

and an unwavering commitment to service, Amanda Clavijo continues to make a lasting difference for the people of Osceola County.

HONORING MAJOR JAMES MALLO

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 2026

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Major James Mallo, an exemplary community member whose leadership and service have made a lasting impact on children and families in our community. Through his dedicated service on the Board of Directors at Youth and Family Alternatives (YFA) for 10 years, James consistently demonstrates a deep commitment to strengthening families and improving outcomes for children. James brings thoughtful leadership, integrity, and compassion to his role on the Board. He is not only strategic in his guidance, but also genuinely invested in YFA's mission, ensuring the organization remains responsive, effective, and centered on the needs of those it serves. His insight and steady leadership help drive meaningful decisions that directly improve the lives of children and families. His role on the RAP River Run Event Committee has strengthened community support and advocacy, while his involvement with the Rotary Club of Trinity brings him and fellow Rotarians to the RAP House Youth Shelter each month, where they cook for children and teens in our care. The time spent with these youth is impactful for both the kids and the volunteers, who generously donate both their time and resources.

Beyond his formal role on YFA's Board, James is known for consistently lending a helping hand across our entire community. He steps forward whenever there is a need—offering his time, expertise, or support—embodying the true spirit of community service. His willingness to serve others without hesitation inspires those around him and strengthens the organizations and people he supports.

James's leadership, generosity, and unwavering dedication make him a truly deserving nominee. His contributions reflect the very best of community involvement and have created a lasting, positive ripple effect throughout our community. Always ready for a challenge, James is an invaluable member of the YFA village, and I am profoundly grateful for his service. For his unwavering commitment, inspiring leadership, and extraordinary service to our community, I am honored to recognize him as a 2026 Hero Among Us for Florida's 12th Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING THOMAS M. COSTELLO FOR HIS SERVICE TO CONGRESS

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 2026

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thomas M. Costello for his service to the United States Congress. Tom is retiring after almost two decades of service with the

Architect of the Capitol, concluding a career rooted in public service.

Tom began his career as a United States Marine with tours overseas including meritorious service and sacrifice with the Multi-national Force in Lebanon. Even during his time in the private sector, Tom continued to serve the Federal Government as a contractor before joining the Architect of the Capitol in 2006.

Since then, Tom has worked tirelessly in many behind-the-scenes ways to directly support Congress' legislative mission. For example, Tom's work was key to the restoration of the United States Capitol Dome, the replacement of the Legislative Call System, and ensuring clean, reliable power across Capitol Hill.

Tom's dedication to duty has garnered him the respect of colleagues and stakeholders across Congress. His leadership, skills, and wisdom on the jobsite have strengthened the effectiveness and credibility of the Architect of the Capitol with a tenure defined by integrity, accountability, and quality.

As Tom completes his service tomorrow, March 31, with the Office of the Chief Engineer, we extend our warmest wishes for a fulfilling retirement. His achievements and outstanding performance of duty stands as a testament to remaining "always faithful," and his actions merit this special recognition and the deepest gratitude of the American People.

HONORING NICOLE FENTY AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 2026

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Nicole Fenty as a Distinguished Leader in Central Florida for Women's History Month. Nicole Fenty is an events and venues supervisor for the City of Kissimmee with more than a decade of experience supporting community programs, public events, and facility operations in Central Florida.

She first joined the City on June 5, 2012, working in several community facilities, including the Kissimmee Civic Center, Oak Street Community Center, and Camp Discovery, where she served as a counselor, counselor-in-training mentor, and assistant director. Her early work focused on youth programming, recreation services, and supporting events that bring residents together.

Fenty returned to the City of Kissimmee in August 2022 and was later promoted to full-time service in March 2023. Since her return, she has progressed from facility technician (logistics) to events and venues specialist and currently serves as events and venues supervisor. In this role, she oversees the planning and operational coordination of a wide range of events held throughout Kissimmee and Osceola County, including weddings, community celebrations, festivals, award ceremonies, sporting events, and public gatherings of all sizes. Her work also supports emergency preparedness and public safety efforts. Fenty holds multiple Emergency Management certifications, including Incident Support and Shelter

Management training, as well as Crowd Manager and Maintenance of Traffic (MOT) certifications.

In March 2025, she was recognized as the City of Kissimmee's Employee of the Month for her dedication and service. Through her work in facility management, logistics, and event coordination, Fenty has supported community engagement and public events serving residents across Florida's 9th Congressional District.

RECOGNIZING MR. MARK KENYON

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 2026

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary servant leader in my district, Mr. Mark Kenyon, whose dedication to others exemplifies the very best of our community. Mark embodies the spirit of service that defines the Community Service Council of West Pasco County, and his reliability, compassion, and hands-on leadership have made a lasting impact on countless families. Mark is involved in nearly every service project undertaken by the Council, consistently stepping forward with a willingness to help and a positive attitude that inspires everyone around him. His commitment is not occasional—it is constant. When there is work to be done, Mark is there, ready to serve. Among his many contributions, Mark's leadership of the Home Spruce Up Program stands out as a shining example of volunteerism at its finest. This initiative identifies homes in our community in need of non-structural repairs—projects that can dramatically improve safety, dignity, and quality of life for residents who may not have the financial means or physical ability to complete them on their own. As an experienced handyman, Mark plays a critical leadership role, carefully assessing each project site, determining necessary materials, estimating quantities, and projecting realistic timelines to ensure the work is done efficiently and effectively. Mark approaches each home with empathy and respect. He takes the time to understand the homeowner's needs and thoughtfully organizes volunteers to address them with care. Whether repairing steps, painting, clearing yards, or making small but meaningful improvements, Mark ensures that every project reflects quality craftsmanship and genuine compassion. His ability to coordinate teams, solve problems on the spot, and keep morale high has transformed the Home Spruce Up Program into one of the Council's most successful and cherished efforts.

What truly sets Mark apart is his heart. He treats every homeowner with dignity, listening to their stories and ensuring they feel seen and supported. Volunteers consistently share that Mark's leadership elevates the entire experience—he leads not by title, but by example. He arrives early, stays late, and never hesitates to take on the toughest tasks himself. Though he rarely seeks recognition, his impact is unmistakable. Beyond the projects he leads, Mark is the person the organization can depend on for nearly any event or initiative. His consistency and dependability have strengthened programs across the board and enabled the Council to serve more families than ever before.

Mr. Speaker, for his unwavering dedication, steady leadership, and the countless hours he has invested in improving the lives of others, I am proud to recognize Mark Kenyon as a 2026 Heroes Among Us recipient for Florida's 12th Congressional District. His service reflects the very best of our community, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his extraordinary contributions.

CELEBRATING THE HISTORY OF
"THE PATCH"

HON. RICK W. ALLEN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 2026

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and celebrate the long-awaited reopening of Augusta, Georgia's premier Municipal Golf Course—otherwise known as "the Patch," which was recently renovated with the help of golf legends Tom Fazio, Beau Welling, and Tiger Woods—three world-class golf course architects.

"The Patch" has been ingrained into the fabric of our local community since 1928. In the early 1900s, the popularity of the game of golf was quickly on the rise in Augusta, and it was the establishment of "the Patch" that made the game accessible for locals and visitors of all ages and backgrounds—fostering growth of the game for future generations. In 1999, ground was broken on the construction of a new First Tee of Augusta facility which still operates at "the Patch" today.

This longstanding mission is one that our community continues to embrace—growing the game of golf and the values it instills in all who play. Together, "the Patch," Masters Tournament Charities, Augusta Technical College, the First Tee of Augusta, and the City of Augusta have all collaborated to create some of the best public golf facilities in the country—contributing to Augusta's known reputation as the crown jewel of this sport.

Beyond the game of golf, "the Patch" will serve as a catalyst for community renewal through job training at Augusta Tech's agronomy center. It will help rescue underserved youth through the First Tee of Augusta, and as it did in its early days, it will continue to offer a community clubhouse and gathering place for neighbors to enjoy.

My wife Robin and I are proud supporters of this transformational initiative and look forward to its positive impact on our community, the game of golf, and the next generation. We congratulate Chairman Fred Ridley, Members and Staff of Augusta National Golf Club, Mayor Garnett Johnson, the Augusta Commission, and Randy Hatcher, outgoing Chairman of the Augusta Technical College Foundation, for their tireless work to make this project a reality.

HONORING ALEXANDRA FIGUEROA
AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN
CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 2026

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker. I rise to honor Alexandra Figueroa as a Distinguished Leader in Central Florida for Women's History Month. Born and raised in Puerto Rico, Alexandra Figueroa has devoted her life to the belief that every child deserves a champion in the classroom. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, earning a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education with a concentration in Special Education.

With a passion for teaching and a heart committed to service, she began her career in Orlando, Florida, where she has faithfully served students and families for more than 20 years. Throughout her tenure with Orange County Public Schools, including 15 years working with students from low-income communities, Ms. Figueroa has been guided by a clear and powerful mission: to ensure that every child—regardless of background—feels seen, supported, and capable of greatness. She currently serves as a primary teacher and instructional leader at Village Park Elementary, specializing in early childhood education and Exceptional Student Education (ESE). Her classroom is recognized for blending rigorous academic instruction with social-emotional learning and differentiated strategies that empower students to thrive. By meeting children where they are while steadfastly believing in their potential, she has helped countless young learners build confidence and achieve meaningful growth. In recognition of her profound impact, Ms. Figueroa was named the 2026 District Teacher of the Year.

Beyond her classroom, she mentors fellow educators and supports community initiatives that strengthen partnerships between schools and families. Across more than two decades of service, Alexandra Figueroa exemplifies the spirit of Women's History Month—demonstrating how educators transform lives and shape the future through compassion, excellence, and unwavering belief in their students.

RECOGNIZING MS. BECKY
BENNETT

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 2026

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary leader and dedicated servant in my district, Ms. Becky Bennett, whose compassion and commitment have strengthened the Community Service Council of West Pasco County and the countless families it serves. Becky is truly the heart of this organization, and her years of faithful service reflect the very best of our community. For more than a decade, Becky has devoted

her career to the nonprofit sector, serving with Pasco Kids First, Premier Community Health Care, and now The Lighthouse for the Visually Impaired and Blind. Her professional experience, combined with her tireless volunteerism, has uniquely equipped her to meet the needs of vulnerable individuals and families with both expertise and empathy. Within the Community Service Council, Becky has been a driving force behind nearly every major initiative. She has served faithfully as Chairperson of the Outreach Committee for several years, as Vice President in 2022, and as President in 2023. Her leadership is marked by humility, integrity, and a steadfast commitment to lifting up those who need it most. It is no surprise that she was recognized as Humanitarian of the Year in 2010 and Volunteer of the Year in 2021—honors that reflect the lasting difference she continues to make. One of Becky's most significant contributions is her leadership of the Council's annual Thanksgiving meal delivery project. Under her guidance, this initiative has grown tremendously, delivering more than 1,300 meals to families in need this past Thanksgiving alone. Becky's exceptional organizational skills, calm presence, and ability to rally volunteers ensure that every meal is prepared and delivered with care, reaching homes where it truly matters.

Beyond her hands-on service, Becky plays a critical role in securing the resources necessary to sustain the Council's mission. Her dedication to fundraising ensures that programs remain strong and responsive to the community's needs year after year. She approaches this responsibility with the same passion and heart that define all her work. Perhaps most importantly, Becky's impact is felt in the way she treats people. She listens with compassion, encourages with sincerity, and leads by example—never asking others to do what she is not willing to do herself. Volunteers and community members alike describe her as a steady, inspiring presence who brings out the very best in those around her.

Mr. Speaker, for her years of devoted service, her transformative leadership, and her unwavering commitment to improving the lives of others, I am proud to recognize Becky Bennett as a 2026 Heroes Among Us recipient for Florida's 12th Congressional District. She embodies what it means to serve with heart, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her outstanding contributions.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 2026

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I had a familial obligation to tend to. Had I been present, I would have voted: NAY on Roll Call No. 105; NAY on Roll Call No. 106; NAY on Roll Call No. 107; and NAY on Roll Call No. 108.