

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,

and love. On behalf of New York's 15th Congressional District, I extend my warmest congratulations to Arthur Koven on his 100th birthday, and I offer my deepest gratitude, and that of a grateful Nation, for his service in defense of our country.

CELEBRATING THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE FESTIVAL

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 celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Asian American Heritage Festival. This cultural event is dedicated and celebrated in honor of the cultural traditions and contributions of Asian Americans throughout the United States. For half a decade, the Asian American Heritage Festival has been committed to enriching the cultural fabric of the Western New York, fostering deeper appreciation for the traditions, struggles, and contributions that continue to shape Asian American communities today.

The Asian American Heritage Festival is a dynamic hub for community engagement and cross-cultural connection. Through shared experiences, storytelling, and cultural expression, the festival strengthens understanding and unity among diverse communities. It stands as a vital bridge to connect culture, diversity, and unity through exciting performances, delicious food, and shared experiences among people of all backgrounds.

Beyond the exciting attractions that the Asian American Heritage Festival offers, there is also a strong emphasis on community and education. Stories of resilience and cultural history, passed down through generations, are shared with all who attend.

As we celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Asian American Heritage Festival, let us recognize the essential role that the festival plays—not just as an event, but as a beacon of cultural exchange, generational growth, and community spirit. Please join me in celebrating and honoring the achievements of the Asian American Heritage Festival as it remains an enduring source of pride and connection for generations to come.

**HONORING THE ETHEREDGE/
ETHERIDGE FAMILY REUNION**

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 20, 2026

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the Etheredge/Etheridge Family Reunion, taking place from August 20 to August 23, 2026, and to honor a family whose story reflects the resilience, perseverance, faith, and achievements that define the American experience.

The family's traceable history begins in Edgefield County, South Carolina, where their ancestors were born into slavery and were the property of Joseph Etheredge, a farmer and slave owner during the nineteenth century.

Following emancipation, like many formerly enslaved people throughout the South, members of the family adopted the surname of their former enslaver, transforming a name once associated with bondage into one that would become a lasting symbol of strength, family, and achievement.

On Christmas Day in 1895, Samuel Etheredge, one of the family's earliest known ancestors, purchased 195 acres of land from Joseph Etheredge, a transaction recorded in the Edgefield County Courthouse. That purchase represented far more than the acquisition of property—it symbolized freedom, opportunity, and the beginning of a self-sustaining African American community.

Samuel Etheredge later sold twenty-acre parcels of land to his sons, establishing what became affectionately known as Etheredge Town. Life in Etheredge Town was centered on faith, education, hard work, and community. Families shared resources, raised livestock, hunted and fished, operated a grist and syrup mill, and developed businesses and skilled trades. Even after a devastating storm destroyed their church, they rebuilt it with lumber harvested from their own property, demonstrating remarkable determination and unity.

Today, descendants of the Etheredge/Etheridge family reside throughout the United States, from the East Coast to the West Coast. They continue to make meaningful contributions to their communities through leadership, public service, education, business, military service, ministry, healthcare, and civic engagement.

The 2026 Etheredge/Etheridge Family Reunion is not merely a gathering of relatives. It is a celebration of generations who transformed adversity into opportunity, preserved their heritage, and created a lasting legacy for future generations.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Etheredge/Etheridge family and the enduring legacy of this extraordinary American family.

RECOGNIZING TEGAIN BOLEY

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 20, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. 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.

RECOGNIZING NESAR AHMAD

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 20, 2026

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend Nesar Ahmad for his extraordinary service to the United States and his unwavering commitment to the Americans and Afghan allies who served alongside one another in Afghanistan.

During the Afghanistan War, Nesar served alongside American forces as an interpreter, putting his own life at risk to protect American servicemembers and advance our mission. His understanding of the language, culture, and people made him an invaluable partner to the Americans serving in harm's way.

After coming to the United States in 2014, Nesar continued answering the call to serve. In the wake of the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan in 2021, I helped found Task Force Argo to evacuate Americans and our Afghan allies, and Nesar once again joined our mission to stand with the interpreters and families who risked everything to stand with us.

For nearly five years, Nesar has continued to volunteer helping Afghan interpreters, allies, and their families find safety, stability, and a new beginning. Nesar understood personally what was at stake, and his mission was to never leave an ally behind. The people we were fighting to save had to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with American troops, often risking everything to do so. He helped ensure America continues to stand with them in return.

As a combat veteran who served in Afghanistan, I know firsthand how our troops relied on courageous interpreters like Nesar. Through Task Force Argo, I have also had the privilege of seeing his courage, loyalty, and commitment to others.

Now, Nesar is sharing that story through his book, *The Terp: A Life Between Languages and Loyalties*. His story preserves the sacrifices of the interpreters who served beside us and reminds future generations of the human cost of war and the bonds forged through service.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to call Nesar a friend and fellow member of Task Force Argo, and I commend him for his continued service to the country he now calls home.

**RECOGNIZING LEGION OF HONOR
MEDAL RECIPIENT PRIVATE
FIRST CLASS JOHN C. TIRANNO
ON THE 82ND ANNIVERSARY OF
D-DAY**

HON. TIMOTHY M. KENNEDY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 20, 2026

Mr. KENNEDY of New York. Mr. Speaker, on the 82nd anniversary of D-Day, I rise to recognize Private First Class John C. Tiranno who received the Legion of Honour Medal from the French Republic for his part in the liberation of France from Nazi occupation during World War II. Private First Class John Tiranno and many others put their lives on the line, demonstrating unwavering commitment to the Allied Forces during World War II and contributing to a pivotal victory for the Allied