manage long-term overcrowding concerns.

Mr. Speaker, I personally worked with Cicely Muldoon for more than a decade on critical issues affecting the Point Reyes National Seashore and our natural resources. She is smart, committed, and has a great sense of humor. Always dedicated to the welfare of her employees and the protection of our natural lands, Cicely leaves an indelible positive impact on the National Park Service and all those visitors and staff whom she has taught and inspired. I respectfully ask that you join me in expressing heartfelt gratitude to Cicely for her generosity of spirit, innumerable good deeds, and in sending her best wishes on her next endeavors.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF FALLEN CORRECTIONS OFFICER JEREMY HALL

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2025

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, the 9th Congressional District of Virginia and the entire Commonwealth of Virginia mourn the loss of Virginia Department of Corrections Officer Jeremy Hall.

On Monday, November 17th, Officer Hall was working a morning shift at the North River Correctional Center in Independence, Virginia. Just before 8 am, an inmate at the facility attacked multiple officers, including Officer Hall. As a result of the inmate attack, Officer Hall suffered serious injuries and died.

Our communities depend on the incredible sacrifices of corrections officers to keep our

communities safe. These officers are trained to respond to, supervise and effectively tend to inmates under state custody. Accordingly, our corrections officers must be willing to put their own well-being on the line to handle stressful, challenging and even dangerous circumstances.

We rely on figures like Officer Hall, who made the selfless choice to serve the Virginia Department of Corrections since April 2024. Officer Hall carried out his corrections work with professionalism, integrity and strength. But he is also remembered for showing up to every shift with a smile and with pride in his work.

The attitude that Officer Hall carried to work can be attributed to his deep love for his family. Like so many of our corrections officers, Officer Hall received great support from his family and community.

He is survived by his wife Dawn Marie Hall, of the home; daughter, Amaya Hall (Bland, Virginia); mother, Mary Susan Richardson (Wytheville, Virginia); father, Michael L. Hall (Debra) Elk Creek, Virginia; Mother-in-law, JoAnn Bollin (Dorchester, South Carolina); brother, Drew Hall (Wytheville, Virginia); maternal grandmother, Edna Ruth Burcham (Galax, Virginia); paternal grandmother, Ruth Hall (Elk Creek, Virginia); stepchildren, Felix and Sophi Johnson (Durham, North Carolina) beloved dogs, Chia and Willow; and several loved aunts, uncles and cousins also survive. Jeremy is preceded in death by paternal grandfather, James Hall.

Officer Hall was about to celebrate his 41st birthday at the time of his death. While our region grieves his loss, River North Correctional Center and the Virginia Department of Corrections remain resolute in providing protection, safety and care to our communities. They will continue to operate according to the very same mission that Officer Hall supported and they will remember his service and sacrifice.

RECOGNIZING CORNERSTONES CEO KERRIE WILSON ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. JAMES R. WALKINSHAW

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 20, 2025

Mr. WALKINSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Kerrie Wilson on her upcoming retirement after nearly 25 years of dedicated service as the CEO of Cornerstones in Reston, Virginia. Cornerstones is a nonprofit organization that has provided Northern Virginia families and individuals with support, advocacy, and empowerment through critical services for over 55 years.

Founded in 1970 as Reston Interfaith, Cornerstones began as an advocacy group focusing on affordable housing needs in the Reston community and has now grown into a comprehensive service organization that serves and supports approximately 26,000 individuals throughout Fairfax County annually. The services available through Cornerstones have expanded significantly under the exceptional leadership of Kerrie Wilson and today encompass housing assistance, food assistance, financial assistance, childcare, youth services, community and family strengthening, and several community resource centers throughout the district.