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THE FAUQUIER CHAMBER

2024

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2024 VALOR AWARDS

TIMELINE & AGENDA

6:00 PM – 6:30 PM

Registration and Networking

6:30 PM

Welcome and Opening Remarks, Alec Burnett, Fauquier Chamber of Commerce President and CEO

6:33 PM

Presentation of the Colors by Liberty High School Army ROTC

6:38 PM

National Anthem

6:40 PM

Invocation – Dylan Hall, Fauquier County Fire Fighter and Associate Pastor of the Fisherman’s Church

6:40 PM

Dinner

7:10 PM

Recognition of Invited Guests, Sponsors and Introduction of Presenting Sponsor, Alec Burnett

7:15 PM

Welcome and Introduction of the Master of Ceremonies, Mark B. Williams

7:20 PM

Introduction of the Honorees by Master of Ceremonies, Chad Ricardo

8:00 PM

Closing Remarks, Gloria Williams, Valor Awards Committee Chair



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MASTER OF CEREMONIES

CHAD RICARDO



Chad Ricardo is an Anchor and Reporter with Fox 5 DC, covering professional, collegiate and prep sports, while reporting on the stories that matter most to the community.

Ricardo serves as host to two shows at Fox 5, the first is, 'Game Time', a Washington Commanders centric weekly pregame broadcast. It features former Commanders wide receiver, Santana Moss as analyst as he and Ricardo help prepare the fan base for what Washington needs to do in order to be successful in any given week.

The second is, 'In The Sports', another weekly, which airs Commanders postgame highlights in addition to providing coverage of the regions collegiate sports programs and showcases high school student athletes.

As a reporter, Chad Ricardo attends Commanders practices, observing the team on field, participating in daily press conferences and interviewing athletes in the locker room before reporting live on location. He also has a weekly, 'Friday Night Lights' feature at Fox 5, in which he tours the biggest high school games in the region, interviewing coaches/student athletes and interacting with the crowd. On any given day, you may find Ricardo interviewing a DMV collegiate head coach, running track with the regions top athletes, sledding down the highest peaks in Washington D.C., or taking in a ball game with fans. He is a man of the people.

In addition to his work with Fox 5, Chad is the voice of Howard Bison Basketball, where he does play-by-play for the Bison digital network and conducts interviews on behalf of the athletic department.

Ricardo has spent the last 10 years serving the DMV sports scene. He began by building his own brand, "The Ricardo Report" by providing professional level coverage to the youth and high school sports community before earning collaboration opportunities with NBC Sports Washington, ABC-7 and ultimately, his role with Fox 5.

Chad earned a Bachelor of Science from James Madison University, where he also played football for the Dukes.

GLORIA BULL SAW PLENTY OF
SUNSHINE WHILE SERVING IN SAUDI ARABIA.
**NOW SHE HELPS HARNESS THE SUN BY
WORKING WITH RENEWABLE ENERGY.**

**What is your military
experience?**

I was in the Air Force ROTC in college. I joined the Air Force Reserves to determine if military life was truly for me. While in the reserves, I was deployed to Saudi Arabia during Desert Storm and actually had to miss my graduation.

What did you get your degree in?

Electrical engineering. In college, I wanted to fly fighter jets, and I got the opportunity to fly in one. A few inverted loops, and I quickly realized I need to stay on the ground.

**What did you do in the
Air Force?**

I was in air transportation. I coordinated the movement of people, planes and equipment, and I made sure the right assets and personnel were where they needed to be when they needed to be there. It's a fancy way of saying I did logistics.

**What do you do at
Dominion Energy?**

I'm an engineer by training, but work as a renewable energy asset project manager. I manage solar sites in South Carolina, Connecticut, Indiana, Georgia and Tennessee. I'm responsible for the safe operation and management of my solar sites.



**Why should a veteran consider a career
at Dominion Energy?**

Dominion Energy is very supportive of veterans, from holding their jobs to making up for any income or benefits they may lose while being deployed. And for new hires, Dominion Energy has a tremendous onboarding process, helping veterans transition from military life to corporate America.

**I heard you use goats to
keep the grass trimmed at the
solar farms.**

Actually, goats would probably chew on the wiring and cause damage. Yeah, so we probably don't want to use goats, but we have considered sheep.

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OPENING REMARKS

MARK B. WILLIAMS

Welcome to the 2024 Valor Awards. It's been our tradition at Mark B. Williams & Associates to take part in this annual event honoring first responders from the law enforcement and fire and rescue departments who have gone above and beyond in the past year. We are again honored to be here with you to offer this evening as a way of expressing our sincere thanks to you for what you do and to your families who support your work. As a tribute to you, this year we asked the children in our community to draw pictures of what a hero looks like to them. Their drawings are used tonight as the centerpieces on the tables and symbolize the effort to raise awareness of our everyday heroes who are always there when we need them, who put the safety and wellbeing of others above their own, who give our community a sense of security.

As you look through this program, please note the many individuals and businesses that contributed to this event as evidence of the wide appreciation in our community for all first responders. Your community thanks you for having the courage to act.



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Genesis Construction Group proudly supports first responders



VETERAN HONOREE LTC JOHN O’SULLIVAN



Retired Lieutenant Colonel John O’ Sullivan was born in Bronx, New York. He graduated from St. Johns University with a degree in History. LTC O’Sullivan has been married for 49 years and will be celebrating his 50th wedding anniversary in June along with their 8 children.

LTC O’Sullivan dedicated 25 years of his life to serving this country in the United States Army. During his time in the military, he served as an Infantry Officer and later branched into Aviation. He stationed in Ft. Moore, Georgia, Ft. Sheridan, Illinois, Ft. Bliss, Texas, the

Pentagon in Washington, DC, Ft. Belvoir, Virginia, Ft. Liberty, North Carolina, and Ft. Novosel, Alabama. LTC O’Sullivan also stationed overseas in Song Mao, Vietnam, Seoul, South Korea, and Estahan, Iran.

LTC O’Sullivan’s significant awards, medals, and ribbons include Master Aviator Wings, Combat Infantryman Badge, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Republican of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, and Army Overseas Service Ribbon.

LTC O’Sullivan retired from Active Duty in 1993. Afterwards, he found another way to serve our country. In 1996, he began serving as Liberty High School’s only U.S. Army Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (JROTC) Senior Army Instructor. His cadets credit him with many of their successes. LTC O’Sullivan’s mentorship and the AJROTC program helped prepare many cadets to transition to the military.



DEPARTMENT OF FIRE, RESCUE & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

LIFE SAVING AWARD



Units were dispatched for an 80 y.o.m. in cardiac arrest. Wagon arrived on scene and was advised by nursing staff that an elderly man was choking inside. They went inside and found that the patient had a notable airway obstruction, barely conscious, and was tripodding. Prior to being able to provide oxygen or complete an assessment, the patient's airway became completely obstructed and respirations ceased. The crew removed the patient from his wheelchair and attempted several abdominal thrusts. Part of the obstruction was dislodged, however the patient remained apneic. The patient went unconscious and was placed on the floor where CPR was started. Medic 1 crew arrived on scene and began suctioning the airway to remove the object. The object was completely removed, and chest compressions and ventilations continued. Prior to transport, the patient gained consciousness and was alert and oriented prior to arrival at Fauquier Hospital. The ability of the crews to calmly and swiftly work together during a high acuity incident led to a life being saved.

Here are the honorees:

EMS 1101: Battalion Chief Rich Cluff, Lieutenant Jordan Coleman

Wagon 1: Lt. Zach Flinn, Technician Christina Shepherd, Technician William Alford, Technician Chaz Vangilder, FF Dylan Garrett

Medic 1101: Technician Connor Rodenbough, Technician Steven Cropp, Technician Dylan Hall

12TH ANNUAL VALOR AWARDS



Cluff



Coleman



Flinn



Shepherd



Alford



Vangilder



Garrett



Rodenbough



Cropp



Hall





DEPARTMENT OF FIRE, RESCUE & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS



Units were dispatched to a MVC, head on collision. RE13, M8, E8, arrived on scene and determined the patient was awake, but critical, Rapid extrication was performed, and immediate advanced life support procedures performed. The patient had suffered multisystem trauma and was in severe distress. BC1101 and EMS 1101 arrived, EMS 1101 performed several critical care procedures to stabilize the patient. M8 transported with EMS 1101 and Tech Loan and Lt Bouie to MWH Trauma.

Here are the honorees:

BC1101: Nathan Helsley

EMS 1101: Sam Miller

E8: Stephanie Lewis, Nick Loan, Nathaniel Moline, Matt Wyne

M8: Steven Cropp, Charles Myers

RE13: Christopher Bouie Sr., Jake Donahue

12TH ANNUAL VALOR AWARDS



Helsley



Miller



Lewis



Loan



Moline



Wyne



Cropp



Myers



Bouie



Donahue





TOWN OF WARRENTON POLICE DEPARTMENT



The Warrenton Police Department is made up of 28 sworn officers, 2 part-time employees, and 2 civilian staff members. Our mission is to work in partnership with the residents and businesses of our community to provide a safe and secure environment.

We believe in a community-focused approach to policing using the six pillars of the 21st Century Policing strategies as our blueprint for success. They are:



**Chief
Timothy Carter**

- Building Trust and Legitimacy
- Policy and Oversight
- Technology & Social Media
- Community Policing and Crime Reduction
- Training and Education
- Officer Wellness and Safety

The strategies of these six core principals are designed to help agencies promote effective crime reduction while building public trust and safeguarding officer well-being.

How do we do this? Outreach and transparency. “The police are the public and the public are the police”.

Since 2020, the Warrenton Police Department has been involved in multiple programs designed to showcase the department to the public and encourage and enhance engagement.

- Community Action Team: Members of the community that meets monthly to review and comment/make changes to the Department’s General Orders. The goal of the Community Action Team is to help enhance the level of trust and understanding between the community and the Warrenton Police Department.



**Deputy Chief
Scott Arnold**

- Citizen's Academy: This year will be our 3rd academy, and the first one partnering with the Fauquier Sheriff's Office. It is a 10 week program where citizens get to experience ride-alongs, briefings by different leaders of the departments, tours, demonstrations, displays and hands on activities.
- See It In A Different Light: A partnership between The Warrenton Police Department and The Piedmont Dispute Resolution Center. This program only accepts 8 applicants at a time and uses role reversals where citizens pretend to be police officers and are placed in scenarios with actors. These scenarios are based on calls for service that the WPD has responded to.
- GuardianScore: This is a customer satisfaction tool that allows community members to rate their interactions with police officers. A QR code on the back of an officer's business card opens a brief survey that allows citizens to rate how well the officer did in different metrics during their encounter; the officer's listening skills or professionalism for example.
- Church Coalition: A partnership between the Warrenton Police Department and local faith-based leaders to discuss trending topics, such as responding to mental health consumers and safety issues facing churches.
- Community Events: The Warrenton Police Department engages with the community in many different ways. We participate in and sponsor community cookouts and neighborhood talks; we have dunk tanks and booths with other Law Enforcement Agencies at the WARF during National Night Out; we help with parades and fun runs, flashlight easter egg hunts and First Friday's up on Main Street; we partner with the Town's Public Works department for the "Touch a Truck" event; you'll see us at the Christmas Parade, the July 4th fireworks display with Warrenton Town Limits, and at Juneteenth.

Additionally, the Warrenton Police Department utilizes a relational style of policing. Relational policing is focused on developing a relationship between the community member(s) and the officer(s) they come into contact with. Because of the relationship, the community member(s) feels a sense of loyalty to that officer(s) and ultimately each is more cooperative with the other. Over time, this type of policing develops a stronger relationship between the police department and the community they serve.



FAUQUIER COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

LIFESAVING AWARDS

Criteria – This award is provided to individuals who, through their extra ordinary efforts, were able to take actions that resulted in the saving of a life or lives..

Captain Kristi Kiernan

1SGT Jason Anns

Corporal Justin Welch

Corporal Austin Rodgers & K9 Morgan

MDS Kaycee Huston



Kiernan



Anns



Welch



Rodgers



Huston

The Fauquier County Sheriff's Office is honored to nominate an extraordinary team of Deputies for saving the life of a senior citizen, who suffered from dementia, on a frigid February morning in 2023. It all began in the early morning hours when MDS Huston responded to a call for a missing elderly person in the Catlett area. Fortunately, the subject was enrolled in the Project Lifesaver program and was wearing a special bracelet. He went missing from his home and could not be found by his wife.

Deputy Huston searched the home, to no avail and requested additional assistance. A track was conducted by Deputy Rodgers and K9 Morgan to no avail. Meanwhile, Captain Kiernan, Cpl. Welch and 1SGT Anns arrived on the scene with their Project Lifesaver equipment. The Deputies set up their PLI antennas, programmed the provided frequencies on their equipment and began using their thermal scanners. They began their search down a back road and their equipment indicated they were heading in the correct vicinity.

At that point, it did not take long to locate the subject, who was laying face down on the frozen ground near a church. He was immediately provided with an emergency blanket to keep him warm until a rescue vehicle could transport him to the hospital.

The team worked extremely well together on this rescue mission and their training and special PLI equipment helped save a life that morning. Because of the weather conditions, the elderly subject could not have endured much more exposure to the elements. As a result of this incident, the Lifesaver Project has gained more attention in the public arena and more individuals are benefitting from the special equipment, with the potential of more lives saved.





FAUQUIER COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS

Domestic Violence Specialist Michele C. Arft



Arft

Ms. Arft, a confident woman of remarkable courage, integrity and character, is a critical component of our agency's approach to combating the problem of intimate partner violence. She is someone, who displays genuine empathy and concern for victims of intimate partner violence and is a person who works tirelessly for the needs of crime victims. Ms. Arft provides resources and support to victims of violence and so much more. She listens to their stories, guides victims through the court process, earns their trust and helps them find the courage they need to make changes in their lives.

Ms. Arft joined the Sheriff's Office in May 1998 upon graduating from Radford University. At the time, her position was funded through a grant, but we found her contributions to be invaluable and we quickly secured funding from the county to make her a permanent member of the Sheriff's Office staff. Her expertise is remarkable. Not only does Ms. Arft service the residents of Fauquier County, but she also assists residents of Rappahannock County, the Town of Warrenton, Remington and The Plains, VA.

During her tenure in her current position, Ms. Arft has been on call 24/7 to support victims of intimate partner violence and stalking by providing information and resources based on each unique situation. She is an expert in assisting victims to obtain protective orders and regularly accompanies them to court appearances, providing them with much-needed legal resources and emotional support.

Since 1998, Ms. Arft has advocated for more than 10,000 survivors of intimate partner violence in Fauquier County. She has assisted with more than 1,200 protective order cases and has received more than 2,000 referrals for her services from local counselors, social services, the courts, the Commonwealth's Attorney, and family and friends of those in need.

Ms. Arft has worked with legislators on domestic violence legislation and has also testified before the General Assembly.

Ms. Arft's reputation of compassion and exemplary service to those victims in need is unwavering and appreciated by everyone involved in the advocacy for victims. She approaches each and every case as if it were a unique problem and leaves the victims feeling encouraged by the support of the criminal justice system.

In addition to her work schedule, Ms. Arft has served as a committee member of local mental health organizations, has been a team member of Partnership of Community Resources, and has served as a managing member of the Fauquier Coordinating Council on Domestic Violence. She also works tirelessly for Fauquier Cops for Children, an organization of law enforcement professionals, which provides assistance and support to the youth of Fauquier County. The group's main event is its Shop-With-a-Cop program, which provides Christmas for children and teens, who have been adversely affected by crime and abuse.

Michele Arft is an extraordinary person and an advocate for families. She is a valuable member of FCSO team for victims' rights. She does not seek recognition for her dedication and tireless efforts, but the Sheriff's Office wants everyone to know what an unsung hero we have in Michele Arft.

Countless lives have been affected in positive ways solely by their interactions with Ms. Arft. She constantly exceeds expectations of the responsibilities placed upon her and does so with grace and compassion. She is absolutely worthy of this distinct honor for which she is highly recommended.





FAUQUIER COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

MERITORIOUS UNIT AWARD

Criteria – This award is provided to a full unit that was involved in an incident or incidents that involved extra ordinary efforts to rescue, defuse and/or create a safe and secure situation.

Public Safety Telecommunicator Supervisor Sabrina Ward

Assistant Telecommunicator Supervisor Renee Settle

ECS Kailee Lassaso

ECSII Nikia Mason-Sandwell

Corporal Wesley Frost

Deputy Colby Lewis



Ward



Settle



Lassaso



Mason-Sandwell



Frost



Lewis

On July 31, 2023, Assistant Supervisor Settle answered a 911 call in which a reckless driver was reportedly driving erratically on Route 29, headed towards Warrenton from New Baltimore. She kept the caller on the line long enough to obtain pertinent information for Corporal Frost to locate the vehicle in question.

When the Corporal pulled over the vehicle, it narrowly missed hitting his cruiser before the driver slammed into a ditch. The combative driver was arrested for DUI and taken to the FCSO breath room, where ECS Lasasso (now Deputy Lasasso) wisely took it upon herself to monitor the security cameras.

When Corporal Frost was preparing to have the subject blow into the intox machine, ECS Lasasso witnessed the handcuffed subject stand up and begin to assault the Corporal and knock him to the floor before the Corporal could call for back up. That is when ECSII Mason-Sandwell jumped into action and called for back-up to the breath room. Shift Supervisor Ward supported the Communications team and provided oversight to the highly-charged incident.

Meanwhile, Deputy Lewis, who returned from a transport, was in the right place at the right time to assist the Corporal. When time was of the essence, the entire group worked together to ensure the safety of the Deputies and to get control of the subject and get him locked up in a cell at the ADC without any injuries.

The four Communications team members are worthy of this recognition for their team efforts, initiative and dedication in preventing further escalation of the situation and minimizing the potential for serious injuries to the deputies. The Deputies and the Communications members worked well together to bring a positive conclusion to a potentially dangerous incident.





LAUREL RIDGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE POLICE

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Dr. Gregory L. Voorhees,
Deputy Chief of Police - Major



Reichel

I would like to submit **Officer Jason Reichel** for consideration for a Lifetime Achievement Award. I have read the award criteria, and it seems a decision has not been finalized regarding the number of years one must serve before being considered. Officer Reichel has a total of 35 years with his Federal service as well as his military service which is a significant landmark. Officer Reichel's service warrants serious consideration.

Officer Reichel served with the Fairfax County Police Department from January 9, 1995, until he retired February 28, 2017. While working at Fairfax, he worked many years in patrol and was a distinguished field training officer who trained nearly forty officers. He also spent about a year in investigations before returning to the field in patrol. Reichel served as a law enforcement instructor. Reichel was nominated a number of times for a certificate of valor, the bronze medal of valor, and distinguished field training instructor. Reichel received a certificate of valor for spending several hours, exposed to rain and sleet, while talking a suicidal subject off a high-tension wire with a ligature tied around his neck. Reichel received a meritorious action award for entering a burning building and rescuing several people from death. Reichel received lifesaving awards for saving the lives of suicidal subjects. Reichel did receive the distinguish field training instructor award as well. When this agency spoke to the Fairfax County Internal Affairs representative, while doing Reichel's background for employment, the chief was told Reichel was a "legend" there and he wished he the opportunity to have worked with Reichel.

After retiring, Officer Reichel returned to law enforcement as a deputy sheriff for the Fauquier County Sheriff's Office. There he worked in court security, which also entails paper service and transport of people taken into custody. Reichel worked for Fauquier County from April 6, 2020, until April 26, 2023.

On February 27, 2023, the Laurel Ridge Community College Police Department was fortunate enough to hire Reichel as a police officer. Reichel provides quality customer service at the college with decades of experience behind him. Reichel has become a valuable member of the department and continues to service this Commonwealth and this community with pride and integrity.



Campbell

Officer Page D. Campbell, Jr. has 39 years of experience as a Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services Certified Law Enforcement Professional. He is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) 238th National Academy, Quantico, Virginia 2009 where fewer than 1% of law enforcement officers attend. Campbell has numerous notable achievements including computerizing the Department of Police, transitioning from revolvers to semi-automatic weapons, developing Firearms Training Facility, dividing the Town of Luray into Sectors for enhanced police coverage, serving on the CSCJTA Board of Directors and the

NWR Drug Task Force Board, managing thousands of dollars in Police equipment, developing records management, receiving specialized training in interview/interrogation, developing Call Care Program for Senior citizens and those with disabilities, receiving armor training for Glock and H&K weapons, designing patrol fleet vehicles, and new shoulder worn uniform patches, managing the first School Resource Officer in Page County within the town of Luray, developing All Hazards Emergency Operations Plan for the Town of Luray, serving as the Coordinator of Emergency Services for Luray, Deputy Coordinator for County of Page, helping with hundreds of youth programs including finger painting, Halloween events, bike rodeos, fishing tournaments, and toys for tots, 2014 Award Safety Programs "Law Enforcement Trainer". Officer Campbell is also husband to Darlene, father to three daughters, Sarah, Devan, and Danae, and grandfather to seven grandchildren, Madison, Makinley, Coen, Jazon, Emma, Baylo and Archer.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD



Colonel Gary T. Settle
Superintendent

Lt. Colonel Kirk S. Marlowe
Deputy Superintendent

Michael C. Woodard
First Sergeant



Lewis and Bandit

The Area 12 office of the Department of State Police would like to nominate **Senior Trooper Jesse R. Lewis** for the Meritorious Service Award. During the calendar year of 2023, Senior Trooper Lewis utilized his dual purpose K9 partner Bandit with incredible frequency to assist the Department of State Police and local agencies with calls for service. During this time, he responded to 203 separate calls for service throughout the state. These calls resulted in 55 suspects being arrested and charged with 109 felony and 19 misdemeanor offenses. Fourteen of these suspects had fled or bailed out from their initial interaction with law enforcement officers and had to be apprehended by the utilization of Bandit's track. Ninety-nine of these calls for service with Bandit also involved the search, finding and seizure of illegal narcotics which resulted in 20 suspects being charged with 40 felony and 10 misdemeanor

offenses, 10 firearms being recovered, and a combined 773 ounces of cocaine, methamphetamine, fentanyl, and heroin seized.

Senior Trooper Lewis is the hardest working K9 trooper with the State Police. He routinely leads the state in calls for service and is always available to respond wherever and whenever he is asked to by the Bureau Field of Operations and Special Operations Division to assist throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia. He is utilized on a yearly basis as a trainer and had dedicated very long hours to the K9 program that has been essential to its success all while maintaining his responsibilities as a leader and trooper in Area 12.

It is our honor and privilege to nominate him for this award to recognize his dedication to the department and its mission, and to acknowledge his achievements during the past year.





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SPECIAL THANK YOU TO

Allegro Community School of the Arts
Liberty High School Army ROTC
Laurel Ridge Community College

**A SPECIAL THANK YOU
FROM THE FAUQUIER CHAMBER**

VALOR AWARDS COMMITTEE

Gloria Williams (*Committee Chair*)
Matt Demaree Kimberly Holzer Margie Markham
Shawn Nashwinter Aimee O’Grady Jeff Say

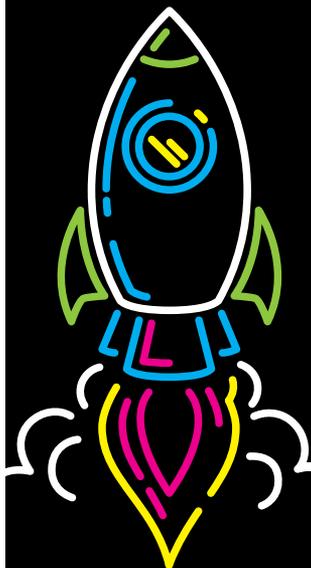
CHAMBER STAFF

Alec Burnett
Connie Corwin



As we celebrate the acts of valor this evening represents, we are reminded of how grateful our community is for the safe and secure environment you provide our citizens daily. A heartfelt thank you and know our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families.

To tonight’s honorees and all of the Fauquier County Public Safety Personnel: **Thank you for all you do!**



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We promote good will and harmony amongst peoples and nations through the principle of universal fraternity, holding the belief that all men and women regardless of race, gender, nationality, sexuality, religion, disability, social status, rank and station are brothers and sisters.

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A graphic element consisting of three curved lines in red, light blue, and dark blue, sweeping from the left towards a white five-pointed star with a blue outline and red and blue stripes on its points.
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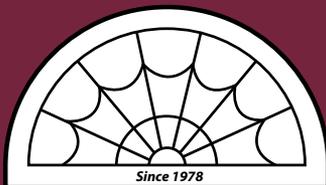


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