

a new sign honoring veterans at the Evergreen Cemetery in Lansing.

Alfreda Schmidt passed away on April 14, 2024, just a few months shy of what would have been her 98th birthday. I send my deepest condolences to her dear family, friends, and to all who knew and loved her. As we mourn the loss of a true Lansing legend, let us also celebrate Alfreda Schmidt's extraordinary life. May her memory be a blessing for generations to come. With profound gratitude for her contributions to her community, I ask that we honor her legacy of service, compassion, and unity here in the People's House.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MIDLAND

HON. AUGUST PFLUGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. PFLUGER. Mr. Speaker, today, I am happy to recognize and congratulate the Junior League of Midland on their 75 years of service to their community. What began with a charter membership of just 29 women has turned into a robust network of over 600 volunteer members, working on projects that greatly support the city of Midland and effectively training women to be leaders in the community.

For seven and a half decades, the Junior League of Midland has played a crucial role in developing community-oriented institutions such as the Museum of the Southwest, Teen Court, Rays of Hope, and many others. Beyond the development of these important institutions, their network of volunteers provides crucial support to the community—such as donating hygiene supplies to thousands of students in need, hosting after-school reading programs, and providing job-skills mentoring programs to survivors of domestic abuse.

The members of this organization spend countless unpaid hours working toward the greater good of the people of Midland; for that, I cannot thank them enough. I am confident that the Junior League of Midland will continue to inspire and be of service to others across the community for many more years to come.

Again, I want to congratulate the Junior League of Midland on their dedication to serving the Midland community for the past 75 years. I can say without a shadow of a doubt that I am beyond proud to represent these women in Congress.

RECOGNIZING AVA CONLEY-WILLOUGHBY

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ava Conley-Willoughby for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Ava has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Ava, de-

velop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Ava's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada West High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Ava Conley-Willoughby on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING KATHLEEN COSSEY

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions made to our community by one of my constituents, Kathleen Cossey. Since 1990, Kathleen, has been helping vulnerable children and has made a lasting imprint on the lives of the kids she has worked with. From 1990–2008, Kathleen volunteered 40–60 hours per week as a Guardian Ad Litem. She spent time with the kids assigned to her and advocated on their behalf within the judicial system. Since 2009, Kathleen has been volunteering with two other non-profits serving at-risk children in Citrus County, Voices for Children and Jessie's Place. Kathleen prides herself on being a consistent presence in the lives of the children she works with. She goes above and beyond in everything she does for both organizations. Kathleen is an invaluable volunteer in both organizations she serves. Part of what makes our country so great is the willingness of ordinary Americans to go above and beyond to selflessly give back to others. Volunteerism is one of the cornerstones of our society and part of the fabric that unites us.

It is clear that Ms. Cossey has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service.

HONORING THE LIFE OF REBECCA NEIL FOSTER

HON. JOHN W. ROSE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the incredible life of Rebecca Neil Foster. Rebecca was many things to many people: a beloved daughter, sister, wife, mother, and most recently, grandmother. Above all else, Rebecca was an amazing human being and devoted Christian, who did everything to serve others and leave this world better than she found it.

Rebecca was born on September 30, 1968 to Wesley and Faye Neil. A native of Fentress County, Tennessee, she graduated from Clarkrange High School where she competed on the 1983, 1984, and 1985 girls' basketball state championship teams. Memories of those wins sparked joy throughout her life.

Rebecca earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and later a Master of Science in Nursing Informatics from Tennessee Technological University.

She had a distinguished 29-year career in healthcare, most recently in the role of Chief

Nursing Officer for Cumberland Medical Center. In 2019, she graciously agreed to take on a new occupation focused on constituent care rather than patient care as my District Director for Tennessee's 6th Congressional District.

Her dedication to service lives on through her family. Rebecca took enormous pride in her husband, Allen, who serves as Mayor of Cumberland County; her daughter, Brooke, who followed in her footsteps in nursing; and her son, Shade, who is a sworn police officer for the City of Crossville. She is also survived by her mother-in-law, Edna Foster, a daughter-in-law, Haley Foster, and a son-in-law, Trevor Wright.

Rebecca had a lifelong passion for singing. She served as Music Director at Oak Hill Baptist Church for nearly 15 years. In fact, just last Sunday Rebecca was on stage with her daughter singing her heart out and worshiping the Lord with the help of the pulpit to keep her balance.

There are simply very few among us as special as Rebecca Neil Foster.

She was first diagnosed with cancer in 2023. During the difficult period that followed, many around her were fearful, but she chose to be faithful. Despite the intense treatments she underwent and the sometimes-painful side effects she endured, she continued to work as she was able, and did so with a smile on her face. In fact, if you've talked to Rebecca since last July, you were much more likely to find her smiling and showing pictures of her precious granddaughter, Asa, than talking about her health battle.

The day before her passing, Rebecca shared a page from her prayer devotional on social media. It was titled "Unafraid," and based on the book of Hebrews, chapter 13, verses 5 and 6, which reads, in part, "I will never leave you; I will always be by your side." Rebecca never questioned the presence of the Lord. She lived a full life as a result. She knew God's plan for her was not to live in fear—but to live in faith and to love others while she was here.

Rebecca knew each day and the good things in it are blessings from God. She kept cheerful faith throughout a painful health struggle. This week she went home to Heaven and received her eternal reward. Glory be to God for Rebecca Foster who came into our lives, and with her talents and vivacious spirit, left us forever changed for the better.

HONORING EULESS POLICE OFFICER JERRY LEE COOK

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Officer Jerry Lee Cook's retirement after 39 years with the Euless Police Department. I want to thank him for his commitment to our community and dedication to our country. Before his work as a police officer, Jerry enlisted in the US Navy in 1970 and served as an Aviation Mechanic before being honorably discharged as an E-5 in 1978. After being in the military, his training led him to Isfahan, Iran where he worked as an Aviation Mechanic for Bell Helicopter International. When he returned to North Texas, he joined

the Texas Army National Guard and became an Aviation Support Technician full-time.

Inspired by his experiences serving as an aviation mechanic and working in Iran, Jerry wanted to continue to help people which led him to a career in law enforcement. He was hired as a patrol officer by the Euless Police Department on April 1, 1985, and after serving eight years in the patrol division. Jerry was promoted to Corporal and assigned to the community services division where he taught youth the Drug Abuse Resistance Education program, also known as D.A.R.E. It was during this time that Jerry developed a strong interest in computers and even taught himself how to operate them. His talents were quickly recognized by the department, and they transitioned him into the position of a computer technician in the Technical Services Division. His mechanical mind and dedication to learning the technical equipment used by law enforcement left an immeasurable impact on the Euless Police Department.

During his 39-year law enforcement career, Jerry received numerous commendations from colleagues and the community. He was presented with the W.M. "Blackie" Sustaie Memorial award in 1992 and 2007 in addition to winning the Distinguished Service Award in 1999. Jerry never lost his positive attitude when faced with mounting responsibilities and was always eager to share his knowledge and take the time to teach others.

It is an honor to recognize Jerry on this momentous occasion and thank him for his service to our country and North Texas.

RECOGNIZING PEYTYNN ADAMS

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Peytynn Adams for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Peytynn has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Peytynn, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Peytynn's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Drake Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Peytynn Adams on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

RECOGNIZING TINA FARRELL

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the unique contributions of one of my constituents, Tina Farrell. She and her husband, Steve, are co-owners of Team Farrell, located in Port Richey. Tina is a hero to the limited-income, medically uninsured patients served by Good Samaritan

Clinic because her efforts on behalf of the non-profit help provide free healthcare, including prescriptions, for our medically fragile friends and neighbors throughout Pasco County. Tina has served as Chair of the organization's annual Nurses Gala and Co-chair of its annual Festival of Trees for more than 10 years. These two events raise between \$125,000 and \$150,000 annually for the clinic. Tina is a driving force for these events, and is hands-on in every aspect, from recruiting sponsors and participants to developing themes, menus and picking the entertainment. She is never one to rest on her laurels, challenging her committee and the community to new levels of creativity each year.

Tina and Steve raised their family in Pasco, built a business there and have become philanthropic pillars of the community. Tina has a genuine love of nurses and the nursing profession for all they have done. In addition to their outstanding support of Good Samaritan, Tina, supports: The Angelus and Pasco County Sheriffs Charities. She has also created her own non-profit, Farrell Cares, to support other projects in the community. Every August, they buy shoes for kids going back to school and also help with electric and water bills. They've even built a one-of-a-kind, custom air conditioned, wheelchair-accessible castle for a six-year old girl with a rare genetic condition. They step up to proactively identify unmet needs that exist and they work to find a way to solve the problem.

It is clear that Ms. Farrell has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN DAVE RICHARDSON, UNITED STATES NAVY, PH.D., FOR WINNING THE 2024 UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY MILITARY PROFESSOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

HON. DEAN PHILLIPS

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. PHILLIPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Dave Richardson, United States Navy, the 2024 recipient of the United States Naval Academy Military Professor Teaching Excellence Award.

This award, initiated in 2014, is bestowed biennially in even-numbered academic years upon a military faculty member at the Naval Academy whose contributions to the academic, professional, and moral development of midshipmen reflect the highest principles of excellence in education. Eligible faculty are those military faculty members who have exhibited continued excellence in teaching and sustained contributions to the intellectual professional development of midshipmen.

A third generation Navy Sailor, Dave is currently a Permanent Military Professor and academic Department Chair of the Political Science Department at the United States Naval Academy. He has achieved excellence at every echelon of academia: graduating with merit from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1995, with his M.S. in Leadership from the Naval Postgraduate School in 2000, with distinction from the Naval War College in 2007, and finally with his Ph.D from The George Wash-

ington University in 2018. Prior to his selection as a Permanent Military Professor, he earned a noteworthy reputation as a career Surface Warfare Officer of the highest caliber, culminating with his service as the 10th Commanding Officer of the USS *Porter* (DDG-78) out of Norfolk, VA.

Teaching a wide range of political science core, elective, and capstone courses, as well as courses in naval leadership, CAPT Richardson continuously inspires midshipmen to the highest levels of academic accomplishment through innovative and interactive classroom activities. Focused on the holistic development of future officers in the naval service, he is widely recognized for his ability to achieve course objectives while also personally engaging every midshipman in his classroom regarding their unique leadership journey. From freshmen courses in U.S. Government and Constitutional Development to upper-level courses in Political Science Methods and Civil-Military Relations, his students respond positively to his ability to be simultaneously rigorous, enthusiastic, caring, and firm but fair. In addition to serving as the department chair, Dave actively leads from the front as an academic advisor, honors program advisor, and senior honor and conduct remediator. His dedication and impact to the mission of the Naval Academy are evident from his consistent engagement with groups of midshipmen large and small based on his significant operational tours, command at sea experience, and scholarly work.

The people of Minnesota's Third Congressional District and this Nation are lucky to have people like Dave teaching at our service academies and leading the nation's sons and daughters in our military. I wish to congratulate him on this great accomplishment and thank him for his decades of faithful service to the Nation. Bravo Zulu to Dave.

HONORING 1ST LIEUTENANT FRED ZIMRI WASHBURN

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 26, 2024

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Fred Zimri Washburn, as the Middleborough community comes together to dedicate the 1st Lieutenant Fred Z. Washburn Bridge in his honor.

Born on October 11, 1944, to parents Margery and Zimri Washburn, Fred was raised on Fuller Street in Middleborough, Massachusetts, alongside his siblings, Margery and David. After Fred graduated from Memorial High School in 1962, he went on to receive a degree from Wenworth Institute before joining the United States Army. Fred first completed his basic training at Fort Dix, New Jersey, followed by Officer Candidate School in Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Fred later earned his pilot wings as a 2nd Lieutenant at the Hunter Army Airfield in Savannah, Georgia.

Fred was deployed to Vietnam on May 30, 1968, as an Army 1st Lieutenant in the 71st Assault Helicopter Company, where he piloted helicopters in rescue missions. Fred would write home to his mother about the feeling of reward he felt for helping to save the lives of his fellow service members. Fred's unwavering