

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2018 ARTS AWARDS

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize ARTSFAIRFAX (formerly the Arts Council of Fairfax County) and the recipients of its 2018 Arts Awards. These awards recognize the extraordinary contributions of those who support the arts in our community including artists and arts organizations, as well as individuals and businesses in Fairfax County, the City of Fairfax, and the City of Falls Church. The economic benefit of that support cannot be overstated.

Each year, ARTSFAIRFAX honors a select group of individuals, companies, or organizations that have made extraordinary contributions to the local arts community. It is my honor to include in the RECORD the names of the 2018 recipients:

The 2018 Jinx Hazel Arts Award is being presented to the Claude Moore Charitable Foundation. Founded in 1987 by Dr. Claude Moore, the Foundation works to enhance educational opportunities for young people. Having given more than \$62 million to organizations and programs throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia, the Foundation is one of Virginia's largest philanthropic organizations. Its support in Fairfax County has been broad, consistent, and generative, with donations of more than \$8 million to organizations and programs including: Claude Moore Colonial Farm, George Mason University's Fall for the Book festival, George Washington Teachers Institute at Mount Vernon, Lorton Arts Foundation, Foundation for Fairfax County Public Schools, Fairfax Library Foundation, Artist-in-Education Bluemont Concert Series, the Fairfax Symphony Orchestra, Virginia Chamber Orchestra, Fairfax County Parks Authority, ARTSFAIRFAX, and many more.

The 2018 Arts Education Award is being presented to the American Youth Philharmonic Orchestras (AYPO). Since 1964, AYPO has provided rigorous, conservatory-quality orchestra training and performance experience for thousands of gifted, young musicians from Northern Virginia. Nearly 90 percent of AYPO members live in Fairfax County and more than two-thirds are minorities. All students take part in competitive auditions and all are selected solely on their musical achievements. These ensembles are open to all youth in the region, not just AYPO members. This has allowed AYPO to serve a broader base of students within Fairfax County Public Schools. For 54 years, AYPO has helped young people develop their musical skills and an appreciation for orchestral music to provide opportunities that are rarely available in the schools.

The 2018 Arts Impact Award is being presented to the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts. Each year, nearly 400,000 people enjoy performances at the Filene Cen-

ter, The Barns at Wolf Trap, and Children's Theatre-in-the-Woods. Wolf Trap is a cornerstone of Fairfax County's cultural fabric. Education also has long been core to Wolf Trap's mission. Though national in scope, the Wolf Trap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts has roots in Virginia and has been partnering with Fairfax County Public Schools for more than 30 years. During the 2016–2017 school year, the Institute served more than 17,000 children, educators, and parents/caregivers across 18 counties in the Commonwealth, including Fairfax.

The 2018 Arts Philanthropy Award is being presented to Virginia McGehee Friend. Ms. Friend is an avid supporter of Washington West Film Festival, Greater Reston Arts Center, Arena Stage, Washington National Opera's Domingo-Cafritz Young Artist Program, Smithsonian Craft Show, Just Neighbors, Loudoun Hunger Relief, Mobile Hope, Canine Companions for Independence, and the National Humane Education Society. Throughout her life, Friend's tireless dedication and immense generosity to the arts in Fairfax County and across the region have served as a model for philanthropy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the recipients of the 2018 Arts Awards and in recognizing and thanking the visionaries, leaders, and supporters who help to make our Northern Virginia communities rich with cultural opportunities.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, due to unavoidable circumstances relating to my health, I was physically absent from the House of Representatives on November 16, 2018. On that day, I missed two recorded votes.

On Roll Call No. 419, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 5787, had I been present, I would have voted "Aye."

On Roll Call No. 420, on Passage of H.R. 6784, had I been present, I would have voted "Aye."

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. FRANCIS ROONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, my missed vote was due to a family event.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 419.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for roll call vote 420 on Friday, November 16, 2018, I would have voted 'no'.

### RECOGNIZING THE AWARD RECIPIENTS OF THE 2018 CENTREVILLE IMMIGRATION FORUM ANNUAL DINNER

#### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Centreville Immigration Forum on the occasion of its 4th Annual Dinner. The theme of this year's gala is "Celebrating Our Global Community" and will recognize the rich diversity of cultures in Northern Virginia.

Northern Virginia is blessed by its diversity. In Fairfax County, nearly 1 in 4 residents is foreign born. More than 100 languages are spoken in our schools, and we are home to more minority-owned technology firms than anywhere else in the nation. Our variety of cultures and heritages do not divide us; they make us stronger.

Three exceptional individuals will be honored during this gala who have gone above and beyond in ensuring that everyone, regardless of their country of origin, has full access to the benefits and opportunities this community and our nation provide. I am pleased to include in the RECORD names of the following 2018 Annual Dinner honorees:

Mr. Rodrigo Velasquez

Rodrigo is a proud product of Fairfax County Public Schools where he attended elementary, middle, and high school. Rodrigo graduated from Robert E. Lee High School in 2012 and later graduated from George Mason University in 2016 with a Bachelors in Communication with a focus in Public Relations. A formerly undocumented immigrant from Bolivia, he was the President of Mason DREAMers, where he helped build the organization's ability to advocate for undocumented immigrants to have better access to higher education. He was also the first Student Support Coordinator at George Mason University, the first position of its kind in Virginia. In this position, he helped undocumented, low income, homeless, and first-generation college students find financial and social support.

Ms. Afeefa Syeed

Ms. Syeed is a cultural anthropologist who most recently served as Senior Advisor at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), where she worked to develop policy, define best practices, highlight success stories, and build internal capacity and tools to

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

frame country strategies that reflect greater expertise in engaging in dynamic cultural contexts. She has advised the White House, National Security Council, State Department, UN Democracy Fund, World Bank and various in-country government and non-governmental institutions. Afeefa also founded and is the current Head of School for Al Fatih Academy, a Reston, VA independent school whose core curriculum is peace education and civic engagement.

Mr. Ilryong Moon

Born in Seoul, Korea in 1957, Mr. Moon immigrated to the United States in 1974. He quickly became involved in his local community, primarily through his service on the Fairfax County School Board, to which he was elected in 1995. He has served in a variety of capacities on the School Board, as an At-Large Member, Braddock District Representative, Vice-Chairman and Chairman. In addition to his service on the School Board, he has also served on the Urban Policy Task Force, Affordable Housing Advisory Committee, the Police Chiefs Diversity Task Force and the Virginia State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Civil Rights Commission.

Mr. Speaker, the efforts of these individuals are noteworthy not only because they are rooted in an appreciation for our region's cultural and ethnic diversity, but also because they help to strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation in our community. I congratulate them on their awards and ask my colleagues to join me in commending them for their service to the Northern Virginia region.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF MRS.  
EMMA ROBERTA DAVIE WILSON

### HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the life of an extraordinary Georgian and a great American, Mrs. Emma Roberta Davie Wilson who passed away at the age of 90. She was a loving mother, daughter, sister, and friend. Mrs. Wilson was a wonderful teacher who had a passion for educating youth.

Having spent her entire life as a Georgia resident, Mrs. Wilson attended Main High School in Rome, Georgia. After receiving her high school diploma, she attended Paine University in Augusta, Georgia, where she received her degree in early childhood education. Mrs. Wilson dedicated 25 years of her life to the Atlanta Public School System at Thomas Heath Slater Elementary School. Her tenure within this institution of public learning personifies what it means to be a public servant.

In 1948, she married the late Eddie Daniel Wilson. Together, Mr. Speaker, they had five beautiful children, and a host of grandchildren. Mrs. Wilson was also a most devoted Christian. She was a loving member at Macedonia Baptist Church in Joyland Community in Atlanta, Georgia. And she was a Sunday School teacher who helped lead many young children to Christ at an early age.

I celebrate Mrs. Wilson for her admirable service to the youth of our nation, the city of

Atlanta, and the State of Georgia. My colleagues and I extend our deepest sympathies to her surviving friends and family members, which include five children, four grandchildren, three great-grandchildren, and a host of nieces and nephews. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my condolences to Mrs. Wilson's family and friends during this time of sorrow.

HONORING TROOP 3055

### HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and remember the three beautiful Girl Scouts, and one loving mother, of Troop 3055, who tragically lost their lives on November 3, 2018. On that Saturday morning, Autumn Helgeson, Jayna Kelley, Haylee Hickie, and Sara Schneider were volunteering their time to pick up trash on the side of the road as a service to their community, when they were fatally struck by a hit and run driver. Though my words can never reverse the awful heartbreak that their families have suffered, I hope that by speaking today we can pay tribute to these girls, who at the time of their death were simply trying to make their community a better place.

Today, we pray for the families, friends, and Troop of these girls, and for Madalyn Zwiefelhofer, who was sent to the hospital in critical condition as a result of the accident. Please know that the entire community stands with all of the families during this difficult time.

HONORING CPL. BILL EIERMAN

### HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service and sacrifice of Corporal William Eierman, a member of the Jacksonville Beach Police Department. Cpl. Eierman is being honored today with the Medal of Valor and Law Enforcement Purple Heart.

On August 8, 2018, after hearing of gunshots, Cpl. Eierman ran toward a scene where a suspect had shot a marked patrol car and was fleeing from officers. While pursuing the suspect, Cpl. Eierman engaged with him and was shot twice. Thanks to Cpl. Eierman's heroism, no one else was hurt and the individual was brought to justice.

Officer Eierman is a dedicated father and husband who has served the Jacksonville Beach community for 16 years as a member of Jacksonville Beach Police Department after previously working as a Jacksonville Sheriff's Office corrections officer. In addition to being a family man, Cpl. Eierman is active in his church and always looking for ways to give back to the community he serves.

On behalf of a grateful community, I want to thank Cpl. William Eierman for the courage he displayed on that day, and every day. We thank you for your service and wish you a speedy recovery.

RECOGNIZING THE ASIAN PACIFIC  
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Asian Pacific Development Center, a community based non-profit organization that was founded to serve Asian American Pacific Islanders, but now extends its services to all immigrant and refugee communities in the Aurora/Denver metro area. The Asian Pacific Development Center has done so now for nearly four decades.

The influx of refugees and immigrants from the Asia Pacific region into Colorado shortly after the end of the Vietnam War was the impetus for the creation of the Asian Pacific Development Center. These new arrivals in Colorado faced challenges overcoming language barriers and mental health issues, such as post-traumatic stress disorder and depression. To address these challenges, the Asian Pacific Development Center was founded in 1980, staffed with social workers, attorneys, psychologists and psychiatrists.

Today the Asian Pacific Development Center does much more. In fact, it serves as a "one-stop" shop offering compassionate care and an array of other services to immigrants and refugees such as English as a second language instruction. The Asian Pacific Development Center strives to provide all these services in a culturally appropriate manner. These support services strengthen the health and wellbeing of immigrants who are transitioning into life in Colorado.

A key factor in the effective delivery of all these services is the Asian Pacific Development Center's Executive Director Harry Budisidharta. He has done a remarkable job and has become a very well-respected leader, not only for the Asian Pacific Development Center, but of our entire community. I am proud that the Asian Pacific Development Center is located in my hometown of Aurora, Colorado.

RECOGNIZING THE 39TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF CATHOLICS FOR HOUSING,  
INC. AND 2018 FATHER GERARD  
CREEDON HOUSING  
AWARD RECIPIENTS

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 20, 2018*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 39th anniversary of Catholics for Housing, Incorporated and to congratulate the 2018 Father Gerard Creedon Housing Award recipients.

Founded in response to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Pastoral Letter entitled, "The Right to a Decent Home," Catholics for Housing, Incorporated was established in 1979 under the tireless leadership of Father Gerard Creedon and sustained by a dedicated group of community members who work to expand affordable housing options and prevent homelessness.

Now in its 39th year, Catholics for Housing has grown substantially in both clientele and