

their enduring dedication, compassionate hearts, and profound impact on their community, I am honored to recognize Ms. Lisa Wright as a 2026 Hero Among Us. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her unwavering commitment, selfless leadership, and the profound, lasting impact she has made on our community.

HONORING THE PENCE GALLERY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Pence Gallery for their 50 years of dedicated service to the arts and commitment to fostering creativity in our Davis community.

The Pence Gallery's story began in 1968 when Joe and Hazel Pence gifted their former dental office and the surrounding property to the City of Davis. A consortium of arts patrons successfully secured the building from the city to use as a gallery, leading to the establishment of a nonprofit arts organization named in the Pences' honor. The Pence Gallery Association was formed in 1975 and incorporated in 1976 by a small group of community leaders, UC Davis professors, and artists. The Pence Gallery has occupied the D Street location in downtown Davis since its inception, and is managed by a volunteer Board of Directors, a Director-Curator, and an Assistant Director. While the Pence Gallery remains on city-owned property, it operates as an independent nonprofit and receives no city funding for building or operational expenses.

The Pence Gallery's commitment to our community is clear from their facility and programming. In 2005, the gallery unveiled its current facility through a capital campaign. The modern building, designed by San Francisco architects Wayne Barcelon and Darlene Jang, features over 4,500 square feet and stands on the original site. The facility includes three distinct gallery spaces including the Andresen Learning Center Gallery, the Dowling Community Gallery, and the Coldwell Banker Main Gallery. Each area is designed to showcase diverse contemporary artworks throughout the year. Approximately 20,000 people visit annually, enjoying exhibits, programs, artist talks and lectures, and events, including the monthly 2nd Friday ArtAbout. Since 2011, the Pence Gallery has been voted the best art gallery in Yolo County.

The Pence Gallery has rightfully been recognized for supporting the development of local and regional artists. The gallery offers several calls for artists each year, including the Emerging Artist Award, Slice: A Juried Exhibit of Regional Art, Exhibit It!, and the Night Market for young people ages 16 to 25. Throughout its history, many regional artists now recognized nationally exhibited at the Pence Gallery early in their careers.

The Pence Gallery's dedication also extends to arts education and community engagement. The gallery evolved into an educational resource for elementary, high school, and university students through its internship program and ArtSmart program. The Pence Gallery brings adults of all abilities artistic stimulation and an opportunity to experiment, discover,

and create under the guidance of talented local and regional artists. Since 2006, the Pence Gallery has hosted the Pence Gallery Garden Tour annually on the first Sunday in May, a Davis-wide self-guided tour of gardens celebrating innovation, beauty, and creativity in the outdoors. The gallery has also contributed to the scholarly documentation of Northern California art and culture through research and catalogue publication.

Mr. Speaker, we thank the Pence Gallery for their 50 years of dedication to the arts and our community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor them here today as they celebrate this milestone anniversary.

RECOGNIZING FATHERS M.I.A. ON ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to recognize Fathers M.I.A. on its 10th Anniversary. Founded in 2016 by Gernald Hawkins, Sr. and Robert L. Jackson, III, Fathers M.I.A.'s mission is to mentor, support, challenge, assist, and advise fathers as they actively engage in rebuilding relationships with their children.

Mr. Hawkins and Mr. Jackson attended a teen sporting event where they realized it was mothers, and not fathers, who would bring their children to sporting practice and major games. It was there that they identified a need to bridge the gap between father and child.

By working to bridge this gap, they are changing the narrative for fathers who are M.I.A.—Missing In Action—to Motivated, Involved, and Active. Their objective is to give fathers and their children a fighting chance and opportunities to positively change their lives, thinking, and values.

This year, Fathers M.I.A. is holding its 10th Annual 'As We Honor You' Scholarship Gala, a celebration of students who have demonstrated remarkable perseverance in their education despite the absence of paternal love and comfort. During this elegant evening, young ladies are paired with local law enforcement and young men dance with their mothers, creating a unique and supportive atmosphere.

Scholarships are awarded to selected participants upon successful completion of the eight-week program, which significantly contributes to their personal growth and mindset. The program encompasses a variety of activities, including essay writing, etiquette classes, online and social media safety sessions, group therapy, and instruction in positive affirmations.

On behalf of Florida's 25th District, I commend and thank Fathers M.I.A. for their work to strengthen our families and community. I wish them much success as they continue to mentor future generations.

RECOGNIZING MS. JUDY AWE

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize one of my constituents, Ms. Judy Awe, for her tireless service to our community. Judy serves as both the current and past President of the Pregnancy & Family Life Center (PFLC) of Citrus County's Board of Directors. Since joining the Center in 2022, she has dedicated over 760 volunteer hours, serving as both Board President and receptionist one day each week. As Board President, Judy has provided exceptional leadership, guiding the governing body in the operation, management, and strategic growth of the Center. Under her stewardship, the PFLC has flourished, expanding its reach and impact across the community. Her steadfast commitment to supporting women and families facing unplanned pregnancies has earned her deep respect and admiration throughout Citrus County.

Judy works closely with the Executive Director to identify priorities that address the growing material and mental health needs of pregnant women. In her weekly role as receptionist, she is the warm, welcoming face of the PFLC. Her kind smile, encouraging words, and problem-solving skills create a comforting environment for every client. In 2025 alone, the Center conducted 2,139 client visits, and eighteen women chose life for their babies thanks to the compassionate support they received.

Together, with two other exceptional volunteers, Lisa and Wanda, Judy embodies the heart of the PFLC mission—compassion, service, and unwavering support for women and families. Their dedication ensures that every client who walks through the door receives not only essential resources but also dignity, hope, and encouragement for the future. For their enduring dedication, compassionate hearts, and profound impact on their community, I am honored to recognize Ms. Judy Awe as a 2026 Hero Among Us. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her unwavering commitment, selfless leadership, and the profound, lasting impact she has made on our community.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MURRAY ROOFING COMPANY

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 50th anniversary of Murray Roofing Company, a proud family-owned business based in Western New York, founded on April 4, 1976. For five decades, the company has stood as a pillar of reliability and excellence in the commercial and industrial roofing industry.

Throughout its history, Murray Roofing Company has built a strong reputation for quality workmanship and dependable service, becoming one of Western New York's leading flat rubber roofing contractors. Their commitment

to excellence has earned the trust of clients across the region and contributed to the strength of the local economy.

Under the leadership of Jeff and Pam Murray, the company has remained dedicated to the values of hard work, integrity, and customer satisfaction. Their stewardship has ensured the continued success of this family-owned business and deepened its positive impact within the community it proudly serves. Jeff and Pam are also committed philanthropists, generously giving back to Western New York while remaining actively engaged in civic life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the United States House of Representatives join me in recognizing Murray Roofing Company on this significant milestone and in wishing Jeff and Pam Murray continued success in the years ahead.

HONORING GARY EDWARDS

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gary Edwards, the City of Sonoma's 2026 Honorary Alcalde, honoring more than two decades of service and leadership in support of the Sonoma community.

The Honorary Alcalde program, established in 1975, recognizes a Sonoma resident whose long-term volunteer service, leadership, and quiet dedication have made a meaningful difference in the community. The title "Alcalde," the Spanish word for mayor, reflects Sonoma's early civic history and remains a ceremonial honor today.

Mr. Edwards has a background working in cheese marketing, a career path he pursued since he graduated from Analy High School in 1977. He is currently the owner of Sage Marketing LLC, a company he founded in 1991 to connect cheese and dairy producers with resellers and consumers.

Gary Edwards brings out the best in our community with his work in civic positions. He served on the Sonoma Valley Citizens Advisory Commission (SVCAC) and the Planning Commission. From 2014 to 2018, Edwards served on the Sonoma City Council. Also, he served two terms on the Board of the Redwood Empire Food Bank and is newly serving on the Board of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Sonoma Valley.

Mr. Edwards is widely known for his hands-on approach to service, including improving and cleaning up our parks, organizing Sonoma's annual free Thanksgiving Day dinner for more than 20 years, and his efforts to rebuild the City of Paradise after it was destroyed by wildfires in 2017. His service also includes leadership roles with local Rotary clubs, support for youth and education programs, and assisting our community through food insecurity.

Mr. Edwards celebrates this honor alongside his wife, Ruth, his daughter, Madeline, and his son, Sullivan.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Edwards' passion, leadership, and determination have profoundly impacted our Sonoma community. It is with great honor and deep appreciation that we recognize his invaluable contributions here today.

RECOGNIZING MS. ELIZABETH
OSWALD

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of my outstanding constituents, Ms. Elizabeth Oswald, a dedicated volunteer whose expertise, compassion, and tireless service have made a lasting impact on our community through her work at the Free Senior Health Clinic.

Over the past year, Ms. Oswald has brought more than 20 years of patient care experience to support the doctors and staff, ensuring that every patient receives attentive, knowledgeable, and compassionate care. Beyond her work in the clinic, she has been instrumental in expanding our small food bank, skillfully procuring items to meet immediate community needs and ensuring that no family goes without essential resources. Her dedication, insight, and proactive approach have strengthened both our clinic and the broader community it serves.

For her unwavering commitment, compassionate heart, and remarkable impact, I am proud to recognize Ms. Oswald as a 2026 Hero Among Us. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her exceptional service, her expertise, and the lasting difference she has made in the lives of the patients and families she supports.

RECOGNIZING MARCH AS NA-
TIONAL ATHLETIC TRAINING
MONTH

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize March as National Athletic Training Month and to honor the dedicated athletic trainers who serve our communities.

Athletic trainers play a vital role in keeping athletes and active individuals safe, healthy, and performing at their best. From preventing injuries to providing life-saving care in critical moments, these highly trained professionals are often the first line of defense in sports and physical activity settings.

In Pennsylvania alone, there are approximately 4,345 certified athletic trainers, each making a meaningful impact in schools, clinics, and communities across the Commonwealth. In Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I am proud to represent 146 members of the National Athletic Trainers Association, whose commitment to patient care strengthens our community every day.

During National Athletic Training Month, let us recognize and thank athletic trainers for their expertise, dedication, and service. Their work truly makes a difference.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN R.
FORBES

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2026

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. John Forbes as he departs service to this body to assume the role of Clerk for the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs. Over the course of his distinguished career spanning more than two decades, John has honorably served in the United States Air Force, the executive branch, and the legislative branch. As we mark the close of this chapter of John's service, I am pleased to honor his dedicated contributions as a professional staff member for the House Appropriations Committee, Subcommittee on Defense.

John began his career as an enlisted airman in the Air Force in August 2000, a formative experience that grounded him in the practical realities of the men and women our defense budgets are meant to serve. Over the following decade, John rose through the ranks and earned his commission as an officer, accumulating experience across multiple Air Force installations. He completed his undergraduate degree in Political Science, graduating Summa Cum Laude from Troy University, and later earned a Master of Arts in Management and Leadership from Webster University.

As his career progressed, John was selected as a Strategic Policy Fellow, serving at the Office of Management and Budget's National Security Division and the Defense Innovation Board in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. He commanded the 27th Special Operations Comptroller Squadron at Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico, during which time he established the first-ever Air Force Special Operations Command wing innovation cell, garnering Small Business Innovation Research contracts to accelerate the application of emerging technology to the wing's mission. For this and his broader service, he was recognized as both the United States Air Force Comptroller of the Year and the United States Special Operations Command Comptroller of the Year.

John also served as a Politico-Military Planner for the Joint Staff's J-5 Strategy, Plans, and Policy Directorate, where he was the principal strategist and advisor to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for twelve European allies and partners. Among many consequential assignments, he developed and coordinated the Chairman's foreign engagement plan in response to the threat of Russian incursion into Ukraine and Chinese influence in the region.

In March 2022, John transitioned to Capitol Hill, where he served as a professional staff member on the Senate Appropriations Committee, Subcommittee on Defense, where he oversaw Research, Development, Test and Evaluation for the Army; Shipbuilding and Conversion for the Navy; and the Defense Security Cooperation Agency.

John joined the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense in January 2023, where