



**NAVY MARINE COAST GUARD  
RESIDENCE FOUNDATION**

## ***December 2025 Foundation Update***

### **Spreading Joy and Good Cheer**

The holidays are here, making spirits bright! We love the month of December, a time for celebrating and spreading joy and good cheer to all those who make our lives brighter. For us, the season starts with helping to coordinate the annual holiday decorating effort at Vinson Hall, when the campus is transformed by our residents into a winter wonderland in just one morning! We were delighted to celebrate the generosity of our resident Star Members (those who had given a membership gift of \$250 or more this year) at our annual Holiday Donor Tea – and to support the Vinson Hall Residents' Association, which provides a year-end gift to our wonderful hourly staff for all their dedication and hard work. It is also a time to remember those less fortunate than we are, and it was our pleasure to facilitate the annual holiday on-campus drive to benefit SHARE, our local food bank. As the year winds to a close, we are so thankful for your partnership in support of Vinson Hall. Wishing you and yours a joyful, healthy holiday season!

### **'Tis the Season!**

### **NMCGRF Coordinates Campus Decorating**

Vinson Hall performed its annual holiday miracle on December 2, when residents and staff came together to transform the campus into a winter wonderland of trees, lights, garlands and bows. With ongoing renovations in the



Vinson Hall building (now Heritage Hall), 14 trees – instead of the usual 23 – were set out by the Facilities team in lounges, lobbies and halls of Willow Oak, Arleigh Burke Pavilion, and the Kathy Martin Community Building.



Then in one whirlwind morning, a team of about 40 resident volunteers spread out around campus to decorate, hanging hundreds of glittering balls and festive garlands, fluffing and affixing countless ribbon streamers and bows, and setting out the garlands, berries, winter village scenes, menorahs and Kwanzaa candle holders. This year,

Vinson Hall's senior leaders helped as well, making the decorating day a full community effort.

This is the seventh year that the Philanthropy & Engagement Office has coordinated the annual decorating effort at Vinson Hall. By all accounts, a great time was had by all! For resident Jack Hannon, who helped decorate the



tree in Arleigh Burke Pavilion's dining room, the effort is a rewarding way to spread happiness on campus. "We've trimmed this tree, the tallest one around, for four years," he said. "I know it has brought great pleasure to the folks of Arleigh Burke, because they've told me so." Many thanks to all the residents, including many who are new this year, who pitched in to make our campus shine for the holidays!

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[\*Donate to NMCGRF Today\*](#)

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**Holiday Tea Thanks Resident Star Members**



On December 17, we hosted our last event of the year, and one of our favorites: NMCGRF's annual Holiday Donor Tea. We love having the chance to say one last thank you to our resident Star Members for their support in 2025. More than 70 Star Members

(those who gave a membership gift of \$250 or more this year) joined us in the Ballroom to enjoy a relaxed afternoon of fellowship, laughter and good cheer. An assortment of holiday cookies and petit fours, eggnog, tea and coffee were served, followed by a champagne toast to celebrate a great year. CEO Rob Roe and Senior Director of Philanthropy & Engagement Michelle Crone also said a few words of thanks. We couldn't do our work without your support, Star Members – thank you, one and all!



## Connection with SHARE Helps Neighbors in Need

During the holiday season, the Foundation organizes an on-campus drive to support SHARE, a community-based nonprofit here in McLean that provides food, clothing and household items to our neighbors in need. The items that residents donate during the month-long drive are used to fill gift bags that are given to SHARE's senior clients who live in

affordable housing communities. This year, the drive ended on November 28. Then, the fun began!



esOn December 1, a team of residents gathered in the Ballroom for a SHARE Gift Bag Assembly Party. Before the guests arrived, the Philanthropy & Engagement team had arranged the donations along long tables set up in a U-shape and filled with an assortment of lotions, soaps, shampoos and

toiletries – and scarves that the Vinson Hall Needlers had knitted throughout the year. About 20 residents were joined by nine students from Chesterbrook Elementary School’s Philanthropy Club. Residents and students wrote holiday greetings and messages on cards to include in each bag, then got busy filling some 70 bags with the donations. Once all the bags were filled, residents and students enjoyed hot apple cider, punch and Christmas cookies, as well as the chance to get to know each other. “It was such a treat for us to be with the kids,” said resident Maureen Kammerer.



Two days later, the P&E team delivered the gift bags, as well as other donations from the drive held at Chesterbrook Elementary School, to SHARE. And it was quite a haul this year, requiring the use of the Vinson Hall bus! SHARE's volunteers then distributed the gift bags to their senior clients. SHARE's response to Vinson Hall: "Thank you for your wonderful partnership over the years! The gift bags and scarves were amazing and our clients loved them!" At the Foundation, we are grateful for the opportunity to facilitate this partnership between Vinson Hall and SHARE, a wonderful organization that does so much for our McLean community!



## NMCGRF Pitches in to Support Resident Program for Staff

At Vinson Hall, our residents so appreciate the staff who are the heart and soul of our community. To show their appreciation, the Vinson Hall Residents' Association (VHRA) – through its Holiday Gift Fund



Committee, led by residents Lynne and Carl Schone – fundraises all year long to be able to award an end-of-year gift to every hourly employee. At the Foundation, it is our honor to be able to partner with the VHRA on this effort, as we have done for the past six years.

This year, we were pleased to be able to award a \$25,000 grant to the VHRA, which was used to support the Holiday Gift Fund program. All totaled, the VHRA's Holiday Gift Fund effort raised \$315,000! Then on December 15, the Holiday Gift Fund Committee handed out about 247 checks to staff at a festive gathering in the Ballroom, where holiday music played and a colorful buffet of cookies and snacks awaited. Residents and staff shared laughter, hugs and treats at the event,



capping the most successful Holiday Gift Fund drive to date! A big thank you to our amazing staff for all you do for the community – and happy holidays!

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## NMCGRF Welcomes Year-End Charitable Gifts

As the year winds to a close, many of our friends and supporters ask for information about making an end-of-year gift to support Vinson Hall. If you are considering making a year-end, tax-deductible charitable donation, please keep us in mind!

Gifts to the Foundation can be made by check to NMCGRF and sent to The Philanthropy & Engagement Office, 6251 Old Dominion Drive, McLean, VA 22101. They can also be made by credit card through Vinson Hall's website at [www.vinsonhall.org/foundation](http://www.vinsonhall.org/foundation). Click on the Foundation tab and select "Ways to Give." Choose "Become an Annual Member," then click on "here." This will take you to a secure payment page, where you can enter your credit card information.

If you have any questions, please email us at [philanthropy@vinsonhall.org](mailto:philanthropy@vinsonhall.org). From all of us at the Foundation, thank you for helping to support our incredible Vinson Hall family!

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## Your Planned Gift Today Can Make a Difference Tomorrow

You can leave a legacy that will last for years to come by designating Navy Marine Coast Guard Residence Foundation in your will or by making a planned gift. Some types of planned gifts can support our community and provide you with a charitable income tax deduction, minimize capital gains taxes, reduce estate taxes or provide you or others with an annual income for life. To learn more about these types of gifts, please see our [website](http://www.vinsonhall.org) or contact Michelle Crone at [michellec@vinsonhall.org](mailto:michellec@vinsonhall.org) or 703-538-3068.

Learn More about Planned Giving

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