

aviation in action, a fitting backdrop for a school whose students are just beginning to discover how high their own ambitions can take them. But what will ultimately define Skyview High School is not its facilities. It will be the students, teachers, staff, and families who bring those halls to life.

The inaugural students of Skyview have an opportunity that few students ever receive: the chance to help create a school's identity from the very beginning. They will establish its clubs and traditions, cheer for its first teams, celebrate its first performances and achievements, and create memories that will become part of Skyview's history. The traditions they begin today will be carried forward by generations of students who follow them.

The opening of Skyview High School reflects the dedication of the educators, administrators, school staff, parents, and community partners who worked to make this new school possible. Their commitment to providing students with outstanding opportunities strengthens Fairfax County, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and our Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating this historic first year for Skyview High School and wishing its inaugural students, faculty, and staff every success. As they write the first chapter of Skyview's story, I look forward to seeing the traditions they establish, the discoveries they make, and the many accomplishments that will fill the chapters ahead.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
EUGENE SILER, JR.

HON. HAROLD ROGERS
OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 20, 2026

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Honorable Eugene Siler, Jr. and celebrate the designation of the federal courthouse annex in London, Kentucky as the "Eugene E. Siler, Junior United States Courthouse Annex." My longtime friend and trusted adviser, the Honorable Eugene Siler, Jr. has served on the federal bench for nearly 50 years and was nominated by three U.S. Presidents. President Richard Nixon first nominated Siler as the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Kentucky in 1970, followed by President Gerald Ford's appointment in 1975 as U.S. District Judge for the Eastern and Western Districts of Kentucky, and President George H.W. Bush's elevated appointment of Judge Siler to preside over the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in 1991.

The Siler family legacy of public service is highly regarded in southern Kentucky. Eugene's father, and namesake, served as a judge on the Kentucky Court of Appeals before being elected as a Member of this House for the decade spanning 1955 to 1965. The senior Siler was known for being fiscally conservative, a man of great faith, and very generous, donating his expense allotment to build up scholarships at home in Kentucky. Likewise, his son has established a reputation as an acclaimed jurist, a compassionate community member, and a trusted source for legal advice at home and abroad. Both Silers joined the military before pursuing their law degrees,

bravely serving and protecting this great Nation. Eugene Siler, Jr. was a U.S. Navy midshipman in 1957 and served as a lieutenant in the Navy Reserve from 1958 to 1983.

When I was first elected to represent the people of Kentucky's 5th Congressional District, Judge Siler swore me in during a ceremonial celebration in 1981 on the courthouse square in my hometown of Somerset, Kentucky. That moment will forever be one of my favorite memories, as I first stepped into this monumental responsibility of public service, surrounded by my mentors and closest friends. Fast forward to 2026, and I am proud to say that Judge Siler and I are still showing up for the people of this region every single day. He still carries a hefty caseload, five days a week, as a Senior Judge.

It was an honor to join U.S. Senator MITCH MCCONNELL's efforts to advance this worthy courthouse designation from both chambers of Congress. Judge Siler's legacy gives us a great sense of pride in southeastern Kentucky, and it is only fitting for his home court of justice, where he has mentored aspiring legal minds, to bear his name. This designation for Judge Siler is a small token of appreciation on behalf of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, as we applaud his continued valiant service.

HONORING MR. ALEX C.
HABERSHAM AND THE 35TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE MACON-MID-
DLE GEORGIA BLACK PAGES

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.
OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 20, 2026

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a son of Middle Georgia whose life's work has been to make certain that his neighbors were seen—Mr. Alex C. Habersham, founder and publisher of the Macon-Middle Georgia Black Pages, which this week marks thirty-five years at the Tubman Museum in Macon under the theme "35 Years Strong: Honoring Our Past, Powering Our Future."

Mr. Speaker, thirty-five years is a long time to keep a promise.

Alex Habersham was born and reared in Macon, in Tindall Heights—built in the 1940s as the city's first public housing development for Black families. He graduated from Ballard-Hudson High School, went on to Savannah State University to train as a teacher, and then did what too few do: he came home. He came back and taught at the very high school that raised him.

But first, Mr. Speaker, we need to talk about the 1960's.

When Macon integrated its public schools, Alex Habersham was among the first Black educators transferred to Lanier High School. Think about what that asked of a young man. He walked into a building that had not been built with him in mind, in a city that had not yet made up its mind, and he stood before other people's children and taught them anyway. No cameras. No ceremony. Just a Black teacher with a lesson plan, doing the quiet, dangerous work of desegregation one class period at a time.

That is not on any plaque. But it belongs in this RECORD.

He built his teaching on a principle he still quotes today: you take a person from the

known to the unknown. You start where they are. You do not shame them for where they are. You walk them somewhere better. That is how he taught. That is how he has lived.

Mr. Speaker, he was also an entrepreneur, and not a cautious one—a flower shop, a newspaper, a car wash, a transportation company, a radio and television repair shop, and in 1972, Habersham Records, a music store many in Macon still remember. So, he learned the hard lesson from the inside: you can serve your people well and still be invisible. Known on your street. Unknown in your city. A landmark to your neighbors and nowhere at all on paper.

So, in 1991, Alex Habersham did what his people have always done in this country when the record left them out. He started his own record.

He started it on Cotton Avenue—today D.T. Walton Sr. Way—the historic heart of Black commerce in Macon. He did not build the Black Pages beside that tradition. He built it inside of it.

Mr. Speaker, in 1912, a woman born Sarah Breedlove—the world came to know her as Madam C.J. Walker—rose uninvited at the National Negro Business League convention, because no one had thought to put her on the program. She told that room she had come up from the cotton fields to the washtub to the cook kitchen, and then, she said, she promoted herself into business. And she left them a sentence that has outlived every man who tried to ignore her:

"I got my start by giving myself a start."

Mr. Speaker, that is the whole story of the Black Pages. Alex Habersham did not wait to be written into somebody else's book. He gave himself a start—and then spent thirty-five years handing that same start to everybody else.

There is a lineage here, and Mr. Habersham names it himself. A generation before, when a Black family could not be certain where they might safely stop for gasoline or a night's rest, a little green book told them where they would be welcome. That book helped our people survive. Alex Habersham published one that helped our people prosper. Both did the same holy work—they wrote down the names.

And what a record it has become. More than thirty editions. More than a thousand Black-owned businesses. Nine counties across Middle Georgia. Physicians and barbers, churches and bookstores, contractors and caterers—alongside scholarship notices and memorial tributes. A directory, Mr. Speaker, is never only a directory. It is a declaration. It says: this business is real. This family is here. This work is worthy of the ink.

Nor did his love for young people ever stay inside a classroom. He co-founded the Adopt-A-Role-Model Program, so a young man in Macon could sit across from a professional in his field and see with his own eyes that such a life was possible. He established Bird City Energetics. And for years he has instructed in the State Bar of Georgia's BASICS Program—a program with a recidivism rate of seven percent. Let that number sit for a moment. Behind it are men who came home and stayed home. Mothers who stopped waiting by the phone. Children who got their fathers back.

He has chaired the Macon-Bibb County Board of Tax Assessors, served the Greater Macon Chamber of Commerce, published the Macon Courier, and hosted Macon's Call to

Action. He has been honored by the NAACP, by our Secretary of State as an Outstanding Georgia Citizen, by the United States Small Business Administration as Minority Small Business Champion of the Year, and by his brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, incorporated.

But the awards on the wall are rarely the real story. The real story is usually standing beside him. And so today I also honor his beloved wife, Mrs. Myrtle Habersham. Every deadline he met, she met with him. There is no honest accounting of these thirty-five years that does not have Myrtle's name in it.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting—almost providential—that this celebration is held at the Tubman Museum, because that building exists for the same reason the Black Pages exists. Both are houses of memory, built by people who understood that if we do not write it down, they will say it never happened.

And there is one more thing this House should know. The 2026–2027 edition is the last one that will ever be printed. Beginning in 2027, The Black Pages is moving to a digital platform—an app, an online marketplace, a new way for a small business with no website of its own to be found. Mr. Habersham is not retreating. He is doing in 2026 exactly what he did in 1991: going where his people are.

But that means the volume in his hands this evening is the last of its kind.

One day, Mr. Speaker, a young woman in Macon is going to open that final printed edition. She will run her finger down a column of small print. And she will find it—her grandmother's shop. The address. The telephone number. Proof, in black ink, that her people were here, that they built something, that they mattered enough to be listed.

She will never meet the man who put that name on the page. But she will weep over it just the same.

That is what Alex Habersham has been doing for thirty-five years. Not selling advertising. Preserving evidence—evidence that in Macon, Georgia, Black enterprise was never a footnote. It was a foundation.

The Book of Proverbs tells us that a good man leaveth an inheritance to his children's children. Alex Habersham is leaving Middle Georgia an inheritance we can hold in our hands.

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 in congratulating Mr. Alex C. Habersham on the thirty-fifth anniversary of the Macon-Middle Georgia Black Pages. I would also like for them to join us in thanking Mrs. Myrtle Habersham for her partnership and her sacrifice, and in wishing them both many more chapters yet to be written.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and may God bless the Habersham family, may God bless the city of Macon, and may God continue to bless these United States of America.

RECOGNIZING WESTERN NEW YORK DERMATOLOGY

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 20, 2026

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Western New York

Dermatology as they celebrate the arrival of advanced patient friendly technology for the treatment of non-melanoma skin cancer.

More than 9,500 Americans are diagnosed with skin cancer every day, and more than three million new cases are recorded annually across the globe. With skin cancer rising faster than any other cancer, skin protection from UV exposure is more important than ever. Under the leadership of Dr. Michael Nazareth, the practice treats its patients from chronic conditions including eczema and psoriasis to advanced skin cancer detection and cosmetic procedures.

Today, we celebrate the continued success and technological advancements of Western New York Dermatology, as well as its steadfast commitment to empowering patients throughout the region. As the need for high-quality healthcare services continues to grow, Western New York Dermatology remains at the forefront of patient-centered care, continually evolving to meet the needs of all communities.

I congratulate Western New York Dermatology on its ongoing dedication to providing exceptional care and enhancing the health and well-being of community members across Western New York.

TRIBUTE TO HARRIETT SHOCKEY

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 20, 2026

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Harriett Shockey. Harriett Shockey was born in Sioux City, Iowa, in 1936. When she was 17 years old, her parents gave her the wonderful gift of a baby sister, called Candy, whom she loved deeply. When Candy was still just a very small child, Harriett went off to college at the University of Iowa. She was the first woman in her family to attend college and the only girl in the engineering program in which she was enrolled.

Sadly, her college career was sidelined by a terrible case of scarlet fever, forcing Harriett to return home. While convalescing, she met her future husband, Gary Shockey, a dashing young Air Force officer stationed in Des Moines.

Harriett and Gary eloped and embarked upon their life together of service to the United States. They moved many times for the Air Force, living in Pennsylvania, Texas, South Carolina, Wiesbaden in Germany, Ohio, and finally in California, where Gary was stationed on separate tours at both the former Norton Air Force Base and March Air Force Base.

While Gary worked for the Air Force, including several tours in Vietnam, Harriett held down the fort at home and raised their three children, Greg, Cindy, and Jeff. Both Harriett and Gary were true Patriots who felt deeply honored to serve their country, and they raised their children to have the same spirit.

Harriett was a woman of fierce determination and strong intellect. When Jeff, the last of the three children, went off to college, Harriett decided it was high time to get her own college degree, and she enrolled at the University of Redlands to complete what she had started many years before. After graduation, she remained involved in several of the Uni-

versity campus activities. She chaired the Town and Gown and was a dedicated U of R supporter.

In addition to managing the household, Harriett was a contracting officer with the Department of Defense at March Air Force Base, where she put her no-nonsense thrift to good use for the taxpayer. She was also one of the first women to oversee funerals for our Nation's Veterans at the Riverside National Cemetery.

Harriett loved to cook. She loved to shop. She loved to dote on her grandchildren. Her family misses her deeply. Many other Americans also mourn her loss, for Harriett contributed to every community where she lived and her cheerful spirit touched many lives.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF ARTHUR KOVEN

HON. RITCHIE TORRES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 20, 2026

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary constituent of New York's 15th Congressional District, Arthur Koven, as he celebrated his 100th birthday on August 18, 2026.

Born in Washington Heights in 1926, Arthur is the son of Joseph and Lillian Koven, hard-working immigrants from Lithuania. When Arthur was four years old, his family moved to Morris Avenue in the Bronx, where he grew up playing stickball and stoopball with neighborhood friends, and has lived in the borough since.

A gifted student, Arthur skipped two grade levels and graduated high school at just sixteen from D.W. Clinton High School, before going on to City College and NYU Graduate School. At eighteen years old, Arthur answered the call to serve his country, enlisting in the United States Army in 1944 during the height of World War II. He was stationed in the Philippines and South Korea, where he served with distinction as a corporal in a tank unit, and he continued his service in the infantry until 1946. Like so many young men of his generation, Arthur left behind the comforts of home and the promise of his young adulthood to defend the freedoms we hold dear, and his willingness to serve stands as a lasting testament to the character, sacrifice, and unwavering patriotism of the Greatest Generation. We owe him, and all who served alongside him, a debt of gratitude that can never be fully repaid.

In 1959, Arthur married his beloved wife, Joyce, and together they shared sixty-two wonderful years of marriage until her passing in 2021. They raised two children, Jill and Barry, and welcomed four grandchildren into their family, all of whom remain devotedly involved in his life today. After a career at an import/export company, Arthur retired in his early seventies and became an active and beloved member of the Riverdale Y New Beginnings Senior Center, where he has built lasting friendships, become known for his karaoke talent, and is fondly recognized for his height, his easygoing charm, and his enthusiasm for a good conversation about politics over lunch.

As Arthur reaches one hundred years, we celebrate a century defined by service, family,