

retirement from the Pennsylvania Air National Guard and on a job extremely well done. His dedicated service to his fellow Airmen, our communities, the Pennsylvania Air National Guard, the United States Air Force, and our United States of America set the standard by which all should be judged.

RECOGNIZING MS. MARGIE PRICHARD

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2026

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my outstanding constituents, Ms. Margie Prichard, a dedicated volunteer whose heart, consistency, and servant spirit have made a profound difference in our community through her work with Seniors in Service AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Pasco.

Since joining in September 2021, Margie has quietly and steadfastly helped meet the basic needs of neighbors facing hardship. She discovered Seniors in Service during a deeply difficult season, after losing her husband to COVID. In her own words, "I was really, really lost and looking for something to do with my life." Through a small newspaper ad, she connected with Florida Food Force—a program addressing food insecurity in Pasco County—and found not only a way to give back, but a path forward for herself. At 71 years old, Margie's story is a powerful reminder that volunteering can be both an act of service and a source of personal renewal. Week after week, Margie serves on Wednesdays, preparing and packing emergency food boxes for individuals and families in need. These boxes are more than groceries—they provide peace of mind, dignity, and a lifeline for those facing uncertain times. Her unwavering commitment ensures that this vital work continues without interruption, and her positive attitude uplifts everyone around her. Beyond her regular service, Margie exemplifies the kind of volunteer every organization hopes for: dependable, flexible, and always ready to step in where help is needed. She goes above and beyond during the holidays, assisting with Thanksgiving meal prep, and supports additional initiatives, including Lighthouse for the Visually Impaired and Blind.

Margie represents the very best of Seniors in Service AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Pasco. Her dedication is rooted in compassion, resilience, and community pride. She has strengthened partnerships, advanced the mission of our local nonprofits, and helped countless neighbors in need. For her steadfast service, her generous spirit, and the hope she brings to others each and every day, I am proud to recognize Ms. Margie Prichard as a 2026 Hero Among Us. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her exceptional commitment and the lasting difference she has made in our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KWEISI MFUME

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2026

Mr. MFUME. Mr. Speaker on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, I missed a vote due to personal reasons.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 97.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SALUD O. CARBAJAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2026

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, on March 25, 2026, I missed the vote on H. Res. 1131. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 99.

RECOGNIZING MS. CATHY TATUM

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2026

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my outstanding constituents, Ms. Cathy Tatum, a dedicated volunteer whose steadfast commitment, compassion, and hard work have made a profound difference through Seniors in Service AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Pasco. Since joining in 2024, Cathy has become one of those dependable volunteers who shows up consistently, jumps in wherever needed, and ensures essential services continue for neighbors facing hardship. She began volunteering through Seniors in Service at CARES, and when that program closed, she immediately transitioned to supporting food assistance. Today, she serves at the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry in Port Richey at Our Lady Queen of Peace, a vital but small pantry supporting an extremely vulnerable population, including individuals living paycheck-to-paycheck or experiencing homelessness.

Cathy brings patience, compassion, and a steady heart to every task. She packs food boxes, assists in the office, and helps with bookkeeping and client files—whatever the pantry needs that day, she does it with dedication and care. Her commitment is extraordinary: in November 2025, she logged 69 hours of service, and in December 2025, she contributed an incredible 173 hours in a single month. This level of dedication speaks volumes about her work ethic and the depth of her care for her community. Equally important is the way Cathy gives her time. Blown for her warmth, kindness, and ability to make others feel welcome, she consistently supports her team and the clients served with positivity, respect, and dignity. Her steady presence ensures that the pantry can reach more neighbors in need, and that every person who walks through the door feels valued.

For her extraordinary dedication, compassionate service, and meaningful impact on the community, I am proud to recognize Ms.

Cathy Tatum as a 2026 Hero Among Us. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her unwavering commitment and the lasting difference she continues to make for the people of Pasco County.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF WILLIAM "BILL" SCARANO

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2026

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a true patriot, Mr. William "Bill" Scarano who passed away peacefully on Friday, March 20, 2026, at the age of 101. Bill was a proud and upstanding resident of Groton, Connecticut. In October 2024, I had the honor of interviewing Mr. Scarano for a veteran's history project and listen to stories from his military service, career as a fireman in the City of Groton, and numerous other achievements. It was an honor and pleasure to converse with him about his extraordinary service to our Nation and community. He was very down-to-earth and self-deprecating even though he was at center of some of the most pivotal moments of World War II. His life of public service deserves to be celebrated and recognized.

Throughout his life, Bill dedicated himself to his family, community, and country. At the age of 18, Bill felt the call for service and joined the Navy. He was officially sworn into the Navy in 1943 and went on to graduate from Submarine School based in Groton, Connecticut. Bill was happy to learn that upon graduation, he was assigned to his first choice of assignment and stay in Groton at the Electric Boat Company. Soon after in May 1944, he departed for Pearl Harbor, Hawaii on the USS *Sealion* (SS-315) as a Coxwain 1.

Bill completed numerous patrols on the USS *Sealion*, sinking Japanese naval transport ships, intercepting a Japanese convoy off the China coast, sinking a Japanese minelayer, and accomplishing other assigned duties. During his time on the *Sealion*, he was proud to be assigned as a bow planes man, referenced as one of the most important posts of battle stations operations.

Bill continued to serve in the Navy throughout WWII, traveling to Guam, Australia, the Philippines, and throughout the South China Sea until returning to San Francisco. His efforts earned him the Navy Commendation Medal for "meritorious conduct in action . . . through his proficiency at his battle station which resulted in sinking enemy shipping totaling more than 28,000 tons and damaging over 25,000 tons". He received numerous other military awards including the Submarine Combat Patrol Insignia (with 2 gold and one silver star); Asiatic-Pacific Theater Campaign medal (with one bronze service star); Philippine Liberation Ribbon (with bronze service star); America Area Medal, Presidential Unit Citation; Submarine Combat Insignia (with 5 stars); and the World War II Victory medal. He was honorably discharged on March 10, 1946, and soon after returned to his hometown of Groton, Connecticut.

Despite his military career coming to an end, Bill continued to serve his Nation by embodying the principals of a community steward. In the same year as his discharge, Bill

joined the Eastern Point Volunteer Fire Department as a volunteer fireman. Bill's service earned him numerous promotions that led to his appointment as Chief and Fire Marshall of the City's Fire Department in 1968. He served in this role until his retirement in 1985.

In 1978, Bill married the love of his life Anne (Bassette). The couple happily spent 47 years together. Together, they operated the Sea Romer Cafe for nearly 30 years, serving local residents and Electric Boat workers in the Groton area. In addition to his wife Anne, Bill is survived by his three children William, Jr., Patty, Michelle and their spouses, his grandsons Michael and Tyler, and his great grandchildren Marisa and Charlie.

Bill was a well-known figure in his community and enjoyed being surrounded by others. At a celebration for this 100th birthday, he received an official diploma from Robert E. Fitch High School from Groton School officials, since he had left school in his junior year to join the Navy. For over 20 years, Bill spent his mornings having coffee with other Groton locals at Buford's Family Restaurant. He was a proud lifetime member of the Italian American Citizen Club of Groton and the Groton Lodge of Elks club, and the oldest member of the US Submarine Veterans Club in Groton. Bill's over 82 years of submarine qualification also made him the longest serving member of the prestigious Submarine Veterans Holland Club, which requires over 50 years of submarine qualification.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Scarano was a highly respected and valuable member of the Groton and submarine communities. His military service, passion for serving and engaging with his community, and love for his friends and family leave a long-lasting legacy. I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in commemorating Mr. Scarano, to honor his life and service to our country.

RECOGNIZING MR. MIKE TUTKO

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2026

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my outstanding constituents, Mr. Mike Tutko, a dedicated volunteer whose selfless service and leadership have made a profound impact on Hernando County through his work with the United Way and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Mike began his journey with the United Way of Hernando County 11 years ago as a Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) preparer, earning certification through the IRS program. Through dedication, consistency, and natural leadership, he quickly became Site Coordinator, overseeing tax preparation operations at the Brooksville location and mentoring fellow volunteers each season. Under his guidance, the Brooksville site alone has served more than 2,460 low-to-moderate income families, helping them save an estimated \$984,000 in tax preparation fees—funds that families instead used for rent, medical care, utilities, and food. Mike's expertise, careful quality review, and deep knowledge of tax law make the Brooksville VITA site a trusted and reliable resource. He and his team go far beyond filing returns, assisting clients with identity theft

issues, navigating Earned Income Tax Credit eligibility, understanding direct deposit options, and resolving issues that could delay refunds. His patience, advocacy, and thoughtful guidance ensure that every individual receives the support they need during what can often be a stressful process.

Beyond the VITA program, Mike has a long-standing commitment to service through the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, where he assists families facing hardship. Through home visits, compassionate listening, and careful follow-up, he identifies meaningful solutions and provides emergency assistance and financial support. Most recently, Mike played a critical role in supporting a family through a Hurricane Milton Long-Term Recovery case, helping a single mother and her two children secure a safe, stable home, so they could begin rebuilding their lives. A proud military veteran, Mike brings the values of service, integrity, and selflessness to every role he takes on. His leadership, dedication, and compassion consistently go above and beyond, touching countless lives throughout Hernando County.

For his unwavering commitment, profound impact, and tireless service, I am proud to recognize Mr. Mike Tutko as a 2026 Hero Among Us. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his exceptional service, steadfast advocacy, and the lasting difference he has made in our community.

RECOGNIZING JERRY GREINER
UPON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2026

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate a dedicated public servant, Jerry Greiner, who will be retiring after thirty-seven years of service as the founding Director of the Northwestern Water and Sewer District. Over the course of his career, Jerry's commitment to expanding access to clean water and modern sewer services, has had a lasting impact on the health, quality of life, and economic vitality of the region.

Jerry was hired by the Wood County Commissioners in 1988 to manage the county's sanitary engineer's office. When the Northwestern Water and Sewer District was established in 1993, he became its first and only director. Under his leadership, the district grew from serving a few thousand customers to connecting more than 20,000 customers across Wood County and the neighboring counties of Hancock, Henry, Lucas, and Sandusky. Today, the district employs seventy-nine people, manages \$230 million in assets, distributes 6.5 million gallons of water daily through nearly 500 miles of waterlines, and serves fourteen municipalities and twenty-four townships in Wood County alone.

Throughout his tenure, Jerry was instrumental in attracting major employers to the region, including First Solar, the CSX rail hub, UPS, and others, by ensuring reliable water and sewer infrastructure were in place to support economic growth. In 2023, the district was recognized as Wood County's Corporate Citizen of the Year by the Wood County Development Commission.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Jerry Greiner. On

behalf of the people of the 5th Congressional District of Ohio, I recognize the dedication and leadership that Jerry has shown through his decades of service to his community. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING MR. WILLIAM
"BILL" HUMPHREY

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2026

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my outstanding constituents, Mr. William "Bill" Humphrey, a dedicated volunteer whose leadership and service have made a profound impact through Seniors in Service AmeriCorps Seniors RSVP Pasco.

Bill exemplifies the critical role volunteers play in supporting communities that often have nowhere else to turn. As a site coordinator for the VITA tax preparation program, he ensures that seniors and low-income residents in Pasco County have access to free, reliable, and trustworthy tax preparation services. His dedication is evident the moment you walk into his site—Bill manages a fast-paced, non-stop workflow, coordinating appointments, assisting clients, and supporting volunteers with unwavering focus and commitment to the mission.

Bill's service begins long before tax season. He takes on essential behind-the-scenes responsibilities, including training volunteers and setting up appointment scheduling systems, phone lines, and outreach materials so that individuals in need can easily access these services. The clients he serves are often seniors on restricted budgets or working individuals who rely on VITA as their only safe and accessible option. Bill ensures that every client is treated with dignity and receives the guidance and support they need. Beyond tax preparation, Bill's commitment to community extends to advocating for vulnerable neighbors. In past years, he helped protect a blind veteran from being taken advantage of, demonstrating the same protective and community-minded spirit he brings to all his work today. Bill's leadership, consistency, and dedication strengthen both clients and volunteers, enhancing the reach and impact of the VITA program across Pasco County.

For his tireless service, steadfast leadership, and meaningful impact on the lives of countless neighbors, I am proud to recognize Mr. William "Bill" Humphrey as a 2026 Hero Among Us. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his extraordinary commitment and the lasting difference he has made in our community.

RECOGNIZING MASTER GUNNERY
SERGEANT MASTER A. PIFER

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2026

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Master Gunnery Sergeant Scott A. Pifer upon the occasion of his retirement from the United States Marine Corps after 26 years of selfless and dedicated service.