

halls, and ministries to the hungry. The Great Depression tested the congregation's resolve in ways that measured not balance sheets but character; families who had pledged generously found livelihoods gone, yet members scrimped and sacrificed until the building debt was paid. A devastating fire in April 1965 gutted the sanctuary, but stained-glass windows were preserved and later installed in the rebuilt sanctuary opened in 1968—glass that now shines as a symbol that beauty and faith can survive flame. More recently, during the global pandemic, Mulberry became a lifeline: volunteers fed neighbors when jobs vanished; pastors and members made calls, left meals on porches, and sustained the isolated with prayer and presence.

The Historical Room safeguards treasures—Thomas Darley's ordination certificate signed by Francis Asbury, night caps, a Darley Bible—but the true archive of Mulberry is the ledger of lives: the child fed, the student mentored, the widow comforted, the immigrant welcomed. The Youth Center that once teemed with young people, Macon Outreach's soup kitchen and pantry, global mission partnerships, and the many ministries that compose "The Mulberry Way" testify to a congregation that turns calamity into compassion.

We remember the silent sacrifices: the volunteers who mended roofs and hearts, the pastors who shepherded trembling souls, the families whose small gifts kept a mission alive. We honor the courage that rebuilt after storms, repurposed spaces for service, and answered every call with steadfast love.

Today Mulberry's ministries continue under the steady leadership of its pastor, the Reverend Jack Varnell, whose pastoral tenderness and clear vision guide the congregation into this new century of witness. We are also blessed that Bishop Robin Dease served as the guest preacher for this commemorative service—a fitting voice to celebrate a congregation whose reach has spanned local streets and global fields.

Mr. Speaker, in honoring Mulberry Street United Methodist Church on its bicentennial, we honor an ethic: that faith is not merely spoken but lived; that worship must be joined to works of mercy; that a community's true wealth is measured by how it treats its most vulnerable. For 200 years this congregation has lived that ethic faithfully—surviving the Great Depression, rebuilding after fire, weathering wars, and answering when a modern pandemic called forth every compassion.

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 congratulating Mulberry Street United Methodist Church on this bicentennial milestone. May Mulberry's lights continue to shine, its doors remain open, and its table welcome all who are weary. May God bless Mulberry Street Church, bless Pastor Jack Varnell, bless Bishop Robin Dease as she continues her work and may God bless the city of Macon, Georgia.

RECOGNIZING THE ARVADA CENTER FOR THE ARTS AND HUMANITIES

HON. BRITANNY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2026

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities for its 50th anniversary.

Since opening in 1976, the Arvada Center has been an important cultural institution in Colorado, enriching our community through theatre, visual arts, arts education, and public programs that engage and inspire people of all ages.

For fifty years, the Arvada Center has brought artists, students, audiences, and families together—sparking creativity, nurturing learning, and building lasting connections. It has become a cornerstone of the cultural life of Arvada, Jefferson County, and the greater Denver metro area, offering high-quality artistic experiences while remaining committed to broad community access and participation. The Arvada Center's lasting success reflects the dedication of its staff, educators, performers, volunteers, and supporters, all of whom have helped build a vibrant and welcoming place for the arts to thrive. Its impact extends well beyond its campus, strengthening our region through artistic excellence, education, and civic engagement.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate the Arvada Center for the Arts and Humanities on its 50th anniversary and thank them for their contribution to our community.

RECOGNIZING THE LEGACY AND LASTING IMPACT OF GEORGE OSTROM

HON. RYAN K. ZINKE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2026

Mr. ZINKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 250th year since our Nation's founding by recognizing the legacy and lasting impact of George Ostrom, a legendary voice of Montana's Flathead Valley.

Mr. Ostrom's life was anything but ordinary, filled with adventures and excitement. As a young man, he worked with the United States Forest Service, served as a paratrooper during World War II, became one of the early smokejumpers protecting our Nation's wilderness, and regularly climbed mountains in his backyard, Glacier National Park. His passion for the outdoors and deep understanding of Montana would shape the rest of his life and career.

George Ostrom, who passed away on January 1, 2025, at the age of 96, was known to many as "the voice of the Flathead Valley." A natural-born storyteller, Mr. Ostrom, when not creating his own remarkable stories, shared community stories around the Flathead for more than six decades through radio and newspaper. Mr. Ostrom remained active in journalism into his late 90s, becoming a staple voice on the airwaves, eventually owning and operating KOFI radio and later contributing to

KGEZ. For many in the Flathead Valley, the day did not truly begin until they heard George Ostrom on the radio.

Beyond radio, Mr. Ostrom built the Kalispell Weekly News into one of the largest weekly newspapers in Montana and spent decades writing columns that captured the stories of the region. His work helped document the history of Montana and showcase our state's identity for future generations.

Mr. Ostrom's love for Montana extended beyond journalism; he played a role in conservation efforts, including contributing to the development of the Wilderness Act of 1964, and remained a passionate advocate for preserving the natural beauty of Montana.

George Ostrom's experiences and remarkable stories are all overshadowed by his biggest accomplishment: his family. He shared his love for adventure with his wife Iris and his four children.

Mr. Speaker, George Ostrom's life reflects the very best of Montana and the American spirit. He was a pioneer and a storyteller whose voice inspired people across our great state. His legacy is not only found in the stories he told, but in the stories he created. Reflecting on his remarkable life, we are reminded that individuals like George Ostrom help define the character of our Nation and his voice will continue to echo throughout Montana.

RECOGNIZING MINNIE MAE TALBOTT

HON. MARK ALFORD

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2026

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commemorate the extraordinary life and legacy of Minnie Mae Talbott, a remarkable Missourian whose story reflects courage, resilience, and an unwavering commitment to public service.

On May 10, 1919, Minnie Mae Talbott was sworn in as Sheriff of Lexington, Missouri, following the tragic murder of her husband, who was serving as acting Sheriff and was killed in the line of duty. In the face of unimaginable loss, she stepped forward to serve her community with strength and determination.

Her service stands as a powerful testament to civic courage. At a time when few women held positions of leadership, Minnie Mae Talbott broke barriers and set an example that continues to inspire generations. She upheld the rule of law during a difficult chapter in our Nation's history and demonstrated that true public service requires character, sacrifice, and a willingness to answer the call.

As communities gather this year to celebrate the inaugural Minnie Mae Day, her legacy is being honored through education, engagement, and a permanent place in history. Her story is one that deserves to be remembered not only in Missouri, but across the country.

It is my privilege to recognize Minnie Mae Talbott and her enduring contributions to our state and our Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SCOTT FRANKLIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2026

Mr. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, April 22, 2026, I missed Roll Call vote No. 130, due to a House Appropriations Committee Markup. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 130.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JILL ANN HARTWIG

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2026

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jill Ann Hartwig, a devoted mother, wife, teacher, and community member whose impact will be felt for years to come. Born in Lansing, Michigan, Jill reflected the very best of Michigan: resilience, compassion, and a deep commitment to helping others.

A proud Spartan, she played softball at Michigan State University, where she demonstrated teamwork and quiet determination, ultimately being recognized with the Spirit Award for her leadership and character. She later graduated summa cum laude from Central Michigan University with a degree in Social Work.

Jill devoted her life to caring for others, showing up every single day with love and intention. Serving as a preschool teacher, foster parent, and mother of four, Jill strengthened her family and community in lasting ways. For too many families, cancer is personal. It underscores the importance of continued research and care so that fewer families face this kind of loss.

Jill passed away on March 4, 2026, surrounded by her family. She is survived by her wife, Misti Rice, and their children: Jacob, Adrian, Alston, and Avery.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply honored to recognize a life grounded in love and service. Known for her warmth, humor, and her ability to make people feel seen and included, her loss will be felt by many in our community. Please join me in celebrating Jill and the radical kindness she shared with us.

RECOGNIZING TEGAIN BOLEY

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2026

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tegain Boley for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Tegain has overcome many challenges along their journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Tegain, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Tegain's hard

work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Tegain Boley on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

COMMEMORATING THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2026

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the Armenian National Committee of America Western Region, Armenian Assembly of America, and all Armenian Americans in commemorating the Armenian Genocide.

I stand with them in remembering the lives of the 1.5 million Armenians—along with 750,000 Assyrians, Greeks, Maronites, and other Christians—who perished. As we honor the memory of the victims and survivors of the Armenian Genocide, we also stand with the Armenian families who carry that pain to this day. We strive to ensure the legacies of the victims and survivors are never forgotten.

I represent a district home to vibrant Armenian American communities stretching from South Orange County to North County San Diego.

My Armenian-American constituents are stewards of the values that are core to this country's identity and have enriched our communities in immeasurable ways. They have demonstrated remarkable perseverance after many of their families faced violent persecution, to make a better life for their children and grandchildren. Their story is a powerful reminder that we must continue rooting out hate whenever and wherever it emerges.

As a member of the Congressional Armenian Caucus, I am proud to represent our local Armenian-American community, and will always strive to be their voice in Congress.

HONORING WINNIE BEATRICE "BEA" RICHARDSON FOR HER SERVICE IN THE 6888TH BATTALION DURING WORLD WAR II

HON. JOSH HARDER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2026

Mr. HARDER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life, service, and enduring legacy of Ms. Winnie Beatrice "Bea" Richardson, a proud member of the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion during World War II, as her family will gather in Texas on June 13, 2026, to commemorate her contributions to our Nation.

Ms. Richardson joined the United States Army on August 28, 1943, in Houston, Texas, at 23 years old. Prior to her service, she worked as a private maid. She began her military career as a supply clerk and later served as a postal clerk, achieving the rank of Private First Class. As part of the historic 6888th Battalion—an all-Black, all-female unit of the Women's Army Corps—she played a vital role in clearing a massive backlog of mail, ensur-

ing troops overseas remained connected to loved ones and strengthening morale during wartime.

For her service, Ms. Richardson received numerous commendations, including the Good Conduct Medal, the Women's Army Corps Service Medal, the American Campaign Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, the World War II Victory Medal, and the Honorable Service Lapel Button. She was honorably discharged on November 16, 1945.

Following her military service, Ms. Richardson continued a lifetime of public service. She worked for 43 years at the Sacramento Army Depot, rising from custodian to Supply Clerk. Her dedication earned recognition for maintaining zero sick leave for a decade from 1983 to 1993, along with many additional awards before retirement.

Ms. Richardson was deeply devoted to her community. She served as a Den Mother and youth leader across scouting organizations, as PTA President, and as Auxiliary President of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in 1970. A longtime member of St. Paul Baptist Church, she served faithfully on the Usher Board and as a Senior Usher.

Affectionately known as "Mother West," she was remembered for her generosity, opening her home to those in need of a meal or safe place to stay.

Ms. Richardson passed away on August 15, 2024, at the age of 84, and is laid to rest at Sacramento Memorial Lawn Cemetery alongside her husband, Andrew Bryan West, a fellow World War II Army veteran. Married in 1950, they raised five children and are survived by a large and loving family who continue to honor her legacy of service and compassion.

This ceremony will stand as a meaningful tribute to Ms. Richardson and the broader contributions of the women of the 6888th Battalion. Her story of courage, perseverance, and patriotism continues to inspire future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Winnie Beatrice "Bea" Richardson for her extraordinary service and lasting impact on our Nation's history.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. MANUEL P. BERRIOZÁBAL

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2026

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the incredible life and legacy of Dr. Manuel P. Berriozábal, who passed away on April 15, 2026, at the age of 94. A trailblazing educator and mathematician, Dr. Berriozábal dedicated his life to ensuring students had opportunities to succeed in and out of the classroom.

From an early age, Dr. Berriozábal took great interest in mathematics and soon dedicated himself to the pursuit of academic excellence. Dr. Berriozábal's rigorous commitment to his studies resulted in him earning a Bachelor of Science in Mathematics from Rockhurst College in 1952, a Master of Science in Mathematics from the University of Notre Dame in