

creator, and a champion for working families in Pennsylvania's First Congressional District. Through his leadership, generosity, and vision, Mike has helped shape not only the economic fabric of our region, but its moral character as well.

Mike was born on February 24, 1975, in Bucks County. He grew up in Levittown before moving to the Holland neighborhood and later settling with his wife Kristie (née Kash) and their children—Michael, Ashlynnne, and Jamison—in Ivyland, Pennsylvania.

Born and raised in Bucks County, Mike Mabin, Jr.'s story is one of homegrown leadership, generational grit, and a deep-rooted commitment to community. He got his start on the shop floor of his family's fabrication business, PennFab, where he worked side-by-side with his father and gained not just a trade, but a calling. From the very beginning, Mike understood that real leadership isn't about titles—it's about responsibility: to your people, to your hometown, and to the future.

When Mike assumed leadership of PennFab following his father's passing in 2018, he did far more than carry on a legacy—he redefined it. With bold vision and relentless determination, he transformed a respected local operation into a nationally recognized infrastructure partner. He expanded operations, acquired PennFab's sister company, Martelli Companies LLC, and positioned both businesses as critical players in some of the Nation's most vital sectors while keeping their roots firmly planted in Bucks County.

But the measure of Mike's success isn't just found in the scale of the business—it's in the strength of the community he's built around it. He has created hundreds of family-sustaining jobs right here at home. He's mentored young tradespeople, empowered second-chance workers, and in doing so, restored something too many communities have lost: the dignity of work, and the hope that comes with it.

At a time when much of our Nation's industrial foundation has eroded, Mike made a different choice—he reinvested. He proved that American manufacturing can still thrive, that "Made in Bucks County" still matters, and that a business rooted in values can lift entire neighborhoods.

Mike's commitment to the community doesn't stop at the manufacturing doors. Whether it's stepping up in times of need, supporting local nonprofits, or quietly funding initiatives that benefit area youth, families and veterans, Mike has always led by example—without seeking credit, and always putting others first.

Mr. Speaker, the story of Mike Mabin, Jr. is the story of Bucks County Leader at his best—rooted in family, built by hard work, and driven by a relentless belief in the power of community. We thank him for the lives he's uplifted, the jobs he's created, and the example he continues to set for what local leadership should look like.

He hasn't just carried forward a legacy—he's forged one of his own.

RECOGNIZING CHERYL WIRT

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that

Cheryl Wirt has made to our community through her volunteer work at Veterans Elementary School. Cheryl comes to volunteer at the school almost every day. She has a big heart and a passion for helping students and staff. Cheryl is very involved with the community group that heads up all fundraising for the school. She helps with ideas, calls, and follow-through with anything that needs to be done. She also spends time with the students in the "Pop up Shop" each Friday morning and provides extra supervision in the cafeteria at lunchtime. She also, recently re-vamped the School Events Parent Information Board which has all of our events and fundraisers on it for the families to see as they come onto campus. Cheryl asks daily what she can do to help and never stops until she exceeds expectations.

It is clear Cheryl Wirt has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

RECOGNIZING ARTURO ARO

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Arturo Aro for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

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

It is my honor to congratulate Arturo Aro on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

THANKING NORTHERN MICHIGAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVES AND LINEMEN FOR RESTORING POWER THROUGHOUT NORTHERN MICHIGAN

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deepest gratitude to the electric cooperatives and linemen who worked tirelessly to restore power to the communities of Northern Michigan following the devastating ice storm of March 2025.

After multiple days of high winds and freezing rain, thousands of families in Michigan's First District were left without power, while temperatures remained in the single digits. During this State of Emergency, local electric cooperatives demonstrated extraordinary dedication and resilience. Lineworkers from Alger Delta Cooperative Electric Association, Cloverland Electric Cooperative, Great Lakes Energy Cooperative, Presque Isle Electric and

Gas Cooperative, and Wolverine Power Supply Cooperative braved dangerous conditions to restore essential services to the region, and I commend them for their hard work and a job well done.

For decades, these cooperatives and their workforce have provided reliable energy and critical assistance throughout Northern Michigan. In rural communities, dependable energy is not just a convenience: it is the backbone of modern life and public safety. These cooperatives consistently ensure that all residents of Northern Michigan—especially the area's most vulnerable individuals, including those with medical needs, families with children, and the elderly—remain safe and warm throughout harsh northern winters. Simply put, these cooperatives help deliver a quality of life to rural areas that might otherwise be left behind.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize and applaud the outstanding service of Alger Delta Cooperative Electric Association, Cloverland Electric Cooperative, Great Lakes Energy Cooperative, Presque Isle Electric and Gas Cooperative, and Wolverine Power Supply Cooperative. Their selflessness and dedication to our communities in Northern Michigan deserve our highest praise and deepest appreciation.

IN MEMORY OF VAUGHN P.

DRAKE, JR.

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor an American hero and a true patriot, Mr. Vaughn P. Drake, Jr. of Lexington, Kentucky. Mr. Drake passed away on April 7, 2025, at the age of 106 and has been recognized as our Nation's oldest survivor of the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Mr. Drake was born in Winchester, Kentucky on November 6, 1918. He attended the University of Kentucky's College of Engineering. At the age of 23, he was serving in the Army Corps of Engineers and was in charge of a temporary power plant in Hawaii. On December 7, 1941, he became a part of history as he witnessed Japanese planes attack Pearl Harbor, and the battle ensued. He was also involved in the strategic and significant Battle of Saipan in the Marianas. For his brave service in the United States Army, he received the Congressional Medal for the Veterans of Pearl Harbor, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the American Defense Medal with Foreign Service bar, the Asiatic-Pacific Medal with two battle stars, and the World War II Victory Medal.

Following his military service, Mr. Drake returned home to Kentucky and married his wife, Lina. They were married for 65 years when she passed away in 2011. Mr. Drake is survived by his son, Sam W. Drake, as well as two grandsons and three great grandchildren.

Mr. Drake began working as a registered professional engineer and had a distinguished career for over 50 years. He was a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, the National Society of Professional Engineers, and was a charter member and past president of the Bluegrass Chapter of the Kentucky Society of Professional Engineers. In

1979 he received the KSPE State Award for Outstanding Engineer in Industry. He was involved with the Boy Scouts of America and was a member of the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels, the University of Kentucky Alumni Association, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and a life member of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association. He received the Mayor's Spirit of Lexington Award.

Vaughn P. Drake, Jr. was a true patriot, a great American, and an inspiration to us all. I am forever grateful to him and other members of the Greatest Generation for sacrificing and fighting to preserve the freedoms that we hold dear. It is my honor to recognize his life and his service before the United States Congress.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSIONAL PATRIOT AWARD RECIPIENT
CORBETT HOWARD

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Corbett Howard of Celina, Texas, and present him with the Congressional Patriot Award. Corbett has dedicated himself to faithfully serving our community.

Corbett was born in Roswell, New Mexico. He received his Bachelor of Arts in History and Political Science from Southern Nazarene University and graduated from Engineer Officer Candidate School in Fort Belvoir, Virginia. After graduation, Corbett commissioned in the United States Army and served with the Military Assistant Command, Vietnam (MACV) as an advisor for the South Vietnamese Army. For his meritorious service, he was awarded the Bronze Star, Air Medal, and Vietnam Cross of Gallantry.

Corbett was first elected to the Celina City Council in 1999. In 2002, he was elected to serve as the Mayor of Celina and was re-elected twice. Under Corbett's leadership, Celina transformed economically through increased job growth and critical business investments. As a result of his advocacy for Celina residents, he was recognized as a top influential leader in Collin County. After his tenure as mayor, Corbett served as the Executive Director of the Celina Economic Development Corporation for ten years. He also served on the Board of the Upper Trinity Regional Water District and the McKinney Urban Transit District. He is the past President of the Preston Trail Rotary Club and the current Chairman of Government Affairs for the Celina Chamber of Commerce. Corbett currently serves as the Market President of Lamar National Bank and is a board member of the Military Warriors Support Foundation, which donates homes and cars to wounded veterans. A devoted man of faith, he attends the Stonebriar Community Church in Frisco, where he has led Bible study classes for over 33 years. I am proud of the work Corbett has accomplished, and I wish him continued success for many years to come.

It is an honor to bestow Corbett with the Patriot Award for his exceptional service to the people of North Texas.

RECOGNIZING CHUCK ANDERSON

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Charles Anderson has made through his work with United Way of Pasco County. Charles W. Anderson, recently retired January 2025 as President & CEO of United Way of Pasco County (UWPC). He has made a profound and lasting impact on the organization and the community it serves. Since assuming leadership in January 2019, Charles transformed UWPC into a more dynamic, responsive, and impactful organization, nearly doubling annual fundraising to \$2.8 million by 2023 and expanding its focus from three to eight critical areas of community needs. Under Charles's visionary guidance, UWPC rose to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic with swift aid innovative action. He launched Operation Feed Pasco, which not only supported 19 local restaurants but also provided over 237,000 meals to individuals and families in need. The program mobilized \$2.4 million and delivered vital services to shelters, food ministries, and elder care centers during one of the community's most vulnerable times. Charles also pioneered the Fighting Human Trafficking (FHT) Program, positioning UWPC as one of only four United Way organizations globally offering direct services to human trafficking survivors. This program is the only one in Florida with state funding to provide emergency hotel stays and housing for survivors of human trafficking state-wide. Through his strategic advocacy, he secured over \$2 million in funding from the Florida Legislature and the Department of Justice, significantly amplifying the program's reach and capacity. Financial stewardship and ethical governance flourished under his leadership, with UWPC earning the highest 4-star rating from Charity Navigator for four consecutive years and maintaining a remarkably low 6.5 percent overhead. Charles built strong partnerships with local, state, and federal leaders, ensuring UWPC played a key role in disaster response and community resilience efforts, including managing FEMA allocations and emergency shelter coordination. Beyond programmatic and financial accomplishments, Charles leaves a cultural legacy of collaboration, compassion, and forward-thinking leadership. He empowered staff and volunteers to innovate and excel, instilled a strong sense of mission throughout the organization, and strengthened the relationship between UWPC and its many partner agencies. Charles retired 2 months ago to spend more time with his family, and he leaves behind a stronger, more resilient UWPC prepared to meet future challenges.

It is clear Charles Anderson has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for his service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

RECOGNIZING HIALEAH, FLORIDA
MAYOR ESTEBAN BOVO

HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my dear friend and the Mayor of the City of Hialeah, Esteban Bovo, for his decades of commitment to public service.

Mayor Bovo began his career in 1998 as a member of the Hialeah City Council. In 2008, he was elected to serve his community in the Florida House of Representatives.

Following his service in Tallahassee, Mayor Bovo was elected to the Miami Dade County Commission, where he served from 2011 to 2020. During his tenure, his colleagues elected him to serve as the Commission Chair from 2017 to 2018.

In 2021, Mayor Bovo was elected as Mayor of the City of Hialeah. Since taking office, he has been an advocate for transparency, public safety, and accountability. Under his leadership, Mayor Bovo Hialeah has served his constituents with pride and with a commitment to excellence.

I extend my gratitude to Mayor Esteban Bovo for his unwavering dedication to public service and I look forward to his continued contributions to the community.

HONORING JEAN MARIE
THOMPSON-BJORKMAN

HON. RUSS FULCHER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to wish Jean Marie Thompson-Bjorkman a very happy 100th birthday, who will be celebrating her milestone on July 22, 2025.

In 1944, Jean, an English citizen, married Paul Bjorkman, an American Army GI. Jean patiently waited nearly two years to be able to see her husband again in 1946 when she emigrated to the U.S.

Alongside other war brides, Jean made the journey to the U.S. aboard a U.S. Navy Liberty Ship. The voyage was cold and rough, but her determination never wavered. Jean and Paul eventually settled in Thompson, Ohio where they welcomed their daughter. In November of 1950, Jean achieved her American citizenship, and in a desire to be closer to her daughter, Jean moved to Coeur d'Alene, Idaho in 2021. Jean's dedication to family exemplifies true determination and courage.

Jean and her family have consistently embodied the traditional values we cherish in Idaho. I thank Jean Marie Thompson-Bjorkman for her incredible example of perseverance and fearlessness. I wish her a very happy birthday.

RECOGNIZING CINDY MAHON

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that