

1937, and today through maintenance of sections of the trail in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts and New Hampshire. It has operated a hut system on the trail since 1888 and now stewards more than 1,800 miles of trails across the Northeast, while supporting public land managers throughout the region on additional trail construction and rehabilitation projects.

The 150th anniversary of the Appalachian Mountain Club provides an opportunity to recognize its historic legacy, honor its dedicated staff, members, volunteers, and other supporters, and reaffirm the importance of conservation and outdoor recreation to the Nation's future. The organization's efforts have helped improve access to outdoor recreation and strengthened the connection between people and the natural world.

I am proud to honor and commend AMC on the occasion of its 150th anniversary and expresses gratitude for its lasting contributions to conservation, outdoor recreation, and the stewardship of America's natural resources.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF DENVER SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 9, 2026

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pride to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Denver South High School, a remarkable institution that has shaped generations of students and holds a special place in my heart as an alumna.

While South High School was officially established in 1926, its roots stretch back to Denver's earliest days. Originating from the Grant School, which first opened in 1883 to serve the growing south side of the city, South's history reflects the evolution of Denver itself. From its beginnings as part of Denver City's Union School system, to its transformation into South Side High School, and ultimately its place in the City Beautiful movement, South has long been a cornerstone of education and community.

Its iconic building stands proudly along Washington Park—a symbol of tradition, excellence, and the enduring Raven spirit.

I am a proud legacy South alum. Following in my mother's footsteps, my sisters and I graduated from South. We even shared some of our favorite teachers with her. I know firsthand the profound impact this school has on its students. South is a vibrant, diverse community where students come together to learn, grow, and prepare for the future. It is a place that challenges young people to think critically, embrace next perspectives, and strive for excellence.

Through rigorous academic offerings—including Advanced Placement, honors courses, and concurrent enrollment programs—along with Career Connect pathways in fields like engineering, business, health sciences, and the arts, South equips its students with the tools they need to succeed in an ever-changing world. Its Multilingual Education Program and commitment to inclusivity ensure that every student has the opportunity to thrive.

But what truly makes South special is its spirit. From the classroom to athletics to extra-

curricular activities, the Raven community fosters a sense of belonging, pride, and purpose that stays with students long after they graduate. I carry that Raven pride with me to this day.

As we mark this centennial milestone, we honor a century of history and a legacy of excellence, diversity, and opportunity. Here's to 100 years of the Ravens and to many more years of inspiring the next generation of leaders.

RECOGNIZING BOBBIE FULLMER AS CARO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S 2025 MERIT AWARD WINNER

HON. LISA C. McClAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 9, 2026

Mrs. McClain. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bobbie Fullmer, recipient of the Caro Chamber of Commerce 2025 Merit Award, whose leadership, dedication, and commitment to service have made a lasting impact on the Caro community.

Bobbie's story is one of both commitment and heart. She spent her early years in Lansing before returning to Caro, where she attended Caro Community Schools and graduated from Caro High School. She went on to earn both her bachelor's and master's degrees in business. Even while pursuing her education, Bobbie remained closely connected to her hometown, regularly returning on weekends to support her family's business, Caro Rental.

Bobbie later returned home to care for her mother alongside her sister, Debbie, showing remarkable strength and devotion during a difficult time. Following her mother's passing, she continued to support her father and assist with the family business until his passing as well. Today, Bobbie and Debbie carry on that legacy as they continue to operate Caro Rental, grounded in a deep commitment to service and their community.

Bobbie has followed in her father's footsteps by actively participating in civic and community organizations, including the Caro Chamber of Commerce, Caro Rotary, Caro Lions Club, Michigan State University Alumni, and the Caro Moose Lodge. Her unwavering dedication, selfless service, and generosity of time have strengthened the fabric of our community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Bobbie Fullmer for her outstanding contributions to the Caro community. Her commitment, compassion, and leadership make her a true role model, and her lasting impact will continue to inspire the community for years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MRS. LAURA NORWOOD DAVIS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 9, 2026

Mr. Thompson of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the life

and legacy of Mrs. Laura Norwood Davis, a trailblazer, educator, servant leader, and devoted community advocate from Carroll County, Mississippi, whose extraordinary life of service left an indelible mark upon her community and our state.

Mrs. Davis lived a life defined by faith, education, and public service. A woman of strong conviction and unwavering dedication, she worked tirelessly to uplift others and expand opportunities for future generations. Her leadership helped shape educational progress and community advancement throughout Carroll County and beyond.

A faithful and active member of Helm Chapel Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, Mrs. Davis devoted many years of service to her church family. She faithfully served as church secretary and trustee and was an engaged member of the Missionary Society and the Board of Christian Education. Her commitment to Christian service reflected her deep belief in faith as a guiding force for both personal and community transformation.

Mrs. Davis was also a pioneering leader in education. She made history as the first African American woman elected to serve on the Carroll County School Board, breaking barriers and opening doors for others to follow. Her dedication to improving educational outcomes and advocating for students and educators earned her statewide recognition when she became the first recipient from Carroll County to be named School Board Member of the Year for the State of Mississippi. Through her leadership, she championed equity, excellence, and opportunity in public education.

Her professional and civic involvement extended far beyond the classroom. Mrs. Davis was a lifetime member of the Mississippi Association of Educators and remained actively engaged in organizations committed to civil rights, community development, and service. She was a proud member of the NAACP, the Carroll Development Association, and the Theta Pi Zeta Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated, where she exemplified scholarship, service, sisterhood, and finer womanhood.

Although she is no longer with us, throughout her life, Mrs. Davis demonstrated a steadfast commitment to empowering others through education, civic engagement, and faith-based leadership. She served as a mentor, advocate, and role model whose influence continues to resonate across generations.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mrs. Laura Norwood Davis for her historic achievements, her faithful service, and her enduring contributions to the people of Carroll County and the State of Mississippi.

COMMENDING PASTOR RAYMOND COCHRAN ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM PASTORAL MINISTRY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 9, 2026

Mr. Bishop. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a full heart to honor a man whose life has been a sermon in motion—Pastor Raymond Cochran—on the sacred occasion of his retirement after a lifetime of faithful service. A retirement celebration will be held on Saturday,

April 11, 2026, at the Saint Luke Ministry Center in Columbus, Georgia.

Born in Lee County, Alabama to John and Lucille Cochran, Pastor Cochran answered the call of Christ at age seven when he joined Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church in Salem, Alabama. From that humble beginning grew a pastoral journey marked by steadfast devotion and selfless care. Pastor Cochran served congregations across Alabama and Georgia—including Hopewell Baptist Church (Roanoke, Alabama), Rising Grove Baptist Church (LaGrange, Georgia), Springhill Missionary Baptist Church (Lineville, Alabama), Mt. Lovely Baptist Church (Camphill, Alabama), Friendship Baptist Church (Fairfax, Alabama), Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church (Salem, Alabama), and Poplar Springs Baptist Church (Lafayette, Alabama)—before answering a long and faithful call at Franchise Missionary Baptist Church in Phenix City, Alabama, where he has shepherded the flock for 57 years.

Pastor Cochran's life is crowned by service and scholarship: he earned Bachelors and Masters of Bible Theology degrees from the International Institute and Seminary in Plymouth, Florida, and a Bachelor of Arts from Selma University. He was further honored with two honorary doctorates—in divinity and law—from Union Theological Seminary in Birmingham, Alabama. Those academic accolades only formalize what his ministry has demonstrated every day: wisdom shaped by study and sanctified by compassion.

His ministry is measured not by accolades alone but by lives remade. Communities rallied around his leadership; programs sustained families; grieving hearts found comfort; wayward youth found mentors; the isolated found belonging. His tireless efforts earned him many recognitions, including being named the 2018 Citizen of the Year and being listed among the 85 Most Influential Black Americans in the Columbus and Phenix City, Alabama area. In a permanent tribute to a life of impact, 10th Avenue in Phenix City, Alabama has been named in his honor.

Yet, beyond every award and street sign are the human stories that make his legacy holy: the mother who regained hope after a prayer and a helping hand, the teenager whose life turned because someone refused to give up on him, the elderly neighbor who found companionship in the church he nurtured. These are the quiet miracles of a ministry lived close to the ground, up close to real pain and real joy.

Behind every faithful pastor stands family, and Pastor Cochran's family has been his steadfast companion. He and his beloved wife, Mary, together raised six daughters and two sons. Their family now includes nineteen grandchildren and four great-grandchildren—a living testament to generations shaped by faith, love, and service. We remember, too,

the roots of his devotion in his parents, John and Lucille, who first planted the seeds of faith that would blossom into a lifetime of ministry.

There is a certain sacred tenderness in Pastor Cochran's leadership—a tenderness that has drawn men and women to tears of repentance and of relief, to hands clasped in prayer, to songs lifted in gratitude. As Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. reminded us, "Faith is taking the first step even when you don't see the whole staircase." Pastor Cochran has been taking those steps his entire life, guiding countless others one courageous, faithful step at a time.

Mr. Speaker, as Pastor Cochran steps into retirement, we do not simply mark an ending; we celebrate a legacy. We give thanks for a life lived in the patient, persistent work of love. We honor Mary, his devoted partner; we honor his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren; and we honor the memory of John and Lucille Cochran, whose faith planted deep roots.

May his days be filled with the peace and joy he has long given to others. May his legacy continue to inspire those who follow. And may the many lives he has touched rise now to carry forward his work of compassion, restoration, and faith.

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 District and throughout the Chattahoochee River Valley Area in recognizing Pastor Raymond Cochran—pastor, husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, servant, and friend—and in expressing our deepest gratitude for a ministry that has changed a community and enriched countless souls. May God bless him and his family richly in this new season.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN
NORMAN GALLASPY

HON. JULIA LETLOW

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 9, 2026

Ms. LETLOW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of John Norman Gallaspy, a constituent who left a profound legacy in Louisiana. His life was defined by the many roles he undertook, beginning as one of the youngest students at Louisiana State University and later becoming a father, husband, and champion watermelon grower.

He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Field Artillery and deployed to Korea in 1952, after graduating. His exceptional fire support saved many lives and earned him the Bronze Star for Valor in Combat. He later attended LSU Law School and met his first wife Dixie Yates.

Mr. Gallaspy and his late wife spent 60 years together and raised three sons in Boga-

lusa, where he practiced as a self-proclaimed "small town lawyer." Beyond his career, Mr. Gallaspy remarried to Martha Moak, was a grandfather to eight, an avid reader, and author.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply honored to commemorate his remarkable life and service to our community.

HONORING THE 2026 NORTH CENTRAL
STATE COLLEGE HALL OF
EXCELLENCE INDUCTEES

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 9, 2026

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, the North Central State College Foundation will hold a ceremony in Shelby, Ohio, on April 16, 2026, to mark the induction of its 2026 Hall of Excellence class. I am honored to commend to the House and include in the RECORD this year's inductees:

Mrs. Zoi Romanchuk serves as president of both PR Machine Works and Slick Automated Solutions in Mansfield. She also leads the Regional Manufacturing Coalition, a group she co-founded nearly a quarter century ago to support manufacturers across a six-county area. Zoi is a member of the board of The Ohio State University-Mansfield.

Mr. Mark Romanchuk serves the people of Ohio's 22nd District in the Ohio State Senate, where he chairs the Medicaid Committee and is Vice Chair of the Small Business and Economic Opportunity Committee. Mark is the owner of PR Machine Works and co-founder of the Regional Manufacturing Coalition.

Mr. David Eichinger recently retired from the Eichinger-Brafford-McCleard Group of Merrill Lynch Wealth Management, where he held the role of Senior Vice President. He was a founding member of the Richland Community Development Group, formed to spur economic development in the region. As chairman of MedCentral's Board of Trustees, he spearheaded a partnership with OhioHealth that has resulted in a major expansion of health care services in the county.

Selection for the Hall of Excellence is a high honor accorded to only a small number of north central Ohioans each year. To be considered, individuals must demonstrate a vision for and dedication to excellence in the region.

On behalf of the people of Ohio's 4th Congressional District, I am pleased to join in the accolades for these three distinguished community leaders as they are inducted into the Hall of Excellence.