

he had oversight responsibility of critical defense and intelligence community accounts, including Operation and Maintenance, the Central Intelligence Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the United States Special Operations Command. John was essential in developing the first full-year continuing resolution for Defense in fiscal year 2025, as well as bringing the Subcommittee back to a resemblance of regular order in fiscal year 2026—both among the most challenging appropriations cycles in recent memory.

As John begins a new chapter in the Senate, I would be remiss if I did not reflect on the tremendous contribution he has made to the House Appropriations Committee and to our national security. John brings to every task an exceptional breadth of experience—the perspective of an enlisted airman, a commander, a strategist, a budget officer, and a legislative professional. His depth of knowledge, his professionalism, and his abiding commitment to the men and women of our armed forces have made him an invaluable member of the defense appropriations staff. I join my colleagues today in recognizing and commending John Forbes for his extraordinary service to our country, and I wish him every success in his important new role.

HONORING THE CITY OF  
ST. HELENA

**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 City of St. Helena on the sesquicentennial anniversary of its official establishment as a municipality, and to recognize its rich history, community spirit, and enduring role as the heart of the Napa Valley. This celebration honors the generations of residents, civic leaders, and organizations that have shaped the city's unique character, agricultural heritage, vibrant cultural identity, and forward-looking community values.

The City of St. Helena was officially incorporated on March 24, 1876, though its roots trace back to 1854, four years after California attained statehood. The city grew from an agricultural settlement to a lively hub for wine production and hospitality, centered around a strong and vibrant community. Before Euro-American settlement in the 1840s, the area was inhabited by the Wappo and indigenous people. A local Callajomanes triblet village called Annakotanoma or Anakonoma was also located nearby.

St. Helena is renown as a hospitality destination and was centered around the location on its western edge of the first hot springs resort in California. The wine industry in Napa Valley as we know it today was originally centered around the two major wineries that were established in St. Helena and thrive today—Beringer and Krug—whose founders were instrumental in the incorporation of the City. Like many municipalities in California, what began as a Board of Trustees elected annually evolved to a modern city council with a separately elected mayor and the compliment of staffing that enables a small municipality to serve its populace. For 150 years now, city managers, mayors, and councilmembers have

paved the way for volunteerism and community-driven projects through the city that reflect the values of stewardship and collaboration within our local community.

The City of St. Helena is home to a strong public education system with its own St. Helena Unified School District and values education as a cornerstone of community success with a long-standing tradition of supporting life-long learning through its public library. Our public library was originally established with the help of Andrew Carnegie after he—like many others before and since—visited and were impressed by both the natural beauty of the Napa Valley and the energy found in the local community of St. Helena.

Mr. Speaker, the City of St. Helena has had a profound impact on our community and our community on the city. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor the city's sesquicentennial anniversary here today as they celebrate this milestone.

RECOGNIZING MR. ROBERT  
JACOBSEN

**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, Mr. Robert Jacobsen, a dedicated volunteer whose generosity, ingenuity, and tireless commitment have made a profound impact on our community through his work with the Free Senior Health Clinic.

Robert is consistently among one of the clinic's most valuable volunteers, ensuring that every patient's needs—whether food, clothing, shoes, or medical equipment—are met. Together with his wife, he approaches every challenge with determination and care, leaving no need unmet. Beyond direct assistance to patients, Robert is a fundraiser extraordinaire, tirelessly advocating for the clinic, its patients, and its food bank, securing resources that sustain and strengthen our community.

For his unwavering dedication, compassionate heart, and remarkable impact, I am proud to recognize Mr. Jacobsen as a 2026 Hero Among Us. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his selfless service, extraordinary commitment, and the lasting difference he has made in the lives of countless patients and families.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF  
COMMANDER BRADLEY LILE

**HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2026*

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the admirable career and dedicated service of Commander Bradley Lile of the Kingsville Police Department.

A native Texan, Commander Lile has committed his life to serving and protecting our community. He is a proud veteran of the United States Army and has served in the Army National Guard and the Texas State

Guard. Since joining the Kingsville Police Department in 1997, Commander Lile has demonstrated strong leadership and an unwavering commitment to public service.

Throughout his tenure, Commander Lile has served with distinction in numerous positions, including Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer, Detective, Corporal, Patrol Corporal, Detective Sergeant, Patrol Sergeant, Communications Sergeant, Patrol Division Commander, Interim Police Chief, and his current role as Commander of the Criminal Investigations Division. In addition, he has taken on critical assignments such as Field Training Officer Coordinator, Crime Stoppers Coordinator, and Public Information Officer.

Commander Lile's expertise is also highlighted by his multiple certifications through the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement, including Master Peace Officer, Instructor, SFST Instructor, Court Security Officer, and Sexual Assault and Family Violence certifications. Commander Lile is also a certified Latent Print Examiner and is qualified to testify on fingerprint evidence in the 79th and 105th District Courts.

Through his multitude of experiences, Commander Lile has displayed a strong passion for public service and a clear understanding of what it means to serve and strengthen our community. It is an honor to represent exemplary citizens such as Commander Lile whose dedication, leadership, and integrity have made a lasting impact on those he serves. Our community has been made better because of his service.

Mr. Speaker, our community extends its deepest gratitude to Commander Lile for his courage, integrity, and the personal sacrifices he made in service of our community. He is a source of pride and inspiration for all South Texans, and I am honored to recognize his outstanding contributions.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DARIN LAHOOD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2026*

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 97, and YEA on Roll Call No. 98.

HONORING VORIS BRUMFIELD  
REED

**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 Voris Brumfield Reed. I have named Mrs. Brumfield Reed as the California 4th District's Woman of the Year for Lake County. This honor recognizes women who have made important contributions to California's 4th Congressional District in Arts and Culture, Professional Achievement, Entrepreneurship and Innovation, or Community Service.

Mrs. Brumfield Reed was born in San Angelo, Texas. After graduating from Chapel Hill School for Girls in Waltham, Massachusetts,

she went on to earn her Bachelor of Arts from the University of Denver. She completed her post graduate studies at the Arizona State University, Flagstaff and the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Mrs. Brumfield Reed served as a lay pastor at both Middletown Community United Church and Kelseyville United Methodist Church. She worked to establish a weekly meal program and served as the president of Lake County Church Women's United. Mrs. Brumfield Reed also served as a past member of the Lake County Board of Supervisors and a past Trustee of the Middletown Unified School District. Through her position as the Lake County Geothermal Coordinator, she promoted underground utilities in Middletown and Lower Lake, wastewater collection in Middletown and Anderson Springs, and wrote the grants for the creation of the Anderson Springs Water System.

Mrs. Brumfield Reed's community involvement goes beyond her participation in government. She is a co-creator and co-founder of both the Gibson Museum and Cultural Center, and the Anderson Springs Community Service District, as well as the past President of the Anderson Springs Community Alliance and the Lake County Historical Society. She has also been involved in several community organizations including the Ladies of the Lake, Sistas of Lake County, Oro Fino Rebekah Lodge, and Middletown Lioness.

Mrs. Brumfield Reed is married to Stanley H. Reed, and has four children with her late husband, Richard Brumfield: Rick, Randy, Khristan, and Star Brumfield.

Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Brumfield Reed's passion, leadership, and determination have profoundly impacted our Lake County community. It is with great honor and deep appreciation that we recognize her invaluable contributions here today.

RECOGNIZING FRANCIS "FRANK" ANDROSKI, ROY GRENAWALT, AND HANS DERKATSCH

### HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2026*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary contributions of three remarkable veterans in my district: Francis "Frank" Androski, retired United States Air Force; Roy Grenawalt, retired United States Army; and Hans Derkatsch, retired United States Army. These men have taken the values they learned in military service—discipline, dedication, and a commitment to others—and applied them to serving their community in meaningful ways.

Through their work with Friends Grief Services, they provide programs and resources to people of all ages who have experienced loss and grief. Frank faithfully picks up and delivers mail, ensuring the organization's daily operations run smoothly. Hans brings healing and wellness to the community by teaching beginner yoga classes, helping participants find balance and peace during difficult times. All three gentlemen serve on the Advisory Board, con-

tributing to planning activities and supporting fundraising efforts to expand the reach of Friends Grief Services.

But their greatest accomplishment is the compassion, support, and guidance they provide to those navigating loss. Their dedication embodies the mission of Friends Grief Services, and it is why they are affectionately known as the "Wise Men of Friends" Support Groups. I am grateful for their service—not only to our country, but also to our community. Their example reminds us that leadership, selflessness, and care for others continue long after military service ends.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging their unwavering commitment to serving others and supporting the mission of Friends Grief Services. For their extraordinary generosity and dedication, I am proud to recognize Francis Androski, Roy Grenawalt, and Hans Derkatsch as 2026 Heroes Among Us for Florida's 12th Congressional District. They are truly an inspiration, and I am grateful for their efforts.

HONORING COLONEL CHRISTOPHER COOK

### HON. MATT VAN EPPS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 25, 2026*

Mr. VAN EPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Colonel Christopher Cook for his exemplary service, steadfast leadership, and enduring commitment to our Nation throughout a distinguished career in the United States Army.

Colonel Cook was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant from The Citadel in May 2000 and earned his Army Aviator designation at Fort Rucker, Alabama, in May 2001. From the outset of his career, he demonstrated exceptional skill, discipline, and a commitment to excellence that would define his decades of service.

From February 2002 to December 2006, Colonel Cook served with C Company, 1st Battalion, 4th Aviation Regiment, 4th Infantry Division at Fort Hood, Texas. During this time, he held numerous key leadership roles, including AH-64D Apache Longbow Scout Platoon Leader, Class III/V Platoon Leader, Assistant Battalion Operations Officer, Battalion Adjutant, and Battalion Rear Detachment Commander. His leadership during this formative period laid a strong foundation for future operational success.

From August 2007 through June 2014, Colonel Cook served with the elite 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. As a proud Night Stalker, he held positions of increasing responsibility, including Platoon Leader and Operations Officer for B Company, 2nd Battalion; Company Commander for A Company, 2nd Battalion; Battalion Operations Officer; and Battalion Executive Officer. During this time, he deployed globally in support of critical missions as a Fully Mission Qualified MH-47G Chinook Pilot in Command, Air Mission Commander, Army Special Operations Aviation Operations Officer, and Task Force Commander.

Colonel Cook continued his distinguished service from June 2014 to June 2016 as the G-3X, Chief of Sensitive Activities for the United States Army Special Operations Aviation Command at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He later served from July 2016 to May 2018 as the J-31 Air Division Rotary Wing Operations Officer at United States Special Operations Command at MacDill Air Force Base, Florida.

From June 2018 to June 2019, Colonel Cook commanded the 1st Battalion, 228th Aviation Regiment, Joint Task Force—Bravo, in Soto Cano, Honduras. He subsequently commanded the Special Operations Aviation Training Battalion at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, from July 2019 to July 2021. From July 2021 to July 2023, he served as Director of Security Cooperation for the 160th Special Operations Aviation Advisory Directorate. His final assignment was Deputy Commander of the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne), where he continued to exemplify the highest standards of leadership and service.

Throughout his career, Colonel Cook deployed multiple times in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, and Freedom's Sentinel. He is a highly accomplished aviator, qualified in the OH-58A/C, AH-64A, AH-64D, CH-47D, CH-47F, MH-47G, and MH-6M aircraft.

Colonel Cook is a graduate of the United States Army Command and General Staff College. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from The Citadel and a Master of Science in Organizational Communication from Murray State University.

His numerous awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit; Bronze Star Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters; Defense Meritorious Service Medal; Meritorious Service Medal with one Silver and one Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster; Air Medal with "V" Device and Air Medal; Army Achievement Medal; National Defense Service Medal; Afghanistan Campaign Medal with three Bronze Service Stars; Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal; Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Army Service Ribbon; Overseas Service Ribbon; NATO Medal; Presidential Unit Citation; Army Superior Unit Award; Meritorious Unit Commendation; and Air Force Meritorious Unit Award. He is also authorized to wear the Master Army Aviator Badge, Parachutist Badge, and Combat Action Badge. In addition, he has earned several prestigious foreign awards, including the Chilean, German (Silver), Brazilian, and British Parachutist Badges, and has been recognized by the Army Aviation Association of America with both the Bronze and Silver Orders of Saint Michael.

Beyond his remarkable military accomplishments, Colonel Cook is a devoted husband to his wife, Lisa, and a proud father to their two children, Kaitlyn and Collin.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Chris Cook's career reflects the very best of the United States Army: courage, professionalism, and selfless service. His contributions to our national security and his unwavering dedication to mission and country deserve our highest recognition.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Colonel Chris Cook for his extraordinary service and in wishing him and his family continued success in all their future endeavors.