Although her injuries forever changed the course of her life, they never diminished her spirit. Instead, they strengthened her resolve to continue serving others. Larisa often reflects that her military service taught her to appreciate life's simplest blessings and to never be ashamed of the scars she carries, because they are lasting reminders that she was stronger than the adversity she faced. Those words speak not only to her own journey but also to the resilience demonstrated by so many of our wounded warriors. Following her military service, Specialist Dickerson continued her commitment to public service by pursuing higher education, earning an Associate's Degree in Criminal Justice and a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting. Today, she serves the citizens of Hillsborough County as a Senior Accounting Manager with the Clerk of the Circuit Court & Comptroller's Office, where she continues to exemplify integrity, professionalism, and dedication to her community. Beyond her professional accomplishments, Larisa's greatest pride is her family. She is the devoted mother of two sons, David Jr. and Daniel, and has instilled in them the same values of courage, perseverance, and love of country that guided her own life. Mr. Speaker, the Purple Heart is far more than a medal, it is a solemn symbol of sacrifice, valor, and unwavering devotion to duty. Specialist Larisa Dickerson's service reminds us that the freedoms we enjoy every day have been secured by brave Americans willing to place themselves in harm's way for a cause greater than themselves.

It is my distinct privilege to recognize Specialist Larisa Dickerson (Ret.) for her extraordinary service, her historic contributions to our Armed Forces, and her continued dedication to her community. On behalf of a grateful Nation, I thank her for her sacrifice, honor her remarkable legacy, and offer my deepest gratitude for all she has done—and continues to do—in service to others.

## COMMENDING RETIRING MIAMI-DADE COUNTY POLICE SERGEANT THOMAS PHILIP HIXON

### HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, August 3, 2026*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great state of Florida, I rise today to recognize Miami-Dade Police Sergeant Thomas Philip Hixon who is retiring after 25 years of outstanding service to our community and to young men, as a mentor with the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project. I include in the RECORD the following proclamation:

Whereas, Sergeant Hixon, a highly skilled and well-respected law enforcement officer, rose from the ranks of police officer to investigator and to supervisor over his 25-year career;

Whereas, Sergeant Hixon was assigned to the Homicide Bureau, Robbery Bureau, the Public Housing and Urban Development Unit, as well as the Carol City and Intracoastal District, where he investigated thousands of criminal cases that led to the successful prosecution of scores of defendants;

Whereas, Sergeant Hixon has received more than 80 letters of commendation, was the recipient of the 2004 United States Attorney's Office Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award, and has received numerous other accolades, including the Employee Excellence Award and Officer of the Month Award;

Whereas, Sergeant Hixon has worked to make Miami-Dade County safer for residents and visitors, and has helped to improve the lives of the less fortunate;

Whereas, Sergeant Hixon is a dedicated mentor with the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project, working to improve the odds for at-risk young; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Frederica S. Wilson, a Member of the United States House of Representatives, representing the 24th Congressional District of Florida, commend retiring Miami-Dade County Police Sergeant Thomas Philip Hixon for his dedication, commitment and untiring service to our community.

## RECOGNIZING RECARDINA ''DINA'' BOCCIPPIO'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, August 3, 2026*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Recardina Boccippio, also known as Dina, as she celebrates her 100th birthday this year. It is my pleasure to join Dina's family and friends in honoring the wonderful life she has led.

On September 16, 1925, Recardina DePalma was born to Dominick and Michelina DePalma in Port Reading, New Jersey where Dina resided for 21 years. On October 27, 1946, she married the love of her life Angelo Boccippio and in 1953, they purchased their forever home in Woodbridge, New Jersey. Her loved ones refer to her as a pleasure to be around and a true inspiration.

For 10 years, Dina worked at Flagstaff Foods and Liquors. For the next 35 years, Dina worked as a private secretary and head bookkeeper for the Mauro Family at Mauro Motors. Now retired, it is clear she is living her best life as she is happiest spending time with family and friends. In her free time, Dina enjoys watching game shows and soap operas and is always ready for her next hair and nail appointments. After many incredible years, Dina Boccippio's contagious positivity and kindness is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in wishing Dina Boccippio another year of good health and happiness as she celebrates the milestone of her 100th Birthday.

## HONORING COLONEL GARY D. DENNETT (RETIRED)

### HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, August 3, 2026*

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Colonel Gary D. Dennett (Ret.) has devoted his life to service to this country, through thirty-one years in uniform and thirty-one concurrent years with the Department of Defense, and through his continued commitment to our veterans and the Central Texas community. It is my privilege to honor him with a Congressional Veteran Commendation.

Colonel Dennett began his military career in 1958 and served in the United States Army, the Kansas National Guard, and the Army Reserves until his retirement in 1989. During his career he served in Germany, and after Ranger School deployed to Vietnam as an advisor to the Army Republic of Vietnam (ARVN). After attending OCS and receiving his commission as an officer in the Army National Guard, he continued his distinguished service in the Army Reserves where he held various command positions at every level. During his military career he was awarded the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star for Valor, Army Meritorious Unit Commendation, Army Superior Unit Commendation, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry, Army Commendation Medal, and Army Achievement Medal, along with numerous campaign and service ribbons.

After retiring from the Army Reserves, Colonel Dennett continued to dedicate himself to honoring veterans and service the community. He is a longstanding member of the Williamson County Veterans Memorial Advisory Group, which established and continues to maintain and conduct ceremonies at the Veterans Memorial Plaza in Georgetown, Texas. He remains active as a life member in organizations such as the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign War (VFW), and Military Order of World Wars (MOWW), serving in various officer positions at the state and local level.

Colonel Dennett has been a leader, mentor, and steadfast advocate for veterans and their families. His service and efforts have ensured that the sacrifices of our Nation's service members are honored and remembered with dignity and respect.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I extend my deepest gratitude to Colonel Gary D. Dennett for his faithful service to our Nation and his lifelong dedication to others.

## HONORING BILL ANNO

### HON. AARON BEAN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, August 3, 2026*

Mr. BEAN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Master Sergeant Bill Anno for a lifetime of extraordinary public service, patriotism, and unwavering dedication to the citizens of Nassau County and the United States of America.

For those of us who serve Northeast Florida, Bill is a familiar and reassuring presence. For years, as a court security officer at the historic Nassau County Courthouse, Bill was the very first face to greet members of the public and elected officials alike. Stretching back to my time in the Florida State Senate, whenever I held constituent meetings at the historic courthouse, I knew we were in safe hands with Bill guarding the door. His quiet vigilance, warmth, and professionalism set the standard for public safety.

Bill's distinguished career in uniform began in 1978 when he enlisted in the United States Air Force. Over 24 years of honorable active-duty service, Bill rose to the rank of Master Sergeant, E–7, serving as a Law Enforcement

Supervisor and earning high honors, including: 8th Security Forces Squadron Senior NCO of the Year at Kunsan Air Base in Korea, Shift Chief of the Year at Beale Air Force Base, and Military Volunteer of the Year at Patrick Air Force Base.

Following his military service, Bill continued to protect and serve his community here at home. Across two decades with the Nassau County Sheriff's Office, Bill served in nearly every capacity, from Dispatcher and Patrol Deputy to Detective, Crime Scene Investigator, and Courthouse Security Officer. His excellence in law enforcement was repeatedly recognized by his peers, earning him Nassau County Deputy of the Year in 2008, Detective of the Year in 2012, and the Above and Beyond the Call of Duty Award in 2018. Beyond his professional career, Bill's heart for service shines in everything he does. A dedicated community leader, Bill has mentored generations of young people through the Boy Scouts of America for over twenty years, serving as Scout Leader for Troop 152 in Yulee, District Commissioner, and receiving the prestigious Silver Beaver Award in 2018. He is also an active member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the Yulee Lions Club, Callahan Lodge No. 32 F&AM, and Amelia Baptist Church. Mr. Speaker, Bill Anno's life is a masterclass in civic duty, selflessness, and devotion to community and country.

On behalf of Florida's 4th Congressional District, I extend my deepest gratitude to Bill Anno for keeping us safe, guiding our youth, and serving Nassau County with honor and distinction. We wish him and his family all the very best in his well-earned retirement.

## RECOGNIZING MIAMI GARDENS COUNCILWOMAN FELICIA ROBINSON

### HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, August 3, 2026*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to Miami Gardens Councilwoman Felicia Robinson, a breast cancer awareness advocate and founder of Miami Gardens' Breast Cancer Awareness ''Pink Week'', in Miami Gardens, Florida.

Councilwoman Robinson became an advocate for breast cancer awareness and the fight to find a cure after the death of her aunt, who died from breast cancer in 1997. Over the years she participated in and sponsored numerous fund-raising events throughout South Florida. On October 27, 2012, Miami Gardens will hold its first Breast Cancer Awareness ''Pink Week'' under Ms. Robinson's direction and leadership. Seven days of activities and fund raisers will be held across Miami Gardens. The goal is to empower, encourage and pamper women with breast cancer, as well as breast cancer survivors.

Experts estimate that about one out of every eight women born today will be diagnosed with breast cancer at some time during her life. The strongest risk factor for breast cancer is age. A woman's risk of developing this disease increases as she gets older. However, thanks to the work Ms. Robinson is doing and improvements in cancer treatment and early detection, millions of women and thousands of men are surviving breast cancer today.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women in the United States, other than skin cancer. It is the second leading cause of cancer death in women, after lung cancer. The disease occurs almost entirely in women, but men can get it, too. Today, there are more than 2.9 million breast cancer survivors in the United States.

I am honored to recognize Miami Gardens Councilwoman Felicia Robinson, a breast cancer awareness advocate and founder of Miami Gardens' Breast Cancer Awareness ''Pink Week,'' for her dedication and commitment to our community and the fight against breast cancer.

## HONORING THE LIFE, SERVICE, AND ENDURING LEGACY OF STAFF SERGEANT ANGEL SARAH RAMPERSAD

### HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, August 3, 2026*

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to honor the life, service, and enduring legacy of Staff Sergeant Angel Sarah Rampersad, a proud daughter of Carol and Basdeo Rampersad, whose extraordinary courage, selfless sacrifice, and unwavering commitment to our nation will never be forgotten. Staff Sergeant Rampersad embodied the profound ideals of our country and the resilient spirit that defines our community of Queens.

Born in Trinidad and Tobago, Angel immigrated to the United States with her mother and sister at just two and a half years old, embracing the belief in the institutions and opportunities this nation offered while never losing sight of the values of family, faith, and service. She began her education at Narissa's Daycare before attending P.S. 108 in the heart of Queens M.S. 202 in Ozone Park, and later Forest Hills High School, where she graduated in 2015. She continued her education at John Jay College, where she obtained a degree in Criminal Justice, and discovered that her greatest calling was one of service. Determined to protect the nation that had become her home, she enlisted in the United States Army in 2019 and quickly distinguished herself through exceptional leadership, discipline, and commitment to duty, rising to the rank of Sergeant in just three years.

Throughout her military career, Staff Sergeant Rampersad served with honor across the globe. She was stationed in Hawaii before serving in Germany as a Signal Operations Support Specialist, where she supported critical communications missions and assignments throughout Europe. Most recently, she answered the call of duty once again and deployed to Jordan where she made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our nation. Her devotion to duty reflected not only her love for her country, but also served as a reflection of her family's values that she cherished dear to her heart.

Whether it was serving her community, supporting her fellow soldiers, or encouraging those around her, Angel led with humility, kindness, and grace. She will long be remembered by those who knew her dearly as an eternal symbol of strength, unwavering compassion, and infectious bundle of joy that left a mark on every life she encountered.

Staff Sergeant Angel Sarah Rampersad's legacy is one of courage that embodies the heart and soul of Queens. Her life is a testament to the promise of America and to the countless men and women who bravely answer the call of duty to serve with honor and conviction. I honor not only a decorated soldier, but also a beloved daughter, wife, sister, friend, and Queens Borough hero. May we forever remember Staff Sergeant Angel Sarah Rampersad for her extraordinary service, cherish the example she set for future generations, and remain forever grateful for the sacrifices she made on behalf of our Nation.

## IN MEMORY OF SHARON LOWRY

### HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, August 3, 2026*

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commemorate the life of a dear friend and community leader, Washington Township Trustee Sharon Lowry, who passed away at the age of 81 on July 21, 2026.

Sharon Lowry was an extraordinary woman who set an inspiring example of a life well-lived. She was a dedicated community servant, a loving wife, a devoted mother and grandmother, and a friend to many. She literally worked until her last day on this earth to make the community she loved a better place to live and raise a family.

Sharon was elected to the Washington Township Board of Trustees in 2018. She served as trustee president in 2020 and 2022, and as vice president in 2019, 2021, 2024 and 2026. She was the Township's delegate to the First Tier Suburbs Consortium from 2018 to 2022, served on the Montgomery County Emergency Communications Policy Committee for three years, and the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission for one year.

During her tenure on the Board, Sharon oversaw the construction of a new fire station, hired a new township administrator, and began expansion on the RecPlex, a popular public recreation center. She served on the Montgomery County Land Bank Board from 2020 to 2024, and helped support the Land Bank's mission of revitalizing neighborhoods and creating opportunities throughout Montgomery County.

In addition to her years of public service, Sharon earned a Master of Education degree from Wright State University, and was an assistant superintendent at Great Oaks Joint Vocational School District in southwest Ohio.

She was also active in a variety of civic, service, and charitable organizations in the Miami Valley, including chair of the Centerville Women's Civic Club Scholarship Committee, and was a member of the board for Sophie's Companions for Veterans, the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Dayton, and the Boonshoft Museum of Discovery.Through these organizations and others, her good work touched the lives of many.

On behalf of all of us who had the privilege of knowing Sharon and working alongside her, I offer her family my heartfelt condolences. I pray that her husband Bob, their children Jeffrey and Melissa, and their six grandchildren