

RECOGNIZING JOAN MOORE

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Joan Moore has made through her work with Gulfside Healthcare Services. Since February 2022, Joan Moore has touched the lives of over 10,000 hospice patients and their families through giving her time, talent, and treasure with Gulfside Hospice. With a servant's heart, Joan quietly, yet passionately finds ways to support one of the most vulnerable groups in her community—the elderly. Joan's journey into volunteering began later in life. At nearly 79 years old, instead of slowing down, she stepped up when she heard Gulfside needed volunteers. In just three years, she has donated more than 3,650 hours of her time to Gulfside Hospice.

Inspired by her mother, a longtime hospice volunteer, Joan has always felt a deep connection to those in hospice care. Facing her own health challenges, including chronic pain and limited mobility, only deepened her empathy. Now retired from a successful career in sales and as a former actress and model, Joan remains driven to stay active and give back.

She began by helping with clerical tasks in Gulfside's Philanthropy department and soon joined the Women for Gulfside group in May 2022. Since then, she has played a key role in fundraising efforts supporting programs that rely entirely on donations, such as care for uninsured patients, family bereavement support, and Pet Peace of Mind®, which helps hospice patients care for their pets. Joan also contributes to Gulfside's four major annual fundraising events, offering hands-on help, in-kind donations, and support wherever it's needed. In 2024, Joan made a generous gift to the Raising Hope for Hospice capital campaign to help build a new in-patient unit in New Port Richey. The soon-to-open Gulfside Center for Hospice Care will provide 24-hour support for patients in their final days, meeting a critical need, thanks in part to donors, like Joan. Now nearly 82, Joan's energy, wit, and compassion continue to inspire everyone she meets. While many her age focus on slowing down, Joan stays energized and youthful by serving others. Her mind is always on how to help—then doing exactly that. Joan is truly a Hero Among Us. As she puts it, "I started volunteering to help others but never realized it would help me too. It has given me more joy than I could ever imagine. Volunteering for hospice saved my life, and I hope it does the same for others too."

It is clear Joan Moore 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 THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MILTON HUDSON

HON. BARRY MOORE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Mr. MOORE of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the outstanding contributions, hard work, and legacy of Mr. Milton Hudson. His dedicated service as a World War II Navy Veteran has made a lasting impact on our country.

Mr. Hudson's time in the Navy has shown his bravery, dedication, and deep love for his country. Throughout Mr. Hudson's military service, he has had the honor of receiving the Asiatic-Pacific Ribbon, a Commendation by Captain Strauss of the U.S. Navy, an American Campaign Ribbon, and a Victory Medal.

I would like to wish Mr. Milton Hudson a Happy 98th Birthday and thank him for his great service to our country.

ROSE-HELENE SPREIREGEN

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD remarks from Rose-Helene Spreiregen, a holocaust survivor.

Never, as a young Jewish girl hiding in France during World War II, could I have possibly dreamed of standing where I am now. Never could I have imagined addressing democratically elected representatives, in a country where people can live freely, a country that I love.

My name is Rose-Helene Spreiregen. I was born in Paris in 1931 into a family that fled Poland in the late 1920s because of anti-semitism. Little could they imagine what was to happen a decade later.

Germany invaded Western Europe in May 1940. France fell a month after, and Nazi occupation began immediately. Jews were ordered to register with the police, who became close collaborators with the occupiers. Anti-Jewish laws and acts of discrimination quickly followed. Jews could not go to restaurants, to movie theaters, not even parks. They could not own radios or telephones. They could not be out after 6:00 p.m. It got only worse.

In 1942, every Jewish person over six years old was issued three yellow Stars of David inscribed with the word "JUIF" (Jew in French). It had to be sewn on an outer garment. Jews could shop only one hour a day at a time when stores were mostly sold out of goods. On the Metro subway, they were restricted to the last car. They could not travel more than 17 miles from Paris.

I stopped going to school in July 1942 because Jewish children were pulled from their classrooms by collaborating police and deported with their families to Nazi concentration camps.

More than 13,000 Jews were arrested that same month, most were sent to their deaths. Luckily, my mother was warned by a sympathetic policeman. Immediately she went into hiding. She then obtained forged identity papers and, with the help of a smuggler, set out to cross the border from Nazi-occupied northern France into French-controlled southern France—so-called Vichy France—but still equally dangerous for Jews. Instead

of helping her cross the border, the smuggler betrayed her, and she was arrested. She was then sent to Drancy, an infamous rail junction and holding town just north of Paris. From there, its prisoners were transported to concentration or death camps.

Grandmother and I stayed hidden in my mother's apartment for a year, never leaving for fear of being arrested or worse. I went out alone to get food. Every day I stood in lines, unable to conceal my Star of David, and because of it, I was cursed as a "dirty Jew." From our window, we saw other families being pulled from their apartments and hauled away in trucks.

In August 1943, grandmother decided we had to flee Paris. We obtained false identity papers with new names and equally false personal information. We departed from Paris on an overnight train that would pass through two border control checkpoints, the first under German control, the second under French. I decided to take charge for us since grandmother spoke with a thick Polish accent—a giveaway. I told her to pretend she was asleep. When the German soldiers came to check our papers, I asked them not to wake her. They complied. At the second checkpoint, controlled by the French, I made the same request. Miraculously it worked. We got through. In all those years of living in near unbearable fear, none had been more terrifying than those border passages. I couldn't stop shaking for hours after.

I was twelve years old.

We found our way to the small and remote mountain town of Voiron in east central France. My aunt and younger cousin had successfully made the same journey to a nearby town. Grandmother and I found a place to stay in what I recall as a warehouse. We had no furniture, but a kind neighbor gave us a mattress, a small cooking stove which helped keep us warm, and other utensils.

I found a job running a small grocery. I was paid meager wages. Grandmother mended clothing and bartered her wine rations for food. We scoured the nearby forest for chestnuts and firewood. My only warm dress, made from a blanket, was destroyed beyond use by mice.

Deliverance finally came with the liberation of Voiron in August 1944 by American soldiers, the "greatest generation," the generation of many of your grandparents. They gave us crackers, chocolate, and, of all things, chewing gum, something I'd never known. But above all, they gave us freedom. Still, I had no knowledge of my mother's fate. I kept hoping she would come back. She never did. Later I learned what happened. At Drancy, she had volunteered to accompany a trainload of children to Auschwitz, 1,000 miles east, a horrific journey of several days and nights. They were packed into freight cars like animals. No water. No food. No sanitation. No windows. No place to sit let alone room to lie down. All this was in the heat of August. Upon arrival, all who survived the journey were murdered in gas chambers. Such was my mother's fate.

She was thirty-one years old.

It is always difficult for me to tell my story. But I am compelled to tell it because of the global surge in antisemitism, including here in the United States. While it is reassuring that our government—in your hands—is addressing it at the highest levels, it is troubling that it has to be addressed at all. It doesn't take much history to teach us that what starts with hatred of the Jewish people does not end there.

What are the conditions that nurture antisemitism? Ignorance. Intolerance. Indifference. Injustice. That is why Holocaust education is so vital. That is why this country must again lead this fight, as it has done for just causes so often and so nobly in the past.

That is my story.

RECOGNIZING JORDAN FRENCH

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Jordan French has made through his work with the Pasco County Human Services Team. The Pasco County Human Services Team has proven itself to be a cornerstone of resilience, innovation, and unwavering commitment to the community. Amidst the devastating impacts of Hurricanes Helene and Milton, they emerged as an indispensable force, transforming challenges into triumphs and ensuring no resident was left behind. The team managed and helped coordinate efforts for shelters that housed 485 residents. When Hurricane Milton struck shortly thereafter, the team rose to even greater heights, coordinating shelters for 5,800 individuals and 1,315 animals—an extraordinary feat of operational precision and compassion. Despite personal hardships, including one case manager losing her home while another lost her rental property, the team prioritized the welfare of the community, working tirelessly to ensure safety and stability for all. Post-storm, the team was responsible for helping shelter residents whose homes were no longer safe, find appropriate alternatives for housing. Their dedication shone through in rapid response efforts. In the days immediately following Hurricane Helene, 49 residents received critical assessments and essential resources. After Hurricane Milton, they worked with 225 displaced individuals who remained in shelters, demonstrating their unparalleled ability to adapt and respond under pressure. The team leveraged the Human Services Needs app to streamline disaster case management, supporting 1,351 residents. Their follow-up system, in partnership with other agencies, ensured personalized service for every individual. This innovative approach epitomized their ability to harness technology and partnerships for meaningful impact. Beyond immediate relief, the team worked with individuals and families who would require long-term recovery efforts. For approximately 150 permanently displaced residents, they implemented a housing eligibility process, with the intent of ensuring fair and transparent allocation of resources. By securing placements at facilities like Pasco Hope, the team supported individuals and families along a pathway to rebuild their lives. Between September 28 and October 18, 2024, the team managed an overwhelming volume of calls—1,194 through their direct line and another 1,214 through work phones. Yet every call was met with care, professionalism, and actionable solutions, reflecting the team's deep commitment to being a lifeline for the community. The Pasco County Human Services Team exemplifies what it means to serve with excellence, compassion, and innovation. Their remarkable achievements during Hurricanes Helene and Milton, coupled with their dedication to long-term recovery and cutting-edge approaches to disaster management, have left an indelible mark on Pasco County. For their tireless service, extraordinary impact,

and embodiment of resilience, the Pasco County Human Services Team is a truly deserving nominee for the Heros Among Us Award.

It is clear Jordan French 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.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 8, 2025 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 12

3:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Strategic Forces
To receive a closed briefing on space superiority.
SVC-217

MAY 13

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Richard Anderson, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Adam Telle, of Mississippi, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army, and Matthew Napoli, of Virginia, to be Deputy Administrator for Defense Nuclear Nonproliferation, National Nuclear Security Administration.
SD-G50

10 a.m.
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of David Pink, of New Hampshire, to be Administrator of the Federal Railroad Administration, David Fogel, of Connecticut, to be Assistant Secretary and Director General of the United States and Foreign Commercial Service, and Pierre Gentin, of New York, to be General Counsel, both of the Department of Commerce, and Robert Gleason, of Pennsylvania, to be Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors for a term of five years.
SR-253

Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine East Africa and the horn, focusing on a turning point or breaking point.
SD-419

10:15 a.m.
Committee on the Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine competition issues in the prescription drug supply chain, focusing on pharmacy benefit manager power play.
SD-226

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Subcommittee on Disaster Management, District of Columbia, and Census
To hold hearings to examine the insurance industry's claims practices following recent natural disasters.
SD-342

3 p.m.
Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine perspectives from the field, focusing on conservation.
SR-328A

4:45 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Strategic Forces
To hold hearings to examine Department of Defense missile defense activities in review of the Defense Authorization Request for Fiscal Year 2026 and the Future Years Defense Program.
SR-232A

MAY 14

10 a.m.
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine FAA reauthorization one year later, focusing on aviation safety, air traffic, and next generation technology.
SR-253

Committee on Finance
To hold hearings to examine trade in critical supply chains.
SD-215

10:30 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2026 for the Environmental Protection Agency.
SD-124

Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Sean McMaster, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, John Busterud, of California, to be Assistant Administrator, Office of Solid Waste, Environmental Protection Agency, and Adam Telle, of Mississippi, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army, Department of Defense.
SD-562

1:30 p.m.
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2026 for the Department of Health and Human Services.
SD-430

2:30 p.m.
Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Intellectual Property
To hold hearings to examine foreign threats to American innovation and economic leadership.
SD-226