

volunteer, taking her children on innumerable trips to the Smithsonian museums. Favorites included the museum of Natural History, home to the ooey gooey (the human anatomy display), and the Air and Space Museum where she was a docent on opening day.

She was also a skilled seamstress, sewing a significant amount of clothing for her children—even after they left for college. Halloween costumes were her favorite projects.

Dot's interests were wide and fascinating. When James was transferred to the Pentagon, Dot continued her art education through Arlington Adult Education classes. She and James enjoyed ballet at the Kennedy Center, Harry Belafonte at Wolf Trap, and Bruce Springsteen concerts (13 of them) wherever he was playing. One of her favorite memories was when Patty Scialfa noticed her from on stage, smiled and waved. It's an E Street thing.

Dot never met a dog or a cat she did not love and had that love returned. In her early 70s, she went to a local Jeep dealer to finally buy her dream car and took her Golden Retriever, Babe. She informed the dealership that she needed to make sure whatever she selected was a comfortable fit for her Babe. Ever after, she was proud and happy to drive around town in her fire engine red Jeep Cherokee with Babe looking majestic buckled up in the passenger seat.

Dot lived a full, beautiful, and fulfilling life which she enjoyed sharing with those close to her. She is survived by her son, David, his wife, Betsy, and their son, Weston, and her daughter, Ann. She is also survived by five nieces, one nephew, a host of friends, and a glorious and diverse fanbase through the tales and pictures shared by her loving children and friends."

RECOGNIZING ADRIENNE VAN BRUGGEN

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

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

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

It is my honor to congratulate Adrienne Van Bruggen on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING MARIA WILKINSON

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Maria Wilkinson has made through her 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.

It is clear Maria Wilkinson has made a profoundly positive impact on our community through her work as part of the Pasco County Human Services Team, and I am grateful for her service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

HONORING STEVEN DYKE

HON. MIKE CAREY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Mr. CAREY. Mr. Speaker, almost four years ago, I was a brand-new Member of Congress.

I didn't have an office yet, I had hired no staff, and I was just getting started here in Washington.

One of my first hires was Steven Dyke, who joined our team and started handling everything from managing vote times to setting up our office's phones so the people in our district could reach our team.

Steven has been with the office for three and a half years. During that time, he dedicated himself to working hard and supporting the interests of the people of Ohio—15. I will certainly miss his sharp sense of humor and infectious laugh.

He played a key role in advancing legislation to expand access to family resource centers and helped us make a real difference for families across Ohio.

And even though he's a Michigan State Spartan, I can say he has a good heart and a dedication to service.

I thank Steven for his service and wish him the best for what's next.

HONORING THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE AND LEGACY OF SECRETARY ALEXIS HERMAN

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of Alabama-native, Civil Rights activist, and trailblazing public servant, former Secretary of Labor Alexis Herman, who passed away on April 25, 2025, at the age of 77.

A native of Mobile, Alabama, Secretary Herman was born on July 16, 1947, to Alex Herman and Gloria Caponis. The daughter of Alabama's first African American ward leader, she became involved in the Civil Rights Movement at an early age. As a sophomore, Herman was suspended from Heart of Mary High School for a week for taking a stand against the Archdiocese of Mobile's exclusion of Black students from religious pageants.

After graduating, she continued her educational journey at Edgewood College in Madison, Wisconsin, and Spring Hill College in Mobile before transferring to Xavier University of Louisiana in New Orleans. There, she became an active member of the Gamma Alpha Chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority before graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology in 1969.

A dedicated advocate for civil rights and workers' protections, Secretary Herman's commitment to service was the throughline of her career. Shortly after earning her degree, Secretary Herman returned to Mobile where she helped desegregate parochial schools, including her alma mater, and persuaded the city shipyard in nearby Pascagoula, Mississippi, to give apprenticeships to young Black laborers. She later moved to Atlanta to lobby corporations to hire Black women for white-collar jobs before working at a New York-based consulting firm where she led programs to provide apprenticeships for women in nontraditional careers.

Her successful career advocating for labor rights and workers' protections gained the attention of United States President Jimmy Carter, who appointed her to serve as director of the Labor Department's Women's Bureau.

Following the Carter Administration, she managed Jesse Jackson's 1984 and 1988 presidential campaigns, served as Chief of Staff for the Democratic National Convention, and was Assistant to the President and Director of the White House Office of Public Liaison in the Clinton Administration.

In 1997, Secretary Herman made history as the first African American and the fifth woman to lead the U.S. Department of Labor under President Clinton. During her almost four-year tenure, unemployment dropped to a 30-year low, and she served as an instrumental mediator in the 1997 United Parcel Service workers strike, which at the time was the largest strike in the United States in two decades. Additionally, she played a role in the efforts to curtail sweatshops, supported two minimum wage increases, and helped pass the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, an overhaul of job training programs.

After serving in the Clinton Administration, Secretary Herman formed a consulting company, New Ventures, and served on the boards of numerous companies, including Coca-Cola, Entergy, and others. She was also a co-chair of the Bush-Clinton Katrina Fund in 2006 and joined the board of the Clinton-Bush Haiti Fund after the 2010 earthquake in Haiti. Additionally, Secretary Herman was the president of the Dorothy I. Height Education Fund, named for the civil and women's rights activist who was her mentor.

Secretary Herman is preceded in death by her beloved husband, Dr. Charles Franklin, Jr. She is survived by her stepchildren, Charles J. Franklin, Michelle Franklin, and Shari Smith; her nephew Kirke (Teresa) Herman, Jr.; her cousins Bernard (Monceny) Broadus, Robin Broadus Iwuoha, Lori Hendricks, and Darryl Hendricks; and a host of godchildren, friends, mentees, and colleagues.

On a personal note, Secretary Herman was a great mentor and role model to me and so many women and African Americans in Alabama. A trailblazer and pioneer, she advocated for civil rights and workers protections. As we celebrate her incredible life and legacy, I want to express my sincere gratitude for the guidance she has given me in my life journey. Her extraordinary career in public service and advocacy is a testament to the power of one person to change the world. Through her hard work, brilliant mind, fearless determination, and thoughtful decision-making, she has changed lives. May the seeds she sowed into countless mentees continue to bear the fruit of change agents. Let us find comfort in knowing her incredible legacy will live on in the countless people she touched. May she rest in peace and power.

On behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the extraordinary life and legacy of an exceptional public servant, former Secretary of Labor Alexis Herman, for her service to the City of Mobile, the State of Alabama, and our Nation.

RECOGNIZING ANASTASIIA BILOBRYTSKA

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Anastasiia Bilobrytska for earning

the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

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

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

RECOGNIZING KATHY LOGUE

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Kathy Logue has made through her volunteerism at Bay Area Legal Services. After serving in the U.S. Army, Lt. Col. Kathy Logue began her career as an elementary school teacher in Chicago. A lifelong learner, she pursued her legal education at Chicago-Kent College of Law, part of the Illinois Institute of Technology, where she earned her law degree. Kathy was subsequently admitted to the Illinois Bar, practicing law for 39 years before relocating to Florida, where she joined the Florida Bar in 2009 and continued her legal career for an additional 14 years. Kathy has since retired from practicing law but remains active in her donation of time and legal expertise to the community. She is an active member of both the Illinois and Florida bars and remains in the retired reserves of the U.S. Army, ready to serve her country again if needed. Throughout her journey, Kathy has remained deeply committed to education and community service. Drawing on her experiences as a teacher, she has dedicated her retirement years to volunteering and substitute teaching in local schools. Additionally, Kathy has been actively involved with the New Port Richey VA Center, offering her time weekly to support veterans. She also volunteers with the Salvation Army of Pasco County's Domestic Violence Program each week, helping survivors navigate the legal process by reviewing and drafting petitions for Injunctions for Protection at the West Pasco Judicial Center. Kathy acts as a link between these clients in need and Bay Area Legal Services. She provides written referrals and assists in connecting the client with vital legal services and with follow-up to ensure victims are never alone in what can be a daunting process of fleeing abuse and obtaining protections. In addition to her dedication to volunteering with the VA and DV programs, Kathy is highly involved in the West Pasco Bar Association and has put her legal skills to use by participating in the West Pasco Bar Association's "Ask a Lawyer" program. In this role, she engaged with the public on law-related questions, providing invaluable support to individuals, families, and businesses. Kathy sponsors a legal aid paralegal membership for the West Pasco Bar Association and has worked to expand membership for legal serv-

ices staff. Kathy Logue's dedication, compassion, and service to her country, her community, and countless clients are truly inspiring. She is undeniably deserving of recognition for her outstanding pro bono volunteer work. Over the past ten years, in retirement from her full time professional life, Kathy has provided over 400 hours of pro bono service to her community, sometimes dealing with personal health challenges along the way.

It is clear Lt. Colonel Kathy Logue 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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK POCAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for Roll Call Votes on Tuesday, May 13, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner YEA on Roll Call No. 123, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Con. Res. 30, and YEA on Roll Call No. 124, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H.R. 249.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT FIRST CLASS LEIDLEIN AS MAY 2025 VETERAN OF THE MONTH

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with profound respect and gratitude to recognize the extraordinary service and unwavering dedication of Sergeant First Class Leidlein, a proud veteran of the United States Army and our distinguished Veteran of the Month for May 2025 from Michigan's 9th Congressional District. His exceptional military career and steadfast commitment to innovation, leadership, and mentorship embody the very best of American service.

Sergeant First Class Leidlein answered the call to serve his country on September 5, 1991, when he enlisted in the United States Army. Over a remarkable twenty-year career, he rose to the rank of Sergeant First Class, serving in diverse and demanding environments across the globe. After completing his initial training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, he was assigned to the 4th of the 11th Field Artillery at Fort Richardson, Alaska, where he excelled in missions from the icy glaciers of Whittier to international operations in Thailand and training exercises in California's Mojave Desert.

Throughout his distinguished service, Sergeant First Class Leidlein earned numerous awards, including multiple Army Achievement Medals and Army Commendation Medals, in recognition of his leadership, technical expertise, and operational excellence. His assignments included critical modernization work at Fort Knox, leadership roles at Fort Drum with the 10th Mountain Division, and recruitment duties where he was recognized as a top recruiter in the Great Lakes Battalion. His innovations in integrating advanced battlefield