

partners, clients, family and friends dedicate their time and skills through hundreds of events year-round, and also come together globally for the annual Global Community Day campaign. Through their collective efforts, they help address critical community needs, support local organizations, and drive meaningful change across the globe.

Structured to address specific community needs including literacy, housing, environmental protection, nutrition, and health care, Citi Global Community Day has provided quality volunteer opportunities that empower participants to make a meaningful and lasting impact in communities around the world. Over the last two decades, more than a million volunteers have come together to contribute their time and skills, supporting communities around the world through hands-on service and meaningful engagement.

This year, the Citi Buffalo team will have four hundred volunteers packing 50,000 meals for Western New York families in collaboration with U.S. Hunger to be distributed to community partners, including the Buffalo City Mission and FeedMore Western New York. This critical effort will help address food insecurity by providing essential meals to families and community members in need across the region.

Today, we thank the volunteers and colleagues of Citi as they celebrate Citi Global Community Day. The organization's unwavering commitment to supporting and empowering neighborhoods and communities across the globe. Citi Global Community Day continually adapts to meet the needs of our community and future generations by inspiring their limitless potential, and I join all Western New Yorkers in thanking all who are participating.

HONORING PEARL ESSENCE OF  
THE PI DELTA OMEGA CHAPTER  
OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SO-  
RORITY, INCORPORATED

**HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 9, 2026*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the ladies of Pearl Essence of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, Pi Delta Omega Chapter, of Miami, Florida, for their unwavering commitment and dedication to mentoring high school girls in grades 9 through 12.

Implemented in 2004, the Pearl Essence Mentoring Program is designed to help cultivate and encourage high ethical standards in young women; provide opportunities for community service projects; and enrich their lives through social, cultural and educational activities.

Pearl Essence's mission is to nurture young ladies, build character, boost self esteem and enrich lives toward reaching maximum potential in school, and community.

Under the direction and mentorship of Pearl Essence, these young ladies are poised and ready to become the leaders of tomorrow, as they embark on a lifetime of service and commitment to bettering their communities and the world.

This commitment to service and education are the embodiments and cornerstones of

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, which was founded in 1908, on the campus of Howard University in Washington, D.C. Alpha Kappa Alpha is now an international organization with both undergraduate and graduate chapters. Alpha Kappa Alpha cuts across racial, international, physical and social barriers to help individuals and communities develop and maintain constructive relationships with others. Partnerships have led to the implementation of programs by more than one hundred and eighty thousand women in the United States, the Caribbean, Europe, Africa and Asia.

Please join me in honoring Pearl Essence of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, Pi Delta Omega Chapter, for its commitment to our young women, education, our communities and service.

RECOGNIZING BILL FEELER

**HON. JASON SMITH**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 9, 2026*

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Bill Feeler of Rolla, Missouri, as he approaches his 100th birthday this August after a lifetime of service to his community and our Nation.

Shortly after turning 18, Mr. Feeler was drafted into the Army during the final days of World War II. Following basic training at Fort Knox, he served as a corporal in the Liberation of the Philippines. After the war's end, he was stationed in Japan, where he worked as a driver for an aide to General Douglas MacArthur. For his service, he received the Asiatic-Pacific Theater Ribbon, the Philippine Liberation Ribbon, and the World War II Victory Medal.

After his honorable discharge in 1946, Mr. Feeler returned home to Rolla and resumed work on his family farm, exemplifying humility, dedication, and a deep commitment to hard work. In 1953, he married Ms. Geneva Giesler of Vienna, Missouri, and together they have built a strong family, including children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

Today, he remains active in his community—making birdhouses, tending his garden, supporting Cardinals baseball, and volunteering through his church to deliver meals during the holidays. His advice to others is simple: "Love your country and be more patriotic."

It is my privilege to recognize Mr. Feeler's extraordinary life of service, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his example as we approach our Nation's 250th anniversary.

HONORING THE LEADERSHIP AND  
LEGACY OF ROGER P.  
FRECHETTE, SR.

**HON. LORI TRAHAN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 9, 2026*

Mrs. TRAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life and legacy of Roger P. Frechette, Sr., a decorated boxer, veteran, entrepreneur, mentor, and community leader

whose dedication to the City of Lowell has left a lasting impact across generations.

Roger was born on October 4, 1941, in Lowell, Massachusetts, the second oldest of seven children born to Jean-Paul "The Blond Tiger" Frechette and Rita Fournier Frechette. Growing up in a family deeply rooted in athletics and community service, Roger learned early the values of discipline, perseverance, and giving back. His father, Jean-Paul, was one of Lowell's most beloved sports figures, a New England Featherweight Champion, founder of the Greater Lowell Softball League, President of the Passe Temps Club, and a tireless advocate for youth athletics. In recognition of his contributions to the community, a bridge in Lowell was dedicated in his honor and proudly bears the Tiger Frechette name today. Inspired by his father's example, Roger embarked on a path that would mirror that same commitment to excellence and service.

Roger began boxing at an early age and built an accomplished sixteen-year career in the sport. His achievements included winning the Silver Mittens Championship in 1955, the Golden Gloves Novice Championship in 1958, the Greater Lowell Open Championship in 1959, and the New England AAU Championship in 1961. He represented New England in national AAU competition, competed as a professional boxer, and earned distinction as the Fort Dix U.S. Army Boxing Champion in the 118-pound division while serving his country. Roger also proudly served in the Massachusetts National Guard. His dedication to boxing and his contributions to the sport were recognized in 2007 when he was inducted into the New England Boxing Hall of Fame.

While Roger achieved success in the ring, his greatest contributions may have come through his commitment to mentoring young people. Believing that boxing could provide structure, confidence, and opportunity, he founded the West End Boxing Gym and worked closely with the Lowell Boys Club to guide and inspire countless young athletes. Through his mentorship, Roger taught lessons that extended far beyond sports, instilling discipline, respect, perseverance, and self-confidence in generations of Lowell youth. For many, he served not only as a coach but as a role model and trusted mentor whose guidance helped shape their futures.

Roger's business acumen was equally impressive. He owned and operated the Moosehead Café, founded Beverly Roofing and several successful roofing businesses, and invested in residential and commercial properties throughout Lowell. Through these ventures, he contributed to the economic vitality of the city while creating jobs and opportunities for others.

Following in his father's footsteps, Roger also devoted himself to civic leadership. From 1960 through 1964, he served as President of the Passe Temps Club, becoming the youngest president in the organization's history. Throughout his life, he remained an active and respected figure in the community, using his influence to support local organizations, youth programs, and neighborhood initiatives. His leadership reflected a deep belief that strong communities are built through service, hard work, and a willingness to invest in others.

Roger's greatest pride is his family. He shared a lifelong bond with his wife, Sandra Graham Frechette, and together they raised four sons: Roger, Jr., Ronnie, Robert, and

Randy. Following the tragic loss of their son Robert in 1968, Roger and Sandra persevered through hardship and spent nearly three decades together. Today, their legacy continues through their children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and all those inspired by their example. Roger currently resides in Winter Park, Florida, where he is cared for by his son Ronnie and daughter-in-law Stephanie, though he has never lost his deep connection to Lowell, the city he proudly calls home and where his family's legacy was built.

Roger's legacy extends far beyond his accomplishments as an athlete, businessman, or community leader. He is remembered for his generosity, his unwavering support of young people, his pride in the City of Lowell, and his commitment to helping others succeed. Through every stage of his life, he embodied the values of determination, humility, and service, leaving an enduring impact on the countless individuals whose lives he touched.

Most importantly, Mr. Speaker, Roger is known for his deep love of family and friends, the kindness he shows to those around him, and his extraordinary leadership, mentorship, and commitment to community service. His contributions to athletics, business, and the people of Lowell have strengthened the fabric of the city and created a legacy that will endure for generations, one defined by service, generosity, and impact. His legacy is truly unforgettable and everlasting.

REMEMBERING MR. ROBERT  
HUNTER

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2026

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of the late Mr. Robert Hunter, a man whose influence can be seen and felt throughout our community by students, colleagues, and community members throughout Western New York.

Mr. Hunter was born on October 15, 1967, in Buffalo, New York, to Mr. Nolford Hunter and Mrs. Rosa Lee Hunter. Throughout his life, Robert inspired others with his strength, compassion, love of education, and faith in the Lord. He cherished every moment shared with his family and students. He was raised with the strong support of his family from the very beginning, helping to shape him into a natural leader in all aspects of his life. Mr. Hunter excelled academically, attending Buffalo Public Schools from kindergarten through twelfth grade, and later furthering his education by graduating from SUNY Erie Community College, completing course work in its Early Childhood Center. His work in the center sparked his passion for youth education, and he continued his studies by earning his Bachelor's Degree from SUNY Buffalo State, and earning his Master's Degree in Education from Medaille University.

Following his graduation, Mr. Hunter began a career in education that lasted more than two decades, teaching elementary students throughout Western New York before transitioning to the Buffalo Public School System in 2006. During his tenure, Mr. Hunter served at Grabiarsz Campus School Community No. 79, Community School No. 53, and

International School No. 45, where he taught general studies and guided students and families through their academic and personal development. He was known best for his patience, mentorship, and unwavering commitment to his students, making a lasting impact on countless young lives.

Outside of his professional career, Mr. Hunter remained deeply committed to his students and community. He was a member of the Prince Hall Masons Elijah Abram No. 418, where he served as both treasurer and recording secretary. He also participated in the Dads Anointed Delivering Sons (D.A.D.S.) Program, coached the NYCYO Orioles Baseball team, and served as a Union Delegate for Buffalo Public Schools through the Buffalo Teachers Federation.

His greatest joy was his marriage of more than three decades to his wife, Dawn Cherelle (Hubbard) Hunter, the loving couple shared the blessing of two children, Taylor (Lee) Hunter and Miles Hunter. He was a faithful member of New A.M.E. Zion Church, where he served in multiple leadership roles, including Preacher's Steward, Usher, Trustee, and Director of Men of Zion, reflecting his deep commitment to faith and service.

Mr. Robert Hunter lived a life of devotion to his family, students, community, and faith. His unwavering commitment to those he loved and his compassion towards others made a profound impact on all who knew him. Mr. Hunter was a man who believed in the importance of education, family, and faith above all else and worked tirelessly to support those around him. His kindness, loyalty, and warmth will forever be remembered. Let us continue to honor his legacy by carrying forward the values he lived by: faith, education, and above all, love.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL  
WILLARD SHEPARD

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Lieutenant Colonel Willard Shepard for 28 years of distinguished service in the United States Air Force Reserves.

Lt. Colonel Shepard is retiring from active duty at U.S. Southern Command in Doral, Florida, to become a member of the Civil Air Patrol at Opa Locka Coast Guard Air Station Miami, which is located in Congressional District 24.

Lt. Colonel Shepard is also an award winning journalist, attorney and mentor to hundreds of Miami-Dade County School students. He serves as the United States Air Force academic liaison officer, in Congressional District 24; helping students obtain ROTC scholarships and appointments to the United States Air Force Academy.

As a mentor with the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project, Lt. Colonel Shepard is an inspiration to hundreds of young men, and middle and high school students. He is a shining example of what can be achieved through education, hard work and dedication.

Lt. Colonel Shepard is a graduate of the Florida International University College of Law and specializes in media and aviation legal

issues. He graduated cum laude from Temple University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania with a Bachelors Degree in Communications and Theater, and he is a distinguished graduate of the U.S. Air Force Officer Training School in San Antonio, Texas.

Please join me in honoring Lt. Colonel Willard Shepard for his many years of distinguished service to our country, as a United States Air Force Pilot, and for his unwavering commitment to our young people and our community.

HONORING FALLAH HEARD,  
KNOWN AS "FALLAH THE FOODIE"

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Fallah Heard, widely known as "Fallah the Foodie," a passionate entrepreneur, social media influencer, and community advocate whose work is helping shine a spotlight on Mississippi's vibrant culinary scene.

A native of Byram, Mississippi, Ms. Heard developed a love for food and community at an early age. Inspired by family traditions and a desire to connect with others, she transformed her passion into a platform that celebrates local restaurants and the hardworking people behind them. What began as sharing food experiences online has grown into a respected voice that highlights businesses throughout Jackson and surrounding communities.

Through her social media presence, Ms. Heard has become a champion for locally owned restaurants, helping introduce residents and visitors alike to the unique flavors and dining experiences available across Mississippi. Her authentic approach and genuine enthusiasm have helped increase visibility for many small businesses, contributing to their growth and success while encouraging greater appreciation for the state's rich food culture.

Beyond reviewing restaurant, Ms. Heard is committed to fostering community connections and creating opportunities for local entrepreneurs. She has organized events that bring together food vendors, business owners, and residents, helping strengthen relationships and support economic development within the region. Her efforts reflect a deep belief in the power of food to bring people together and build stronger communities.

Ms. Heard's work has also helped elevate Jackson's reputation as a destination for exceptional dining experiences. Through her advocacy and promotion of local establishments, she continues to demonstrate the important role that small businesses play in the economic and cultural vitality of our communities.

Her dedication, creativity, and commitment to uplifting others serve as an inspiration to many. By using her platform to support local businesses and celebrate Mississippi's culinary talent, Ms. Heard is making a lasting impact on communities throughout our state.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Fallah Heard for her outstanding contributions to Mississippi's restaurant industry, her support of small businesses, and her continued efforts to showcase the best of our state.