

(Andy Dobson), and Adriana Hayward (Bill), step daughters Pam Peiffer (Matt) and Trisha Duval (Pat), his first wife Valera Whitford Lyles, mother of Will, Annarie, and Adriana, and grandchildren Allegra, Alistair, Delphinia Kelsey, Tatiana, Venezia, Chloe (Nick), Lauren, William and Hannah.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my esteemed colleagues to join me in honoring the legacy of William "Bill" Murray Lyles, III. He will be greatly missed by all who knew and loved him.

RECOGNIZING BRITTAMARIE
GRIFFIN

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

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

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

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

RECOGNIZING MIKA ROTUNDA

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Mika Rotunda has made through her work with Habitat Tampa Bay Gulfside. Born and raised in Brooksville, Mika Rotunda is a dynamic professional with a background in media and real estate. With years of experience in broadcasting and content creation, Mika has developed a unique ability to connect with her audience, community and customers. Her passion for people and the desire to empower others, translates seamlessly into her real estate career. Combining her media expertise and real estate knowledge, Mika has broad a unique perspective to the Habitat Board, which she was voted onto in 2024. Habitat Tampa Bay Gulfside has been working to create lasting relationships in Hernando County. Mika has played a key role in making introductions and working alongside our Hernando Executive Director to provide information and dispel myths about the Habitat mission. Mika has used her social media platform of over 100k followers to help spread Habitat's mission and promote the Habitat program to Hernando County individuals and families. Mika has worked with Habitat's external relations team to create social media videos to promote major events and invite people to apply to the Habitat program. Habitat will cele-

brate the completion of its first home in Hernando this June. When that happens, Mika will be one of the first in line to congratulate the new homeowner and welcome them to the area.

It is clear Mika Rotunda 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.

HONORING RIO VISTA CARING AC-
TIONS REACHING EVERYONE
(CARE)

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rio Vista Caring Actions Reaching Everyone (CARE) as the organization celebrates 40 years of service to the Delta community. Since 1985, CARE has provided critical mental health and family support services to children, families, and individuals across Rio Vista and other rural communities in our district.

Rio Vista CARE was founded as a grass-roots effort in response to a growing need for professional, low-cost mental health care in the region. Under the leadership of founding Executive Director Araminta Blackwelder, the organization grew into a trusted service provider, offering counseling, in-home visitation, mentoring, and crisis intervention. For over 26 years, Ms. Blackwelder guided CARE through economic challenges and expansion efforts, ensuring it remained a lifeline for families in need. In 2011, she passed the reins to Paul Shane, a seasoned nonprofit leader, and today the organization continues to thrive under the leadership of Executive Director Adriana Bejarano.

In 1995, CARE established the CARE Family Resource Center, expanding its ability to offer wraparound support. The center helps individuals and families access health insurance enrollment, translation services, assistance with unemployment, and connections to local resources. In 2002, CARE launched a home-visiting program to serve families in isolated rural areas. Today, the organization continues to offer school-based counseling from kindergarten through 12th grade, as well as individual and family therapy, grief counseling, support groups, crisis services, and a teen center.

Over the last four decades, CARE has served more than 18,000 children and family units. Seventy percent of its current clients are children. For many families, CARE has become an enduring presence, with parents who once sought help at CARE as children returning to the clinic with their own children, showing how deeply woven CARE is into the fabric of the community.

Rio Vista CARE remains the Delta region's only low-cost professional counseling and family resource center. Its services are provided regardless of a client's ability to pay, ensuring accessibility for those who need it most. CARE's success over the past 40 years reflects the power of community-based service, strong leadership, and an unwavering commitment to the well-being of others.

Mr. Speaker, Rio Vista CARE has stood by our community for four decades, helping families through their most difficult moments and building pathways to resilience and hope. It is fitting and proper that we recognize their invaluable contributions here today.

HONORING PETE VOGT FOR HIS
CONTRIBUTIONS TO CENTRAL
FLORIDA

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, born on August 18, 1944, in Wauchula, Florida, to Martha Pearle Mathis and George A. Vogt, Pete Vogt was a true Florida native. His deep-rooted connection to the state's landscapes was deeply influenced by his grandmother, Annabel Mathis, whose parents owned land in rural southwest Florida. Although his father's Air Force career led the family to move extensively around the U.S. during his youth, Pete always knew his roots were firmly planted among the southern palmetto hammocks and swamps.

Pete was back in Florida for his high school years at Oak Ridge High School. He often commented that the opportunity to attend a brand-new high school without established cliques and traditions made forming a wide range of friendships easier and enriched his high school experience. One of these friends, Linda Osborne, would become his wife.

Pete attended the University of South Florida, majoring in economics and developing a lifelong interest in politics, especially civil rights. Linda followed him to USF, and they married on August 21, 1965, while still in college. Pete graduated in 1966 and immediately joined the U.S. Army, as he believed military service was his responsibility as an American citizen. After boot camp, he was accepted into the Army's Officer Candidate School, and upon graduation was commissioned as a second lieutenant. To his delight, he was stationed in Germany. Once Linda graduated from USF, she was able to join him, and they enjoyed traveling in Europe. Their son, Eric, was born in Germany in 1968.

Once he had fulfilled his obligation to the Army, Pete and Linda returned to Orlando. Pete tried on a handful of jobs before finding that joining George A. Vogt Realty, his father's firm in Belle Isle, was the right fit. Pete excelled in building client relationships, sharing an endless supply of jokes, and maintaining connections with past clients. He joined the Orlando Regional Realtors Association and served on the board from 1970 until 2010.

Pete became involved in Democratic Party politics and worked on scores of local, state, and national campaigns over the years. He was deeply committed to civic engagement and women's and minority rights. His civic and political activities were extensive. A short list of boards on which Pete served includes the Mennello Museum of American Art, Guardian Care Nursing Home, Tiger Bay Club, Orange Audubon Society, and the First Unitarian Church of Orlando.

An intellectual at his core, Pete was insatiably curious, and each new interest led him to devour multiple books on the subject. Pete considered any week incomplete without a

visit to a bookstore. His home overflows with books on an incredible range of topics and people, including several books by and about Marcel Proust. Pete maintained that reading Proust had “changed his life” and quoted him endlessly to anyone who would listen. Starting in high school, he continued studying Spanish throughout his life, adding French somewhere along the way. His curiosity about the world led him to travel extensively, with Mexico, Central, and South America his favorite destinations. He scaled mountains, trekked the Amazon and hitch-hiked, and met people and learned about their cultures every chance he got. While he sometimes traveled alone, many of his most memorable adventures were shared with friends with whom he forged lifelong friendships.

After Linda’s death from breast cancer in 2006, his friends connected him with her friend Martha Haynie, and after several very tentative starts, Pete and Marty decided to share their lives. Over the next 19 years they indulged together their love of reading and cooking, theater and concerts, politics, traveling, and being with friends. Their adventures ranged from the mountains of Mexico to the streets of Paris and the Jungles of Ecuador. Pete’s diagnosis of Parkinson’s disease gradually slowed them down, and the COVID epidemic finally brought them home to Belle Isle to stay.

Pete led a rich and full life, surrounded by dear and loyal friends.

RECOGNIZING CHIEF GLENN
FORSYTH’S 50 YEARS OF SERVICE
WITH THE NEWTOWN FIRE
ASSOCIATION

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with deep pride and gratitude to recognize a truly remarkable individual from my district—Chief Glenn Forsyth of Newtown Township in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

This year, Chief Forsyth is celebrating an incredible milestone—50 years of continuous service with the Newtown Fire Association.

Let me repeat that: Five decades of commitment, sacrifice, and leadership in the name of public safety. Glenn’s journey with the fire service began in 1975 as a junior firefighter. But really, you could say it started even earlier—his family has proudly served in the Newtown Fire Association since 1915. Service is in his blood.

Over the years, Glenn has worn many hats—President, Trustee, Battalion Chief, Safety Officer. At every level, he’s brought steady leadership, tireless work ethic, and a deep love for this community.

But Chief Forsyth’s public service didn’t stop at the firehouse. In 1984, he joined the Newtown Township Police Department, where he served for 28 years, ultimately retiring as a respected Police Lieutenant. That experience made him uniquely qualified to lead when Newtown created its first full-time, paid fire chief position in 2012.

And who better to take on that role than Glenn Forsyth?

Since then, he has guided the department through growth, modernization, and chal-

lenges—building a unified team of career and volunteer firefighters, all committed to protecting the people of Newtown.

Chief Forsyth has given his entire adult life to the safety and well-being of this township. His name is respected, his leadership is trusted, and his example is one we should all strive to follow.

On behalf of a grateful community, I want to thank Chief Glenn Forsyth for 50 years of extraordinary service. May his legacy of courage and commitment inspire the next generation of firefighters and public servants for many years to come.

I congratulate Chief Forsyth. We salute him.

HONORING KATE DILNOTT-COOPER

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the remarkable journey and achievement of Kate Dilnott-Cooper, a lifelong learner and family historian whose decades-long travels across the United States have culminated in a personal milestone and a celebration of cultural connection and exploration.

Kate Dilnott-Cooper, a resident of the United Kingdom, has spent much of her life nurturing a deep appreciation for American history and heritage. Guided by a desire to understand the breadth and diversity of this country, she committed herself to the extraordinary goal of visiting and spending meaningful time in all 50 states. In July 2025, she will complete this lifelong dream with a visit to the state of Hawaii—her fiftieth and final state.

Kate’s travels reflect more than personal ambition. They represent a profound respect for the American story in all its complexity—from the majesty of its landscapes to the warmth of its people and the unique identities of its communities. Along the way, she has gathered family stories, local traditions, and historical narratives that bridge the personal with the universal.

Guided by a deep respect for heritage and its role in shaping generations, Kate has gathered family stories and personal histories, including that of her father-in-law—an orphan from Kansas sent to Canada—preserving these narratives as part of a broader cultural tapestry.

Through her curiosity and care, she has woven together the voices of small towns, the majesty of national parks, and the warmth of the people she encountered, reflecting the shared values of compassion, resilience, and the importance of memory.

Kate’s travels have become more than a personal accomplishment—they serve as a model of cultural appreciation, international friendship, and the enduring impact of honoring the past to shape the future.

It is my honor to recognize Kate Dilnott-Cooper for her remarkable achievement in visiting all 50 states of the United States, and commend her for her contributions to history, storytelling, and the strengthening of global understanding.

RECOGNIZING TAMMY MYERS

HON. HILLARY J. SCHOLTEN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

Ms. SCHOLTEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the tireless efforts of my constituent, Tammy Myers, whose commitment to ensuring fairness in Michigan’s surrogacy laws has brought about meaningful change for families across our community and state.

Tammy Myers was diagnosed with breast cancer in 2015, which resulted in procedures that left her unable to have children. In 2021, she and her husband worked with a gestational carrier to have their twin son and daughter. They quickly found themselves facing an unimaginable challenge. Tammy was forced to adopt her own biological twins due to deeply unfair Michigan laws that failed to recognize her as the rightful parent of her children.

Fueled by her personal experience, Tammy became an outspoken advocate for reforming Michigan’s antiquated surrogacy laws. Through her persistence and unwavering determination, Tammy helped bring attention to a loophole in state law that left parents like her in legal limbo, forcing many individuals to jump through hoops to be recognized as their biological children’s parents.

Tammy’s efforts were instrumental in the passage of the Michigan Family Protection Act, which provides legal support and protection for families who have children through surrogacy. Her advocacy shed light on the real-world implications of our outdated legal system and the need for reform as we continue to fight for reproductive freedom across our Nation.

On behalf of Michigan’s Third Congressional District, I am proud to honor Tammy Myers for her advocacy and leadership. We thank her for her tireless work in fighting for her children—Eames, Ellison, and Corryn—and the hard-working Michiganders who now have access to the essential resources they need to start a family.

NEWSLETTER FROM
CONGRESSMAN CHUCK EDWARDS

HON. CHUCK EDWARDS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 3, 2025

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following newsletter to give an update to my constituents on the town hall:

DEAR FRIEND,

Recently, I held my ninth in-person town hall in Asheville. Hearing from the people of Western North Carolina will continue to be a priority of mine, and I will not shy away from my support of President Trump and our important work renewing the American Dream and fixing how Washington works.

President Trump is doing exactly what he promised to do: comb through our federal agencies to look for inefficiencies. I applaud the fact that he’s doing that, and I appreciate his recognition that I went all 12 rounds to support and defend the America First agenda.

Despite some disruptions, I was able to answer questions from multiple constituents at the town hall and dispel some of the misinformation currently being spread around,