

The Clay County Sheriff's Office and Emergency Medical Services were flooded with donated supplies from area churches, local businesses, and citizens. Once transported to the affected areas, these supplies were received by first responders with great relief and deep appreciation. Let it be recognized and remembered that, in a time of great need, Clay County stood tall—not only for its own residents, but for its neighbors across the region.

RECOGNIZING HANNAH DAVIS

HON. HILLARY J. SCHOLTEN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 2, 2025

Ms. SCHOLTEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Hannah Davis. Hannah is a member of Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore, Girl Scout Juliette. She has exemplified extraordinary leadership, innovative problem-solving, and a demonstrated commitment to making a lasting, positive impact by earning the most prestigious award in Girl Scouting, the Gold Award.

Gold Award Girl Scouts are recognized as trailblazers who are willing to tackle the most pressing challenges facing their communities and the world with measurable, sustainable, and far-reaching results. To earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, high school-age Girl Scouts must identify and investigate an issue they care about, devise a plan, and then lead a team of experts and community members to implement a project that produces lasting change. Over the course of 1 to 2 years, Gold Award Girl Scouts demonstrate significant initiative, commitment, and leadership, distinguishing them from their peers. Through their resourcefulness and perseverance, they embody the Girl Scout Law to truly make the world a better place.

Hannah's project, "Community Sensory Room", in partnership with Faith Community Church of Coopersville, has greatly improved accessibility resources for individuals with autism, Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD), Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), and Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD). Hannah took action by creating a sensory room at her local church, allowing families and children space to stimulate, engage, or relax senses, which will have a positive impact on our community for years to come.

On behalf of Michigan's 3rd Congressional District, I congratulate Hannah Davis for achieving the highest distinction in Girl Scouts, the Gold Award. I thank Hannah for her leadership and for making such a positive, enduring change in our community.

APPRECIATING WATCHMEN BROADCASTING

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 2, 2025

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to recognize Watchmen Broadcasting on 30 years of ministry.

In 1995, Dorothy and Russell Spaulding felt a calling to begin a Christian television station

in Augusta, Georgia. Now, 30 years later they have transformed the ministry from broadcasting locally with 1,000 watts of power to internationally with 150,000 watts of power, increasing potential viewership.

It is through faith that the Spaulding family and Watchmen Broadcasting have helped tens of thousands of people reach Salvation and have prevented more than 8,000 suicides.

Without the generosity of ministries like Perry Stone, Channel 55 in Orlando, and local Networks, Watchmen Broadcasting would not be the meaningful success it is today.

The Spauldings are a true testament to faith; starting with less than one hundred dollars and a hotel room as an office, Dorothy and Russell have touched the lives of many.

Their ministry continues to represent that God uses small beginnings for big impact.

Best wishes and prayers for their continued success in faith and ministry as they continue to influence lives and follow the plan God has for them.

HONORING MR. CHARLES JAMESON

HON. EUGENE SIMON VINDMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 2, 2025

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Mr. Charles Jameson of Culpeper County, Virginia—a veteran, educator, historian, and lifelong servant to our community.

Although his education, military service and extensive career took him all over, Mr. Jameson, has remained a lifelong resident of Culpeper and still lives across the street from his childhood home.

He began his journey at George Washington Carver Regional High School, where he and many other African American students from Culpeper, Orange, Madison, and Rappahannock counties were educated during segregation.

He went on to attend Virginia Union University before transferring to Virginia Commonwealth University, where he earned his degree in 1970 in pursuit of his lifelong dream of becoming a teacher. However, before he could begin his teaching career, Mr. Jameson was drafted into the U.S. Army and deployed to Vietnam, where he served with honor and distinction. He received advanced artillery training and was awarded for his courage and three Bronze Star Medals, a Purple Heart, and two Army Commendation Medals.

Before returning home, he joined his father, Saint Jameson, in the construction business. When his father retired, Charles took over his role, eventually rising to the position of Project Superintendent and later construction manager. After nearly four decades in the field, he retired in 2010.

In retirement, Mr. Jameson redirected his time and energy into meaningful community service, becoming a driving force behind numerous local initiatives. He worked closely with fellow Carver High School alumni on scholarship programs, served on the boards of the Carver 4-County Museum and the Museum of Culpeper History, and played an active role in organizations such as the Carver Agriculture Research Board, the Culpeper Minutemen, the National Association for the

Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), and the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW).

He also holds a leadership position in the local chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, where he helps organize Culpeper's annual July 4th Patriotic Presentation—an event that honors the region's rich historical legacy. His extensive service and leadership have earned him numerous accolades, including the Culpeper Colonel Award, the MLK Dreamkeeper Award, Aging Together's 5 Over 50 Award, the NAACP Activism Award, and the Neighborhood Watch Amazing Citizen Award.

I want to personally thank Mr. Jameson for his lifelong dedication to service, education, and the preservation of our shared history. Today, he continues that legacy by focusing on his extensive research into African American participation in the Revolutionary War.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in recognizing an extraordinary citizen in my district, Mr. Charles Jameson, for his unwavering commitment to our community.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DES PLAINES THEATRE

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 2, 2025

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Des Plaines Theatre, a cherished landmark in the heart of Illinois' arts community. For a century, the Des Plaines Theatre has brought people together through performance, film, and culture, serving as a vital space for artistic expression and civic engagement.

Since its opening on August 9, 1925, the theatre has hosted hundreds of performances, welcomed countless community events, and stood as a gathering place for generations of Illinoisans. Over the years, it has transformed from a vaudeville stage to a movie house and now a fully restored performing arts center. It has endured a fire, undergone multiple renovations, and has emerged stronger each time, continuing to inspire new audiences.

I am proud to congratulate the Des Plaines Theatre on its 100 years of achievement. Its legacy is a testament to the power of the arts to unite communities, celebrate local history, and enrich lives. I look forward to its continued contributions for many years to come.

REMEMBERING WILLIE J. WATKINS, I

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 2, 2025

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart, and fond remembrance, that I rise today to honor an impressive insurance professional, prodigious athlete, iconic golf promoter and friend of long standing, Mr. Willie J. Watkins, I. Sadly, Willie transitioned from labor to reward on June 21, 2025. A Homegoing Celebration will be held at 11:00 am on Thursday,

July 3, 2025, at Macedonia Christian Ministries, 3645 Cusseta Road in Columbus Georgia.

Willie James Watkins, I was born Feb 17, 1952, in Columbus, Georgia to the late Jessie Watkins and Susie Grant Watkins. One of seven children, Willie grew up in the Booker T. Washington Apartments, attended 2nd Avenue and 5th Avenue Elementary Schools, Marshall Junior High School and graduated from the William H. Spencer High School in 1970. He was affectionately known as "Mr. Loquacious". Willie was a staunch supporter of the William H. Spencer High School Alumni Association and the Class of 1970 and never missed the activities surrounding the Spencer-Carver sports rivalry events.

Throughout his elementary and secondary education, Willie excelled in athletics. He played baseball, basketball, and ran track for the William H. Spencer Greenwaves. At the age of 10, he started to caddy at the Columbus Lions Club Golf Course on Victory Drive where he learned to play and developed a lifelong love of the game of golf.

Upon graduating from high school, Willie attended Morristown College in Tennessee on a basketball scholarship. He later served in the United States Army and following his discharge returned home to Columbus and entered the insurance profession as a salesman with Life of Georgia Insurance Company and Interstate Insurance company. He became a life underwriter and instructor, teaching classes to prepare countless insurance professionals for certification and licensure.

With his life-long friend from BTW Apartments, Jerome Humphries, golf became a passion. Watching legendary African-American golfers such as Charlie Sifford, Jim Thorpe, Pete Brown, Jim Dent and Bobby Strobe, as caddies on the segregated "Chitlin" golf circuit, they developed skills and ultimately competed professionally on the all black North American Golf Association Tour, traveling through Georgia, Alabama, Florida, North Carolina and South Carolina. They also competed locally in the WOKS Pro-Am Golf Classic, the Purple and Gold Pro-Am Golf Classic and the Victory Drive Golf Classic. Moreover, Willie Watkins and Jerome Humphries founded the Metro Columbus Golf Association in 1987 and promoted charity golf tournaments in support of sickle cell and epilepsy research for the benefit of humanity.

While Willie was well-known for his loquacious personality and sometimes boisterous demeanor, he was a man of deep faith and was an active member of the Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church from childhood up through the remainder of his life.

On a personal note, Willie was my friend for over 30 years. He was invaluable in his support of the Annual Sanford Bishop Golf Classic for 27 years in both Albany and Columbus. His extraordinary volunteer service contributed mightily to its enduring success. Often Willie and Jerome Humphries traveled with me to play in numerous charity golf tournaments. It was my honor for him to join me in traveling to Augusta National to witness the 2018 Master's which we enjoyed immensely. I will be forever grateful for his friendship and support.

Willie accomplished much in his life but none of it would have been possible without the grace of God and the love and support of his late wife, Patricia D. Watkins; his four children, Marcus Watkins, Willena Watkins Sin-

gleton, Mactrice Watkins Thomas and Willie Watkins, Jr.; his late siblings, Lily Watkins Hopson, Catherine Watkins Jackson, Frank Watkins and Geneva Watkins Burns; his surviving siblings, Ann Watkins Cobb and Jessie Watkins, Jr.; his 8 grandchildren, 2 great-grandchildren; nieces, nephews, and extended family. Willie loved his family, and his family loved him back.

As we reflect on the remarkable life of Willie James Watkins, we honor and remember his unwavering faith, his love of family, his help to insurance professionals, his Spencer Greenwave spirit, his passion for golf and his impact on our community. We are all better because Willie touched our lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 765,000 people of Georgia's 2nd Congressional District in honoring the life and legacy of Mr. Willie James Watkins, in extending our deepest condolences to his family, friends and all who mourn his loss. Moreover, I pray that we will all be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

RECOGNIZING AVI BENDER

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 2, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Avi Bender of Arvada, Colorado. Avi was selected as one of 250 high school students across the country to participate in the Department of State's prestigious Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange (CBYX) Program.

Launched in 1983, CBYX selects high achieving youth from both Germany and the United States to live in each other's country for one academic year. During their year abroad, students will foster meaningful relationships between America and Germany, while giving participants new perspectives on peoples and cultures beyond their own. Many CBYX alumni go on to distinguished careers in foreign affairs and public service using the language skills gained through this scholarship program.

This year, Avi will travel to Germany to attend school, live with a host family, and collaborate with the Department of State to promote cultural exchange between Americans and the German people.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Avi Bender for this impressive accomplishment and wish Avi all the best for this upcoming year in Germany.

CONDEMNING THE VIOLENT JUNE 2025 RIOTS IN LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 27, 2025

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H. Res. 516, the Con-

demning the violent June 2025 riots in Los Angeles, California. It is deeply unfortunate that instead of working with Democrats on a bipartisan resolution to condemn violence, Republicans have instead written a partisan resolution designed to attack elected officials in California. Furthermore, the resolution fails to recognize the premature and escalatory deployment of the National Guard and active-duty Marines by President Trump to Los Angeles.

When the House of Representatives passes a resolution regarding current events, it should do its due diligence to cite the facts. Unfortunately, it is clear the Republican majority had no interest in accurately portraying the protests in Los Angeles when they wrote H. Res. 516. Instead, the resolution perpetuates a false narrative about Democratic elected officials in California. H. Res. 516 states that local elected officials did not adequately respond to the bad actors and trouble-doers. These claims are patently false. Mayor Karen Bass of Los Angeles implemented a multi-day curfew and surged law enforcement resources to downtown Los Angeles to maintain control of the situation. This kept the situation contained to 10 blocks of the downtown area.

But even when the Los Angeles Chief of Police stated that the demonstrations "were nowhere near a level" where the National Guard was needed, President Trump disregarded his opinion and took the escalatory action of deploying 2,000 members of the California National Guard to Los Angeles. Then, on June 10, the President deployed 700 active-duty Marines. Our active-duty military has absolutely no legal role in domestic law enforcement. Los Angeles County has 17,000 law enforcement personnel who are well trained in crowd control. There was no need for the National Guard or the Marines to be deployed by the President, and his decision sets a dangerous precedent for the future.

Republicans had the opportunity to bring a resolution introduced by my colleague, Representative BARRAGAN, condemning violence and bad actors, and thanking local law enforcement for their work. Instead, Republicans chose to use the unrest in Los Angeles to play partisan games and attack Democrats in California.

Mr. Speaker, it is our duty as public servants to tell the truth. We should all stand for condemning violence, de-escalation of force, and the right to peacefully protest. It is unfortunate that this resolution walks away from these principles. I cannot support it.

RECOGNIZING KAPPA ALPHA ORDER'S 81ST CONVENTION

HON. BEN CLINE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 2, 2025

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 81st Convention of the Kappa Alpha Order, which will be held in Roanoke, the heart of Virginia's Sixth District. It is a distinct honor to welcome this historic brotherhood back to its roots. Kappa Alpha Order was founded on December 21, 1865, in a small room at Washington College, now Washington and Lee University, in Lexington, Virginia.

What began as a bond of friendship has grown into a nationwide organization that continues to promote leadership, service, and