

Larita Brengettsy, Assistant Treasurer
 Latrice Felton, Assistant Secretary
 Dr. Chrystal Morgan, Parliamentarian
 Nancy Green, Chaplain
 Fredaca Donald, Reporter

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, for its actions and achievements in the Natchez, Mississippi, community.

HONORING THE LEGACY AND 90TH BIRTHDAY OF JOHN J. SIE OF COLORADO

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 9, 2026

Ms. DEGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American, a dear friend, and one of Colorado's most cherished citizens—John Sie, who is celebrating his 90th birthday.

John likes to say he lives by four C's: Curiosity, Connectivity, Comprehension, and Concentration. Those four C's are the story of his life—and what a life it has been.

Born in Nanjing in 1936, he survived Japanese occupation as a child, fled Communist China on one of the last boats out of Shanghai, and arrived in the United States with his family at age 14, speaking no English. His first American home was a Catholic orphanage on Staten Island. He arrived with nothing but curiosity, a Chinese-English dictionary, and a fierce determination to make something of himself. He went from struggling student to top of his class, earning a full scholarship to Manhattan College and later a master's degree in electrical engineering.

He would go on to change American television forever. As an executive at the cable giant TeleCommunications, Inc. (TCI), John saw what others could not—that America's future was digital, at a moment when the entire industry was ready to follow Japan into an analog world. He was laughed out of the room. He went to Congress and the FCC week after week until on the final day of the standard-setting process, the only all-digital standard came through. Every high-definition television in America today is a testament to his conviction. Later, when HBO passed on his idea for a new movie channel, he asked TCI for \$5 million and a chance. That bet became Starz. And throughout his career, he has championed independent film—ensuring that the stories others overlooked found the audiences they deserved, including through Denver's own Sie Film Center, a cherished home for the Denver Film Festival.

John Sie has given back to this country with the same intensity with which he built it. When their granddaughter Sophia was born with Down syndrome, he and his beloved wife, Anna, encountered a broken system. Rather than accept it, they built something better. As founding donors of the Linda Crnic Institute for Down Syndrome, the first academic home for Down syndrome research in the United States, and founders of the Global Down Syndrome Foundation, they have transformed what it means to receive a Down syndrome diagnosis.

That same devotion to a better world led John and Anna to invest in Colorado's future—including a new building at the Univer-

sity of Denver's Josef Korbel School of Global and Public Affairs, where the next generation of American diplomats are being trained. For a man who survived occupation, fled revolution, and built a life from nothing, there is no more fitting legacy than shaping how this country engages the world.

When asked what it means to be American, John said simply: "If you work hard, you overcome difficulties, you succeed. The American dream truly exists." Then, with characteristic humility, he added: "I am the example."

I wish a happy 90th birthday to John. Our country and our state are better because of him.

HONORING THE HARDIN COUNTY CHAMBER AND BUSINESS ALLIANCE 2026 AWARDS WINNERS

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 9, 2026

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, the Hardin County Chamber and Business Alliance will hold its 2026 awards banquet and gala on Thursday, April 16, 2026, on the Ohio Northern University campus in Ada, Ohio. I commend to the House and include in the RECORD this year's honorees:

Business of the Year: Scooter's Coffee
 Small Business of the Year: Stillwater Metal LLC

Non-Profit of the Year: Hardin Leadership, Inc.

Community Service Award: Ohio Northern University Office of Admissions

Citizen of the Year: Sarah Johnson
 R. E. Allen Lifetime Achievement Award: Stephen McCullough

On behalf of the people of Ohio's 4th Congressional District, I am pleased to join in the accolades for these distinguished professionals and thank them for their dedication to making Hardin County a great place to live and work.

RECOGNIZING HENRY TURLEY'S COMMITMENT TO RHODES COLLEGE

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 9, 2026

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend Henry Turley and specifically commend his dedication to Rhodes College, which is recognizing its 100th year in Memphis and showcasing Mr. Turley's commitment to its continued excellence.

Henry and his late wife, Lynne, created the Turley Memphis Center for Community Engagement, conceived in 2012 as a hub for the college's community outreach programs and formalized as the Lynne and Henry Turley Center in 2018. They recognized Rhodes' commitment to Memphis and its neighbors and wanted its students to be involved in Memphis and its ongoing progress. Rhodes is now recognized nationally as one of the finest examples of a college committed to its community. The center has also sponsored guest lectures with nationally recognized experts and

hosted a series of community events. That work will be celebrated at an April 15th Lawn Party with friends, community partners and alumni.

Henry Turley's remarkable contributions to his community are extraordinary and his work with Rhodes will be remembered for generations. I congratulate my friend for this much-deserved recognition and appreciate his continued support and thoughtfulness.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF WILLIE GRANVILLE, SR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 9, 2026

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Retired Sergeant First Class Willie B. Granville, Sr., of Columbus, Georgia, who passed away on March 27, 2026, at the age of 91. A funeral service to celebrate his remarkable life was held on Tuesday, April 7, 2026, at Pinehurst Baptist Church in Columbus, Georgia.

Born July 12, 1934, in Bonaire, Georgia, Mr. Granville answered the call to service at the age of 16 when he enlisted in the United States Army. He served his Nation with distinction for thirty years and retired from Fort Benning on April 30, 1980, with the rank of Sergeant First Class. Following his military career, he continued to serve the Fort Benning community as a Motor Vehicle Operator with the Federal Government from August 11, 1980, until his retirement on March 31, 1997. During his years of service, he received numerous awards recognizing his dedication to safety, logistics, and mission support, including contributions during Operation Desert Storm.

A man of deep faith, Mr. Granville gave his life to Christ on March 5, 1978, and became a faithful member of Pinehurst Baptist Church, where he served for 48 years. He led the church transportation ministry and personally drove the church bus so families without transportation could attend services. A devoted Mason, he was a member of Mt. Pisgah No. 53, PHA, and his commitment to community, brotherhood, and service was evident in every aspect of his life.

Mr. Granville was also a devoted family man and a familiar, beloved presence throughout Fort Benning and Columbus. He earned his high school diploma from Jordan Vocational Night School later in life, exemplifying perseverance and a commitment to lifelong learning. Known affectionately as the "Peanut Man" by many soldiers and community members, he combined hard work and entrepreneurship with warmth and hospitality. He enjoyed gardening, fishing, and cherishing time with his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren—who lovingly called him "Granddaddy."

"As General Colin L. Powell so wisely said, 'There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure.' This truth was lived each day by Willie Granville."

Mr. Granville is survived by his children, Tony Lee (Tina) Granville, Chris Cha (Kenneth) Felton, and Willie B. (Miszi) Granville, Jr.; eleven grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law Dorothy Granville, Ida

Morgan, and Roxie Walker; his special friend Anna Foster; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. He was preceded in death by his wife, Ethel "Radney" Granville; his parents, Deacon General Granville, Sr. and Hattie Dumas Granville; sisters Betty and Evelyn Granville; and brothers Jessie, General, Jr., Roosevelt, Hollis, and Johnnie Granville, Sr.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me, my wife Vivian, and me along with the more than 765,000 people of Georgia's 2nd Congressional District in honoring the life of Mr. Willie Granville, Sr. His life was a testament to duty, faith, and community. His steadfast commitment to his fellow soldiers, his church, and his neighbors left an indelible mark on all who knew him. I join his family, friends, and the Columbus community in mourning his loss and in giving thanks for his many years of faithful service. May his memory be a blessing and an inspiration to future generations.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 9, 2026

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Paul Laurence Dunbar Commemorative Coin Act, which would direct the Secretary of the Treasury to mint and issue coins in honor of Paul Laurence Dunbar. This bill would recognize one of the first influential African American poets in American literature and benefit the Dunbar Alumni Federation, the alumni association for the Paul Laurence Dunbar Senior High School in the District of Columbia, which was the first public high school for African Americans in the United States. I am a proud graduate of Dunbar, a storied African American high school.

Paul Laurence Dunbar was born on June 27, 1872, to formerly enslaved parents, and went on to pen such classics as *Majors and Minors* and *Lyrics of Lowly Life*. He also wrote the lyrics for *In Dahomey*, the first all-African American musical produced on Broadway. By the late 1890s, Dunbar had become a prominent author, having had his poems published in major national newspapers, including *The New York Times*. Dunbar died on February 9, 1906, at age 33.

Paul Laurence Dunbar Senior High School was established in 1870 as the Preparatory High School for Colored Youth. It was the first college preparatory high school for African Americans in the United States. The school was renamed for Dunbar in 1916. The Dunbar Alumni Federation was organized in 2002 to provide scholarships and other financial support to students and graduates of Paul Laurence Dunbar Senior High School. The Dunbar Alumni Federation has alumni from more than 35 graduating classes, and supports the school through its scholarship efforts, community activities and other endeavors. This bill would authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to mint 50,000 five-dollar coins, 400,000 one-dollar coins and 750,000 half-dollar coins, with a surcharge on each coin. The surcharges would benefit the scholarships and similar activities of the Dunbar Alumni Federation.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING THE WORK OF DARIEL FERNANDEZ

HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 9, 2026

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Miami-Dade County Tax Collector Dariel Fernandez for his outstanding leadership and service to our community.

As the first directly elected Tax Collector in Miami-Dade County, Dariel Fernandez has brought greater accountability and a renewed commitment to delivering results for the people of Miami-Dade County. Under his leadership, the office has expanded services, improved accessibility, and modernized operations to better serve residents across our county.

Beyond his work at the county level, Mr. Fernandez has also been a strong partner in advancing policies that support freedom and democracy in our hemisphere. In particular, he has stood firmly with our efforts to hold the brutal Cuban regime accountable and to support the Cuban people in their fight for liberty. His leadership reflects the values of our South Florida community—one that understands the importance of standing up to oppression and defending freedom wherever it is threatened.

Dariel Fernandez embodies the American Dream. His story is one of perseverance, commitment, and a deep love for the community he serves. His work continues to make a meaningful difference in the lives of countless residents across Miami-Dade County.

I commend Tax Collector Fernandez for his dedication to Miami-Dade County and wish him continued success.

RECOGNIZING JERRY BERNHARDT AS CARO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S 2025 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 9, 2026

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exemplary member of the Caro community, Jerry Bernhardt, as the recipient of the Caro Chamber of Commerce 2025 Citizen of the Year Award. His leadership, dedication, and commitment to service have made a lasting impact on the Caro community.

Jerry has served as treasurer for the Caro Rotary Club for more than 15 years, providing steady leadership while helping guide major projects. His commitment to service extends across a wide range of efforts, including tree-planting initiatives, the Adopt-a-Highway program, Pumpkin Festival activities, Coats for Kids, holiday gift drives for students in need, and the Rotary Student Exchange Program, where he has helped inspire young people to broaden their horizons. Through each of these initiatives, he has played a meaningful role in strengthening and supporting the Caro community.

In addition, Jerry has served his church through pastoral duties and as treasurer, while

spearheading the Furniture Program, which provides essential household items to families in need. He is a founding member of the Tuscola County Spartans Alumni Association, helping plan the Annual Sparty Party Scholarship Fundraiser, which awards scholarships to local students attending Michigan State University. He has volunteered with the Good Samaritan Fund, writing grants that secured vital assistance for families in need, and also contributed his time to organizations such as the Janks Foundation, the McComb School as a lunch buddy, and Habitat for Humanity.

Yet above all, Jerry's greatest role is that of husband, father, and grandfather. His family describes him as a patient and positive role model who teaches that life's challenges are met with resilience, faith, and optimism.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jerry Bernhardt for his extraordinary contributions to the Caro community. His leadership, integrity, and devotion to family and community set an example for all, and his legacy will continue to inspire generations to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 9, 2026

Ms. LOIS FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call vote No. 106, No. 107, and No. 108, I was not present because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY.

HONORING THE NATIONAL HOT ROD ASSOCIATION

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 9, 2026

Mrs. TORRES of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the National Hot Rod Association as it celebrates its 75th anniversary.

In 1951, a letter in the *Hot Rod* magazine by Wally Parks urged hot rodders to unite, leading to the establishment of the National Hot Rod Association (NHRA). Its mission was founded on the principles of bringing hot rodders together, promoting safety, and allowing racers to compete without creating safety concerns on public streets.

In just a year, the NHRA grew to 7,000 members. The organization worked with local authorities to set national standards for drag racing. The very first NHRA event was held in 1953, in my hometown of Pomona, California. I am proud that for the past 75 years, the Pomona Dragstrip has remained a historic venue for drag racing and national NHRA events.

After its establishment, NHRA continued to grow, sanctioning more than 100 race tracks across 38 states by 1957. As NHRA expanded, newspapers credited its focus on safe, organized racing, and the 1957 Nationals drew more than 450 entries. By the end of the 1950s, the NHRA was no longer recognized as a movement, but instead as a motorsports institution.

In 1961, the NHRA expanded beyond one annual national event by adding the