



NAVY MARINE COAST GUARD
RESIDENCE FOUNDATION

March 2026 Foundation Update

Busy Days in March

March came in like a lion, and out like a lamb – from a late-season slushy snow fall to balmy days by month’s end with dogwoods in bloom. But whatever is happening outdoors, at the Foundation we’ve stayed busy indoors laying the groundwork for our plans for the year – and hosting the Paul Peak Resident of the Year ceremony. Five residents were nominated for their outstanding service to our community in 2025. Read on to learn who won! It was our pleasure to partner with the Family Council of Arleigh Burke Pavilion and The Sylvestery to enhance staff break rooms through the Innovation & Enhancement Fund, giving our wonderful employees a cozy place to rest. Meanwhile, we’ve published another issue of *Campus News & Views* that features our residents’ writings that you won’t want to miss. Last but not least, we are excited to announce that we have a date for the Foundation’s Annual Gala – October 3! Read all about these March highlights in the articles below!

NMCGRF Celebrates Paul Peak Resident of the Year

One of the highlights of the month of March at Vinson Hall is the naming of the Paul Peak Resident of the Year, an annual award that the Foundation coordinates. On March 27, more than 100 residents made their way to the Ballroom, eager to learn who would receive the honor for 2025.



Chaplain Scott Harrison kicked things off by talking about the man behind the award, Captain Paul Peak, a 25-year resident leader at Vinson Hall who was a strong believer in the value of community. As Scott shared, Paul Peak tirelessly gave his time to serving Vinson Hall, whether by organizing resident social events and barbecues, helping neighbors with handyman projects, or serving as president of the Vinson Hall Residents' Association. After Paul died, his widow Jane Peak established this award in 2015 in his honor. For the past 11 years, residents have been invited to nominate the person they feel demonstrated outstanding service to Vinson Hall, and then the members of the NMCGRF Board Resident Quality of Life Committee have voted to select the winner.



Michelle Crone, Senior Director of Philanthropy & Engagement, read what residents had written about each of the five nominees. Then NMCGRF Board Treasurer Scott Slocum stepped up to announce the winner: "It is my

pleasure to announce that the Paul Peak Resident of the Year for 2025 is Bud Dougherty!"

"Bud was the President of the Residents' Association for three years from 2022 to 2024, and always made himself available to listen to each resident and carry their suggestions to the appropriate staff member,"

said Michelle, quoting from residents' nomination forms. "His meetings were always informative, interesting and helpful." In sum, "Bud dedicated an enormous amount of his time and effort to improving our community. His trademark energy and enthusiasm never flagged."



"It's an honor to receive this recognition and be a part of this historic tradition at Vinson Hall," said Bud, who spoke about his three years as VHRA President. "I think we got a lot of good things done, with good communication between

the Association and management staff that resulted in cooperation and friendship."

Following the announcement, cake and champagne – two of Paul Peak's favorites – were served while residents mingled and congratulated Bud and the other nominees: Maureen Kammerer, Judy Moore, Ramona Michels and Rooney Peck. Names of the previous Paul Peak Resident of the Year recipients were read aloud: Mike Cluff, Elaine Baker, Bob Matthews, Jay Arnold, Ted Russell, Carol Saunders, Midge and Chris Holmes, Anna Coutlakis, Sherm Eagan, Lynne and Carl Schone, and Emmy Simmons.



At the Foundation, it has been our honor to coordinate the Paul Peak award ever since it was established in 2015 by Jane Peak, who passed away last summer at age 104. What a wonderful, enduring tribute to the spirit of neighborliness that Paul Peak personified!

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Foundation Helps Upgrade Staff Break Rooms



Staff at Arleigh Burke Pavilion and The Sylvestery have new amenities in their two break rooms, thanks to a partnership between the Foundation and ABP-TS Family Council. “We wanted to do something to show our appreciation to the ABP and TS staff who work so hard for our

loved ones, and came up with the idea of upgrading their break rooms,” said Judy Moore, who co-chairs the ABP-TS Family Council with Fiona Druy.

Judy approached Senior Director of Philanthropy & Engagement Michelle Crone, who was eager to help. “We love having opportunities to partner with residents on campus projects, and this one was a wonderful one,” said Michelle. Together, they applied for a \$500 grant from Virginia Family Council, which they received. The Foundation then pitched in additional funding from the Innovation & Enhancement Fund to purchase two recliners and area rugs for the staff break rooms. Resident artwork is now being hung on the walls, including paintings in the TS break room by Margaret Kurth and Joyce Lombardi.

Our staff are the heartbeat of our community, and we are delighted to be able to find yet another way to say thank you to them!

New Edition of Literary Magazine Released

The Winter issue of *Campus New & Views*, Vinson Hall's literary magazine, has hit the newsstands! This engaging selection of resident articles and poems includes the harrowing tale of a heroic trek through Alaskan wilderness to seek medical help for a heart attack victim, and fond memories of a rustic lakeside cabin in Maine that has drawn its family there for generations. One man recalls the joy of his first hot shower while on duty at the DMZ after the Korean War in 1953, while 30 years later also in Korea a Foreign Service officer recalls the challenges of getting press aboard the USS Carl Vinson on her first assignment. The stories our residents have to share are mesmerizing, and it is our privilege in the Office of Philanthropy & Engagement to edit and publish this magazine. Please [click here](#) to read their writings in the latest issue of *Campus News & Views*!

VINSON HALL

Campus News & Views
Winter 2026



The warmth of our community kept us going through the cold winter at Vinson Hall! Clockwise from left: We thanked the holiday decorators at a happy hour in their honor; we invited our preschool friends for an intergenerational playdate; we cheered on our teams and enjoyed watching the Super Bowl with friends and neighbors; and we watched CARE renovations transform Heritage Hall.

NAVY MARINE COAST GUARD RESIDENCE FOUNDATION

The Annual Gala – We have a Date!



Mark your calendars for Saturday, October 3, 2026. This is one party you won't want to miss! Last year's sold-out NMCGRF Gala – *Silver Spurs Soirée* – was truly a night to remember! From the casino in the Silver Bucket Saloon to the three-course meal and raffle prizes and dancing, last year's Gala

broke all records, raising over \$121,000 to help support the residents and staff of Vinson Hall. We aren't ready to reveal this year's theme, but we promise you another incredibly fun evening – all in support of a great cause! Stay tuned for more!

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](#) or contact Michelle Crone at michellec@vinsonhall.org or 703-538-3068.

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