

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 longstanding 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.

A native of New Kingstown, Pennsylvania. Master Gunnery Sergeant Pifer enlisted in the Marine Corps in March 2000 and entered Recruit Training at Parris Island. After superiors noticed his professionalism, leadership, and promotions while serving under Marine Aircraft Control Group 24 in Hawaii, he was selected for the Marine Corps Embassy Group. Between 2003 and 2006, he served as a Marine Security Guard at the U.S. Mission in Switzerland and the U.S. Embassy in Russia, where he protected personnel and information crucial to our National security. Master Gunnery Sergeant Pifer later served as a J-3 Deputy Director of Regional Operations at the Pentagon in the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. During his illustrious career, he deployed to Japan with the Heavy Marine Helicopter Squadron and the U.S. 7th Fleet (2002 and 2009), to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom (2011–2012), and to

Qatar in support of Operation Inherent Resolve (2017).

Master Gunnery Sergeant Pifer earned a multitude of awards and decorations, to include the: Defense Meritorious Service Medal; the Meritorious Service Medal; Joint Service Commendation Medal (2nd award); Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (3rd Award); and Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal (8th Award). His administrative leadership at the squadron, battalion, regimental, and Marine Expeditionary Force levels has been instrumental in enhancing Marine air-ground task force combat effectiveness.

In 2017, Master Gunnery Sergeant Pifer was selected for the Congressional Fellowship Program and served as a Fellow in the House of Representatives. He also completed a tour with the National Security Agency and U.S. Cyber Command, where he managed personnel requirements as a military liaison officer. At the time of his retirement, Master Gunnery Sergeant Pifer serves as the Staff Non-

Commissioned Officer in Charge of the Installation Personnel Administration Center at the Marine Corps Air Station in Yuma, Arizona, where he oversees primary administrative operations and ensures personnel readiness for over 3,000 Marines and Sailors.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Master Gunnery Sergeant Scott A. Pifer upon the auspicious occasion of his retirement from the United States Marine Corps after 26 years of honorable, tireless, and selfless service. His vast assignments allowed him to operate and engage in more than 20 countries, broadening his perspective and reinforcing the importance of service, diplomacy, and leadership at every level. The relationships he has fostered and the Marines he developed throughout decades of service guided by the Marine Corps values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment leave a legacy that will endure long after his retirement and set the standard by which all should be judged.